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.

Officer McGregor was assigned to the Special Investigative Unit in late-1991, and it was to be a temporary assignment. His first performance evaluation in SIU noted that “Officer McGregor shows an interest and talent in dealing with the specialized technical equipment used in the unit. It is planned to provide him with additional training in this area. This training should benefit both SIU and patrol when John is transferred back to patrol.”

It soon became apparent that John was far too valuable to be transferred back to patrol or anywhere else. Over the past 11 years, he has continued to develop his skills and expertise in the use and repair of a large variety of specialized equipment. Some of these skills were developed through outside training, but mostly, they were developed through Officer McGregor’s own talent and hard work.

On a daily basis John is called upon to assist in cases throughout the Northwest, and his reputation is well known throughout the law enforcement community. I doubt that there is a federal, state, or local agency in the area that has not used John’s talents.

Yet, it is not his talent at repairing broken equipment or enhancing an audio or video tape that is his strongest asset. It is his attitude. At times, broken equipment and tapes have been stacked all over his desk and floor. But I have never heard John turn down a request for assistance. There have been many times that I had a project that needed to be done, or something that needed to be researched. Whenever I have asked him to do something, it has always been met with a smile and the question, ‘When do you need it?’

Officer McGregor is known for his talent, dedication, and can-do attitude, and the Department is proud to recognize him with the Medal of Merit. Officer McGregor was issued the Merit Bar, to be worn on his uniform. He was awarded the Medal of Merit at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony, in February 2003.