

SERGEANT LARRY EVANS



The Medal of Valor is the highest recognition of achievement presented by the Department. It is awarded to employees who distinguish themselves with extraordinary acts of bravery or heroism above and beyond that normally expected in the line of duty. Employees must have displayed extreme courage by placing their own safety in immediate peril in the pursuit of their duties.

On December 18, 2001, Dispatch advised there was a house fire at 9th and Lincoln, with people inside. Sergeant Larry Evans responded as the closest unit. At the scene, he advised Dispatch he was making entry, and assisted a woman out of the lower level. She told Sergeant Evans that her daughter was upstairs. The Fire Department was not yet on scene, and the two-story house was now fully engulfed. Without regard for his own safety, Sergeant Evans again entered the house. Even though the house was filled with smoke and on fire, he risked his own life to go upstairs and look for the woman. When Officers Kellee Bunch and John Gately arrived, they saw Sergeant Evans leading a woman down the stairs. They could not believe that anyone had just come out of the second story of the house, as ashes and lit embers were flying everywhere.

The daughter said that she was attempting to put out the fire when she was overcome by heavy smoke, and felt herself start to lose consciousness. As she was passing out, she really began to think that she was not going to make it out of the apartment. She felt someone grab her wrist and pull her down the staircase. She later said, "I believe I would have died that day if it were not for Sgt. Evans' willingness to enter the burning building to help me. He stayed with me and assisted in getting me medical treatment. He is a very kind person."

During this extraordinary act, Sergeant Evans displayed bravery and heroism above and beyond that normally expected in the line of duty. His actions undoubtedly saved the lives of two people and the department is proud to recognize him with the Medal of Valor.

Sergeant Evans was issued the Valor bar, to be worn on his uniform. He was also awarded the Medal of Valor at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony, in February 2003.

