



Letter of Award Purple Heart



To: Ofc. Kristopher Honaker
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: March 1, 2023
Re: Purple Heart Medal—2022

Major Eric Olsen has nominated you for the Purple Heart Medal. The Purple Heart is awarded to department personnel injured in the performance of their duties to such a degree that they require hospitalization or immediate care from a physician. The injury must be of a serious nature capable of causing death or extended disability. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that you are most deserving of this award. In his nomination, Major Olsen wrote:

"Ofc. Honaker is being nominated for a Purple Heart Award stemming from his response to a drive-by shooting in June 2022. This case is still under active investigation by the Spokane Independent Investigative Response Team, so only limited details are presented.

On 06-26-22, just before 2PM, SPD officers were called to the 1600 block of E Garland regarding a drive-by shooting. Occupants of a vehicle reportedly fired shots at a residence and fled the scene. Officers immediately flooded the area attempting to locate the suspects and find any victims. Less than fifteen minutes later, a second drive by shooting was reported in the 3000 block of N Martin St.

As officers were coordinating their response to the Martin St. location, an officer reported that a suspect vehicle was rapidly approaching their marked police vehicle. Almost immediately, the suspect vehicle opened fire on at least one patrol car, striking Ofc. Honaker. Officer Honaker sustained injuries to his leg and head.

After Ofc. Honaker was shot, a vehicle pursuit ensued; some officers immediately began providing medical aid to our wounded officer, while others began attempting to apprehend the dangerous suspects. During the pursuit, the suspect vehicle crashed but was not immobilized; the suspects continued to flee in the vehicle before crashing again. The suspects immediately began fleeing on foot, however officers quickly took the two individuals into custody. At least one firearm has been recovered."

Officer Honaker, you have my personal thanks for your efforts to apprehend the suspect, and the gratitude of our community and your fellow officers for your dedication to our profession. You will be presented with the Purple Heart Medal and uniform bar at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in March 2023. A copy of this document will be placed in your personnel file.

Sincerely,

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

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police