



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Council Session

Item C-2

Presentation of Police Department Citizen Medal of Honor Award to Brian Rasmussen

On Monday evening May 6th at approximately 9:50 pm, a traffic collision occurred at the intersection of 3rd & Broadwell. GIPD officers responded and found one of the vehicles, a passenger van, laying on its side with the occupants still inside the van. The front seat passenger was seriously injured with her arm pinned under the vehicle. The driver was still seat belted in her seat as was a small child seat belted in a car seat in the back of the van.

A witness, Brian Rasmussen of Grand Island stopped and assisted Officer David Caldwell and Officer Brandon Kirkley (see attached letter).

Officers Caldwell and Kirkley are also going to be awarded a Distinguished Service Medal for their actions during this hectic event.

Staff Contact: Steve Lamken

May 29, 2013

Brian Rasmussen
4952 Ft. Kearney Road
Grand Island, NE 68801

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

The Grand Island Police Department is recognizing the actions of Brian Rasmussen on the evening of May 6, 2013. A serious injury accident occurred at the intersection of 3rd and Broadwell Ave. at approximately 9:50 p.m. One of the involved vehicles, a van turned over on its side and the occupants were unable to exit the vehicle. Brian Rasmussen entered the van through a window and was able to release a one year old child, who was hanging sideways in a car seat. Brian took the child from the van to a safe location with the assistance of other people.

Brian then returned to the van and climbed back on the top which was the driver's side of the vehicle. He began to support the driver who was hanging sideways in the van being held by her seatbelt. The driver was hanging above a seriously injured passenger who was in the front passenger seat. After Officer Caldwell relieved Brian from his position, Brian continued to assist by talking to the two trapped victims calming them. Brian also helped Officer Caldwell by holding the driver's door off of Caldwell's body as he supported the driver while firefighters and paramedics extracted the passenger of the vehicle. Brian did all of this without hesitation or regard for his safety.

The well being of Grand Island rests with the commitment of the citizens of our community. Brian's quick actions and willingness to assist officers during this incident goes well beyond expectations. Based upon the recommendations of the officers at the scene, the Grand Island Police Department hereby awards Brian Rasmussen the 'Citizen Medal of Honor' for his heroic actions. We congratulate and honor Brian.

Sincerely,

Steven Lamken
Police Chief