

OFC. LARRY ERICKSON



The Medal of Merit is awarded to employees who distinguish themselves by meritorious achievement or service. Meritorious actions are those which clearly surpass that which is normally required or expected.

Ofc. Larry Erickson is a 25-year veteran of the Spokane Police Department and is currently assigned to the Training Center as Assistant Rangemaster. Officer Erickson has always attended to his duties in a professional manner and does more than is expected. He researches and develops training programs and is an excellent instructor. In addition, he is a skilled craftsman, especially in the areas of carpentry and welding. Some examples of Officer Erickson's "going the extra mile" are: he remodeled the K-9 storage room into a range classroom, he built storage cabinets in the target room, he designed and builds the firearms loading/unloading stations used throughout the department, he removes the snow from the campus roads and lots during the winter.

During this last quarter, Officer Erickson transitioned his third rangemaster in the past year. He has worked well with all three rangemasters and has been the "glue" holding the firearms operation together during these transitions. Officer Erickson's attitude is always professional, his humor appropriate, and his nose is usually on the grindstone. He deserves to be recognized and commended.

Officer Erickson gives of his own time and sometimes out of his own pocket to see a project through. His creativity is never ending. He came up with an idea to place permanent anchors for our "running man" target system in the back range. The project was completed with a minimal cost and a few modifications. He built a rack (on his own time) to hold guns for redistribution to the officers after weapons maintenance. This worked very well and kept us a lot more organized.

Officer Erickson is a very accomplished firearms instructor. I have complete faith in Larry to train anyone in the safe and accurate handling of a firearm. He has taken several challenging students over the years and helped them to improve their skills to passing, where other instructors would give up.

Officer Erickson was awarded the Medal of Merit at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February of 2002.