



PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
1200 Clark Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri 63103
(314) 444-5603

MEDIA ALERT

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

December 3, 2010

Officers, Civilians and Area Citizens to Be Honored *More than 30 Officers, Civilians and Citizens Will Receive Awards*

The Metropolitan Police Department will hold an Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, at Harris-Stowe State University, 3026 Laclede Avenue at 7 p.m. to recognize the outstanding efforts of police officers, civilian employees and citizens.

Two officers will be presented with the Distinguished Service Citation, the most prestigious award given by the department. Officer Isabella Lovadina will be honored for an October 2009 incident where she was shot while off-duty. Officer Marc Wasem will be recognized for a March 2010 incident where he came under fire while attempting to apprehend a suspect. Wasem was off-duty and had returned home when he saw several people standing in a parking lot. One of the men took out a gun and attempted to rob Officer Wasem. After Officer Wasem identified himself as a police officer the men fled. Officer Wasem followed the armed suspect on foot and even as the suspect fired shots at him, Officer Wasem was able to call 911 to request backup. That suspect and a second suspect were later taken into custody. The investigation revealed they were responsible for a number of car break-ins in the city.

Three police officers will also receive the Meritorious Service Citation, awarded for exemplary behavior in the face of personal danger. The Chief's Letter of Commendation will be awarded to police officers who demonstrated a special perseverance in policing. Two area citizens will also be honored with the Citizen Service Award for their May 2010 efforts as they attempted to save a victim whose car went into the River des Peres.

Please join us as we honor the achievements of each recipient and the commitment they show to making St. Louis a safer place.

WHO: Metropolitan Police Department Employees and St. Louis Citizens
WHAT: Department Awards Ceremony
WHERE: Harris-Stowe State University, 3026 Laclede Avenue
WHEN: Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at 7 p.m.