

Medal of Valor Class A

Established 1972



Awarded to a member who, conscious of danger, intelligently and in the line of police duty, distinguishes himself by the performance of an act of gallantry and valor at imminent personal hazard to life, above and beyond the call of duty.

July 18, 1985

Officer Dennis R. Abel
Officer Richard S. Horman
Officer Richard J. Schmidt

On July 18, 1985, these officers responded to a call of a violent domestic where the suspect was threatening his girlfriend with a knife. The suspect fled on foot from the house as the officers arrived. The officers located the suspect and a struggle took place. During the ensuing confrontation the suspect gained control of an officer's revolver and shot Officer Horman and Officer Abel. Officer Schmidt was able to gain control of the weapon and the suspect was shot and killed.

December 11, 1985

Officer Kenneth McIntosh

On December 17, 1985, a suspect robbed a downtown jewelry store at gun point and fled through the skyway system. Officer McIntosh pursued the suspect to a nearby beauty salon. Inside, the suspect herded three employees into a back room with his gun. In defense of the hostages and his own life, Officer McIntosh fatally wounded the suspect.

June 25, 1987

Officer Eugene Polyak

On June 25, 1987, Officer Polyak responded to a report of an armed bar patron. The officer persuaded the man to accompany him outside to talk. Once there, the suspect drew a Colt 45 caliber and fired upon the officer. Polyak, shot in the chest and hand, returned fire and mortally wounded the assailant.

September 18, 1990

Officer Michael Hinzman

For his act of gallantry and valor in engaging an armed and dangerous suspect. Officer Hinzman fired two shots, fatally wounding the suspect, who had pointed a handgun at the officer.

December 16, 1990

Officer Gerald Vick

For distinguishing himself by courageously entering a smoke-filled house, where he located and brought to safety a one-year-old child.

May 16, 1992

Officer Mark Pierce

Officer Shoua Cha

For their courageous actions, under fire, surrounding the pursuit and arrest of an armed suspect.

January 17, 1993

Sergeant John Pyka

Officer Thomas Smith

For their bravery and courage, under gunfire, during the execution of a search warrant resulting in the arrest of an armed suspect.

August 8, 1993

Officer Archie Smith

For his bravery and dedication while off duty, in rescuing a small child from drowning in a pond near his home and diligently searching for another child in the same pond.

October 12, 1993

Officer David Timm

For his courageous actions when faced with a life threatening situation involving three teenage robbers who confronted him at gun point.

August 26, 1994

Officer Ronald Ryan, Jr.

For his ultimate sacrifice, when answering a "slumper" call, he came under gunfire from the slumper and was fatally wounded by those shots.

August 26, 1994

Officer Timothy Jones

K-9 Laser

For his ultimate sacrifice, and that of K-9 Laser, who were searching in an off-duty status for the killer of Officer Ronald Ryan, Jr. They were ambushed by the same suspect and the wounds suffered were fatal.

September 3, 1994

Officer Heidemarie Riemenscheider

Officer Brian Reed

For their actions dealing with a suspect who turned and fired numerous times at them as the suspect fled a car stop situation.

January 10, 1995

Officer Michael Ardolf

For his courage, professionalism and dedication by disabling an armed suspect who was pointing a handgun directly at Officer Ardolf and other officers.

November 30, 1995

Officer James K. Gray

Officer Anthony Pangal

For their actions resulting from a fleeing suspect that had fired at officers. A return of gunfire and eventual arrest of the party who had charges of multiple burglaries, robberies and attempted homicide.

July 7, 1996

Officer Timothy K. Bradley

Officer Lucia T. Wroblewski

Officer Vincent Martin

For the arrest of an armed aggravated assault suspect in a tense and dangerous situation. Suspect exchanged gunfire with officers and fled scene in a car. Suspect was arrested a short time later.

August 25, 1996

Sergeant Karsten J. Winger

Officer Steve J. Anderson

Officer Carl M. Schwartz

Officer John R. Wright

For risking their lives in the attempt to arrest an armed homicide suspect in an open area on the boulevard near Snelling and Portland. After a five-hour surrender negotiation, suspect drew his weapon as the CIRT team approached to apprehend him.

April 28, 1991

Officer Gerald Vick

For his assessment of the situation, evaluation of the threat and appropriate response when a suspect pulled a handgun and started to raise it toward him.

December 15, 1999

Officer James S. Griffin
Officer J. John Mercado
Officer Vernon P. Michel

On September 10, 1949, these officers voluntarily entered a dark, tear gas filled two story house to search for a fleeing suspect in the murder of fellow Saint Paul Police Officer Allen G. Lee and for the robbery of a local liquor store earlier that day. During the process of searching the house, the three officers encountered the suspect and employed deadly force in order to protect their lives and the lives of other officers involved in the search, resulting in the suspect being fatally wounded. ([Read related story](#))

October 26, 2000

Officer Brady A. Harrison

On July 23, 2000, Officer Harrison responded to a call. While chasing a suspicious person on foot, another individual ran towards him with gun pointed. Officer Harrison assessed the situation and responded by wounding the suspect, eliminating the threat. He exercised extreme control in ensuring that innocent bystanders were not injured.

August 30, 2001

Officer Lyle D. Rust

On July 16, 2001, Officer Rust was dispatched to arrest a mentally ill woman. While attempting to apprehend the suspect, she advanced to the officer with a homemade razor knife. Instead of using deadly force in a justified situation, Officer Rust used his Freeze +P. She slashed her arms and continued to threaten him. Officer Rust was able to subdue and arrest the suspect in spite of the large amount of blood on both himself and her.

January 9, 2003

Officer Peter D. Crum
Officer John Linssen
Officer Mark G. Nelson
Officer Jay D. Thompson
Officer Matthew D. Toronto

On September 2, 2002, these officers were sent to a domestic call. A young man was found in possession of a Samurai sword. The officers persuaded the suspect to leave the apartment. He left the sword behind. While the suspect was being handcuffed, he began to struggle with the officers. The suspect got back in his apartment. He then stabbed Officer Jay Thompson several times. To save the life of Officer Thompson and intervening to halt assaults on others, deadly use of force was utilized. Officers began first aid on the injured officer and suspect.

April 24, 2003

Officer Michael A. Tharalson

On September 27, 2002, you responded to a call dealing with a schizophrenic male who had not been taking his medications and had been violent in the past. The family helped you gain entry to

the house. After they had picked up some personal possessions, you escorted them out of the house. As you and the last family member were leaving, the suspect came from an upstairs bedroom carrying a BB gun and sickle sword. After physical contact was made, you were left with no choice but to use deadly force. You then began first aid on the injured suspect.

March 4, 2004

Officer Ryan J. McAlpine

On February 23, 2004, while off duty, you heard shots being fired. Putting yourself at great risk, you got into your personal vehicle to attempt to catch up to the fleeing suspect vehicle, and began to notify dispatch. The occupants eventually realized you were following them and fired three shots at you. Even after the vehicle stopped and the four suspects fled, you continued to chase one of the suspects on foot and assisted responding officers in the arrest of all four suspects.

September 30, 2004

Officer Charles L. Sims

On January 23, 2004, you aggressively patrolled your area looking for an aggravated robbery suspect, who during the robbery stabbed a woman. After locating him, you initiated a traffic stop. You attempted to contain the suspect who was armed with a large knife. You tried to keep the suspect in his car and away from nearby citizens, but he advanced toward you in a threatening manner, forcing you to use deadly force at a distance of 2 feet. Your actions were that of a brave and courageous individual in the deadliest of situations.

December 12, 2005

Officer Andrew C. Herouz

On October 10, 2005, you noticed a fire inside the Asian Grocery Store on East 7th Street. After requesting the fire department, you noticed the fire had grown and began to engulf the whole building, threatening the occupants of the apartments above the store. In spite of heavy smoke, you risked your own safety by entering the building more than once to alert the occupants. They were still sleeping and were unaware of the fire was ravaging the building. As the fire progressed, you were forced to crawl on your hands and knees in an effort to make sure each resident was brought to safety. In the end, you saved eighteen residents' lives that evening. You displayed great bravery and heroism by risking your own life to save the lives of others. This Medal of Valor is presented in recognition of your courageous and selfless actions.

