



Letter of Award Lifesaving Medal



To: Officer Ryan Thomas
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: October 22, 2021
Re: Lifesaving Medal Award

Sergeant Rogan nominated Officers Z. Templin, R. Thomas, T. Herzog, and Reserve Officer C. Christiansen for the Lifesaving Award. The Spokane Police Department Lifesaving Award is given to department personnel who, by their immediate actions, have saved a human life under unusual and/or extraordinary circumstances. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed the nomination, it was clear that you are all most deserving of this recognition.

"On June 25, 2021 at approx. 2253 hours, officers were dispatched to the intersection of Howard and Riverside for a person who had been stabbed. Officers arrived on scene to find the victim laying on the sidewalk. The victim was non-responsive and with a large amount of blood around him.

Officer Templin checked the victim and found two stab wounds to the chest. Upon checking for a pulse, he was unable to find one. Officer Templin put a chest seal on the chest wound. He advised officers there was no pulse and Officer Christiansen immediately started CPR. Officer Thomas and Officer Herzog switched off doing CPR until a pulse was felt and the victim started breathing again. They stayed with the victim until AMR arrived and transported him to the hospital.

Sgt Kannberg was on scene during the call and witnessed the officers' actions. He advised he saw the victim and he was grey in color and not breathing. He told me the officers saved the victim's life by the actions they took.

Sgt. Kannberg then went to Sacred Heart Hospital where the victim was taken for surgery. He spoke with the Operating Room nurse who said the victim was stabbed between the ribs, puncturing the heart. The nurse said the buildup of blood leaking out caused pressure on the heart wall, stopping the heart. Putting the chest seal on and starting CPR restarted the heart. These acts also relieved pressure in the heart cavity by moving blood away and allowing it to beat.

The Operating Room Charge Nurse advised, if not for the quick and rapid response of the officers, the victim would have died on the scene. He said the officers did an amazing job and saved his life."

Officer Thomas, I am proud to award you with the Lifesaving Medal Award. You will receive the Lifesaving Medal during the next Employee Awards Ceremony and a copy of this letter 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