LETTER OF AWARD

To: Sgt. Shawn Kendall
From: Frank G. Straub, Chief of Police
Date: December 10, 2014
Re: Chief’s Citation Award

The Spokane Police Department Defensive Tactics Cadre has been nominated to receive the Chief’s Citation Award for their exemplary work for the Spokane Police Department. This award is intended to recognize members of a team or unit for their participation in an incident, event, series of events, or a project that resulted in a substantial, positive impact on the community or department. It must be superior in nature and further the department’s mission and overall effectiveness. When the special awards committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that members of the Defensive Tactics Cadre were most deserving of this award.

For many years our Defensive Tactics program has been limited in personnel and resources. In 2013, the Chief’s Office advised a restructuring of the program was needed. The SPD Defensive Tactics Cadre began taking shape in the summer of 2013 under the direction of Sgt. Shawn Kendall. The number of Cadre members went from five to fifteen.

The Cadre has since become well organized and goal driven. Understanding the obvious connections between Defensive Tactics, Firearms, Patrol Procedure, Use of Force Options and Communication/De-Escalation skills, the DT Cadre began developing its instruction staff with other disciplines.

In less than a year the SPD DT Cadre has made numerous instructor certification accomplishments, including:

- Established a larger contingent of Instructor/Actor Personnel
- Members have become instructor certified in Verbal Defense and Influence
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Sgt. Kendall and the Defensive Tactics Cadre also re-wrote a very dated Defensive Tactics manual. This was started from scratch. The result is a workable manual designed for future modifications to best fit case law and best practice concepts.

Additionally, the DT Cadre implemented a Field In-service Training program for Defensive Tactics, which the Training Center has used as a model to present a variety of training topics. Now, instead of getting long blocks of DT training every few years, officers are getting DT training every couple of months.

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The Spokane Police Department Defensive Tactics Cadre has been nominated to receive the Chief's Citation Award for their exemplary work for the Spokane Police Department. This award is intended to recognize members of a team or unit for their participation in an incident, event, series of events, or a project that resulted in a substantial, positive impact on the community or department. It must be superior in nature and further the department’s mission and overall effectiveness. When the special awards committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that members of the Defensive Tactics Cadre were most deserving of this award.

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Public Safety Building • 1100 W. Mallon Avenue • Spokane, WA 99260-0001
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Chief of Police
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From: Frank G. Straub, Chief of Police  
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