

**Mike Campagna and Toussaint Romain
Awarded Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award**

CHARLOTTE – The 2017 Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award was recently awarded to Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department Major Mike Campagna and Mecklenburg County public defender Toussaint Romain for their work during the 2016 Keith Lamont Scott protests.

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The Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award is presented annually to an individual or group that demonstrates exceptional service to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community. Named for the retired UNC Charlotte professor who established the program, the Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award is facilitated by Foundation For The Carolinas. Previous award winners include Thereasa Elder, a public health pioneer who was among the first to integrate health care in our region, and Ric Elias, CEO of Red Ventures and an advocate for education opportunities for undocumented youth.

In the words of Professor Jamgotch, “to be creative means to uncover something new; or to synthesize seemingly unrelated experiences in a fresh and inspiring way; or to provide a foundation for future intellectual and scientific breakthrough that can truly make a difference” and it is in this spirit that the annual award should be made.

Campagna, a 47-year-old Charlotte native, joined the CMPD in 1992 and now leads training and recruiting. But he was in charge of the Central Division, which encompasses Uptown Charlotte, in September 2016. Referred to as “Captain Mike” during the protests, Campagna is largely known as the “face protestors could trust” and is credited with using dialogue to help maintain the peace.

The 39-year-old Romain received national recognition as the “man in the white shirt” after images of him standing between demonstrators and riot police, urging calm, were broadcast on CNN. He remained a constant figure throughout the protests, helping to maintain peace and promote dialogue.

The award, which includes an honorarium to enable their continued personal growth and pursuit of creative solutions to community issues, was presented at a ceremony on Oct. 12.

About Foundation For The Carolinas

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