




City of Lafayette Police Department



Date: April 20, 2016
To: Mayor Mark Mitchell, City of Lafayette
From: Eric Christensen, Chief of Police 
Subject: Community Partnership Coin, Jeffrey Dick

Throughout history, military units have used challenge coins emblazoned with their unit insignia or crest to recognize members who perform acts that reflect their tradition of service or valor. This same practice has been adopted by police departments throughout the United States. Although some coins are sold as commemorative gifts, others are presented by police departments as recognition of individuals who perform acts that demand special recognition. The City of Lafayette Police Department's Community Partnership Coin is presented to those who have gone above and beyond to serve their community, the police department, and the City of Lafayette.

This Community Partnership Coin is presented to Jeffrey Dick, a retired police officer with the City of San Mateo Police Department.

On April 9, 2016, Lafayette Police Officer Holscher was driving east-bound on Highway 24 in his patrol vehicle. It was a rainy Saturday morning and he was enroute to an alarm call within the city. While driving in his marked patrol car, he was passed by a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Believing the car was traveling at an unsafe speed for the conditions, Officer Holscher activated his emergency lights and siren to effect an enforcement stop. Seeing the officer behind him, the driver accelerated away in an attempt to evade Officer Holscher – reaching speeds of more than one hundred miles per hour (MPH).

Seconds later, the driver lost control of his vehicle and struck a guardrail beside the freeway. After striking the guardrail, the vehicle became disabled and came to rest in the middle of the highway. Officer Holscher was alone and made an approach on the driver, believing that the driver intended to continue to flee from him. Weapon drawn, he made his approach on the suspect. Seeing this, Retired Officer Dick stopped his personal vehicle, identified himself as a law enforcement officer and assisted LPD Officer Holscher in taking the suspect into custody. Officer Holscher later told me he was extremely grateful for the assistance of Officer Dick in this situation.

We see and read stories in the media about individuals who choose not to act or get involved when they see something wrong. In this case, a retired police officer saw a situation that could have been extremely dangerous and chose to take action – placing himself at risk to help a colleague. His actions speak very highly of Officer Dick's dedication to the profession and his individual courage.

Officer Dick's assistance that day is appreciated by all of the officers of the Lafayette Police Department and the residents of our community. He is well deserving of this recognition.

A copy of this document will be maintained at the police department along with a cataloging of the coins that have been presented throughout the history of the program. While not serialized, each coin is assigned a number that relates to the order of presentation. Records will be stored in order of presentation.