

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Many people reading this are no doubt aware that the position of Patrol Captain is a new one for me. I am approaching this role with a great deal of excitement and optimism. At the same time, I recognize that we are facing a number of obstacles in the coming months. Chief among these are budgetary limitations and a continuing poor economy affecting the community we serve.

I don't doubt that we'll struggle at times, but I am confident that we will adapt and overcome each and every one of the obstacles we encounter.

How do I know this?

It's simple, really. I know the people of SPD. I know their strength, determination, pride and commitment. Having been here since 1993, I've been lucky enough to work with almost every member in one capacity or another. I am constantly amazed at the performance of the men and women who serve here.

I know what everyone is capable of and as a result, I believe in their ability to accomplish great things. I know I can trust each of you to do just that.

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LIFESAIVING MEDAL



Sergeant Kevin King



Officer Mell Taylor

On October 2, 2009, several calls were received of a possible suicide attempt on the Monroe Street Bridge. Sergeant Kevin King and Officer Yeshua Matthew arrived on scene within one minute of the calls being entered. They immediately located the subject sitting in the middle of the bridge on the west railing with both legs on the outside of the rail. Sgt. J.D. Anderson arrived moments later and blocked southbound traffic from the bridge.

As Sgt. Anderson walked up to the location of the subject, he observed Sergeant King talking to the subject. Officer Mell Taylor then arrived on scene. The subject was not responding verbally but did make eye contact with Sergeant King. While Sergeant King continued to maintain the citizen's attention focused to the northeast, Officer Taylor and Sgt. Anderson moved off to the south. They climbed over the wall and onto the walkway. Officer Taylor and Sgt. Anderson approached the citizen without his knowledge due to Sergeant King's continued communication with him.

Officer Taylor suddenly grabbed the subject in a bear hug and pulled him safely from the ledge. Due to Sergeant King's skilled communication with the subject, Officer Taylor was able to move up tactically and use his superior physical strength to pull the subject to safety before he even knew what was happening. Both officers deserve a lifesaving award for their combined efforts in saving this citizen's life.

Sergeant King and Officer Taylor both received the Lifesaving Bar, to be worn on their uniforms. They were also presented with the Lifesaving Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony, on February 18th, 2010.

CHIEF'S CITATION

The Chief's Citation Award is intended to recognize members of a Team or Unit for participating in an incident, event, or series of events, or project which has a substantial positive impact on the community or the police department. The incident, event, or project must be superior in nature and further the Department's mission and overall effectiveness.

The GangNet Team was the most recent recipient of this award. Members of this Team include: Lt. Dave Richards, Sgt. Dan Ervin, Carly Cortright, Joette Wentworth, Richard Cain LEIS, Dusty Patrick LEIS, Rex Franklin MIS, Carrie Aiken LEIS, Officer Mike Roberge and Officer Amy Ross.



GangNet is an intelligence database which allows sharing of gang information with agencies east of the Cascade Mountains. GangNet was installed in December of 2008 and began operation January of 2009. Currently we are connected to ten agencies and will soon be connected to CALGANG in California. The GangNet project started out with the writing of a \$330,000 federal grant. The development and implementation of this program has moved the Spokane Police Department far ahead in the investigation of criminal street gang members.

Sgt. Ervin had the original vision and due to his recognition of the possibilities available, the GangNet system became a reality. Lt. Richards provided support and when problems arose, he was there to assist. He supported out of state training and education for trainers. He is now an honorary member of the CALGANG board and attends meetings with them to work with California law enforcement. Carly Cortright found grant funds, spending several hours writing the grant and administrative progress reports that were required by the federal government. Carly solved a large portion of budget problems. Joette Wentworth managed all of the grant funds and payment processes for the city. This was difficult due to delays involved in the progression of purchasing software. There were times when the delays made it almost impossible to get the payments made in a timely manner to follow the rules of the grant. Richard Cain and Dusty Patrick LEIS spent a lot of time working with Sgt. Ervin and SRA to get the software loaded and functioning correctly. Their technological support started with knowing exactly what equipment SPD needed to order and then how to put it all together was essential. Rex Franklin MIS worked hard making sure that the Spokane Police Department had connectivity with other agencies that are using the system. As each new agency is added, Rex works with that agency and their IT issues to make GangNet compatible. Carrie Aiken LEIS is the technical support person for the operation of the software. If changes are needed in the software, she handles them. Carrie developed a way to compare arrest data to GangNet to track what our gang members have been involved with. Carrie also helped with retrieving statistical data by creating a program to compare our GangNet information with RMS. Officers Mike Roberge and Amy Ross developed policy that governs how the Spokane Regional GangNet System works. They developed a training program to teach people about the system and a separate training program to train people for data entry throughout agencies in eastern Washington, and helped to develop solid foundations that the Spokane Regional GangNet System requires to follow both state and federal law. They are now recognized gang experts in superior court and their knowledge and expertise on gangs is used within this system on a daily basis.

