

THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY DECORATION (N.Z.B.D.)

Michael Thomas WARDLE Constable, New Zealand Police

Date of action: 3 July 2010

Date of award: 2 December 2013

Citation

On 13 July 2010, during the course of an arrest at a private property, an armed offender opened a bedroom door and shot a Police officer in the face, and also shot and fatally wounded Police dog Gage. A constable dragged the wounded officer by his belt down the hallway and out of immediate danger. At the same time, the offender came to his bedroom doorway and shot another officer, who was running to escape through a bathroom window.

The offender then aimed his rifle directly at Constable Wardle (now Sergeant), and started to walk towards him. Constable Wardle fired his taser at the offender who attempted to shoot him, but his rifle jammed. The Police officers retreated outside. The offender followed them, and again aimed his rifle at Constable Wardle, who stood his ground and maintained a position between him and the other officers.