Recently, Sgt. Storment nominated Corporal Kevin Keller for Employee of the 1st Quarter, 2012. 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 Corporal Keller is most deserving of this recognition.

Corporal Keller has been working with the Spokane Police Department for 13 years. When Sgt. Storment came to Team 11 in July, he advised that he found a highly functioning and cohesive team already in place and much of the credit goes to Corporal Keller. Corporal Keller sets a tremendous example for his team. He is punctual, professional, courteous, and knowledgeable. He takes on a tremendous amount of responsibility to make his team successful.

Corporal Keller has excellent leadership abilities especially during critical incidents. During a recent person with a weapon call, Corporal Keller was first on scene and used excellent tactics and communicated a plan to responding officers. Corporal Keller demonstrated his concern for the safety of the other responding officers by being aware of their locations at all times and ensuring they were safe throughout the incident. He demonstrates this same level of concern for fellow officers at every incident that he responds to. Also, on many occasions he gives praise to team members without even mentioning his own involvement.

Corporal Keller is nearing his 10th year with SWAT and is the Team Leader for CART. In December of 2011, Corporal Keller was awarded the SKIP PAVLISCHAK SWAT TEAM MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD. His work ethic and output in these units is just as noteworthy as it is in patrol. Corporal Keller has maintained the same level of commitment to excellence for the past 13 years.