

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary names 11-year Department of Public Safety Veteran as "Officer of the Year"

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— The Department of Public Safety at the University of Saint Mary recently honored 11-year department veteran and longtime Leavenworth resident Sgt. Mel Lister as USM's first-ever "Officer of the Year."

Sgt. Lister supervises training and works the evening shift. He was awarded a certificate and uniform pin in recognition of winning the 2008 award on Jan. 13.

"Mel is a true asset to our team. We are proud of him," said Matt Boos, USM's director of public safety. "He's very enthusiastic. He's very outgoing, and he knows many of the sisters, students, faculty, and staff. He was recommended to receive this honor by many members of the university community."

The award comes as the university has greatly expanded its security program. Last year, USM added 24/7 security guards, installed additional surveillance cameras and a new emergency alert system, and hired a director of public safety and compliance.

Boos said the "Officer of the Year" recognition, which he hopes will become an annual event, was created to increase morale in the department and to generate recognition for the efforts of USM's security officers.

The University of Saint Mary is a private, co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park, Shawnee, and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu on the web for more information.

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Lt. Jack Eagles (r) presents Sgt. Mel Lister with a certificate for the USM Public Safety Officer of the Year 2008 award.