



## Letter of Award Employee of the 2nd Quarter 2022

To: Dawn Biehl  
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police  
Date: August 4, 2022  
Re: 2022 Employee of the 2nd Quarter Award

Deputy Director Gary Redden recently nominated you for the 2022 Employee of the 2nd 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 his nomination, he wrote:

"For the past year, Dawn has shown a willingness to flex her scheduled shift multiple times to put the Records Department into a better service ratio due to hiring vacancies, accommodating staff vacations, and covering ratio gaps when the Records Department is short-staffed due to illness. The SPD Records Department is lucky to have Dawn and she is a great example of doing what is best for the team, she continually makes sound decisions, and she models superior performance while completing her assigned duties.

Dawn exemplifies the SPD's mission by serving every member of our community with integrity, professionalism, and compassion. Recently, Dawn worked with Jeff Weinfurter, a Record Specialist, and Captain Dave Richards to keep a convicted criminal in prison when a discrepancy was found on a felony warrant. The arrest warrant was for a suspect with a nationwide extradition for 1st Rape and 2nd Assault. The suspect was "in custody" at McNeil Island at that time and the warrant was sent to McNeil Island officials by SPD Records.

The warrant was signed by Superior Court Judge Clarke and stamped by a Spokane County Clerk. The issue that existed at that time is that Judge Clarke entered "September (no day), 2021" but the clerk dated it "09-03-2021". Dawn's concern was that the specific date of the warrant was not noted by Judge Clarke even though the clerk noted 09-03-21. Dawn wanted to make sure that nothing was out of line on this warrant due to the violent history of the offender in question. This offender was the suspect in a cold case that had been successfully investigated by our Major Crimes/Cold Case unit. Because of Dawn's diligence, attention to detail and dedication to our mission, Superior Court Judge Cooney was able to provide the documentation needed to ensure the active arrest warrant for the suspect was beyond question and could be served on the suspect with confidence.

It is for many reasons like this that I rest easy at night knowing Dawn is working hard to ensure the Spokane Records Department is taking the necessary steps to keep the citizens of Spokane safe."

Dawn, you exemplify the best in an employee with your unwavering 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 2023 and a copy of this letter will be placed in your employee file.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig N. Meidl", is written over the typed name.

Craig N. Meidl  
Chief of Police