



Letter of Award

Distinguished Service Award



To: Detective Lonnie Tofsrud
From: Frank G. Straub, Chief of Police
Date: May 5, 2014
Re: Distinguished Service Medal

Detective Lonnie Tofsrud was recently nominated for the Distinguished Service Medal by Sergeant Zac Storment. 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 Detective Tofsrud is most deserving of this award.

Sergeant Storment wrote:

I would like to call your attention to one of our most exceptional detectives and nominate him for the Distinguished Service Medal. Detective Lonnie Tofsrud is currently a member of the Tactical Operations Unit and has been with the Spokane Police Department since 1991. I have had the privilege of serving with him since January of 2013.

Over the course of the last year, Detective Tofsrud has shouldered a tremendous workload. Our unit is tasked with dealing with the most prolific offenders in regard to property crimes. He carries far more cases than can usually be asked of a detective. Most importantly from my perspective, he does this without complaint. He, in fact, volunteers for many assignments. I have often reviewed cases that need to be assigned only to find Detective Tofsrud is already working on them.

The Distinguished Service Medal, of course, requires excellent performance for an extended period of time; more so than I have discussed so far.

I call attention to the fact that several lieutenants and captains from outside our unit have approached me asking Detective Tofsrud look into cases for them. He is well regarded within our department as a detective who gets results. This is a reputation earned over many years of sustained high performance. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Larry Haskell and I have discussed Detective Tofsrud's work this year. He, too, is very impressed, and I quote the prosecutor,

'In my opinion, Lonnie is one of the most pro-active detectives we have on the streets right now. He has been relentless in his pursuit of the local, repeat burglary suspects. Jason Amyot is but one current example. He is responsive, available, and willing to go the extra distance to be sure the prosecutor's office has a triable case. It is a pleasure for us to be working with him as we strive to keep our community safe and the confidence of our citizens high.'

For many years now, Detective Tofsrud has been putting together comprehensive cases that have put very bad people away for long periods of time. This is not an easy thing to do given the weight our courts put on property crimes. He is an incredible asset to our department. I have recognized that he is truly passionate about protecting our community and making Spokane a better place to live. I feel he has earned recognition from our department and hope you will consider my request.

Detective Tofsrud, 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 for 2014.

Frank G. Straub, Jr.
Chief of Police