



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE
FRANK STRAUB, Ph.D.

LETTER OF AWARD MEDAL OF MERIT AWARD

To: Officer Nick Geren
From: Chief Frank Straub
Date: November 15, 2014
Re: Medal of Merit Award

Officer Geren was recently nominated by Sergeant Tom Lee for the Medal of Merit Award. The Medal of Merit is awarded to members of the Spokane Police Department who distinguish themselves by meritorious achievement or meritorious service. The meritorious actions must clearly surpass that which is normally required or expected. This service or achievement need not be unique but must be exceptional and superior. It is apparent that Officer Geren is more than deserving of this award.

Sergeant Lee wrote: "*Ofc. Nick Geren responded to a serious assault on Sept. 17th, 2014, in which his quick thinking and professional actions warrant consideration for the Medal of Merit.*"

This call involved life threatening knife wounds to three young men who were down in the front yard of a home in the 1400-block of E. Broad Avenue. Ofc. Geren was the first emergency responder on scene. Quickly assessing the situation, he informed dispatch of the three critical injuries and that an armed attacker was likely still in the area. Geren then went to work on the most seriously wounded patient. This man had a severe wound on his left arm with an uncontrolled arterial bleed. Geren immediately applied a tourniquet to stop the bleeding and spoke to the man to reassure him that he was safe and additional help was on the way.

That help included Spokane Fire Department Paramedic Eric Staggs who later told officers the tourniquet was applied perfectly and asked for Ofc. Geren's name in order to submit a formal commendation.

I followed up with Paramedic Staggs who told me that firefighters were dispatched to a "Multiple Stabbing." As a result, he expected one patient with multiple wounds rather than "Multiple Patients." Facing three patients, his immediate job was to triage the scene and determine which patient needed help first. Staggs said, "I was relieved to see Ofc. Geren applying the tourniquet so I could go to the other two patients. Number two had a severe laceration on his side but wasn't bleeding as badly... I was then able to work on number three who suffered a chest wound and was having trouble breathing." He added, "Ofc. Geren's efforts made our job easier. It saved time and allowed for a significantly improved outcome for all three patients." Additional paramedics arrived and took over for Geren who then quickly went to work locating witnesses and gathering information on the suspect, who was eventually arrested. Ofc. Geren distinguished himself by meritorious achievement that brought credit upon him and the department. I heartily recommend him for this award."

Ofc. Geren, you have certainly distinguished yourself in the area of meritorious achievement, and I am proud to recognize you with the Medal of Merit Award. You will be given the Medal of Merit at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony. A copy of this document will be placed in your department personnel file.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Straub".

Frank Straub, Ph.D.
Chief of Police

