



# SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

## JAMES A. MCDEVITT

To: Sergeant John Everly and Officer Art Dollard  
From: Jim McDevitt, Director of Law Enforcement  
Date: April 25, 2016  
Re: Medal of Merit Award

Sgt. Everly and Ofc. Dollard,

Lt. Kevin King and Sgt. Sean Kendall recently nominated you 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. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed the nominations, it was clear that you are most deserving of this recognition. Excerpts from the nomination include:

"In 2014, with the help and coordination of the Spokane Police Department Command Staff, CJTC approved our training facility to once again host and operate BLEA. The first task was to assist CJTC in the selection of a TAC Officer and an Assistant TAC Officer. Officer John Everly and Officer Art Dollard were both selected after a very competitive application process.

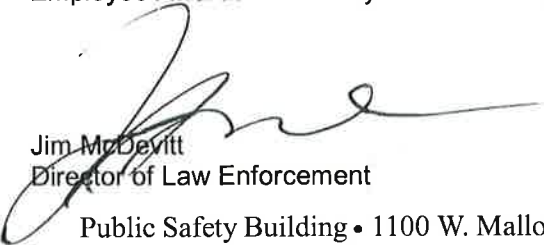
The tasks ahead of them were overwhelming to say the least. Becoming certified instructors took weeks of out of town training, placing burdens on their home lives and local work demand. In addition to this training, Officers Everly and Dollard:

- Enhanced the Academy grounds in preparation for Reality Based Training.
- Selected instructors for courses and arranged for all their necessary certifications.
- Created course schedules and reserved training sites.
- Assisted the newly assigned BLEA Commander, including finalizing contracts for food and housing.
- Created a new BLEA classroom out of two existing classrooms. This included new furniture and audio/visual.

Officer Everly and Officer Dollard started BLEA session #713 at the Spokane Police Academy. One would expect the first day of a BLEA that had not been conducted in many years to be full of snags and problems, but it was just the opposite. Command Staff from the main Burien BLEA commented how it was the smoothest opening day they had seen. Once they saw the smooth operations and professionalism of Officers Everly and Dollard, they cancelled their plans to stay for the entire day and instead left several hours early. Later planned observation trips were also cut short or canceled altogether as the new Spokane BLEAs garnered comments of being better run and organized than Burien from their own staff. Lt. King and Sgt. Kendall have been teaching BLEA since the 1990's. They can honestly say that this teaching team is one of the most productive and successful that the Spokane Police Department Training Center has provided.

Although there are many other people who contributed to the success of this Academy, without Officer Everly's and Officer Dollard's contributions there is no way the BLEA classes would have succeeded at this level. The success of the Spokane BLEAs has returned a crown jewel to the Spokane Police Department and further enhanced our image with our own community as well with agencies throughout the state."

Sgt. Everly and Ofc. Dollard, you have certainly distinguished yourselves in the area of meritorious achievement, and I am proud to recognize you both with the Medal of Merit Award. You will be given the Medal of Merit at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in 2017. A copy of this document will be placed in your department personnel files.

  
Jim McDevitt  
Director of Law Enforcement

Public Safety Building • 1100 W. Mallon Avenue • Spokane, Washington 99260-0001

