

# Saint Paul Police Foundation

The mission of the Saint Paul Police Foundation preserves and strengthens the public safety by marshalling community resources to support the work of the Saint Paul Police Department. The Foundation accomplishes this mission by:

- Seeking contributions from individuals, private organizations and public sources.
- Using these contributions to strengthen the bond between the people of Saint Paul and their Saint Paul Police Department and enhancing the effectiveness of public safety programs.

If you wish to make a donation to the Saint Paul Police Foundation, you can do so by visiting their website at [www.saintpaulpolicefoundation.com](http://www.saintpaulpolicefoundation.com) or by mailing a check, made payable to the Saint Paul Police Foundation, to:

Saint Paul Police Foundation  
327 York Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55130

## Saint Paul Police Award Ceremony January 13, 2009



Sponsored by  
Saint Paul Police  
Foundation

## Saint Paul Police Award Ceremony

Opening Remarks and Welcome

*Senior Commander Timothy N. Lynch*

Introduction of Honored Guests at Head Table

*Senior Commander Timothy N. Lynch*

Introduction of Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

*Senior Commander Timothy N. Lynch*

Remarks

*Mayor Christopher B. Coleman*

Introduction of Saint Paul Police Foundation Chair

*Senior Commander Timothy N. Lynch*

Remarks

*Chairman Chris Georgacas*

Invocation

*Father Richard Andrews*

Breakfast

Introduction of Other Honored Guests

*Senior Commander Timothy N. Lynch*

Introduction of Past Medal of Valor Recipients

*Chief John M. Harrington*

Presentation of Awards

*Chief John M. Harrington*

Remarks

*Federation President David A. Titus*

Closing Remarks

*Senior Commander Timothy N. Lynch*

## Officer Armando F. Abla-Reyes

and

## Officer William C. Beaudette

On February 12, 2007, Officer Armando Abla-Reyes responded to a call that Minnesota Gang Strike Force officers needed assistance in stopping a fleeing vehicle. The person driving this car was a violent gang member who was considered armed and dangerous. Officer Abla-Reyes picked up the pursuit at Seventh Street and Johnson Parkway and became the lead police vehicle. During the pursuit, the suspect shot out the back window and fired at Officer Abla-Reyes' vehicle repeatedly. Each time shots were fired, he was able to maintain focus and alert dispatch. Officer William Beaudette was in the area and joined the pursuit with the intent to keep traffic back during this broad daylight chase. As the suspect's vehicle tried to pass a semi-trailer near Seventh Street and Arcade, it crashed. Both officers immediately got out of their squads and drew their weapons. Officer Abla-Reyes shouted for the suspect to show his hands and as he did, he saw the gun still in his hand. Fearing for their lives and others at the scene, Officer Abla-Reyes and Officer Beaudette both fired at the suspect. It was later determined that their gunshots did not kill the suspect, but rather he did so with his own weapon.



**The Medal of Valor** is presented in recognition of courage and dedication under one of the most dangerous conditions an officer must face.

## **Officer Robert L. Edwards and K-9 Rico**

On October 10, 2007, Officer Robert Edwards and K-9 Rico assisted in an undercover operation aimed at apprehending a dangerous fugitive who was deeply involved as an upper level narcotics trafficker. This suspect had a warrant out for his arrest and an informant notified agents that he wanted to meet with him to get money and leave town. A plan was devised to apprehend the suspect as he met the informant.

As the suspect picked up the informant in a truck, Officer Edwards was to make a traffic stop along with another squad. However, the suspect saw the marked squads and evaded officers. A chase ensued and crossed into Minneapolis. At Elliot and Minnehaha Parkway, the suspect crashed and then fled on foot. Officer Edwards and Rico pursued the armed suspect. Officer Edwards drew his gun and ordered the suspect to drop his weapon. He failed to comply and continued running. Shots were fired, but Rico maintained his focus and continued chasing the suspect. Rico apprehended the suspect by his arm and took him to the ground. With gun drawn, Officer Edwards approached the struggling suspect, who was being held firmly by Rico, and saw that he was no longer armed and had been shot twice by gunfire. Backup arrived and the fugitive was handcuffed and arrested.

