

OFFICER JERRY ANDERSON

On Saturday, June 26th, at approximately 1750, SPD Officers responded to a report of a shooting at Spokane Falls Blvd and Howard. Two victims were reportedly injured and there were numerous reports on the suspects, their descriptions, and their locations. Several officers made it into the very densely populated Hoopfest area, including **Officer Jerry Anderson**. While searching for the suspects, Officer Anderson saw off-duty Detective Carr who indicated to him that she was following the shooting suspects. Detective Carr quickly informed him which male currently had the gun. He instructed Detective Carr to continue to follow the other two suspects while he contacted the gunman.



Officer Anderson knew that people had been shot and that he was confronting the person with the gun. He realized that he needed to immediately confront the suspect. He drew his firearm with one hand while grabbing the suspect with his other and ordered the suspect to the ground. The heavily sweating suspect broke away and began running. While he was chasing the suspect, a civilian in the crowd managed to grab the suspect and stop him. Officer Anderson saw the suspect digging in his pocket for the gun. He recognized that he was now in a lethal force situation. The suspect's close proximity to innocent civilians put them in extreme danger if he was to fire his weapon. At extreme risk to his own personal safety and to minimize danger, he holstered his weapon and went hand to hand with the suspect. He grabbed the suspect's hand which contained the gun. The suspect resisted violently. After more struggling, the suspect managed to break free. Again, Officer Anderson attempted to gain control of him. Thankfully, the suspect had discarded the gun and another unknown citizen physically protected the gun until officers could retrieve it. Officer Anderson was now able to apply a neck restraint to the suspect. Another Hoopfest volunteer asked Officer Anderson if he could be of assistance. Officer Anderson asked him to control the suspect's arm, freeing his own arm so that he could notify Radio of his location and what was occurring. Another civilian, who had witnessed these events, ran down to the intersection to direct responding officers to Officer Anderson's location. Responding officers had to run for several blocks through the extremely dense crowds, through the middle of on-going games in order to get to the gunman. Within mere minutes of the shooting, all three suspects were in custody, the weapon secured, and the crime scene sealed off.

Officer Anderson's actions were selfless and directly responsible in preventing other officers and citizens from being shot. SPD is proud to recognize him with the Silver Star Bar to be worn on his uniform. Ofc. Anderson will also be given the Silver Star medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony, in February 2011.



The Silver Star is awarded to employees who have displayed courageous actions above and beyond that normally expected. These acts of courage do not rise to the level of the voluntary risk of life requirements for the Medal of Valor, but are displays of exemplary acts of bravery.