



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

LETTER OF AWARD

To: Corporal Nathan Spiering
Officer Jordan Brown
Detective Christopher Bode
Officer Christopher Lesser

From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police

Date: October 25, 2016

Re: Lifesaving Award

Sgt. Zach Dahle recently nominated you for the Spokane Police Department's Lifesaving Award. The Lifesaving Award is given to department personnel who, by their immediate actions, have saved a human life under unusual and/or extraordinary circumstances. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed your nomination, it was clear that you are most deserving of this recognition.

Sgt. Dahle wrote: "On 09-10-16 at 2312 hours, numerous officers responded to the report of a suicidal male. The male in crisis reportedly cut his wrists, and the 911 caller had reported that there was blood everywhere. Officers arrived on scene and discovered family members rendering aid by applying pressure to the severe wounds. Corporal Bode #944 (now Detective Bode) was first on scene, and took over pressure on the left arm of the male. Officer Brown #1186 then arrived and took over pressure on the male's right arm. Corporal Spiering #560 and Officer C. Lesser #1181 then arrived on scene.

The male had lost a large amount of blood from the very deep, self-inflicted wounds on both his wrists. Officers made the decision to apply tourniquets to both of his arms to stem the flow of blood. The medical aid was rendered in a calm fashion, and all officers on scene were professional and deliberate in these life-saving actions. Officers took the time to calmly explain to the male what was occurring and the reasoning behind their actions.

The male was transported to SHMC via AMR. While transporting to SHMC, AMR began to run code due to his condition beginning to decline. He was admitted to SHMC and it was determined that he had cut an artery and needed immediate surgery to stop the loss of blood.

I contacted emergency room doctor, Dr. Travis Dierks, 02-02-1979 at SHMC later in the shift. Dr. Dierks stated that he was the attending physician when the man was brought in by AMR. When hospital staff removed the tourniquets, the blood loss could still not be stopped due to the cut to the artery. The male was then taken to surgery for an emergency operation. I was advised that if the officers involved in this incident had not acted, the male would have bled out. I asked Dr. Dierks how the officers performed and he advised that they "nailed it" and had done a "good job."

For these reasons I am nominating Nathan Spiering, Jordan Brown, Christopher Bode and Christopher Lesser for the Spokane Police Department's Lifesaving Award. Their combined immediate actions did save the life of this man on 09-10-16."

Corporal Spiering, Officer Brown, Detective Bode, Officer Lesser, the Lifesaving Medal is being awarded to you for your heroic actions in the incident outlined above. You will all be awarded the Lifesaving Medal during the Annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February 2017. A copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel files.

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police

Public Safety Building • 1100 W. Mallon Avenue • Spokane, Washington 99260-0001

