



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MPD Officer Matthew Rittner Honored as First Responder of the Year

Rep. David Crowley (D-Milwaukee) made the following statement in advance of honoring fallen Milwaukee Police Department Officer Matthew Rittner on the Assembly floor today:

“Today, as chair of the Milwaukee Delegation and on behalf of all Assembly members of that Delegation, I honored Officer Matthew Rittner as First Responder of the Year.

“Officer Rittner was killed on February 6, 2019, in the line of duty. While serving a high-risk warrant in Milwaukee, Officer Rittner was on point during a one-man door breach of a locked, interior door. He left the safety of his fellow officers to make entry into the locked room. Upon making a hole in the door, the suspect fired several rounds from a rifle through the door. Officer Ritter was struck and severely wounded, and eventually succumbed to his injuries.

“There are those among us who devote their lives to service of their fellow man; Officer Rittner was one such man. He was a 17-year veteran with the Milwaukee Police Department, working his way up to the Tactical Enforcement Unit. He had garnered multiple honors for bravery from the Department, and was well-loved by his fellow officers. He was also a United States Marine, serving two tours in Iraq helping to train and mentor local police. Truly, Officer Rittner exemplified the best ideals that a public servant can offer.

“Officer Rittner paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the citizens of Milwaukee, and for that reason I am proud to recognize him as First Responder of the Year. He devoted his entire career to protecting Milwaukee and its residents, and the city was better for having had him in it.”

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