November 29, 2007

Officer William C. Beaudette

On February 12, 2007, you responded to a call that the Minnesota Gang Strike Force Officers needed assistance in stopping a fleeing vehicle driven by a violent gang member. You joined in the pursuit with the intent to keep traffic back as the chase was during daylight hours and there were many citizens in the area. As a suspect's vehicle tried to pass a semi trailer, it crashed. You exited your squad and drew your weapon along with Officer Armando Abila-Reyes, who led the

pursuit. You shouted for the suspect to show his hands and as he did, you saw the gun in his hand. Fearing for your lives and others at the scene, you both fired at the suspect. It was later determined that the suspect was killed by his own weapon. Your brave actions during this life-threatening encounter are commended.

November 29, 2007

Officer Armando F. Abla-Reyes

On February 12, 2007, you responded to a call that the Minnesota Gang Strike Force Officers needed assistance in stopping a fleeing vehicle driven by a violent gang member. You were the lead vehicle in the pursuit. The suspect blew out his back window and shot at you. Each time shots were fired, you were able to maintain focus and alert dispatch. As the suspect's vehicle tried to pass a semi-trailer, it crashed. You exited your squad and drew your weapon along with Officer William Beaudette, who assisted in the pursuit. You shouted for the suspect to show his hands and as he did, you saw the gun in his hand. Fearing for your lives and others at the scene, you both fired at the suspect. It was later determined that the suspect was killed by his own weapon. Your brave actions during this life-threatening encounter are commended.

March 27, 2008

Officer Cory J. Kochendorfer

On September 18, 2007, you and Officer Jessica Phillips were sent to a call on York Ave. where three men were threatening the caller's boyfriend. When you arrived, only the caller, her boyfriend in a small child were present. While questioning the boyfriend, the caller mouthed to you that she needed help. She explained that her boyfriend had put a knife to her throat. The man became very upset and ran to the back yard where you both tackled him. He had a knife which you ordered him to drop several times. He did not comply and pleaded for you to kill him. He then tried to enter the home where the woman and child were now located. He found the door locked and approached you again with knife in hand. You both fired at the suspect who later died. Your courageous actions are recognized by this award.

March 27, 2008

Officer Jessica E. Phillips

On September 18, 2007, you and Officer Cory Kochendorfer were sent to a call on York Ave. where three men were threatening the caller's boyfriend. When you arrived, only the caller, her boyfriend in a small child were present. While questioning the boyfriend, the caller mouthed to you that she needed help. She explained that her boyfriend had put a knife to her throat. The man became very upset and ran to the back yard where you both tackled him. He had a knife which you ordered him to drop several times. He did not comply and pleaded for you to kill him. He then tried to enter the home where the woman and child were now located. He found the door locked and approached you again with knife in hand. You both fired at the suspect who later died. Your courageous actions are recognized by this award.

March 27, 2008

Officer Robert L. Edwards and K-9 Rico

On October 10, 2007, you and K-9 Rico assisted in an undercover operation aimed at apprehending an upper level narcotics trafficker who is considered a dangerous fugitive. The plan failed when the suspects saw marked squads. A car chase ensued; the suspect crashed his vehicle, and then fled on foot with weapon in hand. As the suspect pointed his gun at you and Rico, you continued the pursuit and ordered him to drop his weapon. He failed to comply and continued running. You fired your weapon, and about the same time, Rico apprehended him by his arm and took him to the ground. With gun drawn, you approach the struggling suspect, who was being held firmly by Rico, and saw that he was no longer armed and had been shot by your gunfire. Your and Rico's valiant actions are recognized by this award.

September 25, 2008

Sergeant Ann M. Bibeau

On July 21, 2008, you were running near 12th Street and Wabasha, as part of your PT. A vehicle suddenly stopped in a juvenile male ran from the car as an adult male armed with a baseball bat chased him. The male hit the youth with the bat several times. He then pushed into the ground and began to punch him repeatedly in the face. Although you had no police identification or equipment to assist or protect you, you approached the adult, identified yourself as an officer, and ordered him to stop. He did it not comply. You grabbed the bat and struck the adult's arm in an attempt to stop him. You again advised that you were an officer in which he responded by threatening to physically harm you. After a momentary standoff, he fled the scene and was later found and arrested. This Award recognizes your selfless and heroic actions.

January 13, 2009

Officer James O. Mann

On July 9, 1971, four armed men robbed a bank on University Avenue. Two suspects were apprehended when they crashed the vehicle they had commandeered, while the other two fled on foot. They entered a home on Minnehaha Avenue and took a grandmother and her 18-month-old granddaughter hostage. One of the suspects surrendered shortly after, while the other remained in the home armed with two handguns. You arrived on the scene and spoke with the suspect from the porch. The suspect continually stated that if you came inside, he would shoot. You persisted in a calm manner and eventually were able to go inside the home, unarmed, to further talk with the suspect. A deal was reached and the child was released followed by the grandmother. The courage and professionalism you displayed are recognized by this award.

February 22, 2009

Officer Michael P. Carroll

On March 6, 2008, you and Officer Robert Howell responded to a home burglary in progress. As you interviewed the victims, you saw a male swinging a samurai sword, trying to break the window of Officer Howell's squad car. You both proceeded outside and ordered the suspect to stop damaging the vehicle. You then noticed that he had a knife in his other hand and ordered him to drop both weapons. He did not comply and moved towards Officer Howell. Fearing for his life and those around him, Officer Howell shot the suspect. He was wounded, but was able to

stand and chose to move towards Officer Howell again. You both ordered him to stop and again he refused. You then shot the suspect to shield both of you from harm. He did recover from his wounds. This Award is presented in recognition of your courageous actions.

February 22, 2009

Officer Robert R. Howell

On March 6, 2008, you and Officer Michael Carroll responded to a home burglary in progress. As you interviewed the victims, Officer Carroll saw a male outside swinging a samurai sword, trying to break the window of your squad car. You both proceeded outside and ordered the suspect to stop damaging the vehicle. You then noticed that he had a knife in his other hand and ordered him to drop both weapons. He did not comply and moved towards you. Fearing for your life and those around you, you shot the suspect. He was wounded, but was able to stand and chose to move towards you again. You both ordered him to stop and again he refused. Officer Carroll then shot the suspect to shield both of you from harm. The suspect did recover from his wounds. This Award is presented in recognition of your courageous actions.

May 13, 2009

Sergeant Gerald D. Vick

On May 6, 2005, Sergeants Gerald Vick and Joseph Strong were working undercover at Erick's Bar on East Seventh Street. They had a verbal confrontation with two males outside the bar. Both Sergeants left in their separate vehicles after the encounter to return to headquarters to complete their shifts. One of the individuals approached Sergeant Strong's vehicle as it was stopped at a red light near the bar. Sergeant Strong called upon Sergeant Vick for assistance. Both got out of their vehicles and pursued the individuals down an alley across the street from the bar. As Sergeant Vick approached one of the males, he was shot and his wounds were fatal. Sergeant Gerald Vick gave the ultimate sacrifice that police officers can give in service to the citizens of St. Paul.

June 25, 2009

Officer Adam L. Bailey

On April 6, 2009, you and Officer Heather Kuchinka, along with several other officers, responded to a man with a gun call on the East Side of Saint Paul. When you arrived, Officer Patrick Murphy had the suspect lying prone in an alley at gunpoint. As attempts were made to secure the suspect, he repeatedly tried to stand and ignored orders to lie down on the ground. K-9 Boomer was released, but the dog bites appeared to have no effect on the suspect. The man then retrieved a weapon from behind a light pole and ignored repeated orders to drop the gun. He pointed in your direction and also at Officer Murphy and Boomer. Fearing for your own safety, and the other officers' safety, you and Officers Brian Casey and Douglas Wilson, shot the suspect. He did succumb to his wounds. This Award recognizes your courageous actions.

June 25, 2009

Officer Brian E. Casey

On April 6, 2009, you and Officer Douglas Wilson, along with several other officers, responded to a man with a gun call on the East Side of Saint Paul. When you arrived, Officer Patrick Murphy had the suspect lying prone in an alley at gunpoint. As attempts were made to secure the suspect, he repeatedly tried to stand and ignored orders to lie down on the ground. K-9 Boomer was released, but the dog bites appeared to have no effect on the suspect. The man then retrieved a weapon from behind a light pole and ignored repeated orders to drop the gun. He pointed at Officer Adam Bailey and at Officer Murphy and Boomer. Fearing for your own safety, and the other officers' safety, you and Officers Bailey and Wilson shot the suspect. He did succumb to his wounds. This Award recognizes your courageous actions.

