

To: WLECHA Awards Committee

I would like to nominate Deputy Terry Tift and his canine partner Riggs for the Meritorious Apprehension of the Year award.

On 10-21-21 at about 1116 hours Kenosha County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the Benson Corners Shell gas station in the Village of Bristol in an attempt to locate a stolen vehicle that was involved in two homicides in the Chicago area. Deputies located the vehicle and attempted to make contact with the operator. A high-risk traffic stop was conducted, and the armed suspect fled from the vehicle on foot. KSD K9 Riggs was on scene with his handler Deputy Terry Tift. Deputy Tift deployed K9 Riggs who apprehended the suspect within seconds.

The suspect was ultimately taken into custody, but unfortunately, K9 Riggs was shot point-blank in the forehead by the suspect. K9 Riggs was transported to an emergency vet clinic and miraculously survived. K9 Riggs performed an act of courage, valor, and bravery and was a hero that day. He potentially saved the lives of our deputies on scene and the public. K9 Riggs was awarded the Purple Heart and the Silver Star awards for his actions at a Kenosha Sheriff award ceremony in December of 2021. K9 Riggs was also nominated for the 2022 "American-Humane Hero Dog Awards (Law Enforcement and Detection), was a top finisher, and is in strong contention to win this award. K9 Riggs has made a full recovery and is back to work with Deputy Tift and the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department.

Thank you for your consideration,



Sgt. Mark Malecki – K9 Commander

Kenosha County Sheriff's Department

Kenosha, WI