

Indian School Corridor - Citywide Coalition
REQUIRE THE PRIOR.ORG

2nd Annual “To Protect and Serve” Leadership Award

April 21, 2010

This award is given for leadership. And leadership is nothing more than an opportunity to serve. It is not a trumpet call to self-importance - quite the opposite in fact. It is about humility, sacrifice, hard work, and honor.

When the citizens of this organization identified a systemic problem in the jail booking process, it was Mark Spencer who came forward and said, “How can I help you fix this problem for the good of us all.” And then he stood side by side with us until the job was done.

During the most recent budget crisis in Phoenix, when city management was deliberately and callously pitting the citizens against one another *and* public safety to balance their budget, it was Officer Mark Spencer, and the men and women that he leads, who refused to abandon the most vulnerable citizens to protect themselves.

He united our community, citizens and officers, and led the way in protecting both, no matter the cost for himself. Even in the final hour, when tempted to hand over the interests of the citizens he had given his word to protect, he stood like a wall in front of us and would not stand down.

Officer Spencer, today we gratefully honor your devotion and service to our community, and give you and your family our deepest thanks.