June 25, 2009

Officer Heather M. Kuchinka

On April 6, 2009, you and Officer Adam Bailey, along with several other officers, responded to a man with a gun call on the East Side of Saint Paul. When you arrived, Officer Patrick Murphy had the suspect lying prone in an alley at gunpoint. As attempts were made to secure the suspect, he repeatedly tried to stand and ignored orders to lie down on the ground. K-9 Boomer was released, but the dog bites appeared to have no effect on the suspect. The man then retrieved a weapon from behind a light pole and ignored repeated orders to drop the gun. He pointed at Officer Bailey and at Officer Murphy and Boomer. Officers shot at the suspect; however, you displayed great discipline and did not engage your weapon when other officers came into your line of fire. He did succumb to his wounds. This Award recognizes your courageous actions.

June 25, 2009

Officer Patrick J. Murphy and K-9 Boomer

On April 6, 2009, you and K-9 Boomer, were the first to respond to a man with a gun call in an alley on the East Side of Saint Paul. At gunpoint, you ordered the suspect to show his hands and lie on the ground. He did comply and was face down in the alley when the other officers arrived to assist. Attempts were made to secure him; however, he repeatedly tried to stand. He released Boomer, but the dog bites appeared to have no effect on him. As you approached the suspect, he shot at your faithful partner with a gun he had retrieved from behind a light pole. He then pointed his weapon directly at you. Fearing for your safety and their own lives, the other officers at the scene shot the suspect before you could fire your own weapon. Boomer did recover from his injuries. Your and Boomer's valiant actions are recognized by this Award.

June 25, 2009

Officer Douglas R. Wilson

On April 6, 2009, you and Officer Brian Casey, along with several other officers, responded to a man with a gun call on the East Side of Saint Paul. When you arrived, Officer Patrick Murphy had the suspect lying prone in an alley at gunpoint. As attempts were made to secure the suspect, he repeatedly tried to stand and ignored orders to lie down on the ground. K-9 Boomer was released, but the dog bites appeared to have no effect on the suspect. The man then retrieved a weapon from behind a light pole and ignored repeated orders to drop the gun. He pointed at

Officer Adam Bailey and at Officer Murphy and Boomer. Fearing for your own safety, and the other officers' safety, you and Officers Bailey and Casey shot the suspect. He did succumb to his wounds. This Award recognizes your courageous actions.

September 23, 2010

Officer Adam L. Bailey

On December 8, 2009, you and Officers Stephen Bobrowski and Thomas Weinzettel assisted in a search for suspects from a homicide earlier that day. Information was provided to you that a suspect had crawled out an apartment complex's window. You were able to corner the suspect near the complex. He had one hand inside his jacket, as if to conceal something. He failed to comply with orders to show his hands, so Officer Bobrowski used his Taser which caused the man to fall to his stomach with his hands underneath him. As you struggled with him to pull his hands out from under his body, a gunshot went off and you were shot in the calf. Fearing for your lives, you and the other officers returned fire, killing the suspect. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this Award.

September 23, 2010

Officer Stephen R. Bobrowski

On December 8, 2009, you and Officers Adam Bailey and Thomas Weinzettel assisted in a search for suspects from a homicide earlier that day. Information was provided to you that a suspect had crawled out an apartment complex's window. You were able to corner the suspect near the complex. He had one hand inside his jacket, as if to conceal something. He failed to comply with orders to show his hands, so you used your Taser which caused the man to fall to his stomach with his hands underneath him. As you struggled with him to pull his hands out from under his body, a gunshot went off and Officer Bailey was shot in the calf. Fearing for your lives, you and the other officers returned fire, killing the suspect. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this Award.

September 23, 2010

Officer Jermaine R. Davis

On August 31, 2010, you and Officers Jason Giampolo, Todd Ludvik, and Justin Tiffany were working the State Fair traffic detail when you heard a loud bang and crackling noise. A semi-truck struck a high voltage electrical pole and live wires had fallen to the sidewalk and street. You noticed the lines had fallen on a family of four and also a male who was on the ground. Without any hesitation or concern for your own safety, you and the other officers immediately began working as a team. You ran under live, sparking wires to assist the family. You tried to keep the family calm as they witnessed a wire lying on the father's shoulder. You also moved other citizens, who were in possible harm's way from an unstable electrical pole, to a safer location. Your selfless actions and teamwork are recognized by this Award.

September 23, 2010

Officer Jason A. Giampolo

On August 31, 2010, you and Officers Jermaine Davis, Todd Ludvik, and Justin Tiffany were working the State Fair traffic detail when you heard a loud bang and crackling noise. A semi-truck struck a high voltage electrical pole and live wires had fallen to the sidewalk and street. You noticed the lines had fallen on a family of four and also a male who was on the ground. Without any hesitation or concern for your own safety, you and the other officers immediately began working as a team. You remained with the male who had a live wire on his leg and was shaking. You intuitively used a chair to knock the line off of his leg and then put your shirt under his head to prevent further injury from his uncontrollable shaking. Your selfless actions and teamwork are recognized by this Award.

September 23, 2010

Officer Todd A. Ludvik

On August 31, 2010, you and Officers Jermaine Davis, Jason Giampolo, and Justin Tiffany were working the State Fair traffic detail when you heard a loud bang and crackling noise. A semi-truck struck a high voltage electrical pole and live wires had fallen to the sidewalk and street. You noticed the lines had fallen on a family of four and also a male who was on the ground. Without any hesitation or concern for your own safety, you and the other officers immediately began working as a team. You ran under live, sparking wires to assist the family. You ran under live, sparking wires to assist the family. You tried to keep the family calm as they witnessed a live wire lying on the father's shoulder. You remained with them until medics arrived to assess the father's injuries. Your selfless actions and teamwork are recognized by this Award.

September 23, 2010

Officer Justin J. Tiffany

On August 31, 2010, you and Officers Jermaine Davis, Jason Giampolo, and Todd Ludvik were working the State Fair traffic detail when you heard a loud bang and crackling noise. A semi-truck struck a high voltage electrical pole and live wires had fallen to the sidewalk and street. You noticed the lines had fallen on a family of four and also a male who was on the ground. Without any hesitation or concern for your own safety, you and the other officers immediately began working as a team. You ran under live, sparking wires to assist the father of the family who was slumped over a snow fence with a live wire on his shoulder. You also yelled to others in the area to remain away from all wire as you were unsure if more would fall to the ground. Your selfless actions and teamwork are recognized by this Award.

September 23, 2010

Officer Thomas M. Weinzettel

On December 8, 2009, you and Officers Adam Bailey and Stephen Bobrowski assisted in a search for suspects from a homicide earlier that day. Information was provided to you that a suspect had crawled out an apartment complex's window. You were able to corner the suspect near the complex. He had one hand inside his jacket, as if to conceal something. He failed to comply with orders to show his hands, so Officer Bobrowski used his Taser which caused the man to fall to his stomach with his hands underneath him. As you struggled with him to pull his

hands out from under his body, a gunshot went off and Officer Bailey was shot in the calf. Fearing for your lives, you and other officers returned fire, killing the suspect. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this award.

October 28, 2010

Officer David J. Longbehn

On May 1, 2010, Maplewood Police Sergeant Joseph Bergeron was killed in the line of duty. You and your K9 partner Kody were assigned to secure the area while other officers searched for two suspects. Leaving Kody in the squad, you asked a man that was walking in your area for identification. When he could not provide you with any, you began a pat down. Suddenly and without any warning the man turned and struck you in the face with a heavy object. He pushed you to the ground and tried to grab your gun as he shouted that you would be killed. This fight for your life was terrifying as you struggled to hold onto your weapon which was covered in blood and sweat. You were finally able to fire your weapon, killing the suspect. Your courage and valiant actions are recognized by this Award.

March 24, 2011

Officer Colby D. Bragg

On July 19, 2010, you and Officers Arnulfo Curiel, Joshua Raichert, Justin Rangel, and Mark Ross responded to a possible suicide in progress at a motel. You removed guests from the nearby room to ensure their safety, and knocked on the door of the individual's room. He refused to come out, stated he had a knife and that you would need to kill him. You took positions covering the door and each other with your weapons drawn and waited to begin negotiations with him. Suddenly, the male opened the door with knives in each hand. He ignored commands to stop and drop the knives. You and Officers Curiel, Raichert and Rangel fired your weapons. The distraught male did succumb to his wounds. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this award.

