

UW Whitewater Police



Departmental Awards Program

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Special Instructions:			
Approved By: Chief Kiederlen	Effective Date: 2/12/2009	Revised Date: 8/9/2022	Revision number: 4

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide the UW-Whitewater Police Department with guidelines for recommending, disseminating and usage of Departmental awards.

II. Policy

It is the policy of the UW-Whitewater Police Department (UWWPD) to recognize the performance of its employees, officers and community on an annual basis. The Departmental Awards Program is available to assist in the formal recognition of those individuals who have performed admirably.

III. Procedure

- A. The Chief shall appoint three individuals to serve as the Awards Committee:
 1. One civilian employee.
 2. One supervisor.
 3. One officer.
- B. The Awards Committee shall meet to review and make recommendations for awards. The recommendations for awards shall be forwarded to the Chief with appropriate supporting documentation for final approval.
- C. Individual recommendations for awards may be sent via email to the Operations Program Associate. The time frame for recommendation submissions will be from January 1st through December 31st. Officers usually must have completed their probationary period to be considered for awards with the exception of the Patrol, Marksmanship, Physical Fitness and Life Saving awards. Individuals may submit for any of the awards for other people, but may self-submit for the following:
 1. Education
 2. Advanced Law Enforcement Education
 3. Residence Hall Officer
 4. Field Training Officer
 5. Instructor
 6. Evidence Custodian
 7. Advanced Emergency Response Training

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8. Attendance
9. Physical Fitness
10. Safe Driving
11. Marksmanship – Firearm (and Rifle beginning 2012 award year)
12. Years of Service

D. Awards will be presented by the Chief during a departmental meeting each year.

E. Awards are in order of rank. Awards shall be worn on the uniform in order of rank from top left to bottom right. A certificate of award is given with each and also placed into the personnel file of the award recipient

1. Medal of Honor: May be awarded to an individual who voluntarily distinguishes himself or herself conspicuously by gallantry and extraordinary heroism. The act must be in excess of normal demands and of such a nature that the officer was fully aware of the imminent threat to his/her personal safety and acted above and beyond the call of duty at the risk of his or her life.
2. Valor Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual for a heroic deed and exceptional meritorious conduct involving exemplary courage, risk and danger to his or her personal safety.
3. Life Saving Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who performs acts which specifically and directly lead to the saving of a life.
4. Chief's Ribbon: Is awarded solely at the Chief's discretion to an individual who has displayed extraordinary efforts in the improvement of self, community and/or Department.
5. Commendation Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual whose performance of a specific duty or within a specific incident rises well above the average and facilitates a positive image of the Department.
6. Education Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who reaches educational benchmarks. The ribbon is awarded for the completion of a bachelor's degree. A Silver Star is added to the ribbon upon completion of a master's degree or equivalent. The Silver Star is replaced with a Gold Star upon completion of a doctoral degree or its equivalent. A copy of the diploma is required.
7. Advanced Law Enforcement Education Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who successfully completes a 400+ hour university credited advanced Law Enforcement Course. (I.e. Northwestern, FBI academy, Southern Police Institute) No devices will be given in this category.
8. Residence Hall Officer Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who has successfully completed a two-year term as the Residence Hall Officer (RHO).
9. Field Training Officer Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who is a certified Field Training Officer.
10. Instructor Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who is a certified State of Wisconsin instructor.
11. Evidence Custodian Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who serves as a departmental appointed evidence custodian.

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12. Advanced Emergency Response Training Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who has successfully completed a recognized certification course in advance emergency response. May include, but not limited to; Public Information Officer, Hostage Negotiations, Emergency Medical Technician.
13. Attendance Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who utilizes no more than 20 hours of sick leave between January 1st and December 31st. Short notice sick leave will be counted towards the 20 hours no matter what benefit time is taken in lieu of the sick time for payroll purposes. Planned, pre-approved long term illness, approved FMLA and on-duty injury will not be counted within the 20 hour requirement.
14. Physical Fitness Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who satisfactorily passes the voluntary Departmental Physical Agility. The test will be given every year and will follow the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board. Standards include:
 - a. Vertical Jump: 14 inches.
 - b. Agility Run: 19.5 seconds.
 - c. Sit-ups: 30.
 - d. 300m run: 68 seconds.
 - e. Push ups: 23.
 - f. 1.5 mile run: 16:57 minutes.
15. Safe Driving Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who does not incur an at-fault accident in a three year period with UWWPD, while on-duty.
16. Marksmanship Ribbon (2011 Firearm Only – 2012 Firearm and Rifle Awards): May be awarded to an individual who scores a 90% or better at the Department marksmanship challenge.
17. Years of Service Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual for the number of years of completed full-time, sworn police service. Years outside of employment with UWWPD may be counted.
 - a. 5 years: Ribbon
 - b. 10 years: Add Silver Star device
 - c. 15 years: Replace with Bronze Oak device
 - d. 20 years: Replace with Silver Oak device
 - e. 25+ years: Replace with Gold Star device.
18. Patrol Division Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who is assigned to the Patrol Division. Must have successfully completed the Field Training Program.
19. Detective Division Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who is assigned as a Detective.
20. Administration Division Ribbon: May be awarded to an individual who is assigned to the Administrative Division.
21. Certificate of Achievement: May be awarded to an individual for any action which demonstrates a positive, proactive approach to serving the community and the Department.

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F. Once a ribbon is awarded, the ribbon may be worn for the duration of the individual's career at UWWPD. If an individual receives the same ribbon in multiple consecutive years, the following will occur:

1. 1-2 years: Ribbon
2. 3-4 years: Add Silver Star device
3. 5-9 years: Replace with Bronze Star device
4. 10-14 years: Replace with Bronze Oak device
5. 15-19 years: Replace with Silver Oak device
6. 20+ years: Replace with Gold Star device.

Attachment A. UWWPD Ribbons

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Medal of Honor (with WI seal)



Medal of Honor Ribbon



Lifesaving



Chief's



Commendation



Residence Hall Officer



Advanced LE Education



Instructor



Field Training Officer



Advanced Emergency Response Training



Evidence Custodian



Physical Fitness



Attendance



Marksmanship – Firearm



Safe Driving



Patrol Division



Marksmanship – Rifle



Detective Division



Years of Service (5-ribbon, 10 silver star, 15-bronze oak, 20-silver oak, 25+-gold star)



Administration Division



Education (Bachelor-ribbon, Masters-silver star, Dr.-gold star)

Device Rank will be as follows:

Silver Star

Bronze star

Bronze oak

Silver oak

Gold star