



## Press Release

**Date: November 4, 2014**

**Re: Local Police K9 Teams Garner Awards**

Several local police K9 teams attended the annual conference of the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handlers Association (WLECHA). The conference, which includes specific training exercises for the more than 100 K9 teams in attendance, was held in Stevens Point, October 5-8.

The conference includes a banquet at which the association presents several prestigious awards to teams that have distinguished themselves through the past year or during the training.

Neenah Police Officer Chris Gorden and his K9 partner Cedric received the award for Meritorious K9 Narcotics Find. The Neenah team was chosen from among seven teams nominated for the award, for their recovery of over 330 grams of methamphetamine in September 2013.

At the conference, the nomination was recited by Fond du Lac Police Officer Ryan Williams, who was shot and wounded along with his K9 partner in March 2011.

An excerpt from the nomination reads: "This case was unique not because the team was able to find a large shipment of drugs in a vehicle, but because Officer Gorden showed great diligence and persistence in seeking and finding the vehicle, which put him and his partner into position for the find. Had he not been so committed to the effort, the intercept would never have occurred."

At the same conference, Grand Chute's police K9 team Officer Shawn Enneper and partner Fram, received the Patrol K9 Challenge Award. This award is presented to the team that scores the best time on a difficult patrol assignment created during the training. This year, teams had to respond to a large storage building and locate a suspect hidden in an elevated position. The Grand Chute team made the find in less than two minutes, faster than any of the other teams present.

Photos of the officers with their awards are included.

**NEENAH'S GUARDIANS**

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Above, Officer Enneper and Fram show off their Patrol K9 Challenge Award. Below, Officer Chris Gorden accepts the award for Meritorious K9 Narcotics Find from WLECHA President Todd Skarban.



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