



Letter of Award Employee of the 2nd Quarter 2023

To: Shawna Ernst
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: August 2, 2023
Re: 2023 Employee of the 2nd Quarter Award

Director Jacqui MacConnell recently nominated you for the 2023 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 her nomination, Dir. MacConnell wrote:

"Law Enforcement Technology Manager Ernst started her employment with Spokane PD in mid-2019. She immediately worked diligently to improve the technology of the department, working to update and purchase improved technology platforms. Ms. Ernst does not work a 9 - 5 job. There are many times when we do updates to certain technologies used by the department and, given the work of the police department, these updates are done in the very early morning hours when our call volume is the lowest. I can't count the times Ms. Ernst has either worked all night or had to come in while most of us were still sleeping to oversee an update or to fix something that has gone wrong with our technology. Ms. Ernst voluntarily takes on tasks because she has a dedication for the success of the TEAM. A recent example of this is her work on the department's Strategic Plan. Ms. Ernst headed up this project, which has been no easy task. Ms. Ernst seems to know A LOT about a lot of things. There are many times when she provides amazing input on a variety of topics and I am usually in wonderment about how the heck she knows so much about so many things.

Ms. Ernst is truly amazing. As an employee of the department she is hard working, kind, she works for the betterment of all, she has the utmost integrity, her quality of work is impeccable, she is a team player, she has an immense knowledge of available technology and she is very innovative.

Ms. Ernst's actions are in keeping with the department's Mission, Vision and Values, as well as Goals 2, 3 and 8 of the 2022/2023 Strategic Plan: #2 Combat crime by using innovative policing practices and technology; #3 Foster and strengthen community partnerships and relationships; and #8 Maintain a progressive approach to best practices revolving around training, equipment, programs and service to the community and our employees.

Ms. Ernst never asks for recognition, she just puts her head down and charges forward. She is relied upon by not only the police department but by the City at large."

Shawna, you exemplify the best in an employee with your work ethic and your commitment and dedication to your profession. 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 2024 and a copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file.

Sincerely,

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

Craig N. Meidl
Chief of Police