



Seattle Police

"Thank an Employee"

Commendation

Name **Comments**

To provide you with these monthly commendations in a timely manner, please note that some may be redacted and paraphrased appropriately, and/or transcribed exactly as found in its original format, complete with any erroneous spelling. Specific details about incident numbers, complainants or victims from the incident are also removed from the commendation where appropriate.

Employee(s)

February 2019

Officer Name Not Provided

It was wonderful to see two officers on horseback riding through Seward Park today. I have lived in this neighborhood for over 30 years and walk in the park on average 5 days a week. Many years ago, I used to occasionally see officers on horseback patrol the park but it has been at least 10 years since then. Thank you, and I look forward to seeing them there more often.

Eric Munoz #8439

I would like to thank Officer Munoz as well as others that responded to a very difficult event for my family, the passing of my grandmother. As a young adult who has never been through such an event before, it was very comforting to have such helpful officers and a chaplain there to offer some guidance. They let me go on and on about my memories with my grandmother. I really appreciate that they took the time to listen and make sure we were all set before they left. Unfortunately I did not get the names of the other officers but I'd like to extend my gratitude to all that responded that day. Thank you.

Gabriel Ladd #8461

I am a future applicant to the Seattle Police Department and went for my first ride along with Officer Ladd. It was a great experience and furthered my drive to become a sworn officer. Officer Ladd was accommodating, professional, and answered any questions I had. He is an excellent example and ambassador of the Seattle Police Department.

**Nicholas King #8556
Kelly Spady #8388**

I help run a breakfast program for homeless community. We had a disruptive guest who refused to leave. We called 911 and the police were there in only a few minutes. They were calm and collected. They politely conversed with other guests, asked what we would like for them to do, and clearly communicated what was necessary for that to happen. They asked if I wanted the guest to leave and I said yes, then advised me if I wanted to make a formal trespassing charge they would have to forcibly remove the guest. I said that I did not want them to do that. We were later able to get the guest to leave without incident by providing a Bible to the guest. I wanted to make sure that someone knew how impressed we were with their care and professionalism.

David Henry #5972

Officer Henry was incredibly respectful. In the past when I received a ticket, I've been made to feel like a "criminal." I clearly made the mistake and Officer Henry was kind and professional about it - rather than cold, rude and condemning. Thank you, Officer Henry, for making a not-the-best moment as good as possible! It's a tough job!

Mary Amberg #7907

Mary came out to our business to do a safety walk through of the building with our head of security and head of operations. She was fantastic and took time to do a complete inside and outside evaluation of areas of concern and opportunities for us to make improvements for everyone's safety. She was very professional and a great educator and communicator. Her approach took egos out of the equation and helped our decision makers see some things that need to be addressed. Thanks much, Mary. You were superb.

Benjamin Carter #8394
Joshua Velliquette #7680

Several weeks ago Officers Carter and Velliquette were summoned to my son's residence in the University District. We had reported our inability to contact my son and could not get entry into his apartment. We later learned that my son had died from a medical issue. I want to thank both officers for their courtesy and professionalism in conducting their investigation of this extremely sad and shocking incident. They were at all times helpful and always kept us informed of all matters related to their investigation while providing as much comfort as possible to our family members.

Garrett Hay #8352

I would like to recognize Officer Garret Hay for his heroic actions on 2/5/19. Officers responded to an occupied stolen vehicle in the Northgate Target interior garage. When Officers Hay and Beard arrived and activated their overheads, the suspect backed into the patrol car and managed to pivot on the push bar. It then drove down the ramp, hitting several parked cars, until it stalled out at the bottom of the 4th level ramp where Officer Beard blocked it with the patrol car. The suspect fled on foot and Officer Hay pursued him down a flight of stairs. On the 3rd level of the garage there is an opening with two escalators and a three story fall to concrete. The suspect started to jump over the railing but Officer Hay grabbed him below the shoulders. He must not have known how far the drop was and started yelling for Officer Hay to pull him back up. With assistance, Officer Hay pulled him up and took him into custody. If Officer Hay wouldn't have caught and held the suspect, he would have fallen three stories to the concrete below. His quick actions and willingness to put himself in harm's way to stop a suspect from hurting, if not killing, himself was outstanding. Officer Hay does great work day in and day out, but this incident exemplifies what a true hero he is.