March 24, 2011

Officer Arnulfo Curiel

On July 19, 2010, you and Officers Colby Bragg, Joshua Raichert, Justin Rangel and Mark Ross responded to a possible suicide in progress at a motel. You removed guests from the nearby rooms to ensure their safety, and knocked on the door of the individual's room. He refused to come out, stated he had a knife and that you would need to kill him. You took positions covering the door and each other with your weapons drawn and waited to begin negotiations with him. Suddenly, the male opened the door with knives in each hand. He ignored commands to stop and drop the knives. You and Officers Bragg, Raichert and Rangel fired your weapons. The distraught male did succumb to his wounds. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this award.

March 24, 2011

Officer Joshua E. Raichert

On July 19, 2010, you and Officers Colby Bragg, Arnulfo Curiel, Justin Rangel, and Mark Ross responded to a possible suicide in progress at a motel. You removed guests from the nearby rooms to ensure their safety, and knocked on the door of the individual's room. He refused to come out, stated he had a knife and that you would need to kill him. You took positions covering the door and each other with your weapons drawn and waited to begin negotiations with him. Suddenly, the male opened the door with knives in each hand. He ignored commands to stop and drop the knives. You and Officers Bragg, Curiel and Rangel fired your weapons. The distraught male did succumb to his wounds. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this Award.

March 24, 2011

Officer Justin L. Rangel

On July 19, 2010, you and Officers Colby Bragg, Arnulfo Curiel, Joshua Raichert, and Mark Ross responded to a possible suicide in progress at a motel. You removed guests from the nearby rooms to ensure their safety, and knocked on the door of the individual's room. He refused to come out, stated he had a knife and that you would need to kill him. You took positions covering the door and each other with your weapons drawn and waited to begin negotiations with him. Suddenly, the male opened the door with knives in each hand. He ignored commands to stop and drop the knives. You and Officers Bragg, Curiel and Raichert: fired your weapons. The distraught male did succumb to his wounds. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this Award.

March 24, 2011

Officer Mark R. Ross

On July 19, 2010, you and Officers Colby Bragg, Arnulfo Curiel, Joshua Raichert, and Justin Rangel responded to a possible suicide in progress at a motel. You removed guests from the nearby rooms to ensure their safety, and knocked on the door of the individual's room. He refused to come out, stated he had a knife and that you would need to kill him. You took positions covering the door and each other with your weapons drawn and waited to begin negotiations with him. Suddenly, the male opened the door with knives in each hand. He ignored commands to stop and drop the knives. The other officers fired their weapons, while you displayed great discipline and held fire when officers came into your line of fire. Your courageous actions during this intense situation are recognized by this Award.

March 28, 2013

Officer Daniel K. King

On October 23, 2012, you and Officer Brian Wanschura were on patrol and noticed an individual walking down the street with a long barreled gun strapped to his back. As your squad approached, the man grabbed at his weapon as if he were going to engage in gunfire. The suspect fled into some trees near a school parking lot and as you followed him in the squad, he began to shoot. You were shot in the forearm and severe injured. The suspect continued to shoot at you; however Officer Wanschura rolled from the squad and remained in control as he effectively

delivered rounds at the suspect until the threat ended. You were amazingly brave and applied a tourniquet to your severely shattered arm while waiting for medics to arrive. Your courageous actions during this intense and chaotic situation are recognized by this Award.

March 28, 2013

Officer Brian M. Wanschura

On October 23, 2012, you and Officer Daniel King were on patrol and noticed an individual walking down the street with a long barreled gun trapped to his back. As your squad approached, the man grabbed at his weapon if he were going to engage in gunfire. The suspect fled into some trees near a school parking lot and as Officer King drove the squad closer, he began to shoot hitting Officer King in the arm, severely injuring him. You rolled from the squad and began shooting at the suspect, who continued to shoot at the squad where Officer King was located. You remained in control and effectively delivered rounds at the suspect until the threat ended. You truly answered the call to protect and serve, not only to the citizens of Saint Paul, but to your fellow officer, Daniel King. Your valiant actions are recognized by this Award.

Medal of Merit Class B

Established 1972



Awarded to a member for a highly creditable, unusual police accomplishment.

September 6, 1975

Officer David Huberty

Officer Huberty and his partner Jerome Kubash observed smoke billowing from a residential apartment at 373 Virginia. Officer Huberty crawled into the apartment and located an unconscious victim. He brought the victim to safety and started first aid. Officer Huberty was awarded the First Medal of Merit in the history of the department.

January 15, 1977

Officer John Fisher

While off duty at Highway 5 and the Mississippi River bridge, Officer Fisher observed a vehicle overturned and on fire. He approached the burning vehicle and put his life in danger to rescue the woman trapped inside.

August 11, 1987

Officer Michael Garvey

Officer Kevin Hammel

At grave personal risk, officers entered a burning building, put out a gasoline fire and assisted people from the burning building, saving human lives and preventing considerable property damage.

January 6, 1995

Officer Leonard Rogge

For his response to a fire where he prevented a child from reentering the apartment and checked the second floor for other residents.

July 18, 1985

Officer Richard Tibesar

For entering a burning building at great risk to himself in search of possible victims.

December 17, 1985

Officer Francis Jacobs

For the arrest of two armed robbery suspects without regard for his own personal safety.

December 17, 1985

Officer Richard Muñoz

For the arrest of two armed robbery suspects without regard for his own personal safety.

October 17, 1986

Officer Timothy Poucher

For the rescue of an infant from a burning building.

December 6, 1986

Officer Gary Rivet

Officer Joseph Stiles

Officer Joseph Mollner

For the superior investigation of a homicide.

March 26, 1987

Sergeant Richard Weisman

For the arrest of a murder suspect.

January 5, 1988

Officer Terrance O'Brien

For protecting the victims of an in-progress robbery with disregard to his own personal safety.

September 14, 1988

Sergeant James Feckey

For saving a woman trapped in a burning vehicle.

August 19, 1989

Officer Cyril Dargay

Officer Catherine Janssen

Officer Patrick Lyttle

For safety removing a young child from a house totally engulfed in flames.

November 10, 1989

Officer Timothy Bradley

For safety removing a hysterical woman from an apartment engulfed in flames and smoke.

January 20, 1990

Officer Shoua Cha

For safely removing an unconscious man locked in a burning vehicle.

September 9, 1990

Officer Norman Cherrey

Officer David Gora

For their courageous performance in the rescue effort of a woman from the Mississippi River.

December 16, 1990

Officer Michael Maloney

Officer Douglas Holtz

For life saving actions at a residential fire exemplifying professionalism its best.

March 10, 1993

Officer John Wess

For his actions in administering CPR and saving the life of a child who had stopped breathing.

July 17, 1993

Officer David Mathison

For his diligence and dedication to duty in administering CPR and saving the life of a child who had fallen into a swimming pool and stopped breathing.

August 26, 1993

Commander Laurence McDonald

For his dedication to duty and outstanding performance in handling the department's response to Operation Rescue during the summer.

July 24, 1993

Officer Howard Swintek

For his dedication to duty and outstanding performance involving an emotionally disturbed person who had barricaded herself in a motel room. The situation was ultimately resolved successfully.

December 11, 1993

Officer Thu Cha

Officer John Dewitt

Officer Ronald Ryan, Jr.

For their actions in rescuing three small children from a house fire on the East Side.

February 12, 1994

Officer Don Benner

Officer Jane Cooper

Officer Gerald Johnson

Officer Steven Smith

For their actions involving a homicide at 782 Dayton Avenue. After hearing gunfire they were part of a team that secured the premises, detained 28 people in the residence, recovered evidence and remained in control of a volatile situation. The suspect was identified from the 28 people detained.

September 3, 1994

Officer Arnold Paul

For disarming a dangerous suspect who had taken a hostage, with no harm to anyone. He confronted the suspect and through skillful police work and quick thinking prevented that suspect from escaping.

February 3, 1995

Officer John Wess

For his superior judgment in disarming a person threatening suicide.

October 24, 1993

Officer Patrick Lyttle

For preventing the escape of an armed individual. Disregarding his own safety, Officer Lyttle challenged the suspect and affected his arrest.

February 10, 1995

Officer Lila Janis

For remarkable control at a call involving several youths, one of them armed. This person was later arrested without incident.

April 10, 1995

Sergeant John LaBossiere

For an arrest of an armed assault suspect in a congested downtown area.

