



Letter of Award Medal of Merit



To: Chaplain Ed Hoffman
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: November 13, 2019
Re: Medal of Merit Award

Officer Ryan Snider recently nominated you for the Medal of Merit Award. The Medal of Merit is awarded to members of the 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. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that you are most deserving of this recognition. Ofc. Snider wrote:

"Ed Hoffman truly deserves this recognition for his involvement in Lieutenant Jon Anderson's funeral arrangements. Ed has a huge heart and gave all of it to JD's family as well as the SPD family.

On July 3rd, Ed was advised that JD was in the hospital with some uncertain symptoms and came to comfort JD's wife Michelle and his daughter Jordyn. Ed sat with them and JD and tended to their needs. Ed was present when JD passed on July 5th and immediately began comforting all the family at the hospital as the death was not expected. Ed had to call Jon's sister Vicki (Snider) who was vacationing in Hawaii with her family and break the news and also travel to the Valley to notify JD's father. Ed knows all of these people very well; he was able to keep his own emotions out of the way and still deliver the messages in the way only Ed knows how. He is always willing to listen and lend a shoulder to cry on, if needed.

When asked, Ed immediately immersed himself into the family planning of a memorial service. He was instrumental in the networking with the hospital and the funeral home arrangements. He was present at the funeral home and took care of the death certificates for Michelle. Having never been involved in the unexpected death of a loved one, I appreciated Ed's patience, experience and position to be able to guide us through the somber process.

During all of this, Ed still did his duties at the PSB, as we are not his only family. Ed has to take care of all the officers, as well. He does this selflessly. He, and the rest of the chaplains take care of us all. He took the time to bring my youngest son popsicles as he had just gotten his tonsils out 5 days after his uncle passed away.

I just know that my family is well taken care of. The funeral service for JD was perfect in every way. Ed was professional and well-spoken in front of hundreds of people in honor of JD. If Ed is involved, I know he will think of and take care of everything.

Ed also has big involvement in all of SPD's call outs. He is an intricate part of making sure every officer is fed and has water. He and the other chaplains make sure there is cold water in the basement as well as water at the drill hall for anyone who needs it. Ed and crew go to DOA's and help ease the pain of loss with those family members, and ease the workload for the officers, as well."

Chaplain Hoffman, I am proud to present you with the Medal of Merit Award. You will be awarded the Medal of Merit during the annual Employee Awards Ceremony in March 2020.

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police