Spencer Kurz #8473
Christine Bradley #8333

Officers Kurz and Bradley responded to a commercial burglary and lifted fingerprints from a glass panel that had been removed from the door. The prints came back to a prolific burglar. Thanks to these officers taking the extra time to finger print the scene, charges have been filed.

Rose Hynes #8552
Doug Beard #7459

This letter is in recognition of the exemplary work you have done to support the Crisis Intervention Program. In December Officer Hynes responded as the primary to a call involving a missing and possibly suicidal 11-year-old male. Multiple officers responded to assist, including Officer Beard. The subject was ultimately located in a high tree he had climbed in Meadowbrook Park. Officer Beard climbed nearly thirty feet up the tree to assist the young man descend. Officer Hynes conducted a thorough investigation and also coordinated well with family and resources. Officer Beard displayed courage and empathy in his direct assistance.

Tre Smith #8302

Officer Smith responded with others to locate a possibly suicidal 911 caller. The subject called multiple times and (based upon his words, actions, and behaviors) clearly appeared to be experiencing a behavioral crisis. Officer Smith was diligent in his efforts to de-escalate the situation and gain voluntary compliance from the suicidal, intoxicated subject.

David Sullivan #6953 *On November 9th, Officer Sullivan (along with other North precinct officers) responded to a call at the Greenwood library involving a male refusing to leave the bathroom. The subject was reported to be brandishing a blood-filled hypodermic needle at staff and SFD personnel. Officers established 'Scene Control,' determined it was safe and feasible to engage de-escalation techniques and began to 'Start Dialogue.' Officer Sullivan ultimately took the lead in communication efforts with the man, who was in an elevated state of behavioral crisis and making suicidal statements. After nearly one-and-a-half hours of negotiation, Officer Sullivan was able to gain a small degree of voluntary compliance and the subject was taken into custody for an Emergency Detention. Officer Sullivan's efforts directly impacted the positive outcome of this incidence and likely avoided a higher level of necessary force.*

**Owen Rodmaker #7622
Garick Mattson #8305** *On November 2nd, Officers Rodmaker and Mattson responded to a welfare check call for a man wandering into the street. Upon arrival, the officers blocked a lane of traffic as the man was observed walking in traffic with the cars actively avoiding him. The officers astutely recognized signs and symptoms that he was likely experiencing chemically induced psychosis. They attempted to establish 'Scene Control' to determine if it was safe and feasible to employ tactical de-escalation techniques. The subject initially walked to the sidewalk, but eventually darted back into traffic. During this rapidly evolving dynamic scenario, Officers Rodmaker and Mattson determined the subject was an imminent risk to himself and possible gravely disabled, due to a loss of cognitive and volitional control over his decision making. They risked their own safety when it became necessary to physically detain the man before he was stuck by a passing vehicle.*

Officer Name Not Provided *I'd like to thank the female police officer in Bartell Drugs for excellent professionalism interaction with an unruly woman who shoplifted, resisted police and manager requests, spoke unnecessarily loud, and started talking off her clothes. I was impressed with the sense of community policing when I walked in and the officer's calm ability to handle this difficult situation in a very public venue. Good job SPD!*

**Spencer Kurz #8473
Donovan Lewis #8378** *Officers Kurz and Lewis responded to a call I made about a man in a wheel chair who couldn't get home because of the ice/snow and bus route cancellation. The man has difficulty speaking, which could have made the officers think he was under the influence. They stayed on the scene and were kind, treated him with dignity and explored a number of possible ways to resolve the issue (not an issue once given the size of the wheelchair!). I was impressed with the officers' effectiveness and kindness; they are positive ambassadors for the department! Many thanks to them.*

