

# OFC. JOHN STANLEY



The Medal of Merit is awarded to employees who distinguish themselves by meritorious achievement or service. Meritorious actions are those which clearly surpass that which is normally required or expected.



When Chief Terry Mangan joined our department, one of his goals was to establish a K-9 unit. Officer John Stanley was one of the first people to show an interest in being a part of that new unit. Although he had no prior experience, Officer Stanley showed a natural aptitude for working with the dogs and for training others.

As a handler, Officer Stanley was successful from the beginning. He would often apply and make a successful canine application when others had given up and secured the scene. Officer Stanley and his first dog, Canto, became a highly productive team—to the delight of patrol and the dismay of criminals. He and Canto continued to be very successful, with more than enough stories to fill a book.

As Officer Stanley excelled as a handler and trainer, the Spokane Police K-9 Unit became well respected. He didn't keep his expertise to himself, however, but helped establish a number of canine programs across Washington, Idaho, and Montana. Officer Stanley is now recognized by the Washington State Police Canine Association as a Master Trainer, and have served two terms as president of that organization. He has been a pioneer in SWAT canine use and joint training. He is also sought after as an expert witness in canine-related court cases.

John is a hard-working, innovative professional who has become an expert handler and trainer, and whose influence has been a driving force throughout the northwest and beyond.

