



2024
Letter of Award
Distinguished Service Medal



To: Detective Shawn Pegram
From: Kevin Hall, Chief of Police
Date: October 23, 2024
Re: Distinguished Service Medal

Sergeant Rob Dashiell nominated you for the Distinguished Service Medal. The Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) is awarded to employees who have demonstrated outstanding sustained and exemplary performance along with diligence and devotion to duty. The performance should exceed normal demands required or expected over an extended period of time. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that you are most deserving of this award. In his nomination, Sgt. Dashiell included:

"Detective Pegram has been a member of the Explosives Disposal Unit (EDU) since 2007 and has served the unit with distinction. During his 17-year tenure with EDU, he has attended critical training courses which have furthered his knowledge and skills. His extensive training in explosive breaching made him an invaluable member of the team during the early development of EDU's explosive breaching program.

In 2013 Detective Pegram was directed to research the opportunity of starting an explosive K9 program. He made inter-agency contacts with WSP, obtained information on what was needed for an explosives K9 program, and was accepted into their Explosive K9 School. His successful completion of the school afforded him the distinction of becoming SPD's first explosive K9 handler. During his time as an explosives K9 handler he responded to numerous EDU calls for service, deployed his K9 for EDU details, and was utilized to search for handguns and ammunition on Major Crimes investigations. In 2015 Detective Pegram achieved the WSPCA "Master Handler" certification.

While managing the requirements of a K9 handler, Detective Pegram also served as a full time EDU technician. He dedicated himself to handling the needs of the team, to include dealing with equipment issues, researching new equipment ideas, organizing training events for the team, locating sites for explosive breaching and EDU training, and developing and delivering explosives awareness education for outside agencies in the region.

Detective Pegram was responsible for connecting with the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office and the Department of Energy. These connections resulted in EDU receiving, on more than one occasion, several days of training from the regional RAP team. He was also instrumental in coordinating a week-long hand-entry course for the EDU team.

Detective Pegram is proficient in robot skills, X-ray interpretation, and Render Safe Procedures. He has been a continual resource and his opinions are sought after by both team members and team supervisors. He is one of the more active members in terms of his availability and response for EDU callouts and details.

In 2017 he left the position of full-time EDU technician when he promoted to detective, however he has continued serving EDU while being assigned to the Special Victims Unit and then later to the Safe Streets Taskforce. Detective Pegram has excelled in those positions as well, often juggling his case load, interviews, and court appearances while attending EDU training and remaining available for EDU calls and details.

Due to his continued 17 years of dedicated service to the Explosives Disposal Unit it is a privilege that I recommend Detective Pegram for the Distinguished Service Medal and greatly appreciate your consideration of my submission."

Det. Pegram, I am proud to present you with the Distinguished Service Medal Award. A copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file and you will be recognized at the next Employee Award Ceremony.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hall
Chief of Police