July 24, 1995

Officer Robert Fleming
Officer Bradley Schultz
For subduing an armed and suicidal youth.

August 16, 1995

Officer Patrick Kellerman
For the safe removal of a suicidal “EDP” person from the concrete arch over the Robert Street Bridge.

August 20, 1995

Officer Jeffry Lewis
For saving an unconscious individual at home.

January 25, 1996

Sergeant John M. Culhane
Sergeant Thomas F. Dunaski
For the long term FBI Drug Task Force investigation into the murder and drug sales that culminated in a murder conviction, 30 convictions of Twin City cocaine dealers, involving 16 out-of-state distribution gangs.

December 16, 1995

Officer Howard J. Swintek
For the arrest of an armed suspect in the robbery of the Midway National Bank where the suspect fled and abducted a car, holding two citizens at gunpoint

April 15, 1996

Officer Lenora E. Travls
For being instrumental in arresting one of the suspects who had fled from the scene of a shooting where Ramsey County Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant A. Blakey was shot.

July 7, 1996

Sergeant Dennis L. Jensen
Sergeant Eugene P. Polyak
Officer William F. Krismer
For the arrest of an aggravated assault suspect that exchanged gunfire with arresting officers.

July 25, 1996

Officer Holly E. Brodt
Officer Bruce F. Brodt
For attempting to save a suicidal party under extreme and hazardous conditions.

August 7, 1996

Officer Steve J. Anderson
Officer John P. Buchmeier
For the handling of an armed robbery in progress where victims' lives were threatened.

August 25, 1996

Officer James S. Campbell
Officer Jane L. Laurence
Officer Mark P. Wiegel
For the handling of a homicide incident and the containment of the shooting suspect.

August 28, 1996

Officer David A. Clemens
Officer Howard J. Swintek
For risking their lives in removing two children from harm's way, and in the search for other possible residents in a home fire.

November 6, 1997

Officer Timothy R. Bradley
Officer Julie K. Harris
Officer Vincent E. Martin
Officer Thomas A. Perzichilli
Officer David A. Sohm
Officer Robert L. Thomasser
For risking their lives while confronting an armed suspect who fired a handgun several times as he wandered from one location to another threatening citizens and ultimately pointing his gun at officers as he advanced toward them.

February 25, 1997

Officer Amy M. Boyer
Officer Kenneth C. Jensen
Officer Thomas Perzichilli
Officer Kathleen O'Reilly
Officer Robert Weier
For risking their lives in rescue of victims from the porch roof of a burning house; for rescuing a person from inside the burning house and for reentering the house in an attempt to save another.

September 6, 1997

Officer Jeffrey Slagerman

For steadfast courage and steady calmness while a suicidal man pointed a gun at the officer, allowing the officer to get other family members to safety and talk the armed man into surrendering.

April to December 1997

Sergeant Patrick D. Kellerman

Officer Michael A. Ardolf

Officer Raymond A. Gainey

Officer Peter T. Panos

Officer Timothy C. Pinoniemi

For developing and implementing an undercover storefront operation targeting street level drug dealers through their use of cellular phones.

March 10, 1998

Officer David C. Peterson

For dedication to duty and professionalism in apprehending a suspect armed with a handgun without using deadly force though such use would have been appropriate.

December 1997

Sergeant Patricia T. Englund

Officer Richard W. Straka

For dedication to duty and professionalism while working with Asian gangs in initiating a criminal sexual conduct investigation which led to the identification of numerous victims and the arrest of eight suspects.

May 26, 1998

Sergeant Charles K. Anderson

Sergeant Neil P. Nelson

Sergeant Richard J. Muñoz

Officer Timothy P. Lynaugh

For courage and dedication in effecting the arrest of four murder suspects. The officers were clearly in harm's way. Officer Lynaugh's K-9, Callahan, was shot and killed by one of the suspects.

October 29, 1998

Sergeant Nancy J. Smolik

For extraordinary dedication and an invaluable contribution while working endless hours (sometimes around the clock) during the 603/Six Mob Gangsters murder investigation.

February 27, 2002

Sergeant Tom Dunaski

For actions exemplifying professionalism at its best. On July 20, 1996, four year old Devisha Gillum was murdered by gunfire while sitting in a car with her mother in a gas station. You worked with Sergeant Nancy Smolik, Sergeant Jane Mead and Officer Rob Kosloske, to plan the use of informants and intelligence gathering techniques allowing officers to infiltrate three drug operations. Following their arrests and facing a range of prison sentences three 60's Crips leaders cooperated with the murder investigation. The murderers were eventually brought to justice.

September 26, 2002

Officer James Nash

For actions exemplifying professionalism at its best. You and your K-9 partner Mic assisted at a home invasion call. You encountered the suspect who was pointing a gun at the victim. Ignoring your commands to drop the gun the suspect turned the gun on you. You began to squeeze the trigger on your Glock but another victim got into your line of fire, you refrained from shooting and the suspect ran away. You and Mic then tracked and apprehended the suspect. You exercised quick and sound judgment in a deadly force situation.

November 26, 2002

Officer Jeffrey A. Whitbeck

For exceptional actions when you were assigned to an arrest team for a buy/bust detail. After receiving the bust signal, you and other officers moved in for the arrest. The suspect then accelerated his vehicle towards you and other officers. Fearing for the safety of other officers, you fired two rounds at the suspect in attempt to change his course of action. Your quick and brave actions lead suspect to swerve, missing other officers and saving them and yourself from further injury.

May 29, 2003

Officer Robert A. Stanway

For exceptional actions when noticed a man with one leg over the railing of a bridge looking like he was going to jump. When you arrived on scene he now had his back towards you and was completely over the railing. He told you that he was going to jump and that you could not stop him. You walked closer while talking to him. When you got close enough you grabbed him in a "bear hug" and several motorists that had stopped, helped you pull him back over the railing. With disregard for your own safety, you prevented the suspect from taking his own life.

January 29, 2004

Officer Ann Anderson

Officer Cort Baumgart

Officer Darren Johnson

Officer Shawn M. Shanley

Officer Jeff Stiff

For exceptional actions after being sent to a domestic call. Information stated the son threatened his mother with a gun and left in a white vehicle. The vehicle was spotted and a felony stop developed. The driver was secured, but the passenger reached under the passenger seat and pulled out a gun. You maintained cover while ordering the suspect to drop his weapon. Fearing for the safety of all officers and nearby patrons, you had to use deadly force.

March 30, 2004

Officer Steven T. Jabs

For exceptional actions after you responded to a call to check the welfare of an elderly woman. Once there, you observed a male inside the house. He opened the door. You questioned him as to the whereabouts of the woman. Suspicious of his story, you secured him and entered the house. You found the woman unconscious and barely breathing. The suspect choked her and planned on robbing her. You rendered first aid and requested medics for the woman. Without your quick thinking and persistence, the woman may have suffered life-threatening injuries.

May 18, 2004

Officer Jeffrey M. Stiff

On March 3, 2004, you were sent to the area of Mississippi and Grove streets on a drunk male casing cars. When you arrived, you found an individual matching the description carrying some type of gun. As you began to give him verbal commands to drop the gun, he started walking toward you. He failed to comply with your instructions in Kenya and continued to walk toward you making grunting noises. You recognized these noises to be consistent with a person that is hearing impaired. You were able to grab him and escort him to the ground, knocking the gun out of his hands, and preventing what could have easily developed into a deadly force situation. Your quick thinking, courage, dedication and professionalism are recognized by this Medal of Merit Award.

September 29, 2005

Officer Robert J. Buth

On August 17, 2005, you and your partner Officer Trygve Sand were sent to the East Side on a man with a knife call who was out of control, banging on walls, breaking windows, screaming and waving a ten inch knife around. As you investigated the call, the suspect rushed out of an apartment several times, waving the knife. At one point, he rushed straight at you with the knife held in a threatening manner. Both of you had no choice but to use your weapons to defend yourselves. You attempted to stun him with your Taser and Officer Sand was forced to use his firearm at a distance of three feet, wounding and disarming the suspect. He remained hostile during the entire incident including the time after he was shot. Your courage, dedication and professionalism are recognized by this Medal of Merit Award.

