



PEKRUL RECEIVES DIRECTOR'S COMMENDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 26, 2009

EAST LANSING. Michigan State Police (MSP) Director Colonel Peter C. Munoz is pleased to announce that First Lieutenant Mary Pekrul is the recipient of the MSP Director's Commendation. Munoz bestowed the honor on Pekrul for her efforts in the formation of the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center (MIOC) for Homeland Security.

In 2006, Pekrul began transforming the department's existing Intelligence Section into Michigan's fusion center. After considerable planning and research by Pekrul, including site visits to other established centers around the country, the MIOC was opened in January 2007.

In speaking of Pekrul's accomplishments, Munoz said, "Intelligence-led policing is only effective when there is a team of agencies working together to share information and coordinate their response. F/Lieutenant Pekrul is responsible for bringing federal, state and local partners to the table resulting in a stronger effort and ultimately safer communities."

Today, as a result of Pekrul's leadership, the MIOC is providing 24/7 statewide intelligence information-sharing among local, state and federal public safety agencies in order to facilitate the collection, analysis and dissemination of critical information relevant to the prevention of terrorism and improved public safety.

Pekrul is also credited with developing an internship program, in conjunction with the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University, for intelligence analysts. Due to its success, many former interns are now employed at fusion centers across the country.

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Pekrul joined the department in 1989, graduating as a member of the 106th Trooper Recruit School. She has served at the Hastings and Sault Ste. Marie posts, Criminal Investigation Division, Executive Division, Field Detective Division and Special Operations Division. Today, she is assigned to the Training Division in the Career Development Section. Pekrul holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University and a master's degree in public administration from Western Michigan University.

The Director's Commendation is presented at the sole discretion of the Director. Pekrul is the first female and only the 17th person to be presented with this prestigious award.

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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