



**Senior Lieutenant YULIA GIRDVILIS**

Acting Deputy Head of the Communications Department at Kyiv Police

Pursuing a law enforcement career was a conscious choice for Yulia. It was a well-thought-out decision, and it was her call of duty to some extent:

*“I knew that people call 102 when they face some problem. That's why you have to be prepared, including mentally-prepared, for different situations.”*

She started her career as a frontliner at the police station in the city of Lutsk. It was a true 'boot camp' for Yulia to train her communication skills and preparedness for various situations. Shortly, she was promoted to Deputy Company Commander and then to Company Commander. In fact, she was recommended for promotion by her instructors at the Academy, where she had her police training. They right away noticed her leadership skills and target-oriented approach. Yulia spent a year in the position of a Company Commander. Then she was a Senior Recruitment Officer at the Volyn Region Patrol Police.

At that time during her service, she met her future husband, also a police officer, and moved to Kyiv with him. In the capital, she was first appointed to the recruitment department at the National Police head office. Later, she was transferred to the position of a Senior Inspector at the Human Resource

Department where she was tasked to work with the community, organized various activities, and assisted to building stronger cooperation.

Currently, Yulia is Acting Deputy Head of the Communications Department at Kyiv Police. Yulia mentioned that lately the role of women in law enforcement has significantly changed for the better. She believes that UAWLE has a great role to play in this trend. Organizations that bring women together, she says, contribute to substantial changes with regard to the role of women in men-dominated institutions. It is a great advancement for Ukraine.

She translates her work-related emotions, worries, and experience into her verses, which are so much enjoyed by her friends and colleagues.

By the way, Yulia's birthday is on 4 July, which is the Day of the National Police in Ukraine. She believes it is sort of symbolic. "I belong to those who love their job. I am ready to sacrifice all my experience and skills for the benefit of my service," the policewoman says.