

# OFFICER JERRY MERTENS



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.



Though there had not been a program of its type previously in Spokane, Officer Jerry Mertens designed a successful curriculum for the new pre-law enforcement class at the Skills Center.

Officer Mertens' class produced knowledgeable and informed students, due in large part to his skill and experience which allowed him to maximize learning through activities and assignments. He created a learning environment that turns out students who are ready for the next step in their law enforcement education. At a "Skills USA" competition involving students from around the Northwest, one of his student's placed first while two others filled two of the top three positions. Officer Mertens always kept his composure and responded to the students in a professional and constructive manner.

During his law enforcement career, Officer Mertens' has been a part of the TAC Team, Honor Guard and Dignitary Protection Team. For 7 ½ years, he was the lead instructor at the Training Center and was the lead instructor in patrol procedures for several years. For six years, he served as the FTO coordinator and was an instructor for the 40 hour FTO school for the State Training Commission.

Officer Jerry Mertens exhibits enthusiasm and devotion in every task. It is admirable how he consistently performs at the level he does while balancing all of his commitments. His contribution to the department and community is exceptional and it is an honor to recognize him with the Medal of Merit.

Officer Mertens was awarded his Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February of 2004.

