



Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association

P.O. Box 424 McFarland, WI 53658

www.wlecha.org

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please complete this form and submit with your nomination letter to:

Franklin Police Department
Sgt. Curtis Goens
9455 W. Loomis Road
Franklin, WI 53132
cgoens@franklinwi.gov

Handler Name: OFFICER JOHN PARKER
K-9 Name: DRAGO
Agency: FITCHBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Category (Please circle one per form)

Handler of the Year - Rookie Handler of the Year - Meritorious Apprehension - Meritorious Article Find
Meritorious Track with Apprehension - Meritorious Track - Meritorious Narcotics Find

Nominator: EDWARD HARTWICK
Title: SERGEANT
Agency: FITCHBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
Phone: 608-270-4362
E-Mail Address: edward.hartwick@fitchburgwi.gov
Hours of Work: 3p-11p

Membership must be current to win an award

All nominations must be postmarked or submitted by e-mail by August 15th to be accepted

Canine teams may be submitted for multiple awards. Please submit separate nominations for each category.



Thomas A. Blatter | Chief of Police
5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, Wisconsin 53711
Ph: 608.270.4300 | Fx: 608.270.4349 | fitchburgwi.gov

August 14, 2017

To: WLECHA Awards Committee

I would like to nominate Officer John Parker and his canine partner Drago for the Meritorious Narcotic Find of the Year. Initially requested for assistance in apprehending a homicide suspect who had been involved in a vehicle pursuit, Officer Parker and Drago conducted an article search and located a 49.7 gram bag of crack cocaine that had been discarded by a passenger in the vehicle.

Around midnight on August 3, 2017, law enforcement officers from several Dane County agencies engaged in a vehicle pursuit of a violent homicide suspect. Officer Parker and Drago responded to the area to assist in any capacity, initially believing they would be needed if the suspect fled on foot. The vehicle pursuit ended in a portion of a ten acre swamp, surrounded by four to eight foot tall marsh grass.

Upon Officer Parker and Drago's arrival, the occupants of the vehicle had been taken into custody during a high risk contact. Drago was utilized to clear the vehicle, ensuring no one else was inside. Shortly after Drago had cleared the vehicle, Officer Parker was asked to conduct an article search due to the likelihood the occupants may have discarded a firearm.

Officer Parker deployed Drago into the tall grass. Moments later, approximately thirty to forty feet from the vehicle, Drago provided a final indication. Officers recovered a baseball sized plastic baggie that contained 49.7 grams of cocaine base/crack cocaine.

The suspect, who was a passenger in the vehicle driven by the homicide suspect, was charged with possession with intent to deliver cocaine, greater than 40 grams.

Due to Drago's ability to locate these drugs in a very challenging search environment, moments after switching from searching a vehicle, a drug dealer in the company of a homicide suspect was taken off the street. For Drago's keen nose and ability to locate these drugs in the environment they were in, I would ask Officer Parker and Drago be nominated for the Meritorious Narcotic Find of the Year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sgt. Edward Hartwick'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'S'.

Sgt. Edward Hartwick