

Letter of Award



To: Ofc. Mike Roberge
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: January 19, 2018
Re: Distinguished Service Medal

Officer Roberge,

Recently, Lt. Dan Ervin nominated you for the Distinguished Service Medal. The Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) 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.

Lt. Ervin gave numerous examples of the exceptional work you have provided SPD since you were hired in September of 1997. These are just a few of those examples:

- ◆ Officer Mike Roberge worked 8 years in Patrol and then transferred to the Gang Unit. In 2006, the Gang Intelligence Unit was a two person operation and gang intelligence was kept on a standalone computer that had limited access. Mike realized that it had limited use if it could not be shared easily. By 2009, the SPD had a gang intelligence data base that was networked with several states across the country. Mike was instrumental in making that happen. Mike is one of a few officers in the State of Washington that is recognized as a gang expert in both State and Federal court.
- ◆ After 9 years working in the Gang Unit he was transferred back to Patrol. Mike spent about 1 1/2 years working Patrol and then was transferred into the Civil Enforcement Unit. For several weeks he was like a sponge seeking any and all information he could to learn his new job by reading code books, policy, and State and City statutes. He built a small coalition of people to call when he encounters issues that are best addressed as a group by developing relationships with the Liquor and Cannabis Board, City Fire Inspectors, building officials, the Taxes and Licenses department and several other entities that have influence over business conditions in the city.
- ◆ When cannabis was legalized numerous businesses were created in Spokane. The laws regarding cannabis are complicated so he had to research the cannabis laws. Now he is well versed and is often called upon by SIU to assist with marijuana investigations.
- ◆ He recognized an increasing problem with towing vehicles. Mike helped write tow contracts, new procedures governing towing, and developed good relationships with the tow companies. Mike worked with records supervisors, radio supervisors, and anyone else he believed could alleviate the problem.
- ◆ He has certain qualities that never waiver. He has a high level of integrity, is honest, trustworthy, and dedicated to duty. He is ambitious, a self-starter, and needs minimal supervision.
- ◆ Mike recently completed twenty years of service with the Spokane Police Department. His volume of work has demonstrated outstanding sustained and exemplary performance along with devotion to duty.

Ofc. Roberge, 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 2017 Annual Employee Award Ceremony being held on March 29, 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig N. Meidl".

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police