

Life Saving Award

Craig Police Department

Awarded to:

Officer Tracy Mendoza

*For outstanding police performance in the saving of a human life, the most precious
of our duties. Your display of conspicuous initiative, capability,
and attention to duty has proven to be unmeasurable.*

*The act you performed on April 4th 2023, shows your selfless dedication
to the Citizens of Craig and your department.*

Awarded this 13th day of June 2023.

Michael R Cochran

Chief of Police

B. J. H.

Commander



Craig Police Department

800 West 1st Street, Suite 300 • Craig, Colorado 81625
Administration – (970) 826-2360 • Police Service – (970) 824-8111
Fax – (970) 824-5706

LIFESAVING AWARD

To: Chief Cochran
From: Sergeant Fandel
Ref: Request for Recognition
Date: 05-24-23

Dear Sir:

I am submitting this request on behalf of Officer Wacie Laabs, Officer Mendoza and Officer Baker.

On 04/08/2023, Officers were dispatched to 366 Hawthorn at 1523 hours involving a party who was unconscious not breathing. Officer Laabs arrived on scene at 1524 and shortly after Officer Mendoza arrived. Officer Laabs and Officer Medoza dragged the party into the living room and started CPR. The party did not have a pulse. CPR was started at 1525. Officer Mendoza connected the AED while Officer Laabs did CPR. Officer Baker also arrived on scene and assisted in doing CPR. They took turns doing CPR. The AED advised to shock the party twice prior to EMS arriving. EMS arrived and they continued working on him, while on scene after working him for a while EMS stated they had a pulse.

The party was able to be brought back to life and was transported. Weeks later he called to thank everyone. He was still at a hospital in Denver but stated he was doing much better.

Last week Officer Laabs spoke to him at Wal-mart he was very thankful and wrote a letter in the Craig Daily Press showing his appreciation.

Based upon the above information Officer Laabs, Officer Mendoza and Officer Baker should receive the lifesaving award.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "FANDEL".

Anthony Fandel

Police Sergeant

Michael R. Cochran
Chief of Police

Douglas J. Conrad
Commander

Letter: Craig police rendering CPR saved my life

Letters to the editor LETTER-TO-THE-EDITOR | May 11, 2023

I am writing today to thank the Craig Police Department for helping save my life with CPR.

On April 8, after my shift at City Market as a night grocery stocker, I went home and had a massive heart attack and a hemorrhagic stroke. My roommate used CPR to bring me back once, and then Craig police were in the trailer park on a call, so officers were able to render CPR another eight times to get me into the ambulance.

I coded six times in the ambulance. At Memorial Regional Health, I was life-flown by air ambulance helicopter to Valley View Hospital, and I coded many more times on the flight. I coded 11 more times while in surgery. I was driven by land ambulance to Swedish Medical Center in Eglewood and was diagnosed with a stroke and four-week brain bleed.

After eight weeks in recovery, I am at the Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital in Littleton. Maybe another week and I can go back home to Craig. This would not have been possible without the officers that rendered CPR to save my life — eight times in the beginning of my journey and my roommate who gave me CPR until the police could arrive.

Hero's walk among us and they are not comic book characters. A Dine' (Navajo) healer saved my life and reversed my medical conditions. I am surviving my hemorrhagic stroke. All the doctors could just watch. Call it miraculous healing.

I am grateful for Craig police, EMS, Memorial Regional Health, Life Flight medical helicopter, Valley View Hospital, Swedish Medical Center, Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital (over eight weeks). Almost home again. It all started with my roommate giving me CPR until the Craig Police Department arrived to take over. CPR saved me.

Chris MacRaney

Craig