

Josh Lego

Nomination Submitted by: *Joshua Peterson*

I have chosen to nominate Prof. Josh Lego because I feel that he exemplifies the qualities of a truly great professor. Prof. Lego, who works for the St. Paul Police Department full time in addition to his teaching role, has been with the law enforcement department for the past two years.

He has filled a crucial void in the department by bringing the experience and innovative teaching styles that much faculty lack. Josh is considered by many in the law enforcement program as the best teacher they have had, and I strongly concur. His mix of humor, role-playing, stories, and student involvement makes everyone of these classes something students look forward to attending.

Each week Josh drives down from his house in the Twin Cities to teach class, at times leaving work early and using his vacation time to make up for his absence. Prof. Lego has taught two upper level law enforcement classes, and thus has provided his professional insight skills to seniors before they graduate.

While in the classroom Prof. Lego successfully mixes his high expectations with confidence building in each of his students. Confidence that is very important for the criminal justice jobs so many of his students are seeking. After class Josh is always available for students to contact at literally anytime, list as a reference, or simply speak with for advice. Over the past two years, Josh has raised two young children, completed his master's degree, been promoted to sergeant in the St. Paul Police Department, and been the lead training instructor for St. Paul, all while making a lasting impression on the minds of those leaving to pursue law enforcement careers. As any student who has had him as an instructor and I have no doubt they feel the same way I do about Josh. In just two years he has accomplished the effectiveness and prowess in great example of the best of what MSU faculty can be, and this shouldn't be surprising, he is MSU alum!

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Nomination Submitted by: *Crystal Craig*

Thursday night classes aren't anyone's idea of a good time. Unfortunately, this is the night the Law Enforcement Department decides to have Tactics, a class that Track 1 Law Enforcement majors have to tack. In any other major, this class would more than likely be empty since it takes a portion of the evenings festivities away. This, however, does not happen to Tactics; only a few people miss class and they generally have a reason to do so. Why are people dedicated to coming to class? It's the professor. The St. Paul sergeant who makes the class great. Makes us want to be there. It's because of Sgt. Josh Lego.

Josh Lego has been an adjunct professor for two years, I have had the honor of being under his direction for the full two years, a full year of classes (two semesters with one class each) and another full year as his Teacher's Assistant (TA) for Tactics. I see the same things every semester: everyone listens, no one sleeps, and everyone gets something out of every lecture. Quite a feat, am I right? Professor Lego has his little sayings that people quote for a long while after the class that only those who were in the class understand and fully appreciate.

He gives us real life examples, even puts himself out there with embarrassing stories, all of which we learn from. He doesn't talk down to us, but with us. Professor Lego employs tactics that other professors do not use which helps us to enjoy classes so much. He is extremely approachable and will listen who someone has a concern or idea. Professor Lego has made quite an impact on each of the students he has had in class!

He has made an enormous impact on me personally and even though I have been in a class every semester for two years, I still find myself learning more and more. He doesn't teach statically, he adds and innovates and changes things up unexpectedly to keep us on our toes, prevents boredom from setting in.

I believe that Professor Joshua Lego deserves to be honored as he puts everything he has for his class and we would do the same for him. This would be a small way for us to thank him for being a great professor.

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Nomination Submitted by: *Ryan Hartmann*

I would like to nominate Josh Lego for the Teacher of the Year Award. Josh's personality, creativity, and experience make him one of the best teachers I have ever had. He is easy to approach about any topic and uses humor to aid in his teaching. The knowledge he has and the real world applications he demonstrates make his classes fun to attend.

Despite the large amounts of readings assigned, and his own unique method of checking to make sure his students actually do it, the materials Josh presents have a direct bearing on the knowledge and skills required in my future job. Josh is also a St. Paul Police Officer and often shows up in his uniform to teach due to his busy schedule. I feel I have learned more useful things in his class than in any of my other classes at MSU. He is a great role model, showing how far a degree in law enforcement from MSU can take someone. One way that Josh goes above and beyond his duties in teaching is that he is always willing to give students advice on law enforcement issues and careers. It doesn't matter whether or not they go to MSU, he is just happy to share his passion for public service with anyone who wants to pursue a similar career.

I would hope Josh continues to teach law enforcement seniors in the future years, because if he leaves he will be hard to replace. Please consider Josh Lego for Teacher of the Year, he has made a significant impact on many students during his time at MSU, and I think he deserves it more than anyone.