September 29, 2005

Officer Trygve O. Sand

On August 17, 2005, you and your partner Officer Robert Buth were sent to the East Side on a man with a knife call who was out of control, banging on walls, breaking windows, screaming and waving a ten inch knife around. As you investigated the call, the suspect rushed out of an apartment several times, waving the knife. At one point, he rushed straight at you with the knife held in a threatening manner. Both of you had no choice but to use your weapons to defend yourselves. Officer Buth attempted to stun him with his Taser and you were forced to use your firearm at a distance of three feet, wounding and disarming the suspect. He remained hostile during the entire incident including the time after he was shot. Your courage, dedication and professionalism are recognized by this Medal of Merit Award.

March 3, 2006

Sergeant Paul G. Paulos

On February 23, 2005, you immediately responded to an "officer down" call where Ramsey County Deputy Chris Tayson was shot and seriously wounded on Ames Avenue in Saint Paul. Once there, you saw a male who matched the suspect description running away from the scene. You followed the suspect around the corner in time to see him throw a gun aside that he had removed from his waist. You used your squad car to stop the suspect, thereby containing him and eliminating any further threat to other officers and citizens. He was subsequently arrested and the handgun was recovered. You went above the call of duty in your efforts to capture a violent gang member who had just been involved in shooting a deputy. Your courage, dedication and professionalism are recognized by this Medal of Merit Award.

April 27, 2006

Officer Mark T. Reding

On January 17, 2006, you were working on a surveillance detail in plain clothes and an unmarked vehicle. While on Sherburne Avenue and Kent Street, you noticed several males standing on this corner. One of these males raised his hand and started shooting a handgun. Without regard for your own safety, you exit your vehicle and without the perfection of body armor, confronted this armed suspect. After identifying yourself as a police officer, the suspect threw the gun into a snow bank. You single handedly arrested the suspect and recovered the gun used in the shooting. You went above and beyond the call of duty by putting your life on the line. My most sincere thanks for your fine performance which reflects most creditably upon you and the Saint Paul Police Department.

April 27, 2006

Officer Troy Greene

In late 2004, a gang war escalated between the BFL and Latin King gang and soon after Operation Wild Kingdom was initiated in which you played a significant role. Your familiarity with these gang members allowed you to go undercover and buy guns from them. You gathered so much evidence and intelligence, that the DEA and FBI became involved. You put countless hours of work into obtaining federal arrest warrants for twenty seven people and were the main contact between the Saint Paul Police Department and the nineteen federal agencies involved. In

2006, nine search warrants were executed with twenty one suspects taken into custody and six guns, a half pound of cocaine and over \$70,000 cash were recovered. This shutdown of the Latin King gang would not have happened without your hard work and dedication.

June 29, 2006

Sergeant Karsten J. Winger

On May 23, 2006, a squad was sent to East Jessamine Street and the baby not breathing. Because you were closer to the call than the squad was, you immediately assisted. Once there, you observe the baby girl, with blue lips, hands and feet. She was one of a set of triplets born nine weeks premature. You immediately began administering CPR and were able to get the baby breathing on her own. You then supervised the child's prompt transport by medics to a local hospital for an examination. Your quick response saved this little girl's life for which her parents will be forever grateful. My most sincere thanks for your fine performance, which reflects most creditably upon you and the Saint Paul Police Department.

June 29, 2006

Officer Michael P. Carroll

As the Crime Free Multi Housing Officer for the Eastern District, you work closely with apartment complex personnel, Code Enforcement, LIEP, St. Paul Fire Inspectors, and City and County Attorneys to keep drugs and illegal activity out of our city's rental and privately owned properties. Your tireless work has improved the quality of life for the Eastern District Community. This is evidenced by the 146 evictions in 2005, your weekly maps and statistics along with a monthly summary of Eastern District's Staff Map program. Your participation in the selection process of the new crime mapping system will give officers immediate information and reports in their squads of problem properties. Your good judgment, dedication and professionalism are recognized by this Medal of Merit Award.

August 31, 2006

Sergeant William S. Duff

Sergeant Jane E. Mead

Sergeant Thomas F. Dunaski

On May 22, 1970, St. Paul Police Officer James Sackett was murdered by assassins while responding to an emergency call for help. Investigators developed leads as to those involved, but intimidation from the suspects resulted in the failed prosecution and the case became inactive. In 2002, the case was reopened. You committed yourself to reviewing all archived Saint Paul Police records, FBI files, and hundreds of files from other law enforcement agencies around the country that were related to the case. Countless hours of work over four years were devoted to bringing this investigation to a successful conclusion. The convictions of Ronald Reed and Larry Clark for the First Degree Murder of Officer James Sackett, speaks volumes for the exceptional work you performed. My most sincere thanks for your dedication to this case.

November 21, 2006

Officer Robert J. Kruse

On May 3, 2002, you responded to a purse snatching suspect being detained near the AFL-CIO building on Aurora. Once you arrived, you observed citizens fighting with the suspect and holding him down. As you approached, the suspect managed to break free and ran to a parked car on University. You gave chase on foot and as you approached the front of his vehicle, the suspect attempted to run you over. You drew your service weapon ordering him to stop. He ignored your order and sped up striking you and causing you to be thrown to the vehicle's hood. Fearing for your own life, you fired two rounds through the windshield. The vehicle ended up striking a parked car and the suspect stepped out and fell to the ground. You were able to handcuff him and call for medics. Your courageous actions are recognized by this Award.

November 21, 2006

Commander Robert L. Thomasser

Operation Sunrise was a joint cooperative operation between our department, Ramsey County Attorney's Office and the Minnesota Gang Strike Force with the objective to target street level narcotics dealers and gang members who had been terrorizing the Frogtown area of Saint Paul. You were able to buy guns and narcotics from close to 100 different individuals which resulted in over 230 separate felony charges against these defendants. With the valuable help of the Ramsey County Attorney's office, you were able to build successful drug and RICO cases against the nine defendants and also charge several others federally for narcotic sales. Your work on this detail removed a major drug dealing gang from the neighborhood that once took over Frogtown. Your dedication and commitment are recognized by this Medal of Merit Award.

November 21, 2006

Officer Timothy P. Lynaugh

In September, 2006, the St. Paul Police Canine Unit hosted the United States Police Association's (USPCA) National Field Trials in the City of Saint Paul. The planning and coordination of this premiere event took over 18 months to accomplish. You were the primary force behind all the planning and coordination for this event. You were instrumental in securing funding support, organizing volunteers, locating a hotel large enough to host the visiting agencies, working with local, state and federal agencies in arranging locations for the events, working with the Chamber of Commerce to promote the event, and arranging evening excursions for the competitors. You personally took care of every detail no matter how small to ensure the event was a complete success. My sincere thanks for your hard work and dedication.

August 30, 2007

Officer Sayareth T. Vixayvong

In 2006, you worked in numerous undercover narcotic details which involved putting yourself in unpredictable and dangerous situations. Not many individuals are able to work undercover due to the stress and potential volatility of the assignments. Yet, you made yourself available at all hours of the day and weekends so that the undercover narcotic operations could be completed, some which involved those who were suspected to have ties to Vietnamese organized crime. In many situations, you were dealing with unknown people who were selling large amounts of

illegal drugs. Because of your commitment and superior performance many individuals were indicted, including one case which is believed to be one of the largest cocaine seizures in the Saint Paul Police Department's history. You have demonstrated that you are a highly creditable undercover officer for our department and your work is recognized by this Award.

January 28, 2010

Officer Richard L. Beard

On December 14, 2009, you and Officers Leonard Manning and Matthew Webb were sent to a domestic call. The victim stated the man inside the apartment was in a crazed state and had knives. He did not comply with orders to open the door. You quickly drew up a tactical plan and breached the door. When you entered, the suspect had knives in both hands. He refused to drop them and a Taser was used which caused him to fall to the ground. A small knife was dropped, but a larger knife was not visible as a long struggle ensued between you, the other two officers and the suspect. In a situation where deadly force could have easily been justified, you remained calm under volatile circumstances and chose not to shoot the suspect. I thank you for your courageous actions that reflect most creditably on you and the department.

January 28, 2010

Officer Leonard P. Manning

On December 14, 2009, you and Officers Richard Beard and Matthew Webb were sent to a domestic call. The victim stated the man inside the apartment was in a crazed state and had knives. He did not comply with orders to open the door. You quickly drew up a tactical plan and breached the door. When you entered, the suspect had knives in both hands. He refused to drop them and a Taser was used which caused him to fall to the ground. A small knife was dropped, but a larger knife was not visible as a long struggle ensued between you, the other two officers and the suspect. In a situation where deadly force could have easily been justified, you remained calm under volatile circumstances and chose not to shoot the suspect. I thank you for your courageous actions that reflect most creditably on you and the department.

