



Letter of Award Medal of Merit



To: Lieutenant Steve Braun
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: May 9, 2018
Re: Medal of Merit Award

The Medal of Merit is awarded to members of the Spokane Police Department who distinguish themselves by meritorious achievement or meritorious service. The meritorious actions must clearly surpass that which is normally required or expected. This service or achievement need not be unique but must be exceptional and superior.

SPD began the Collaborative Reform Initiative with the U.S.D.O.J. Community Oriented Policing Services (C.O.P.S.) Office in late 2013. The Collaborative Reform process involves a comprehensive agency review and identification of issues within an agency that may affect public trust. Members of the Spokane Police Department worked with representatives of the COPS Office on recommendations for resolving the issues and enhancing the relationship between the SPD and the community. Many department members were involved in this process, but the following individuals deserve special recognition for their significant and lasting contribution to the process.

Assistant City Attorney Mary Muramatsu spent countless hours reviewing each and every policy that was updated during collaborative reform. She was heavily involved in the creation of the EIS policy as well as to substantial revision to the department's use of force policy. Mary always made herself available to provide advice, attend meetings, and review important policies.

Lieutenant Steve Braun was tasked with a comprehensive review of past Use of Force incidents. He also conducted an audit of department Use of Force files as well as completing a report on department Use of Force cases. He was assigned as an Internal Affairs investigator at the time and these duties were above and beyond what was normally expected of his assignment.

Sergeant Mike Carr served as the Department's lead Procedural Justice Instructor. The COPS office strongly recommended this training for all officers. Mike received the initial train-the-trainer instruction and delivered this class to the department. This work was done in addition to all of his regularly assigned duties.

Captain Tracie Meidl was instrumental in the formation of the Spokane Police Faith Alliance. This group of community faith leaders continue to assist the agency in an active and advisory capacity. The Faith Alliance was responsible for developing public forums to build trust in the community, particularly to those groups within the community who had a strained relationship with the Department. This group also holds an integral role in the Department's Youth Police Initiative, Police Activities League, and presented at Department in-service training.

Lieutenant Braun, you have certainly distinguished yourself in the area of meritorious achievement and I am proud to recognize you with the Medal of Merit Award. You will be awarded the Medal of Merit during the annual Employee Awards Ceremony in March 2019 and a copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file.

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

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police