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 June 3, 2010, at approximately 2013 hours, Officers Darrell Quarles, Rhian Wilkinson, Jay Kernkamp and Shaidon Storch responded to a shooting incident. Multiple callers had advised that a victim was on the ground and the suspect had possibly gone into a home in the area. The location where the victim was laying was unsafe for Fire/Medics to respond as the victim was possibly still in the line of fire. The victim was not responsive, was bleeding heavily and did not appear to be breathing. At this time, the shooter’s location was still unknown and the possible target residence was unsecured. Officer Kernkamp provided cover to Officer Quarles and Officer Wilkinson, who dragged the victim to the end of the block near a residence where he could receive medical attention.

Officer Kernkamp assisted in removing the victim’s clothing to locate the bullet wound. Officer Storch placed Quick Clot on the wound to stop the bleeding and then assisted in covering the other two officers who were performing life saving measures on the victim. Officer Wilkinson put pressure on the wound to stop the bleeding and checked for a pulse/breathing and found neither. Officer Kernkamp stated the victim’s pupils were fixed and dilated, he was not breathing or responding. Officer Quarles started CPR chest compressions on the victim. After about 25-30 chest compressions, the victim started labored breathing. Medics/AMR were directed on how to enter the scene and transported him to the hospital where he underwent surgery and was stabilized.

It is clear that because of these officers efforts, this citizen’s life was saved. Officers Quarles, Wilkinson, Kernkamp and Storch are being issued the Lifesaving bar to be worn on their uniforms. They will also be given the Lifesaving Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February 2011.