



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE
FRANK STRAUB, Ph.D.



- MEMORANDUM -

TO: Officer Jay Kernkamp
FROM: Chief Frank Straub, Jr.
DATE: January 22, 2014
RE: 4th Quarter Employee of the Year - 2013

Recently, Sgt. Kevin Keller nominated Officer Jay Kernkamp for Employee of the Quarter. 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 Officer Jay Kernkamp is most deserving of this recognition.

Ofc. Kernkamp has been with our department for approximately 7 years and has previous law enforcement experience at another agency. He is a highly motivated patrol officer who also serves as a SWAT Team member. Ofc. Kernkamp consistently responds to potentially dangerous calls for service and self-initiates his response to citizen needs. He uses his skills and training to successfully assist his teammates in resolving challenging situations on a routine basis. On several occasions recently, Ofc. Kernkamp has been commended by our Patrol Captain for his proactive arrests of prolific criminals.

As a member of the SWAT Team, Ofc. Kernkamp has volunteered for the additional duties of Medic and CART (Chemical Agent Response Team). Being a member of the SWAT team requires the extra time, commitment, and dedication to our department that goes above and beyond the call of duty. Kernkamp excels in these challenging roles within our department.

As a medic, Ofc. Kernkamp has stepped forward and led the charge to obtain outside training for Patrol as well as SWAT. Ofc. Kernkamp used the training he received to assist in providing medical training for both groups. His training sessions are informative and professional.

Ofc. Kernkamp's medical training and skills have already assisted in saving the life of a suicidal male in a north central neighborhood this summer. Ofc. Kernkamp was part of a group of officers that confronted a male who had cut his own neck and was still holding the knife. Officers convinced the male to drop the knife and he had to be physically restrained in order to prevent further injury to himself or others. While the male was being restrained, Ofc. Kernkamp assessed the nature of the wound, applied a dressing to the wound, and kept pressure on the wound until medics arrived to take over. Ofc. Kernkamp and other officers continued to restrain the male so that medics could treat him. Hospital staff later reported that the male's neck wound could have been life threatening had it not been treated properly initially and the wound required surgery to stop the bleeding.

Ofc. Kernkamp was also instrumental in researching and obtaining new first aid kits for all SPD Patrol officers. He spent countless hours of his own time and went out of his way to flex his schedule in order



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to see this project through to the end. Thanks in large part to Ofc. Kernkamp, each and every officer of the SPD have the training and the tools to be successful in an emergency aid situation.

As a member of the CART Team, Ofc. Kernkamp assisted in teaching an O.C. class to Spokane Fire Arson Investigators. His knowledge of the topic and calm demeanor were helpful in leading the students through the practical portion of the exercise. There have been many times in the past where students begin to lose control of their emotions during the practical portion of this exercise. Ofc. Kernkamp's technique of taking each student through the exercise made a marked difference in how smooth this class completed the exercise at hand.

In addition to excelling at his work, Ofc. Kernkamp is extremely dependable. Ofc. Kernkamp is on call 24 hours a day as a SWAT Team Member and often responds to calls for service or search warrants outside of his normal working hours. In addition to his other great work, Ofc. Kernkamp did not use a single hour of sick time during his last rating period.

Ofc. Kernkamp displays a strong desire to put those committing crime behind bars, while successfully managing the calls for service in his area when he is out on patrol. He also demonstrates a high degree of skill in all the different facets of his job. His work ethic is top notch and he should be commended for the fine work that he does for our community.

Officer Kernkamp, because of your leadership and dedication, you set a good example for all of our employees. We are fortunate to have such a dependable, innovative, and dedicated employee and you are quite deserving of recognition. Along with this document, you are being issued a framed certificate. You will also be given the Employee of the 4th Quarter plaque at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in 2014. A copy of this document will be placed in your personnel file.

Frank G. Straub, Jr.
Chief of Police