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During the late evening hours on Sunday, June 20, 2021, Deputy William Halverson and other deputies responded to an alarm at the Casey's General Store located on Highway 13 in Coggon. Deputy Halverson was in the general area and arrived on scene within minutes. Upon arriving on scene, Deputy Halverson located a van parked on the north side of the building. He advised the communications center operators of this, parked his patrol car behind the van, and proceeded into the convenience store.

As Deputy Halverson entered the front door, he was immediately met by the suspect trying to exit the building. Deputy Halverson reached for the suspect's right arm with his left hand while trying to get to his service weapon with his right hand. Before Deputy Halverson was able to draw his weapon, the suspect fired his weapon, striking Deputy Halverson multiple times. While some of the rounds struck Deputy Halverson in the panels of his ballistic vest, several rounds struck him in the unprotected areas of his abdomen and lower extremities, causing serious and debilitating injuries.

While Deputy Halverson lay on the floor semi-conscious and incapacitated, the suspect disarmed him of his service weapon and fled the area in his van. Although seriously injured, Deputy Halverson was able to activate the emergency declaration button on his portable radio, letting other responding deputies know that he was down. Deputy Halverson was also able to provide additional details, including that he had been shot multiple times and a description of his attacker, until help arrived to tend to his injuries.

Once other deputies and emergency responders arrived on scene, they immediately began to treat Deputy Halverson's injuries, including controlling the bleeding, applying a tourniquet, and providing him with advanced medical care. Deputy Halverson was then transported to the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics for his injuries by air ambulance.

In the meantime, other deputies responding to the call located the suspect vehicle fleeing the area and gave pursuit. The suspect eventually crashed his van and fled on foot. The area was secured with the help of numerous law enforcement agencies from throughout eastern Iowa. The suspect was located the next morning and was taken into custody without further incident. He was charged with Robbery 1st Degree X 2, Attempt to Commit Murder, Assault – Willful Injury, False Imprisonment X 2, Disarming a Peace Officer, Trafficking in Stolen



Weapons, Felony Eluding, and Possession of a Firearm as a Felon and was held on a \$2.5 million bond. He remains in-custody awaiting trial at the time of this commendation award presentation.

Deputy Halverson remained hospitalized at UIHC for eight days, where he underwent treatment for his injuries. He was later transferred to a local hospital for rehabilitation therapy, until being released eleven days later.

At the recommendation of his division commander, I am nominating Deputy William Halverson for the Purple Heart commendation award due to him being shot multiple times and critically injured in the line of duty by a person intending to inflict serious injury or death upon him on June 20, 2021.

Major Gerald W. Hansel
Linn County Sheriff's Office