



STATE OF IDAHO  
LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIREFIGHTING AND EMS  
MEDAL OF HONOR

*Awarded to*

**Brek Orton**

*For conspicuous gallantry and exceptionally meritorious  
conduct at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty.*

On August 7, 2007, Boise Police Officer Brek Orton responded to a call for a water rescue on the Boise River. Upon arrival, Officer Orton observed three Boise firefighters on a log in the river trying to cut a trapped woman's bathing suit free from the limbs of a downed tree. She had been completely submerged under eight to ten inches of water for approximately ten minutes. Officer Orton jumped into the swift current and made his way to the victim. Unable to touch bottom himself, Officer Orton held onto the log with one arm and pushed the victim upstream against the strong current. The firefighters were ready and able to immediately cut the bathing suit free from the branch. Officer Orton kept hold of the victim as they were swept downstream, where he was able to pull her toward the shore. Officer Orton's exceptionally brave and selfless actions allowed firefighters and EMS to begin resuscitation efforts, which resulted in the saving of Sari Starr's life. Officer Orton's extraordinary heroism and intrepidity, at the risk of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, reflect great credit upon himself, the Boise Police Department, and all Idaho law enforcement officers.

Signed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2008.

---

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of Idaho