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Officer Timothy Halbakken Columbus Division of Police

Distinguished Law Enforcement Training Award

Days after Officer Timothy Halbakken and a Columbus Division of Police colleague launched a Self-Aid and Partner-Aid course for fellow officers, a decision was made to add tourniquet carriers to department uniforms.

Sergeant Michael Kirk, who nominated Halbakken for this award, called the training “one of the most well-received in-service trainings in the division’s history” and the tourniquet carriers’ approval “one of the most expedient uniform part approvals I have witnessed in 21 years of service.”

“Approximately 1,800 officers were trained, and the results were immediate,” Sergeant Kirk said. “During the course of the training, officers who had already completed the training utilized their skills to perform life-saving techniques on two civilians and one fellow officer.”

Officer Halbakken joined the Columbus Police Department in 1994 and within two years was teaching a subject control course for its training bureau. He has created trainings for the vice, narcotics, SWAT, and gang units, as well as for outside agencies — from the municipal to federal levels. A “trainer of trainers,” he prepares instructors to teach various specialties.

Officer Halbakken has also taught at the Officer World Expo during Police Week in Washington, D.C., and at the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association Conference. No doubt his fellow officers are glad he calls Columbus home!