SERGEANT DAN ERVIN

Sgt. Dan Ervin recently completed a memo recommending a number of people to receive the Chief's Citation Award. After reading the recommendation memo, Lt. Dave Richards advised that it became immediately obvious that one person's name was missing from the list of recommended recipients, that name was Sgt. Ervin's.



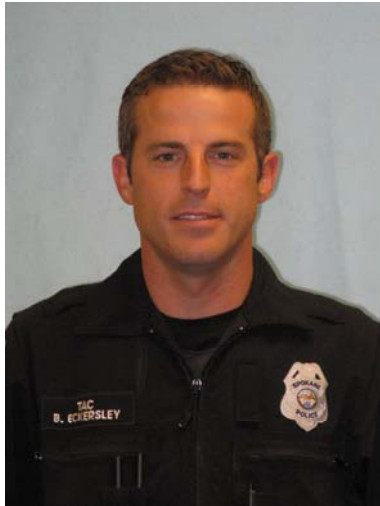
Lt. Richards wrote, "Sgt. Ervin is very quick to recognize the people he has worked with to make GangNet a reality. However, if it hadn't been for his original vision and his recognition of the possibilities available, there would not have been anything for the team to work on."

GangNet was purchased in December, 2008 and installed in January, 2009. Sgt. Ervin first began meeting with Lt. Richards in the spring of 2007 about GangNet, CalGang and the vendor, SRA. Even then, he had the vision of what the department needed to assist us in our mission to make Spokane the safest city of our size in the nation.

Sgt. Ervin has spent uncounted hours forging relationships with other agencies and individuals in Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona and especially, California to make GangNet a reality and to enhance its capabilities. His memo of recommendation documented the work and accomplishments that occurred to make GangNet possible for our department and other departments in our region. The work and accomplishments are a direct result of his vision, follow-up, tenacity, support and the attitude of 'I'm not going to leave you alone' until he accomplished what he knew could be accomplished to make this asset a reality."

Sergeant Ervin has certainly distinguished himself in the area of meritorious achievement. He was issued the Merit Bar and was presented with the Medal of Merit at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February 2010.

Congratulations to Senior Police Officer Brian Eckersley, who has been chosen as the Employee of the Month for February 2010.



Officer Eckersley has been a police officer with the City of Spokane for 10 years. While his primary duties are on patrol, he has also been involved with several other aspects of the Police Department. Some of his extra duties have included being a member of the TAC Team, a Public Information Officer, a Field Training Officer, an instructor at the Basic Law Enforcement Academy, and being an advisor for the Explorer program, mentoring teenagers that are interested in law enforcement.

One of Officer Eckersley's most remarkable traits is his dedication to the citizens of our City who have had the unfortunate experience of being victims of identity theft and forgery crimes. He consistently coordinates with detectives in the Fraud and Forgery Unit to follow up crimes that might otherwise never be followed through and prosecuted. His tenacity for investigative follow-up is unmatched in patrol and his dedication to the victims is unparalleled.

A great example of his work product involved a recent case where a female would attend weddings and wedding receptions uninvited and steal all of the wedding cards that contained cash and gift certificates. Officer Eckersley tracked down the suspect and made the arrest. He also went the extra mile to contact retail stores that had issued the gift certificates. He received three letters of commendation due to his hard work on this particular case. This is just one example of his top-level work product on a daily basis when he goes above and beyond his assigned responsibilities to serve the citizens of the City of Spokane.

Officer Eckersley is professional in his dealings with the public, and we can always count on him to assist with the media when we have responded to a serious incident. He is respected by his peers and has an excellent work ethic. These are just a few examples of why Officer Eckersley is deserving of this award. His service and commitment to the City of Spokane and the community are greatly appreciated!

