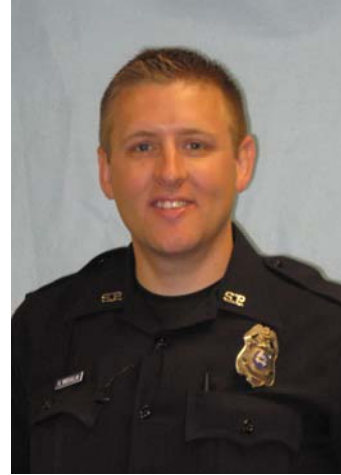




OFFICER MIKE MCCASLAND



OFFICER HOLT WIDHALM

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 January 14, 2011, Officer Holt Widhalm and Officer Mike McCasland were dispatched to a welfare check call in west Spokane. The location of the incident is an apartment complex with clusters of connected garages. The caller reported hearing a vehicle running in the adjacent closed garage. Suspecting a suicide attempt, the officers requested medics be notified while they were still en route.

Within two minutes of their arrival, Ofc. Widhalm and Ofc. McCasland had gotten the door to the garage open with management's assistance. Once the door was opened, they did find an occupied SUV running with the driver's window down. Without any regard for their own safety from the toxic fumes, they entered the small exhaust filled garage to check on the occupant of the SUV. They quickly established the victim had a pulse and a immediately removed the victim from the SUV to the ground outside to provide fresh air.

They noticed the victim was not breathing and began CPR immediately. They successfully established breathing in the victim by the time medics arrived. The victim was in very fragile condition and required advanced life support techniques fro medics. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

About two hours after the incident, Ofc. Widhalm and Ofc. McCasland were notified the victim was in stable condition. The ER physician expected the victim to have significant brain damage or possible die. A few days later the victim was released from the hospital.

It is clear that because of the immediate and decisive efforts put forth by Ofc. Widhalm and Ofc. McCasland, this citizen's life was saved. Both officers will be issued the Lifesaving Bar to be worn on their uniforms and will be presented with the Lifesaving Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February 2012.