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 Shawn Kendall has been an officer for the Spokane Police Department for 14 years. He has spent the majority of this time working graveyard patrol and working in the K9 Unit. He has been a patrol K9 handler for the department since February of 2003.

In July of 2006, Ofc. Kendall tracked a suspect four blocks and found him hiding in the alley. The track linked the suspect to an attempted kidnapping, thus a confession and arrest. Without the track, the suspect would likely have never been identified.

In planning the September in-service cycle, Ofc. Kendall played an integral role. Often sacrificing his own time, he worked closely with Academy staff to coordinate eight valuable training sessions. These scenario based exercises were challenging, realistic and beneficial for all ranks and skill levels. Ofc. Kendall saw a need and filled it.

Ofc. Kendall has spent his entire career delivering police service during the most challenging of circumstances. He has been involved in numerous SWAT activities, hundreds of K9 deployments and thousands of calls for service. Ofc. Kendall has proven himself time and time again during these volatile circumstances. He is an asset to the K9 Unit, the SWAT team and to the Training Center. His contributions to the department go beyond that of most officers.

For these actions, Officer Shawn Kendall was awarded the Medal of Merit.