



Letter of Award Silver Star



To: Officer Chris McMurtrey #1047
From: Scott Stephens, Interim Chief of Police
Date: August 13, 2012
Re: Silver Star Award

Recently, Officer Rob Boothe nominated Officer McMurtrey and Sgt. Overhoff for the Silver Star Award. 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 requirements for the Medal of Valor, but are displays of exemplary acts of bravery. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that they are most deserving of this recognition.

On February 16, 2011 at 0351 hours, Officer McMurtrey and Sgt. Overhoff were dispatched to a domestic violence call. Upon arrival, they contacted the complainant who advised that the suspect was holding his wife and small children in the house. The wife wanted to leave but was being held captive inside. The officers could hear yelling and the suspect threatening his wife. The suspect then opened the front door and said "They're going to have to kill me" and he shut the door. Fearing for the safety of the female and her young children, they forcibly entered the home. The suspect was waiting for them, with several edged weapons placed strategically in the home. The suspect refused to comply with the officers commands. As Officer McMurtrey entered the suspect came at him with a large butcher knife, trying to plunge it into his chest. Sergeant Overhoff was attempting to assist Officer McMurtrey but was confined by the tight spaces. Officer McMurtrey was able to push the male back. The male again charged Officer McMurtrey with the weapon held high. Fearing for his life, his sergeant's life and the lives of the innocents in the house, Officer McMurtrey engaged in justified deadly force. Both officers then evacuated the mother and small children from the home to ensure their safety.

Officer McMurtrey, it is an honor for me to present to you the Silver Star Medal and uniform bar.

Scott Stephens
Interim Chief of Police