



# 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](mailto:wlechatreasurer@gmail.com)

Handler Name: BRANDON CHRISTIANSON  
K-9 Name: ACE  
Agency: WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S 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: LT. ERIC MARTEN  
Title: LIEUTENANT  
Agency: WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT  
Phone: (715) 421-8715  
E-Mail Address: emarten@co.wood.wi.us  
Hours of Work: 5P-5A

\*\*\*Membership must be current to be eligible for an award\*\*\*

\*\*\*All nominations must be postmarked or submitted by e-mail by August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to be accepted\*\*\*

Canine teams may be submitted for multiple awards.

Please submit separate nominations for each category.



# WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

August 8, 2020

To: WLECHA Awards Committee:

I would like to nominate Wood County Sheriff's Department Deputy Brandon Christianson and his canine partner Ace for the 2020 WLECHA Handler of the Year Award.

As Deputy Christianson's supervisor I have had an opportunity to see firsthand his commitment to the community, law enforcement profession and as a K9 Handler. Working side by side with Deputy Christianson it is easy to see his enthusiasm for his duties and his dedication to our department's K9 unit. Even more impressive is Deputy Christianson unmatched work ethic in his patrol duties and his responsibilities to his K9 Ace. It is well-known in Wood County, Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace never turn down an opportunity to assist their fellow deputies and requests from surrounding jurisdictions. Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace are renowned for their reliability and hard work. K9 Ace and Deputy Christianson's dependability and effort have led to them being one of the most respected law enforcement teams in the Wood County area.

All supervisors at the Wood County Sheriff's Department agree Deputy Christianson makes those around him better. This year, with much enthusiasm the Wood County Sheriff's Department added a third K9 handler to their program. Without hesitation and as the true leader he is, Deputy Christianson assisted each candidate by better preparing them for the hiring process. Once a handler was selected by the department Deputy Christianson provided unmatched knowledge to the selected deputy. Always thinking of his fellow deputies, Deputy Christianson contributed countless on duty and off training hours to better prepare the newly selected handler. These acts again showed how Deputy Christianson leads from the front and is an example for others. Deputy Christianson has an unselfish devotion to his duties as a K9 Handler and makes those around him better.

In the past year Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace conducted approximately 125 deployments. Those deployments resulted in 121 arrests made, 68 felony arrests and 53 misdemeanor arrests. A majority of these deployments were narcotic type searches, but also consisted of building searches, tracks, and apprehension requests. Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace conducted six tracks over the past year. These tracks were for fleeing suspects and one missing person. Of the tracks, five of the six were successful in the person being located or taken into custody. The deployments for narcotics related arrests entailed seizures of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, LSD, marijuana, mushrooms and pills. These deployments also resulted in five weapons related charges.

Listed below is are some of the highlights of Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace from the past year:

On September 9, 2019 Deputy Christianson assisted the Town of Grand Rapids Police Department with a high risk traffic. This contact was a result of a high speed pursuit. In this incident K9 Ace was deployed and commands were given to the driver. The driver exited the vehicle, complied with commands and was taken into custody. After the suspect was taken into custody Deputy Christianson and Ace conducted a K9 sniff of the vehicle. K9Ace did indicate and vehicle was searched. In a search of the vehicle officers located 8.5 grams methamphetamine and a loaded handgun. The suspect was charged for the illegal narcotics, along with felon in possession of a firearm. In this incident the presence of Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace facilitated a successful end to a dangerous traffic contact.

On January 7, 2020 Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace assisted the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department with a report of a missing 72 year old female with dementia. It was reported the female had been missing for over 30 minutes. At the time



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temperatures were approximately 20 degrees and getting colder. Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace started track from the front door of residence. The track went through less than ideal conditions to included yards, concrete sidewalks, and paved roads. Eventually K9 Ace led Deputy Christianson and officers to missing female. It was noted the female was non-verbal and had received multiple injuries from falling down while her whereabouts were unknown. Without the assistance of Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace locating this person would have been even more perilous. With the medical state of the female and deteriorating weather conditions Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace played an indisputable key role in saving this person's life.

February 26, 2020 Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace responded to call of male suspect having female hostage inside her residence. The victim reported the suspect had physically harm her and also held a knife to her throat. When officers arrived at the residence the suspect refused to comply and K9 Ace was deployed from squad. The suspect was given verbal commands by Deputy Christianson. The suspect was hostile to Deputy Christianson and refused to comply with his commands. Officers forced entry into residence with Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace entering into a close proximity of the suspect. The suspect was taken into custody and stated he felt compelled to comply with commands due to the presence of K9 Ace. The actions of Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace played a vital role by ensuring the safety of the victim and the officers on scene.

On March 17, 2020 Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace responded to a residence where a physical domestic was occurring. In this incident a male suspect had fled the residence, but was still believed to be in the area. With this information K9 Ace was deployed and commands were given to the suspect in a wood area near the residence. The commands given were unsuccessful and K9 Ace started track into a wooded area. The wooded area was extremely thick with little snow cover. K9 Ace led Deputy Christianson over 100 yards through wooded area to a fence line. At edge of fence line a large snow pile was observed. In this snow pile, clothing items from the suspect were located. K9 Ace remained at this location and movement was observed under the clothing. Locating the suspect was made more difficult due to him making a small hole and hiding in a snowbank. Undaunted, K9 Ace located the suspect and he was taken into custody for the domestic disturbance. Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace again displayed their true devotion in apprehending violent suspects to keep a victim safe as well as the community.

This past May, Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace continued to rid our community of deadly narcotics. However, if you asked Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace about the past month, they would just tell you they were doing their job. During the month May, Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace had a total of 35 felony arrests, with three illegal weapons charges. Deputy Christianson and K9 Ace also located 76.37 grams methamphetamine, 349.7 grams marijuana, 6.8 grams heroin, .4 grams LSD, .7 grams fentanyl, and 8.6 grams mushrooms.

For these reasons and many more not listed Deputy Christianson is well deserving of the Handler of the Year award, and would be an outstanding representative for the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handlers Association. For questions or additional information regarding Deputy Christianson I can be reached at any time.

Thank you for your Consideration,

Eric Paul Marten  
Patrol Lieutenant  
Wood County Sheriff's Department  
Ph. #: 715-421-8700