



## FORCE FOR GOOD

### Malcolm Mespelt Takes Heroic Actions to Help a Sergeant in Need

*The Sheriff Department of Polk County in Oregon contacted us to share this unbelievable story of bravery, quick thinking, good samaritan behavior, and simply being an outstanding citizen of this nation. This involves one of our technicians from Salem, Malcolm Mespelt. Read the press release below:*



**On January 12th, at about 3:46 p.m.** Sgt. Tyrone Jenkins contacted a male pedestrian, later identified as Hunter Merkel (aka Jason Feyko) on Highway 22 just east of Greenwood Road. During this stop, the man removed his hands from his pocket and in doing so caused a small zip lock baggie to fall from his pocket onto the ground. The baggie contained methamphetamine. Sgt. Jenkins told Merkel he was being detained and as Sgt. Jenkins was about to detain him, he pulled away and then began to physically fight with Sgt. Jenkins. During the fight, both Sgt. Jenkins and Merkel ended up on the ground in a muddy field just off the highway. During the struggle, Sgt. Jenkins was able to call out on his radio for help. Due to the slippery conditions, Sgt. Jenkins was about to lose control of Merkel as he was still actively trying to escape. Then, just at the right time, a passing motorist, Mr. Malcolm Mespelt of Salem, came to the aid of Sgt. Jenkins. Even with the help from Mr. Mespelt, they were still struggling and nearly lost control. Deputies were responding to help, along with multiple other surrounding agencies. Deputy Lauderdale and Deputy Hutchison both arrived on scene about 3 minutes after the fight began and they too began to fight with Merkel. A Taser was used and was able to help deputies gain control of Merkel and place him into restraints. Because of this fight, one deputy went to the hospital where he was treated for minor injuries sustained during the fight. Mr. Hunter Merkel was lodged at the Polk County Jail on the charges of Interfering with a Peace Officer, Tampering with Physical Evidence and Possession of Methamphetamine.

The following is directly from Sgt. Tyrone Jenkins -

*On Friday when I contacted a subject on the shoulder of Highway 22, the contact escalated quickly and we ended up in a muddy field where I was attempting to detain him. We were on the ground and due to how muddy it was I was unable to control him from trying to push and pull away. In my head I was going through all my options of what to do as I was about to lose control of his hands. It was at that moment when a citizen came up beside me and told me that he was there to help. He took control of his legs, which allowed me to control his upper body and hold him there until other the other deputies were able to respond and assist.*



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*I would like to extend my public heartfelt appreciation to that citizen, Mr. Malcolm Mespelt of Salem. My family thanks you. My friends thank you. Malcolm went out of his way to help a stranger. He put himself into an unknown situation and acted selflessly to help me during the time I needed it most. Malcolm did not ask for a thank you, a paycheck, explanation of why I was fighting with a person and he did not give a high five or brag about what he did. He simply provided his information to a deputy, got back in vehicle and drove from the scene.*

*Again, Malcolm, thank you for what you did and for helping me go home at the end of my shift.*