DETECTIVE MARTY HILL



Employee of the Quarter nominations are based on either a specific act of unusual meritorious service; a specific project of significance to the community, city, or department, or sustained superior performance of assigned duties. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed the nomination; it was clear that Detective Marty Hill was most deserving of this recognition.

Detective Marty Hill was hired by the Spokane Police Department on March 4, 1985. In March of 1993, he was promoted to a detective and he has been a Major Crimes detective for the last six years. Marty was a member of the SWAT team for many years and has been a SWAT trainer since 2001. Marty consistently does quality work in the Major Crimes Unit, as a lead investigator and as back up to the lead.

What sets Marty apart from his peers is his willingness to take on any and all assignments that come into the office. As an example, Marty had just finished a lengthy attempted murder trial and was in the office on his day off to try to finish up on a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation was to be given to Senior Staff the next week involving an officer involved shooting. The sergeant and I were gone that day and the unit received information that the Spokane Valley deputies had just been involved in a shooting. Marty immediately took control and started to get detectives organized. He also volunteered to take the lead on the investigation even though he was at the office trying to finish up on his own project on his day off. The quality of Marty's work does not suffer regardless of the number of cases he has. The PowerPoint presentation he did the next week was well received and will be the prototype used for future officer involved shooting reviews.

As one of the trainers for the SWAT team, he has given many hours of his own time in order to meet the needs of the SWAT team. He is also willing to flex his time to ensure this important training continues. Marty is able to balance a full work schedule, a specialty team and an active family life.

Marty is also available for Major Crimes' call-outs that seem to always occur at o'dark hundred hours. These are just a few example of Detective Hill's contribution to the Spokane Police Department. Marty exemplifies the work ethic the rest of us try to achieve on a daily basis.

Marty's leadership and dedication sets a good example for all of our employees. We are fortunate to have such a dependable, innovative, and dedicated employee as Marty has proven himself to be, and he is quite deserving of recognition.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR*Tom Bell***LIFESAVING MEDALS:**

Officer Frank Erhart, Corporal Nick Lundgren, Officer Elina Bishop, Officer Paul Carpenter, Officer Holton Widhalm, Officer Ben Green, Officer Alexis Kester, Officer Tim Moses, Sergeant Rob Dashiell, Sergeant Kevin King and Officer Mell Taylor.

**MEDALS OF MERIT:**

Sergeant Dan Ervin, Officer Brad Moon, and Theresa Giannetto.

**SILVER STAR:**

Officer Glenn Bartlett

**PURPLE HEART:**

K-9 Var

CHIEF'S CITATION AWARDS:

PIO Team, RMS Name Combine Team, Records Division, GangNet Team

Visit the [SPD Heroes](#) page of our website for the full list of award recipients and their nomination letters.



LEONARD LEMAY AWARD

The Leonard Lemay Award is the highest that can be received. Lemay began the volunteer program in March of 1988 under Chief Mangan.

Congratulations to CO-OP Kyle Trotchie. Kyle started in the CO-OP program in March of 2008. He volunteered 503 hours in 2009 and 852 hours over the last two years.

SENIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

DON MAGBY

Don has been with the Senior Volunteers since February of 2007. He has volunteered 2226 hours in the past three years—just over 61 hours per month.

Don volunteers with the Fraud Unit and property/evidence pick up. Don volunteers with Fraud Unit search warrants, numerous community events, car seat checks and emergency call outs.

Don is a pleasure to work with and is always there to help in any way he can!



EXPLORER OF THE YEAR

JOSH FOLEY

Josh has been an Explorer since September of 2008 and has volunteered 831 hours in that time.

Josh was recently promoted to Post Captain. He is an extraordinary individual with many skills coming from a lot of dedication and hard work.



CO-OP OF THE YEAR

LUKE BURSON

Luke has been with the CO-OP's since November of 2008. He volunteered 364 hours in 2009 and a total of 418 hours in the last 15 months.

Luke is one of two Sergeants in the program and is a Field Training Officer for new CO-OP's. He is currently a student at Spokane Community College in the law enforcement program.



For a full list of the Volunteer Awards, visit the [SPD Heroes](#) page of our website!