Officer Name Not Provided *Thanks to the officer (I didn't catch his last name) for taking time to chat (on a chilly day) with me about the state of current efforts regarding crime and law enforcement in my Georgetown neighborhood. I appreciate his patrolling of the area, good advice about keeping safe and his positive, friendly and helpful attitude. THANKS! :)*

Michelle Torres Diaz #7978 *I called to ask a question about parking my car in an icy area of Capitol Hill. I had concerns about getting a parking ticket. Operator 66 gave me really great advice, was kind, and did a really good job.*

Officer Name Not Provided *Several patrol cars responded to an assault involving a naked man in a mental health crisis. They were calm, efficient and gentle with the man. The situation did not escalate due to their wonderful, professional response.*

Officer Name Not Provided *I observed a citizen at a side street crosswalk fall very hard on an icy patch. Seconds later, an SPD patrol car drove by. Fortunately the officers spotted the person (prone and motionless which would have been very easy to miss given conditions.) They secured the busy roadway for everyone's safety, and called an ambulance to ensure the citizen was alright. Medics were on scene minutes later. Kudos to the officers for hitting all the points necessary to deliver on "Serve & Protect" for that individual that needed assistance.*

**Kathryne Reed #8567
Robert Paine Stoke #8454
Gregory Yonkers #8497** *A citizen called the West Precinct in regards to a missing person call that day. The citizen's elderly mom had been missing from her apartment and he had called 911 to report it. The officers determined his mother had been sent to Harborview Medical Center. The officers contacted him to explain where she was and what happened. He called after he was reunited with his mother and repeatedly said thank you to the officers. He was extremely relieved and thankful for the officer's assistance!*

Christopher Rothwell #8568 *Officer Rothwell took a missing persons report from me. He was professional, thorough and kind. In the end, all persons were located, and I felt embarrassed to have used valuable police resources on this matter, but he was respectful throughout. He is a credit to your police service.*

**Zachary Pendt #7638
Owen Rodmaker #7622
Justin Bedford #7789
Kalin Todorov #7694** *I want to give a huge thanks to Officer Pendt and Officer Rodmaker. My truck was stolen from my work and a week later recovered by those same officers. But their servitude to help me on both nights was truly admirable. They were already working a call at my place of work when I asked if they could help me with my stolen vehicle. They helped take my report without hesitation. About a week later I got a call around midnight from Officer Pendt reporting they had found my truck. That night they waited for me until I made it there from where I live in Monroe. They continued to help me get my vehicle started with the broken ignition and had other Officers Redford and Todorov also help in making sure I was able to get my vehicle started and back to my residence. This example just adds to why I have always had so much respect for Seattle PD. You guys are truly remarkable and thank you for the hard work you do keeping our great city of Seattle safe!*

**Marcus Matusky #7773
Jessica Chandler #8535
Nathan Jerome #7473
Thomas McLaughlin #6259** *I am a physician in the Ballard ED and unfortunately we have had a lot of need for SPD recently due to violent, agitated, or trespassing patients. Tonight's incident was one more example of the fast response that SPD always shows us, as well as the kind and compassionate care they show both our staff and the patients that we need help with. Officer Matusky is clearly skilled at de-escalation and has good instincts about people, their nature, and safety of those around him. He was there tonight with other officers, (Officers Chandler, Jerome and A/Sgt. T. McLaughlin) and all were incredibly efficient and professional. What prompted me to write tonight was overhearing 2 of my colleagues talking about Officer Matusky after the fact; I heard them say "He's always right on point and such a great guy!" Hopefully this helps to recognize the contribution that these officers make to our community. We are very grateful to have them.*

**Marcus Matusky #7773
Jessica Chandler #8535
Nathan Jerome #7473
Thomas McLaughlin #6259** *Outstanding customer service and response repeatedly to the Swedish Ballard ED. Officers Matusky, Chandler, Jerome, and McLaughlin, are fantastic public servants and frequently assist the ED staff. They always demonstrate professionalism, courtesy, and respect for our needs and the needs of the citizens for which we call SPD.*