After removing Rico from the scene, Officer Edwards discovered that Rico had suffered a gunshot wound to his paw, almost completely severing his upper pad. Thankfully, Rico recovered fully and is back on the streets.



## **Officer Cory J. Kochendorfer and Officer Jessica E. Phillips**

On September 18, 2007, Officers Cory Kochendorfer and Jessica Phillips were sent to a call on York Ave where three men were threatening the caller's boyfriend. When they arrived, the three men were gone and only the caller, her boyfriend and a small child were present. While questioning the boyfriend, Officer Kochendorfer noticed that the complainant had a bruise on her forehead and cuts on her arms. She mouthed to him that she needed help. Both Officer Kochendorfer and Officer Phillips separated the two and started to interview them individually.

The woman explained that her boyfriend had put a knife to her throat. Officer Kochendorfer determined that he should be arrested for Domestic Assault. The man became very upset and ran to the back yard where both officers tackled him. Officer Phillips warned he had a knife and both officers drew their guns. Both ordered him to drop the knife several times, but instead he just pleaded for them to kill him. They restrained and again repeated that he needed to drop the knife. He then ran past both officers and tried to enter the home. Knowing that an assault had occurred earlier, they feared that the woman and child, who were now inside the home, were in grave danger. The man, finding the door locked, turned towards the officers and began to approach with knife in hand. At this time, Officers Kochendorfer and Phillips both fired at the suspect who later died. Their ability to remain calm and be vigilant during a hostile situation undoubtedly protected a woman and child from further harm that evening.



## Officer James O. Mann

On July 9, 1971, four armed men robbed the Western State Bank on University Avenue. After fleeing the scene, they crashed their vehicle, commandeered a City survey truck and again crashed that vehicle. Two suspects were apprehended near the scene 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. Officers surrounded the house and one of the suspects surrendered shortly after while the other remained in the home armed with two handguns.

Officer James Mann arrived on the scene and spoke with the suspect from the porch. The suspect continually stated that if Officer Mann came inside, he would shoot. Officer Mann persisted in a calm manner and eventually was able to go inside the home, unarmed, to further talk with the suspect. Officer Mann negotiated the release of the hostages along with assistance from a youth worker from the Summit-University area and the suspect's girlfriend. Periodically over the four hours Officer Mann was with the suspect, he would leave the home to give Chief Rowan a progress report. Finally, a deal was reached and the child was released followed by the grandmother. A pillowcase of money from the robbery was recovered, along with the handguns. The suspect was taken into custody and transported to jail.



## Past Recipients

### 2005

Andrew C. Heroux

### 2004

Ryan J. McAlpine

Charles L. Sims

Michael A. Tharalson

### 2003

Peter Crum

John Linssen

Mark G. Nelson

Jay Thompson

Matthew Toronto

### 2001

Lyle Rust

### 2000

Brady Harrison

### 1999

James S. Griffin

J. John Mercado

Vernon P. Michel

### 1997

Gerald Vick

### 1996

James Gray

Anthony Pangal

Timothy Bradley

Lucia Wroblewski

Vincent Martin

Karsten Winger

### 1996 - con't

Steve J. Anderson

Carl Schwartz

John Wright

### 1995

Michael Ardolf

### 1994

Ronald Ryan

Timothy Jones

Heidemarie Hinzman

Brian Reed

### 1993

John Pyka

Thomas Smith

Archie Smith

David Timm

### 1992

Nao Chang

Mark Pierce

### 1990

Michael Hinzman

Gerald Vick

### 1987

Eugene Polyak

### 1986

Kenneth McIntosh

### 1985

Dennis Abel

Richard Horman

Richard Schmidt