The Lifesaving Award is given to department personnel who, by their immediate actions, have saved a human life under unusual and/or extraordinary circumstances.

On 06-18-08 at approximately 1916 hours Officer Eckersley was waived down by a citizen on Napa near Sinto in Spokane, WA. Officer Eckersley found out that a male walking down the street had fallen to the ground and was no longer breathing. A citizen at the scene, Jackie Buchanan, began C.P.R. after she determined the male was not breathing.

Officer Eckersley obtained a mouth guard and relieved Buchanan. Officer Eckersley began giving mouth to mouth resuscitation until Officer Geren arrived and took over the chest compressions. Both officers continued C.P.R. until the medics arrived.

Dennis Wright, a medic from A.M.R., stated that the male had no pulse and was not breathing on his own when A.M.R. arrived and that he was "...on the edge of death and starving for oxygen." Wright claimed that the male’s condition was fatal and he would have died in two to three minutes if the citizen, and the officers at the scene, would not have performed C.P.R.

Corporal Kevin Keller stated, “Officer Eckersley and Officer Geren are members of the patrol team I work on. They perform at a high level each and every night. This incident is only one example of their professionalism.”

Sergeant Jason Reynolds followed by saying, “It is not only my opinion, but also the opinion of the medical professionals at the scene, that this man would have died had it not been for the appropriate first aid performed by Officer Eckersley, Officer Geren and Jackie Buchanan. I am honored to work with such professional officers and they should be recognized for their heroism. Jackie Buchanan should also be commended for her quick actions to save the life of another member of the community.”

On Tuesday, August 5th, Officer Eckersley and Officer Geren were awarded Lifesaving Bars, to be worn on their uniforms. Jackie Buchanan was awarded with the Citizen’s Award for her actions on that day. Officers Eckersley and Geren received their Lifesaving Medals at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February of 2009.