



Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association

P.O. Box 136 Germantown, WI 53022
<http://www.wlecha.org>

2020 AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please complete this form and submit with your nomination letter to (email preferred):

WLECHA
c/o Award Nominations
PO Box 136
Germantown, WI 53022
wlechatreasurer@gmail.com

Handler Name: Steven Chojnacki
K-9 Name: Ranger
Agency: Cedarburg 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: Thomas Frank
Title: Chief
Agency: Cedarburg Police Department
Phone: 262-375-7620
E-Mail Address: tfrank@ci.cedarburg.wi.us
Hours of Work: 8:00A - 4:00 pm

Membership must be current to be eligible for an award

All nominations must be postmarked or submitted by e-mail by August 15th, 2020 to be accepted

Canine teams may be submitted for multiple awards.

Please submit separate nominations for each category.



Police Department

W75 N444 Wauwatosa Road • Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012-2204
(262) 375-7620 • Fax (262) 375-7624 • cpd@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

August 14, 2020

Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association
PO Box 136
Germantown, WI 53022

Re: Nomination for Rookie Handle of the Year

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend K9 Handler Steven Chojnacki for Rookie Handler of the Year. I've noted some of Steve and Ranger's highlights from the past year below:

On July 20, 2019 Officer Chojnacki, with the assistance of K9 Ranger, was able to locate scheduled drugs and narcotics from a residence within the City of Cedarburg. During the house search, Ranger located multiple liquid bottles of fentanyl, tromethamine, ondansetron, and lorazepam that were stolen from a hospital the suspect worked at. Also located was marijuana and cocaine. This is a notable find, as this was during the first month on the street with K9 Ranger.

On December 27, 2019 K9 Ranger was requested in the Township of Cedarburg for a male subject that was disorderly at a family get together and highly intoxicated. It was reported the subject fled on foot upon deputies arrival at the residence. The current temperature was 18 degrees. The subject was not dressed for the weather conditions. There was a concern of safety for the individual due to the weather. K9 Ranger was able to successfully locate the subject $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away, near a body of water, where the subject was sleeping under a bush.

More notably, on December 30, 2019 K9 Ranger and Officer Chojnacki were requested by Ozaukee County Sheriff Department to track a suspect involved in a hit and run accident where the suspect fled on foot near N Port Washington Road and Falls Road. The weather condition at this time was 27 degrees, wind gusts, and snowing. Besides the concerns for the safety of residents in the area, there was also a concern for the safety of the suspect. During the track, K9 Ranger went through thick brush, a building, and wooded areas. K9 Ranger crossed a large open field. The suspect crossed a road and was located hiding in a thick wooded area shortly after, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the vehicle. The track lasted 35 minutes.

Due to Officer Chojnacki and K9 Ranger's consistent training and dedication to the Cedarburg K9 Unit program, these subjects in the above mentioned may have not made it out of the woods that night and quite possibly saved their lives.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like further information.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Frank
Chief of Police
Cedarburg Police Department

TJF:alf