Stephanie Hemsley #8364 *For their extraordinary levels of patience and professionalism dealing with a heavily intoxicated and belligerent downstairs neighbor who was pounding on his door for 20 minutes trying to gain entry. Prior to the officers arrival, the young man had already told my downstairs neighbor (a mother with small children) to "call the cops!" in a profanity laced tirade, and also said he wanted to fight the girls that live on the ground floor apartment. When the officers did arrive, the young man in question proceeded to continue on his tangent. I was floored at his behavior as I had never seen an individual be so disrespectful towards police officers. The fact that Officers Hemsley and Canny were able to show restraint and in the end get this individual back into his apartment is deserving of a medal. These two officers epitomize what an officer of the law does to protect the community and should be recognized as such.*

Toni Maes #7914 *Toni is one of the administrative assistants here in the Education and Training section. Toni is a critical part of the SPD training effort. Her work usually occurs behind the scenes so I am specifically writing this to commend and thank Toni for her tireless work with the department's EMT Unit. Toni has worked to get the EMTs set up for quarterly training in Cornerstone. Toni has also been instrumental in the grant writing process that resulted in the EMT Unit being awarded a grant in 2018 from Motorola. Toni possess the rare trait of being able to understand a concept from a brief conversation and then implement this concept into reality. If it were not for Toni the EMT unit and the medical programs for this department would not be nearly as successful as they are. Toni works hard every day with no expectation of gratitude. This work is outside of Toni's normal duties and responsibilities, but she has never hesitated to assist. Thank you Toni for all you do!*

Matthew Nichols #5705 *I am a Sea Scout Leader from Port Angeles and we were staying at Waterway 18 as guest aboard the SSS Propeller. Apparently a concerned citizen though we were up to no good on the boat so we were hailed by Officers Nichols and Martin. We were very thankful that they were so responsive to check on our fellow Sea Scouts of the SSS Propeller. I asked if my scouts come aboard the vessel and check it out; we got an instant "Yes, go get your life jackets." We were treated to an informational tour of the lake near Waterway 18 and also had the opportunity to man the helm of the patrol boat. This chance encounter with the Harbor Patrol made their evening and made a great impression on a couple of Sea Scouts and their leaders.*

Officer Name Not Provided *Just wanted to let everyone know how much we appreciated and enjoyed having the Mounted unit out on Alki today. They were so friendly and welcoming, and the interaction with citizens was great. Keep up the good work, it is appreciated.*

Timothy Mason #7403 *He found my wallet and returned it intact/undisturbed. I think his honesty, unselfishness and integrity should be recognized and commended.*

John Randle #8337 *Officer Randle located my neighbor's minibike motorcycle and took the time to disassemble part of it to fit it into the back of his cruiser and return it to its owner. Not only that, he helped me carry it up some stairs to get it into my neighbor's backyard so that it will be out of sight until my neighbor returns and took the time to say hi to my 2 and 4 year-olds. He went above and beyond, and was polite and professional. My neighbor is elated that his minibike was found and I feel safer knowing Officer Randle is out there looking out for us. Thanks!*

Lynne Woollum #6269
Bradley Welborn #6689

I would very much like to extend some compliments to Sgt. Woollum and Officer Welborn of the East precinct who engaged with the Mobile Crisis Team on a call. The client was having a difficult time engaging and ultimately was taken to the hospital on police hold to ensure his safety. We were very impressed with SPD responses to the client, consistency in following the plan for him, and especially Sgt. Woollum's active use of CRT training and discussion of mental health resources. She reiterated things we have spoke about with the client many times and did a very impressive job attempting to engage him in appropriate, safe, and less restrictive options. We could tell that officers is becoming very discouraged by his recent behaviors there and want to not only verbally express our thanks (which we did) but also ensure that their superiors and ours are made aware of the above and beyond efforts and compassion they displayed.