January 28, 2010

Officer Matthew R. Webb

On December 14, 2009, you and Officers Richard Beard and Leonard Manning were sent to a domestic call. The victim stated the man inside the apartment was in a crazed state and had knives. He did not comply with orders to open the door. You quickly drew up a tactical plan and breached the door. When you entered, the suspect had knives in both hands. He refused to drop them and a Taser was used which caused him to fall to the ground. A small knife was dropped, but a larger knife was not visible as a long struggle ensued between you, the other two officers and the suspect. In a situation where deadly force could have easily been justified, you remained calm under volatile circumstances and chose not to shoot the suspect. I thank you for your courageous actions that reflect most creditably on you and the department.

July 22, 2010

Officer Eric D. Vang-Sitcler

On May 1, 2010, Maplewood Police Sergeant Joseph Bergeron was killed while on duty. A search began for two suspects in Saint Paul. One of the suspects' descriptions matched that of a young man you had befriended and developed a good rapport with over the past several years. The father of this man eventually advised you that his son had contacted him and stated he was in trouble. You immediately tracked him down and began mediating with him. After several hours of phone conversations, you were able to negotiate with him and persuade him to surrender peacefully, which he did. Your vast knowledge of possible suspects, and natural ability to mediate and to remain calm in intense situations, helped Maplewood and Saint Paul Police make an arrest and put an end to a horrific day.

November 29, 2012

Officer Sayareth T. Vixayvong

In December, 2011, an undercover investigation began on an Asian gang member selling large amounts of methamphetamines. You maintained and built a relationship with this very dangerous criminal over a few months. The investigation revealed that the suspect not only sold drugs from his home, but was tied to a very large drug cartel and was in possession of handguns. You were put in a very risky and precarious situation during your undercover work. You were often in the company of meth users and knew any wrong move could put you in grave danger. Your work was instrumental in the success of this operation. Eighteen pounds of meth were recovered, along with guns, cash and vehicles. I thank you for your exemplary performance which reflects most creditably on you and the department.

May 23, 2013

Officer Jeremy A. Ellison

You have worked the Safe and Sober Program for a number of years and have always questioned the cumbersome way officers needed to log their activity for the program. For four years, you worked with Glen Fingerholz, an employee with the City's Office of Technology, to improve the system. This project went beyond your expectations and was a great success not only for the department as originally planned, but other agencies as well. By working closely with Mr. Fingerholz, a program called ROAR, Real-time Officer Activity Reporting, was developed. By the fall of 2012, every law enforcement agency in the State of Minnesota began using ROAR with great enthusiasm. The selfless hours you donated, the professionalism displayed, and your tenacity to see this project through from start to finish are admirable.

Officer of the Year Department Awarded

1997 — Sergeant Thomas Dunaski

Sergeant Thomas Dunaski was recognized for his efforts in the murder-arson case in which five children were killed. His tenacity and persistent investigation, his willingness to conduct numerous searches and spend months developing and befriending informants, led to a federal indictment being handed down against 23 members of a dangerous street gang. His exceptional abilities as an investigator have made him a valuable and honored member and source of pride for the Saint Paul Police Department.

1998 — Officer Jeffrey Hutchinson

Officer Jeffrey Hutchinson was recognized for his abilities and willingness to step forward as a leader. His leadership promotes teamwork and cooperation as well as instilling confidence and pride in fellow officers. He is regarded as the “go to guy” when information is needed on a suspect or vehicle. He demonstrates sophisticated skill in developing strategies problem solving and continually develops new techniques and alternatives in an effort to increase productivity among the officers he coaches and mentors.

1999 — Officer Kevin Moore

Officer Kevin Moore was recognized in solving the 1997 murder by the Jamaican Posse gang. Throughout his police career, he has shown that he never lets go or gives up on a case. He is a tenacious and tireless investigator who has worked behind the scenes on many homicides. He is a mentor and informal leader to his law enforcement colleagues. Through his hard work and pursuit of justice, the city of Saint Paul is a safer place to live.

2000 — Officer Timothy R. Bradley

For demonstrating exceptional achievement in carrying out his duties — not only his “crime fighting” and preliminary investigations, but also for his community-based problem solving efforts, crime prevention strategies and involvement in neighborhood programs. His work and cooperation with fellow officers resulted in fourteen solved robberies with four suspects being identified and charged. He has continually demonstrated his dedication and commitment to Saint Paul’s East Side by putting in countless hours of his own time to assist with various events and projects. Every year he is instrumental in decorating the East Side District with Christmas lights which promotes goodwill and pride for the police department and the East Side community. He helped start the current bike patrol and is still responsible for keeping the program going each year. He was also instrumental in the planning and organizing of the Department Millennium Photo Shoot and the Millennium Time Capsule and served on the Millennium History Book Committee.

2001 — Officer Keith A. Draz

Is recognized for his outstanding qualities as a Saint Paul police officer and for demonstrating exceptional achievement in carrying out his duties with an emphasis on community policing. He is recognized for being a model police officer in utilizing community oriented policing methods to interact with the community. He actively cultivates and uses his resources to combat area crime. He has continually demonstrated his dedication and commitment to Saint Paul's community by putting in countless hours of his own time to mentor and coach the youth groups in his area. Although he does not speak Hmong, he has developed an incredible relationship with members of the Hmong community. He understands their concerns, has a good knowledge of their history and is sensitive to their culture and customs. He is highly regarded in the Hmong community because of his efforts. The standards that he has set for himself are high and he has attained them consistently.

2002 — Officer Paul P. Schnell

Is recognized for his outstanding qualities as a Saint Paul Police Officer and for demonstrating leadership abilities in a multitude of tasks with an emphasis on community policing. During the past year, he has been instrumental in organizing and developing the following projects: Urban Lab Project which combined beat policing with a specialized focus on gangs within the West Side community. West Side Joint Auto Theft Task Force which was a multi-jurisdictional approach to curbing auto theft and its related criminal activities. Intensive Spanish Language Program which is an immersion based Spanish course to give officers the ability to speak with community members whose first language is Spanish. He not only wrote the specifications for this program but secured funding, wrote the grants, planned the classes and organized the instructors. As president of the Minnesota Juvenile Officers Association and an instructor with the Upper Midwest Community Policing Institute, he continues to develop his expertise in different aspects of law enforcement. He believes that community policing works and makes a difference in the quality of life for our community members. He is a leader among his peers and is respected by his supervisors.

2003 — Officer Andrew H. Shoemaker

Is recognized for his outstanding qualities as a Saint Paul Police Officer and as an investigator for the Minnesota Gang Strike Force. As a Saint Paul Police Officer, he has always shown dedication and commitment to the citizens of this city by working to rid their neighborhoods of problem properties. As a member of the Minnesota Gang Strike Force, he has demonstrated exemplary investigative skills by contributing to the recovery of fourteen firearms, 5.25 pounds of methamphetamine, 148 marijuana plants and \$223,348 during this past year. He has made himself available 24 hours a day to assist on investigations and to work with informants whose loyalty he has earned through his calm demeanor and commitment to treat all people fairly. He has made a commitment to other officers and investigators to become better at their jobs by encouraging and coaching them. Throughout his career as a police officer, he has never hesitated to share investigative information with the proper sources to include street officers and investigators. His quiet leadership style encourages others to learn by his example. His

dedication to his job and the citizens of the City of Saint Paul is always portrayed through his day to day work.

2004 — Officer Timothy A. Bohn

The 2004 Officer of the Year Award is presented to Timothy A. Bohn in recognition of his superior commitment and outstanding abilities as a Saint Paul Police Officer assigned to the Western District. As a Saint Paul Police Officer, he has displayed dedication and commitment to the people of this city by taking on a major role in the development, gathering and dissemination of criminal intelligence information through the tracking of members of the Lower Town Gangsters and Selby Sider street gangs. Without prompting he took the initiative to confer and work with the members of the Minnesota Gang Strike Force to develop a very detailed “Gang Identification” booklet that is widely used by members of the department. It was his exemplary investigative skills that lead to the identification of the new “304 gang” and its ring leader and several members. He had tirelessly gone out of his way to maintain and develop knowledge regarding active gang activity. He reached out to our partners in the Ramsey County Probation and Parole Department to track the status of active gang members. It is this level of effort that has contributed to the improvement in the safety and quality of life for an entire neighborhood. His diligence and day-to-day efforts serve as the benchmark of excellence to his peers. His dedication to service, the Saint Paul Police Department and the great people of this city is formally acknowledged today through his selection as the 2004 Saint Paul Police Officer of the Year.

