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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hometown Hero Award Presented to Merrill Local: Josiah Kaetterhenry

[**Madison, WI**] – To begin yesterday’s State Assembly floor session, Representative Calvin Callahan (R-Tomahawk) presented a local Merrill resident and officer with the Wausau Police Department, Josiah Kaetterhenry, with the Assembly’s prestigious Hometown Hero Award. This program provides the opportunity for state representatives to identify and recognize individuals from their Assembly Districts who make a difference in their communities and in the lives of the people around them.

“I am proud to have constituents in the 35th Assembly District like Officer Kaetterhenry,” said Rep. Callahan. “Thanks to his quick-thinking and bravery, two teens were saved during active suicide attempts within the course of three months.”

In April 2022, Officer Kaetterhenry pulled a 15 year old male to safety who had been reported to be actively suicidal and was walking along the top ledge of the Jefferson Street Ramp in Wausau. Officer Kaetterhenry restrained the teen until other officers arrived to assist. Three months later, in July, an 18 year old male was sitting on the railing of the Bridge Street Bridge in Wausau, 100 feet above the Wisconsin River, preparing to jump and end his life. Officer Kaetterhenry snuck up behind him, grabbed him around the waist, and pulled him off the guardrail.

“On behalf of the Wisconsin State Assembly, I am pleased to congratulate Officer Kaetterhenry on receiving the Assembly’s Hometown Hero Award and thank him for his service to the residents in our local communities and our state.”

A scan of the citation presented to Officer Kaetterhenry and photo are both attached to this release.

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The 35th Assembly District includes all of Lincoln and Langlade Counties, as well as portions of Marathon, Oconto, Oneida, and Shawano Counties.