

IOWA POLICE JOURNAL



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IOWA'S HEROES — Grant Stender



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On Wednesday, November 25, 2013, at approximately 4:12 in the morning, Officer Grant Stender of the West Liberty Police Department responded to a call regarding a female in labor. She was experiencing labor pains, but the situation didn't seem urgent...until her water broke. Stender realized that not only was she in labor — her baby was “crowning,” ready to enter the world!

Stender said that his training kicked in, and he asked the baby's father to grab some supplies. “A switch flipped and I went into “go” mode,” said Stender. A short time later, the baby was born.

Stender spent four years in the military before becoming a reserve and then a full-time officer with West Liberty PD. He said he was just doing his duty and that situations like this are why he got into law enforcement.

What Stender didn't expect was the reaction of the baby's father, who didn't exactly love the police before this incident. Stender said he ran into the man a few days later and it was like he had “made a new best friend.”

Many times people don't realize how caring law enforcement really is. Thanks to duty-driven officers like Officer Stender, connections are made and perceptions are changed. Because of his actions, Stender was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the City of West Liberty. The Iowa State Police Association thanks Officer Stender for representing Iowa's law enforcement in a positive way. Thank you for being one of Iowa's Heroes!

If you know someone who deserves to be recognized as one of Iowa's Heroes, please contact us at ISPAonline@gmail.com.



Officer Grant Stender (left) of the West Liberty Police Department receives the Distinguished Service Award by the City of West Liberty.

