



Letter of Award Distinguished Service Medal



To: Detective Nick Geren
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: February 1, 2021
Re: Distinguished Service Medal

Sergeant Kevin Keller nominated you for the Employee of the Quarter, however, when the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that you are more deserving of 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. In his nomination, Sgt. Keller wrote:

"Det. Geren has been a part of the Spokane Police Department for approximately fourteen years. Det. Geren has remained one of the hardest working employees in our department during that time period and has never shied away from difficult assignments.

Det. Geren is currently assigned to the Major Crimes Unit and has become a solid member on a team of excellent detectives. Det. Geren is a talented investigator who leads by example. He routinely takes charge of the investigations and scenes that he is assigned. His positive attitude and strong work ethic are refreshing qualities that benefit the overall morale of our entire unit.

During the latter half of 2020, Det. Geren was tasked with the lead investigative role on an officer involved shooting. Det. Geren worked with numerous investigators from different agencies in order to accomplish this task. His leadership skills, expertise, and thorough documentation helped this team complete a professional work product. As a result, a dangerous multi-time convicted felon was charged with 1st degree assault on a Deputy U.S. Marshal. The meticulous work done on this case was presented to the prosecutor's office in short order to offer them the opportunity to evaluate the case and render a decision for our community in a timely manner. A case of this nature can have very serious consequences for the department and our community if it is not handled properly.


Det. Geren also volunteers for additional training to maintain his technical expertise for our group so our team has access to additional tools to solve crime. His training and skill set allow investigators to look up phones, complete tower dumps, do mapping / analysis, help with search warrants, and court prosecutions involving this topic. Det. Geren continues to use this knowledge to help others in our unit and across our investigative division with multiple serious felony cases.

Det. Geren's knowledge is not limited to his technical expertise. He has also developed a wealth of information and knowledge on our local gang members. Members of our team and our taskforce will often consult with Det. Geren in order to develop information on local gangsters involved in criminal activity.

The detectives in the Major Crimes Unit put in long hours on difficult cases and work hard to remain skilled at their craft. Many people find it difficult to dedicate this type of time and effort. Det. Geren goes above and beyond again by teaching limited commission classes at the Academy. As if this was not enough, Det. Geren also remains active in our community teaching life skills courses to youth at his church.

I should point out that the dedication and hard work put forth by Det. Geren is not unique. This is just a snapshot of the fine work that Det. Geren completes on a regular basis. In fact, Det. Geren is an unselfish team player who will not appreciate the lime-light of this award. He would argue, and I agree, that each one of his team members in Major Crimes is worthy of this award. However, on this date, at this time, it is Det. Geren's turn. His outstanding work and dedication to our community should be held out as an example to all."

Det. Geren, I am proud to present you with the Distinguished Service Award. A copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file.


Craig N. Meidl
Chief of Police