

Arkansas Officer Tommy Norman gaining attention for all the right reasons

Updated July 11, 2016

By

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An Arkansas police officer was praised by an Atlanta-based rapper and activist during an interview with CNN's Brooke Baldwin in May 2015.

Since then, Officer Tommy Norman has been hailed as a "good cop" and a police officer that is "doing it right."

Killer Mike, whom Baldwin said got his name "'cause he likes to kill (it on the) microphone,'" issued a plea for people to get involved in their communities and challenged people to mentor children unlike themselves -- "not of their color, not of their class, not of their religion."

During the interview, Mike, whose father was a former Atlanta police officer, referenced Norman, whom he said he found on social media.

"I want (people) ... to get involved like a policeman in North Little Rock. He doesn't know I follow him. He doesn't know I know him, but ... if you follow him on Instagram ... this man is out of his patrol car every single day," Killer Mike, also known as Michael Render, said. "He is taking pictures with other peoples' families that are black (and) with white kids in the community. He's in the community. And North Little Rock is no easy place to police. He puts pictures of him and his own children up, and there's nothing more accountable than saying, 'I'm transparent ... ' I would encourage more police and more people to look at what this officer is doing in particular because he's doing something right."

In the wake of the deaths of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile and five police officers in Dallas, Norman's bright light is an exemplary demonstration of positive interactions between police officers and the communities that they serve. And Norman has been serving for years.

Rapper The Game announced on Sunday that he and his son would be raising funds for Norman via a Go Fund Me campaign. He said his son came up with the idea to raise funds to help Norman continue giving back to the North Little Rock community after the two had a conversation about "good cops and bad ones."

"I was touched by how active (Norman) is in the black community where he polices," The Game wrote in a post. "My son said, 'How does he help all of these kids and stuff? Is he rich?' I said, 'I don't know if he's rich, but sometimes it doesn't take much to help those in need, son.'"

The Game donated the first \$10,000 to the campaign.

As of Monday afternoon -- just one day after the campaign started -- more than \$51,000 had been raised.