



Madison Police Department

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To: WLECHA Awards Committee

I would like to nominate Officer Emily House and her K9 partner Archie for the Rookie Handler of the Year. Officer House completed her initial training and has been operational on the street since April of 2019. This after her having decoyed for our unit for approximately ten years prior to being selected as a handler. In their brief time operational in the City of Madison, this team has had an outstanding debut worthy of this award.

Since the end of April, 2019, Officer House and K9 Archie have had 59 deployments, demonstrating the outstanding work ethic possessed by this team. In the course of those deployments, Officer House and K9 Archie have conducted --- tracking events, and have recovered 16.2g of Meth, 3g of Heroin, 9.6g of Cocaine, and 90.5g of Marijuana. Their efforts directly contributed to four apprehensions of suspects by officers, two of whom were located by K9 Archie during building clears. Several of these events stand out.

On April 29th, 2019, Officer House and K9 Archie responded to a disturbance on the City of Madison's West side wherein a victim had been stabbed and the suspect had fled. They engaged in their first ever street track which continued for over a mile, eventually arriving at the front door to an apartment. This apartment wound up being the apartment of the suspect who was later taken into custody and charged with recklessly endangering safety. Their very first track, long and difficult, proved to be very successful.

On July 17th, 2019, Officer House and K9 Archie responded to a scene on the City of Madison's South side wherein a suspect, wanted on warrants stemming from a disorderly conduct while armed charge, fled officers and was able to get out of sight. They tracked from his last known location and K9 Archie led officers directly to the suspect hiding in a yard where, upon sight of Archie, he immediately surrendered to officers.

On May 9th, 2019, Officer House and K9 Archie responded to officers that had located an unoccupied stolen vehicle on the City of Madison's West side that they had been following. The occupants had left the vehicle, but another officer had stopped two individuals in the general area that matched the drivers they had seen earlier. Officer House and K9 Archie conducted a track from the vehicle and K9 Archie lead officers directly to the location of the detained subjects. An article search conducted immediately thereafter lead to K9 Archie finding the keys for the stolen vehicle which had been hidden in a nearby bush.

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In addition to this outstanding police work, Officer House and K9 Archie have become a go-to team for community events and demos. Officer House and K9 Archie have engaged in at least nine community events as of the time of this writing. Several of these events were directly tied to fundraising for the Capital K9 non-profit that funds the City of Madison PD K9 unit. Of particular interest was Officer House and K9 Archie's participation in the Dominic's Ripple fundraiser. This fundraiser is in memory of a young man who died tragically, and whose family wants to raise funds to pay for a K9 for the unit as a legacy. When asked if she would participate, Officer House's response was, "It would be an honor". She and Archie attended and K9 Archie even managed to dunk the Chief in the dunk tank. It is worth mentioning that Archie is very young and Officer House's willingness and ability to bring him into these community environments, which can be challenging, is a testament to her can-do attitude and her investment in the community and the unit.

Officer House and K9 Archie have been a welcome addition to the City of Madison K9 Unit and in the short time that they have been operational, they have accomplished a tremendous amount and deserve to be commended. The drive of both this handler and this dog, their work ethic, and their eagerness to learn and grow, as well as their commitment to being well rounded officers through community engagement and participation in activities that benefit the unit as a whole, have set them apart and I ask that you nominate Officer House and K9 Archie for the Rookie Handler of the Year award.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sergeant Mike Alvarez
City of Madison Police Department
Madison, WI