



Letter of Award Employee of the Quarter

To: Sean McDonald
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: November 4, 2020
Re: 2020 Employee of the 3rd Quarter Award

LE Tech Manager Shawna Ernst recently nominated you for the Employee of the Quarter Award. Employee of the Quarter nominations are based on either a specific act of unusual meritorious service, a specific project of significance to the community, City, or Department, or sustained superior performance of assigned duties. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed the nominations, it was clear that you are most deserving of this recognition. In her nomination, Shawna wrote:

"Sean McDonald has provided excellent IT support to the Spokane Police Department for over 17 years. During his time with TARU, Sean has consistently delivered effective technology solutions, sound tech recommendations, and provided great customer service to both the commissioned and civilian personnel of the department. While working full-time, Sean took it upon himself to go back to school and complete a second bachelor's degree in IT Security. His knowledge and drive make him a huge asset to TARU and the department as a whole.

TARU has been hard at work in the past year upgrading more than 400 computers from Windows 7 to Windows 10 so that we continue to receive security patches and maintain our CJIS compliance. Sean has personally upgraded 200 of those 400 computers. We've also been extremely busy handling requests related to COVID. Sean has been instrumental in rebuilding laptops to meet the needs of telecommuters, setting up conferencing systems, and providing support. (I've heard he's even made some house calls.) Initially I asked the team to telecommute part-time to reduce TARU's risk of exposure to COVID. Sean requested immediately to be allowed to work in the office full time because he is committed to providing high quality IT support to the department. If the officers are here, Sean wants to be here.

When I first came to SPD, I met with a variety of people to discuss tech needs. I consistently heard praise for Sean's work ethic and abilities. I've come to depend on Sean's expertise whenever I need to make a hardware-related decision. He recommended refurbishing existing equipment with solid state hard drives. That recommendation gave us 19 like-new computers for less than it would cost to purchase a single brand new machine.

Working in TARU means juggling competing needs of every unit in the department. We strive to provide reliable, excellent technology solutions to make the departments' many jobs easier. Sean is exceptionally good at managing priorities and delivering solid work products. We're lucky to have him on our team."

Sean, you exemplify the best in an employee with your commitment and dedication to your profession, work ethic and passion for team work. The Spokane Police Department is fortunate to have such an employee, and you are worthy of this recognition. You will receive a plaque at our annual award ceremony in 2021 and a copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file.

Sincerely,

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

Craig N. Meidl
Chief of Police