Officer Kim Thomas
35 Years



Detective Al Quist
30 Years



Beth Gleason
5 Years

EXCELLENT PATROL WORK

On February 1st, 2010, just after 12:30pm, Spokane Police patrol officers responded to the report of a male with a gun at the Angel's Bail Bonds company located at 1215 N Monroe.

The call was very high risk at the onset. The suspect was named and described as pointing a gun at the bail bonds owner after he became upset when challenged about violating the terms of his bond agreement. The call was updated as units responded, corroborating the likelihood it was a "good" call. Officer Terry Preuninger was only three blocks away and was first on scene. He recognized a second possible suspect in a car outside and directed incoming units to control and detain that individual. Officer Preuninger formed a tactical stick and went to the building rear while employees were directing him. Units continued to arrive on scene and block Monroe St., while an outer perimeter was being established. Officer Preuninger made verbal contact with the suspect inside. The suspect was cooperative and the entry team contacted and detained him without incident. Several guns were found.

While the call was resolved in a matter of minutes, there was a potential armed, barricaded, hostage scenario at hand. We were fortunate to have one of the most experienced tactical (SWAT) leaders first on scene who made an immediate assessment and responded decisively. Three perimeter teams were being formed almost simultaneously: inner (entry), outer and traffic. Responding officers were self assigning their roles as they saw the need. After the control and detention of the suspects, the scene was transferred to Major Crimes detectives.

Leadership, discipline and initiative led to the safe resolution of this call.

SPD vs. SCSO HOCKEY GAME

On Saturday, February 13th, eleven members of SPD faced off against the SCSO in a benefit hockey game at the Spokane Arena. In an event hosted by the Spokane Chiefs Hockey Club, SPD skaters defeated the SCSO team 5-2. The purpose of the game was to benefit the Lakewood Children's Trust, which was put into place to support the needs of the nine surviving children of the four murdered Lakewood PD officers. Thanks to donations and a silent auction by the Spokane Chiefs, the event raised \$7000 for the fund.

By: Captain Frank Scalise



Chief Kirkpatrick celebrates an SPD goal.

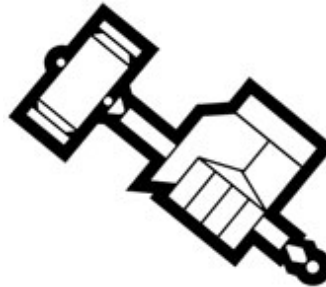


Det. Lesser and Cpl. Schaal as the puck drops.

The following officers played in the game: Officer Brad Moon (organizer), Officer Mike Russo, Officer Dave Daddato, Corporal Brad Hallock, Officer Ron Van Tassel, Detective Randy Lesser, Officer John O'Brien, Officer James Erickson, Officer Aaron Ames, Corporal Shane Oien, Corporal Jeff Schaal and Captain Frank Scalise. Major Stephens and Chief Kirkpatrick served as honorary coaches for the SPD team, and Aaron Ames' hat trick led the way for the SPD victory.

Are You a Judge or Defendant?

By: Pam Ames



We in Law Enforcement tend to see only the bad in people. How often do we get a call stating their son got straight A's or that a good Samaritan returned a \$50 bill that fell out of another's pocket? We can become jaded in this business and question the motives of the most innocent. We too can fall into wrong doings, mistakes and a loss of good judgment, even though our careers command exemplary living. There is One who knows all we do and all of our motives. But this is Good News because He is also fair and just and willing to forgive us if we are willing to admit our mistakes and turn from them. Put your trust in the One who can change your life and the lives of those you deal with every day.

"God is faithful and reliable. If we confess our sins, He forgives them and cleanses us from everything we've done wrong." 1 John 1:9 (God's Word Translation)

Every month we love to take a moment to thank you for all of your support in prayers and financial giving. You are the only way we can fund the Chaplain's Program.

