



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

FRANK STRAUB, Ph.D.

To: Sergeant Rich Meyer
From: Chief Frank Straub
Date: April 29, 2015
Re: Medal of Merit Award

Sgt. Rich Meyer was recently nominated by Officer Beau Brannon and Lt. Tom Hendren 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 Sgt. Meyer is more than deserving of this award. Excerpts from the nominations include:

"Sgt. Meyer's time with the Spokane Regional Drug Task Force [SRDTF] and the DEA Spokane Resident Office was highlighted by his exceptional and unwavering commitment during Operation Piranha Slayer, an investigation in which he initiated. Upon conclusion of this investigation, more than 10,000 oxycodone pills, and over \$935,000 in US currency, were seized. This investigation was given national recognition at the 2015 HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) Awards Ceremony in Washington DC. Sgt. Meyer and his team were presented with The Corporal Edward M. Toatley Memorial Award for Outstanding Task Force Effort by the US Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Executive Office of the President of the United States of America."

Officer Beau Brannon.

"When the remaining defendant's in this case went to trial, Sgt. Meyer had been promoted and assigned as a new graveyard supervisor. He was very committed to this investigation, and wanted to make every effort to complete this case, but he also did not want to neglect his current assignment. For several weeks, Sgt. Meyer essentially worked full time as a patrol supervisor and as the lead investigator for trial. He missed very little patrol time during this trial and remained an asset to his team and patrol division.

Additionally, Sgt. Meyer has returned to patrol with a tremendous level of investigative experience that has truly benefitted patrol. He is working to mentor his officers and other officers in patrol in the area of informant development, investigative techniques, and search warrant application. His task force experience has provided him with a level of investigative experience that many of his peers and subordinates lack and he has demonstrated a desire to share his knowledge with other members of patrol. Sgt. Meyer's superior performance as a task force officer and now as a new supervisor is worthy of the department's Medal of Merit."

Lieutenant Tom Hendren

Sgt. Meyer, 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 in 2016. A copy of this document will be placed in your department personnel file.


Frank Straub, Ph.D.
Chief of Police

