

Indian School Corridor - Citywide Association
REQUIRE THE PRIOR.ORG

1st Annual “To Protect and Serve” Leadership Award

Today’s awards presentation is very important to me and my group and we wanted it to be as meaningful to all of you as it is to us. So I prepared by reading various quotes, essays, and speeches on leadership and I came across the following excerpt by a union leader from the late 1800’s that seemed just right.

Though originally spoken about himself it is well suited to our Commander:

“Give me the rank and file every day in the week. If you go to the city of Washington, and you examine the pages of the Congressional Directory, -- you will find that almost all of them claim, in glowing terms, that they have risen *from* the ranks to places of eminence and distinction. I am very glad I cannot make that claim for myself. I would be ashamed to admit that I had risen *from* the ranks. When I rise it will be *with* the ranks, and not *from* the ranks.”

Commander Smith, when you were first assigned to this precinct our group was cautiously optimistic. When we discovered that you were actually out on the street poking around in our alleys at all hours of the day, we were incredibly hopeful.

However, after working side by side with you for 9 months we’ve come to know you first as a man who sees what’s wrong and tries to fix it; then as a cop who just happens to be a Commander; and finally as a Commander who leads by example because he doesn’t know any other way.

Commander Smith, thank you for your leadership and dedication to protect and serve our community.