



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

To: Sergeant Jason Hartman
From: Craig Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: June 8, 2017
RE: Distinguished Service Medal

Sergeant Hartman,

Lt. Steve Braun nominated you for the Distinguished Service Medal. The Distinguished Service Medal is awarded to employees who have demonstrated outstanding sustained and exemplary performance along with diligence and devotion to duty. The performance should exceed normal demands required or expected over an extended period of time. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that you are most deserving of this award. In his nomination, Lt. Braun wrote:

"For the past 25 years, Sergeant Hartman has proven himself to be an asset to the Spokane Police Department through his dedication and hard work. He distinguished himself even further when he was promoted to the rank of sergeant 18 years ago through the leadership he has provided to those fortunate enough to work with him.

I had the privilege to work for Sergeant Hartman on a couple of patrol teams. It was invaluable to me as a young officer to watch how he led officers during critical incidents and complex calls. He would always have a well thought out plan in place on how to handle the incident and anticipated possible outcomes. One of his best traits is that he never loses his composure which helps those around him to remain professional and focused.

Sergeant Hartman has also dedicated most of his career to our TAC Team and has shown his leadership there as well. From planning team training, putting together the riot school, and responding to large crowd events, Sergeant Hartman continues to show his skills as a leader.

An example of leadership occurred on March 25, 2017. The area around Gonzaga University appeared to be on the brink of becoming out of control after their men's basketball team secured their first trip to the Final Four. Several small fires had been set in the area, there were numerous small groups walking around the neighborhood intoxicated, and there was a large party in the area with over 300 attendees. Sergeant Hartman quickly gathered all of the on-duty TAC Team personnel, suggested using a two officer patrol unit to drive around the area for a mobile response and using on-duty PACT officers to be in the area to be able to spot potential problems. Sergeant Hartman contacted several bars in the area to check for any possible problems and learned that the team was arriving back to town later that evening and was planning to be at those bars. Sergeant Hartman contacted Gonzaga security and was able to make contact with university leadership to start developing a plan to have fans greet the team at the McCarthy Athletic Center. This allowed for a much safer and controlled environment for the students, the team, and citizens in the area. Due to Sergeant Hartman's leadership, everything went very smoothly and incident free. The Vice President of Student Affairs, Athletic Director Mike Roth, and Coach Mark Few each thanked me for our presence and how well we handled things. Most of their thanks should be directed to Sergeant Hartman.

Although the events of that day were unusual, Sergeant Hartman's handling of things was typical of his leadership. I know that I am not alone in having benefited from working with him. He has provided an excellent definition for the Distinguished Service Medal."

Sgt. Hartman, I am proud to present you with the Distinguished Service Award. A copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file and you will be recognized at the 21st Annual Employee Award Ceremony in March 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig N Meidl".

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police

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