

CONGRATULATIONS!
2015 Tim Stafford Unsung Hero Award
Sgt. Shawn Byrne,
Oklahoma City Police Department



Sgt. Shawn Byrne, this year's recipient of the Tim Stafford Unsung hero award has been involved in Special Olympics and Law Enforcement Torch Run for over 14 years and has served on the Oklahoma LETR committee for the past 8 years. The first event that he lead for LETR, a Golf Tournament, made over \$60,000 in the 3 years that it was held. In 2007 he was in charge of the auction at the LETR International Conference held in Oklahoma City. That auction is the highest grossing auction of any LETR Conference to this day. He approached the Oklahoma City Blazers to sponsor a Special Olympics night and jersey auction. This auction has continued with the OKC Barons and raises over \$20,000 every year. He also took the lead in helping a program with the OKC Barons about partnering athletes with Barons players raising awareness and money. The program has been a huge success and this season has expended to another professional team in another state. He was a member of the 2010 Final Leg and a team leader for the 2012 Final Leg. He has helped and headed up many different fundraisers in the years he has been involved with LETR. He has assisted in the area softball tournament and in both summer and winter games. There is no one more dedicated to improving the lives and abilities of the athletes of Oklahoma Special Olympics. His passion for these athletes is at times "over the top" and his drive to raise more monies and awareness seems to never slow below 100mph. He uses his numerous civic and personal contacts to further the cause of Special Olympics and he is always about the athlete and not about himself in these efforts. Sgt. Byrne is a friend of all Special Olympic Athletes, and is truly an unsung hero.