If you're thinking of helping us, you can call 625-4091.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

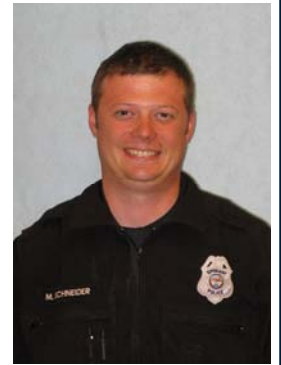
CITIZENS APPLAUD OUR EMPLOYEES



For the past year I have lived in the northeast community and have utilized the trails on Beacon Hill year round. I had gradually noticed a deterioration of the area including illegal dumping and use of temporary shelters by some unsavory folks. Over time, I began feeling less and less safe. I was so frustrated because I felt run off by a few people using the area for illegal activities. In the triaging of the many law enforcement needs, I could understand that this issue in my little corner of the world could be a low priority. I contacted Officer Kim Thomas at the Northeast Community Oriented Policing Station. Officer Thomas listened to my concerns with compassion and understanding. He followed up on specific incidents, including filing police reports when necessary. He stayed in regular contact with me, providing updates on progress and projects he was working on. He connected concerned community members and encouraged community groups to invest in the area. He even took the time to investigate the area on foot, looking at specific dumpsites and temporary shelters I was concerned about. In my opinion, he most definitely went above and beyond. Thank you for the leadership and support that makes these kind of projects and interactions possible.

~N. Easterling

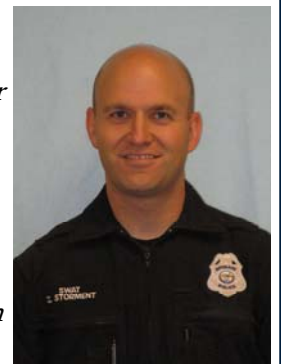
I wanted to take a moment to thank you for scheduling my ride-along on February 27th. Every officer I had the privilege of meeting was extremely professional, knowledgeable and presented themselves as positive images of law enforcement here in Spokane. I spent the night riding with Officer Michael Schneider. I was very impressed with how Officer Schneider carried himself throughout the entire evening. It would be understandable to become frustrated at having someone from outside your profession follow you all night, but Officer Schneider never displayed any sign of irritation at my presence. He answered each question I had in a straightforward and detailed manner. At many points it felt like he even went out of his way to make sure I understood the current situation and why he was handling it the way he did. There is no doubt in my mind that he is an exceptional officer and a major asset to the City of Spokane. All in all, it was a very enjoyable night for me and I feel that I have dramatically increased my knowledge of a law enforcement officer's daily routine. Thank you.



~D. Carroll



The morning of January 14th, I was called by your department to make a pick up in the area of 6th and Madison. When I got there, there Corporal Zac Stormont and Officer Ryan Jamieson had discovered a young woman passed out on the sidewalk. She had been drinking with some so called friends and apparently had a disagreement with them. They kicked her out of the car and left her with no coat and very light clothing. She was distraught and very embarrassed. The officers could have handled it more than one way, but chose to take the compassionate route. They kept her warm in a squad car until I arrived and just made sure she would get home safe. In an occupation like yours, you deal daily with a lot of bad situations and it is only natural to have an officer get cynical after a while. I would like to commend these two fine officers for showing that they had a heart and did a very decent thing for this woman. I was so impressed and wish to personally thank these officers for a job well done.



~K. Doran



UPCOMING EVENTS:

City Police Golf Tournament
Saturday, March 27—10am
Esmeralda Golf Course
487-6291

Police Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 14—7am
Monroe Court Building, Room 300
901 N Monroe

Free Car Seat Check
Saturday, April 17—10am to 2pm
BiMart—2221 First St, Cheney, WA

Spokane Law Enforcement Museum Grand Opening
Tuesday, April 27
Opening @ 10am
Ribbon Cutting @ 10:30am
1201 W 1st, Spokane, WA
Admission is free. Donations will be accepted.

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SUGGESTIONS—COMMENTS?
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SPD TV SCHEDULE:

During the month of March our SPD TV program on City Cable Channel 5 will feature part 2 of the history of the department. Officer Teresa Fuller is joined by two members of the History Book Committee, John McGregor and Tim Hattenburg. The committee is in the process of printing the second book on the complete history of our department. Teresa and her guests discussed the people and stories of the department in the early 1900's. The program will be replayed on the following dates on Channel 5.

March 27—8:30pm

March 29—10:30am

March 30—8pm

***Congratulations to
 Officer Rhian Wilkinson on the
 birth of his healthy new baby!***



***Senior Volunteer Ray Ripley
 recently broke his
 lower lumbar.***