2005 — Officer William C. Beaudette

Officer William C. Beaudette is awarded in recognition of his superior commitment and outstanding abilities as a Saint Paul Police Officer assigned to the Eastern District. As a Saint Paul Police Officer, he has displayed dedication and commitment to the citizens of Saint Paul and to his fellow officers. On May 6th, 2005, following the shooting death of Sgt. Jerry Vick, Officer Beaudette was one of the first officers on scene and quickly broadcast the suspect description and direction of flight. He then led a coordinated search and kept the perimeter officers updated with any information. Officer Beaudette’s quick action forced the suspects to hunker down and be taken into custody within hours of this terrible tragedy. Because of Officer Beaudette’s training and experience as a CIRT member for 10 years, a Defense Tactics / Firearms Instructor, and a primary FTO, he was able to coordinate efforts of police resources in the critical initial stages of the incident. His ability to lead, apply his knowledge, skills and abilities was paramount in the apprehension of the suspects. Also on June 20, 2005, a homeless man was found at Payne and Bush unconscious and injured. The victim would later die as a result of his injuries. There were no witnesses or leads to this homicide. Officer Beaudette, while training a new recruit, made contact with the people that frequent the neighborhoods of Railroad Island to develop information related to the homicide. His investigation started by building a rapport with the homeless population and hearing stories of them being beaten and robbed by a group of five suspects. Many of these assaults had gone unreported to the police. On July 5, 2005, Officer Beaudette and his recruit monitored a call of an injured homeless man in this same area. They responded by looking for the suspects they had been hearing about. Two of the suspects were stopped close by and positively identified by this new victim. These arrests gave

investigators a much needed lead. Information from the officers and statements from the suspects lead to the recovery of evidence, the solving of the murder and many brutal robberies of vulnerable victims. The professionalism displayed by Officer Beaudette has contributed greatly to the safety of the citizens of Saint Paul.

2006 — Sergeant Raymond A. Jefferson

The 2006 Officer of the Year Award is presented to Raymond A. Jefferson in recognition of his superior commitment and outstanding abilities as a Saint Paul Police Sergeant assigned to A Community Outreach Program (ACOP). He was responsible for the safety and criminal concerns of management and tenants living in four family sites and 16 high rises housing approximately 6,000 to 7,000 lower income citizens in our city. He had made a tremendous difference in these communities by employing good communication skills. He opened the lines of communication with management and tenants, gathered information on the nature and cause of the actual problems, and then assigned beat officers to the troubled locations. One of his biggest concerns was the children. He was concerned with the vast number of kids who did not have any structured activities to keep themselves busy. Another concern was a mistrust of the police by parents and the kids and chaotic community relations between young African American and Asian males. To combat these problems, he became the catalyst for an ACOP version of the PAL (Police Athletic/Activities League). He organized and coached the children in baseball, football, basketball and soccer and encouraged other ACOP officers to become involved. He used his community contacts to acquire jobs for Public Housing teenagers, which taught them about work ethics, allowed them to make their own money, and assisted in fighting against the lure of criminal activity. Some of these jobs included tutoring elementary kids, coaching sports teams and chaperoning on field trips. These young people, who are the future of Saint Paul, have brighter futures because of Ray. They are learning tolerance, respect, teamwork and how to make good choices. His devotion and commitment have made him a valuable and honored member of our organization and a source of pride for the Saint Paul Police Department.

2007 — Sergeant Guy Stanton, Officers Mary Alberg, Robert Kosloske, and Sidney Rioux

The 2007 Officer of the Year Award is presented to Officer Mary B. Alberg, Officer Robert J. Kosloske, Officer Sidney J. Rioux, Sergeant Guy J. Stanton in recognition for assisting in saving the life of fellow Officer David Mueller on January 1, 2007. On this day, Officer Mueller responded to a call on the Westside of Saint Paul which soon turned combative. When Officer Mary B. Alberg arrived, Officer Mueller was fighting with the suspect. While trying to control the suspect and make an arrest, Officer Mueller collapsed. The suspect broke away from Officer Mueller's grip and fled upstairs with Officer Mary B. Alberg in pursuit. At this time, Officer Alberg heard the original victim of the call yell to you that Officer Mueller had collapsed. Officer Alberg was fighting with the suspect but still managed to call for assistance. She was able to place him under arrest. Sergeant Guy J. Stanton, Officer Robert J. Kosloske and Officer Sidney J. Rioux arrived, responding to Officer Alberg's calls for assistance. Sergeant Guy J. Stanton assessed Officer Mueller's injuries and determined that he was not breathing and his heart had stopped. Sergeant Stanton immediately began performing CPR. Officer Kosloske and Officer Rioux, and Officer Alberg assisted Sergeant Stanton, in administering CPR until

paramedics arrived. The paramedics had to shock Officer Mueller more than once to re-start his heart. They believed your quick action helped save Officer Mueller's life or at least prevented any brain damage. Despite all the chaos, the crime scene was secured and officers canvas the neighboring houses for potential witnesses.

2008 — Officer Jeff Schwab

The 2008 Officer of the Year Award is presented to you in recognition for your outstanding accomplishments while working in the Family and Sexual Violence Unit. Your excellent interpersonal communication skills have been beneficial when working with victims who have refused to cooperate with investigations in the past. You display respect and professionalism to these victims and have a special skill to gain their trust. The rapport that you establish is so strong that there was even an instance where a victim, that you had conversations with in the past, was being held hostage by a suspect for several hours. When she was able to sneak a call in for help, she did not call 911, but rather your cell phone. You have demonstrated great effort and devotion to assist victims of these sensitive crimes and have received accolades from the Ramsey County Attorney's Office for your dedication. Your willingness to assist the sergeants in your unit is invaluable as you are able to quickly assess and prioritize their needs. To facilitate their work, you help them by preparing reports, writing and executing search warrants and monitoring jail calls regularly. Your ability to multi-task and work quickly and efficiently on every case that you are involved with truly makes you an asset to FSVU and our department. With honor, you are awarded Officer of the Year for your admirable and extraordinary talents that make you a most respected member of our department.

2009 — Officer Charles Anderson

The 2009 Officer of the Year Award is presented to you in recognition for your numerous community policing endeavors. In 2009, you were chosen to be part of the Central District GRID program. You immediately displayed great leadership and problem solving ability. While working in the Rice Street area, you helped establish a lower Rice Street business association and worked closely with landlords to educate and enlist them into crime-free multi-housing. The first annual Rice Street Public Safety Fair was held for Saint Paul residents in September, 2009. As the coordinator for this event, you devoted countless hours of your own time to develop a fair that would ensure that all elements of safety were covered in manner that was fun and appealing to all. Your meticulous planning and organizational skills were undoubtedly the key to such a praised community event. You have also willingly become a featured writer for the Monitor, a neighborhood newspaper for the Midway, Como and North End Communities. With great ease and enthusiasm, you have written articles promoting community involvement, education and awareness. As a young officer, you have proven to be a role model. Your dedication, passion and strong work ethic that you have displayed have been monumental to our department and the citizens of Saint Paul. With honor, you are awarded Officer of the Year for your admirable and extraordinary talents that make you a most respected member of our department.

2010 — Amy Boyer and Kathleen O'Reilly

The 2010 Officer of the Year Award is presented for exemplary police work in identifying suspects in a home repair fraud case that involved multiple victims, while working patrol in the Eastern District. In the summer of 2010, an elderly couple was solicited by two males to do some small house repairs. What started as some cement work, turned into a safe being stolen from their home that contained important documents and over \$10,000 in gold coins. This was just the beginning of a crime spree that would continue for the next few months. More and more calls were taken by the department that had similar circumstances. Both immediately disseminated information via e-mail and BOLO boards for officers to watch for the suspects and vehicles that were seen in the area of the crimes. By performing daily work and intelligence information on these cases, and continually communicating with investigators in the Fraud Unit, they produced leads that eventually led to the arrest of the suspects and brought peace of mind to the many victims, most of which were elderly and vulnerable. The leg work and extra steps they took uncovered crimes that crossed jurisdictions and had swindled thousands of dollars from some victims. Their tenacity, determination and genuine concern for citizens are apparent in their everyday work.