

A Traffic Stop for DWI Changed the Lives and Hearts of Cop and Mother

It's an improbable friendship: a distraught woman detained for a DWI and her arresting officer.

But the details of the touching story, which has stretched over a decade, prove that difficult moments have a way of changing and refining people's lives—and that change, no matter how far we've fallen, is possible.

It was 10 years ago when Minnesota Trooper Kristie Sue Hathaway noticed a car swerving and knew precisely what was unfolding. She pulled the car over only to discover a glassy-eyed woman named Amy Martin, who had an open bottle of vodka in the vehicle and her baby girl in the backseat, KARE-TV reported.

Hathaway arrested Martin, but what happened next started both women on a life-changing journey.

Before booking Martin, Hathaway said, "Please don't do this to your daughter. She needs a mom. I know because my mom left when I was 10."

The cop's words seemed to touch Martin, who pledged to return a year later sober but Hathaway assumed she'd never hear from Martin again. Fortunately, the officer was wrong.

Martin not only got sober, but she returned a year later to surprise Hathaway with a medallion showing she had been without alcohol for a year. Then the two struck up a friendship. {eo}

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