

**CITY OF SPOKANE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
MARCH 2011**

Officer Holt Widhalm

Officer Widhalm is a patrolman assigned to the downtown area of Spokane. One of his many duties includes dealing with the transient/homeless individuals in the area.

By any measure, Officer Widhalm is an outstanding officer who performs his duties with great care and professionalism. He has arrested many “bad guys” and assisted many citizens. It is clear that he loves his job and cares for our city and its citizens. These are the duties we expect him to perform, but this nomination is based on work performance NOT expected of him.



In November 2010, it was noticed that Officer Widhalm had purchased a pair of winter boots for a long time “street person” who resides in the downtown area. This person’s boots were completely worn out and the weather was turning cold. Others have made similar gestures in the past, but this stands out because it took place shortly after Holt received notification of his impending layoff. It appeared, at that time, that he would not be employed as a Spokane Police Officer within six weeks of this gesture.

Officer Widhalm and his wife had just had a new baby, and they had recently purchased a new home. Despite his impending loss of employment and all the financial stresses associated with that, he still felt compelled to buy a cold man a new pair of boots—a remarkable act of selflessness.

Fortunately, Officer Widhalm’s job was saved, and he still patrols the streets for the Spokane Police Department.

Congratulations, Holt!

**Your service and commitment to the City of Spokane and
the community are greatly appreciated.**