



Letter of Award Chief's Citation Award



To: Becky Fernos
From: Craig N. Meidl - Chief of Police
Date: November 29, 2021
Re: Chief's Citation Award— Police Property

Spokane Police Property/Evidence Facility has been nominated to receive the Chief's Citation Award by Captain Dave Richards. This award is intended to recognize members of a team or unit for participating in an incident, event, or series of events, or project which has a substantial, positive impact on the community or police department. It must be superior in nature and further the department's mission and overall effectiveness. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that the you are all most deserving of this award. Captain Richards' nomination included:

"I had the good fortune to have worked closely with Spokane Police Property/Evidence Facility for four years. This unit consists of extremely dedicated and mission-driven personnel.

The Property Facility is unique in the vital services they provide to the department. They not only serve the needs of SPD, but they also support the operations of the Spokane County Sheriff's Office and the Spokane Valley Police Department.

Property personnel operate independently the majority of the time with only their supervisor and team that are on-site. Time-and-time again they demonstrate their competence and their ability to handle whatever adventures that comes their way. They are constantly working with other units, city departments, other law enforcement agencies and entities across a wide variety of disciplines. Not only do they handle a large of number of tasks, but their work is also of the highest quality, as it must be. They are proud of what they do for all of us, and it shows in their everyday work product.

At the beginning of 2020, COVID brought us all a new set of challenges. Property employees are essential to the operations of SPD. The dedicated personnel of this unit stepped up to the challenge and was able to accomplish the three priorities set for by Mayor Woodward: Ensure continued superior service to the citizens of Spokane; Ensure continued smooth police operations; and ensure that we operate in the best interest of our employees' welfare. They looked out for one another and assisted each other as needed, were always there when we needed them and took care of our "customers" every day.

During this tumultuous time, they were still able to initiate and put into operation a new program that will change how firearms and, therefore, criminals are identified. The Property Unit, in coordination and cooperation with the ATF and WSP Crime Lab, developed the IBIS/NIBIN (Integrated Ballistic Identification System/National Integrated Ballistic Information Network) to develop leads via expended firearm casings. In 2020 alone, 24 unique leads were generated from this new program. Year to date of this nomination in 2021, 20 unique leads were generated from the program and that number grows every week."

Becky, I am honored to present you with the Chief's Citation Award. A copy of this document will be placed in your personnel file.

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

Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police