



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: June 6, 2022
PREPARED BY: Eric T. Werner, Chief of Police
AGENDA ITEM: Police department service awards presentation

PREVIOUS ACTIONS:
None

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to recognize Sergeant Brad Holzerland and Officer Zachary Hanson with the police department Medal of Valor; and Officers Tom Stolee, Ryan Kane, Jacob Hatzenbeller, Dominick Bouta, and Community Service Officer Cole Rach with the police department Medal of Commendation.

COMMENTS: Eric T. Werner, Chief of Police

The Maple Grove Police Department awarded Sergeant Brad Holzerland and Officer Zachary Hanson with the departmental Medal of Valor. The Medal of Valor may be awarded to any members of the department for an act of bravery, which demonstrates obvious self-sacrifice in the face of death or serious injury.

Officers Tom Stolee, Ryan Kane, Jacob Hatzenbeller, Dominick Bouta, and Community Service Officer Cole Rach were awarded with the Maple Grove Police Department Medal of Commendation. The Medal of Commendation may be awarded to a member of the department for an outstanding police act which brings credit to the department and is highly recognized by other officers or citizens. This act is characterized by obvious self-sacrifice while in the face of personal danger.

The officers are being presented with these awards as a result of their actions on October 31, 2021 at 3:19 a.m., when Maple Grove officers were called to the 9300 block of Juneau Lane N for a possible house fire. Upon arrival, it was reported that there was an active fire with flames showing and spreading from the garage up to the second story of the house. Officers quickly determined that two of the residents were on the second story and could not get out because of the fire on the first floor. One of the residents had mobility issues and was

trapped on a second story deck. Sergeant Brad Holzerland and Officer Zachery Hanson quickly scaled the second story deck to assist the residents that were trapped there. The fire was moving towards their location and there was a great deal of smoke causing respiratory distress for the officers. They stayed focused on keeping the residents calm while everyone worked on a plan to get the two residents down.

North Paramedics provided a mega mover tool to Sergeant Holzerland and Officer Hanson. Officer Tom Stolee quickly put his squad to use and pulled-up under the deck, so that Officers Ryan Kane, Jacob Hatzenbeller, Dominick Bouta, and Community Service Officer Cole Rach could stand on the hood to assist with carrying the residents off the deck to get them to safety. Sergeant Holzerland and Officer Hanson lifted the immobile resident over the deck railing to the officers that were standing on the squad's hood below them.

These officers no doubt risked their safety to save the lives of the residents of this house and they did so without one moment of hesitation. We are honored to have these officers serving with our agency and community!