



# SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE  
FRANK STRAUB, Ph.D.

## LETTER OF AWARD

TO: Senior Officer Gene Baldwin  
FROM: Frank G. Straub, Chief of Police  
DATE: July 15, 2014  
RE: Distinguished Service Medal

Senior Officer Gene Baldwin was recently nominated for the Distinguished Service Medal by Sergeant Steve Braun. The Distinguished Service Medal 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 Officer Baldwin is most deserving of this award.

Sergeant Braun wrote:

*"I would like to nominate Senior Police Officer Gene Baldwin for the Spokane Police Department's Distinguished Service Medal for his service and commitment to our department's training program.*

*Officer Baldwin has dedicated most of his career to providing excellent, professional training to new members of our department. He served as a Field Training Officer for 13 years and trained more than 20 recruits in that time. The recruits that were fortunate enough to be assigned to Officer Baldwin always received the best available training and were better prepared for their careers as a result of their time with him. As an FTO Officer Baldwin always ensured that his recruits had a positive and fun environment in which to learn. Officer Baldwin not only taught the steps needed to complete each task, but also explained to each recruit what it means to be a Spokane Police Officer.*

*Officer Baldwin also spent 13 years as a Reserve Officer Mentor and trained more than 25 Reserves on a regular basis. He always provided Reserves with the same high level of training that he provided to new hires. The excellent level of training and professional example that Officer Baldwin has played a pivotal role in many Reserve officers choosing police work as a full time career.*

*Officer Baldwin is also dedicated to ensuring that the Spokane Police Department hires only the best available applicants. He routinely is a panel member for oral boards. I have had the pleasure of sitting on numerous oral boards with Officer Baldwin and have found that he always asks questions that not only see how a person would handle themselves in various situations but also asks questions that get the core of who the applicant truly is and if they would be a good fit for our agency.*

*Officer Baldwin has served as the Patrol Procedures instructor for the past 12 years. He provides excellent training about the importance of officer safety and the best tactics to ensure safety.*





# SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE  
FRANK STRAUB, Ph.D.

*Officer Baldwin also recently became the co-instructor for Applied Professional Ethics. In his short time in this new role he has already provided great knowledge and skill by explaining the importance ethical considerations in decision making as well as explaining to the new officers the importance of their role as leaders within the department and our community.*

*Officer Baldwin currently works as the FTO coordinator and supervises 25 FTO's and manages more than 30 probationary officers. He ensures that the FTO's have all of the tools and information available to them so that they can provide the best possible training to new officers. He also ensures that all of our new officers have all of their equipment and all paperwork completed so that they can focus on learning.*

*Officer Baldwin recently co-wrote a new FTO manual so that the FTO's and new officers had access to the most current information and training. This has helped to ensure that our training program is more efficient and up to date.*

*Officer Baldwin has also served as a member of the SWAT team for 12 years and is currently the assistant team leader. His dedication to the SWAT team not only allows him to provide an excellent service to our department and city but allows him to be an excellent role model and mentor to his fellow SWAT team members.*

*Additionally, Officer Baldwin serves as a PAT team member. This allows him to provide peer support to other officers that have been involved in critical incidents and help them cope with the stress of these incidents and return to full duty.*

*Officer Baldwin's dedication and professionalism has been an asset to the Spokane Police Department and the City of Spokane. Anyone that has been fortunate enough to work around Officer Baldwin has been a better police officer and person as a result of it. He has provided an excellent definition for the Distinguished Service Medal."*

Officer Baldwin, I am proud to present you with the Distinguished Service Award. A copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file. You will be recognized at the Annual Employee Award Ceremony.

Frank G. Straub, Ph.D.  
Chief of Police

