

## 2003 CHIEF'S CITATION AWARD TRAFFIC UNIT

The Chief's Citation Award is given to the members of a team or unit for participating in an incident, event, series of events or project which has had a substantial positive impact on the community or Police Department and which was superior in nature and furthered the Department's mission and overall effectiveness. After reviewing this nomination, it was clear that Police Dispatch was most deserving of this recognition.

The Traffic Unit has worked hard to reduce traffic collisions by having a proactive approach to enforcement, education, engineering and information analysis and accomplished this by working with other members of our department as well as other governmental and private agencies.

With the addition of a swing shift traffic team in 2002, several programs were developed. An example is the Collision Reporting System, which collects and analyzes collision data. This information is invaluable in deciding how to deploy resources. Additionally the Traffic Hot Line provides valuable information and had made a positive impression on citizens.

The "Where's Chachi?" Program has become famous and needs no explanation. The locations chosen to deploy "Chachi" come from data derived from CRS and the Hot Line. The fact that "Chachi" is deployed, is communicated via media outlets and school and park zones are targeted.

The Traffic Unit helped get the DUI Reimbursement Program up and running in Spokane. The "Driving for Life" Program was started, funded by a two year, \$250,000 grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. We were one of only three agencies nationwide to receive this grant. With grants and other programs of the State Traffic Safety Commission, equipment was obtained which we would have otherwise been unable to afford; including a 2002 Ford Mustang for special emphasis enforcement activities. Other special emphasis projects include Reduction of Underage Drinking patrols, "Click it or Ticket" seat belt enforcement, the Dying to Drive Program (formerly Every 15 Minutes), the Mock Crash Scene and seat belt education with School District 81.

The Traffic Unit is an incredible group of dedicated people who constantly strive toward the unit's mission and the mission of the Spokane Police Department. They are not afraid to employ innovation and proactive programs. Their efforts have resulted in a significant decline in the number of collisions and their contributions to our citizens have been significant and noteworthy. All members of the Traffic Unit were presented their Chief's Citation plaques at our annual employee awards ceremony in February of 2004.



Sergeant Joe Walker  
Sergeant Rick Dobrow  
Corporal Tom Sahlberg  
Corporal Brad Hallock  
Officer Kim Thomas  
Officer John Clarke  
Officer Bill Workman  
Officer Paul Taylor  
Officer Dave Kennedy  
Officer Jeff Graves  
Officer Ken Applewhaite

Officer Brad Moon  
Officer Kurt Henson  
Officer Ryan Snider  
Officer Glenn Bartlett  
Officer Tom Hendren  
Officer Jason Reynolds  
Officer Chris Lewis  
Barbara Dewey, Clerk  
Jenna Burtness, Clerk  
Barbara Richards, Senior  
Volunteer

