



John A. Turner
Sheriff

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John W. King	<i>Chief Operations Deputy</i>
Keilen L. Harmon	<i>Chief Corrections Deputy</i>
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2014 "Sergeant Thomas E. Bowman" Deputy of the Year Award

Deputy Richard L. Schram

The 2014 Sergeant Thomas E. Bowman Deputy of the Year award is presented to Deputy Richard L. Schram for consistently displaying the positive qualities associated with Sergeant Thomas E. Bowman during his nearly twenty years of service to the citizens of Walla Walla County. Sergeant Bowman was the epitome of the professional law enforcement officer and embodied that persona during his entire career. The legacy of Sergeant Bowman lives on in this award and is given annually to the Deputy of the Year.

Deputy Richard Schram has been a member of the Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office for over ten years. During that time he has distinguished himself as a selfless and dedicated public servant. He sets the standard for everyone around him with his work ethic, appearance, resourcefulness, and leadership. He maintains an impeccable appearance, keeps himself in excellent physical condition and takes meticulous care of his equipment. He is known as a thorough and effective investigator and a team player among his peers.

Recently, Deputy Schram volunteered to become one of two Taser instructors for the Sheriff's Office. He was required to attend advanced training which he easily completed. Upon his return to the Office, he took on the task of recertifying the entire agency. His instruction was professional and well received by all who attended. Deputy Schram is excited about the training and his enthusiasm permeates the classroom.

In addition to being an Office instructor, Deputy Schram is a member of the regional SWAT team, and has been so for several years. His self-discipline, dedication to duty, and tactical acumen has made him a very valued member of the SWAT team. Deputy Schram and his SWAT teammates train several times per month and are ready to handle tactical situations that may arise in the area. Deputy Schram is a tremendous representative of this Office.

Over the last couple of years, Deputy Schram has taken over the Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol Unit as its Marine Patrol Deputy. Deputy Schram has improved the program locally and forged a strong partnership with Benton and Franklin Counties and their respective Marine programs.

Deputy Schram's demeanor in dealing with the public and violators is very congenial and professional. Deputy Schram is also responsible for reporting marine activities to Washington State Parks and soliciting other deputies to augment and backfill the boat schedule, which isn't always an easy task. Based on Deputy Schram's performance as the Marine Patrol Deputy, there has been a positive change with the attitude of the boating public in Walla Walla County along with how Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol program is perceived.

In addition to these marine accolades, Deputy Schram has saved many lives on the local rivers. During this year's boating and fishing season, Deputy Schram and his partner quickly launched the boat and responded to a boating collision, wherein three boaters were hurled into the Snake River. Their quick response to the area and decisive thinking allowed them to rescue an exhausted and lagging swimmer from the cold water. If not for the fast response, the swimmer would most likely have perished.

Deputy Schram is a man of honor and integrity. His effort in the field is consistently thorough, complete, and professional. He has developed a reputation for going the extra mile to ensure his work product is optimal. Deputy Schram's report writing would be classified as superior. He is well respected by his peers, supervisors, and administrators alike. In short, Deputy Schram is the kind of deputy that everyone wants on their team.

Deputy Schram's dedication and commitment to duty is in keeping with the highest standards of devoted public service and the Vision, Mission, and Core Values of the Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office.

Congratulations to Deputy Richard L. Schram on a job very well done in 2014 and being selected as the 2014 Sergeant Thomas E. Bowman Deputy of the Year.

JOHN A. TURNER
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