

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Twenty-Seven Saint Paul Police Officers to be Honored with Life Saving Awards

On Monday, August 3, 2009, Saint Paul Police Chief John M. Harrington will honor twenty-seven police officers with the department's Life Saving Award. The Life Saving Award Ceremony will take place Monday, August 3, 2009 at 2:00 PM at the Phalen Park Golf Clubhouse – Banquet Room, 1615 Phalen Drive. The ceremony will be followed by a brief reception.

Lifesaving is defined as an act involving rescue, resuscitation and or first aid. The Saint Paul Police Department's Life Saving Award was created to recognize sworn officers who saved another life under circumstances where heroism and potential risk of his or her own life was required.

While it is a sacred duty of every citizen to do whatever they can safely do to save a life, these police officers put their own lives on the line to save another's life.

The Saint Paul Police Department is proud to honor the following officers for their actions in saving the lives of our fellow citizens:

Sergeant Kevin Moore - for talking a suicidal female into coming back over the railing on the High Bridge and securing her until assistance arrived.

Sergeant Will Mayavski - for saving a member of the medic team who responded to a suicidal female threatening to jump from the 13th floor. As the woman jumped to her death, the captain of the medic team grabbed for her and would have been pulled to his death if not for Sergeant Mayavski preventing his fall.

Officer Michael Johnson (retired) - for preventing the suicide of a male who had been drinking and had a shotgun. Officer Johnson was able to sneak up and tackle the man.

Officer Michael Lee - responded to an unconscious man in a parking lot. Officer Lee opened the male's airway and monitored the individual until medics arrived.

Officer Michael McGinn - came upon an accident where a vehicle crashed into a tree. The driver was thrown from the vehicle and the smoking hot engine, which had been torn from the vehicle, was lying on his head. Officer McGinn picked up the 300 pound engine and moved it off the victim.

Officers Anthony Holte and John Thomas - for preventing the suicide of a female on a ledge near the old Adult Detention Center. The officers were able to climb over the railing and secure the woman.

Officers David Quast, James McKnight, Charles Anderson and Matthew Sweeney - working as a team, these officers were able to prevent a suicide of a male on the High Bridge. They restrained the large combative male, pulling him back over the railing to safety.

Officers William Beaudette, Amy Boyer, Kathleen O'Reilly, Edward Dion and Jesse Mollner - working as a team, these officers were able to prevent a suicide of a female holding a knife to her chest. She had already cut herself and continued to apply pressure to her chest. They talked to the female and waited for an opportunity to move in and restrain her.

Officers Michael McGinn, Francisco Molina, John Corcoran, and Gerald Carter - for preventing a suicide of a male on the Wabasha Street Bridge. Working as a team, these officers were able to distract, restrain and pull the man to safety back over the railing.

Officers John Buchmeier, Patrick Murphy and Jeremy Ryan - for preventing the suicide of a female who had jumped into the Mississippi River in sub-zero weather. Working as a team, these officers tied their dog leads together and were able to talk the woman into securing herself with the leads. They then secured the woman until firefighters arrived.

Officers Joshua Lynaugh and Daniel Ficcadenti - for rescuing a male who had been severely beaten and left to drown in the Mississippi River. These officers held onto the large male who continued to struggle until assistance arrived.

Officers Jeffry Lewis and Christopher McGuire - responded to an apartment fire, these they evacuated three apartments in the building. When nobody answered in the 4th unit, they opened the door and heard a male calling to them. Working as a team in the smoke filled room, they rescued the male and pulled him to safety.

Members of the media and community are invited to join us at this event.