

# ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## Santa Ana, California

**TO:** All Sheriff's Department Personnel  
**FROM:** Sheriff Sandra Hutchens  
**DATE:** Friday, April 27, 2012  
**RE:** Medal of Valor Awards



Sandra Hutchens  
Sheriff-Coroner

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### *Medal for Lifesaving*

**Deputy Dustin Fike**  
**Deputy Manny Ramirez**

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, South Patrol Deputy Manny Ramirez and his trainee, Deputy Dustin Fike, who is now assigned to Rancho Santa Margarita, responded to a residence in Ladera Ranch and performed effective CPR on a 2-year-old drowning victim who was pulled from the family pool. They restored the little girl's breathing and pulse, saving her life.

### *Medal for Lifesaving*

**Deputy Melonie Bloom**  
**Deputy Evan Guyot**

**Deputy Jamaal Brathwaite**  
**Deputy Humberto Nava**

Deputies Melonie Bloom, Jamaal Brathwaite, Evan Guyot, and Humberto Nava responded to a "man down" call at the Intake/Release Center on Monday, May 2, 2011, and found a 19-year-old male inmate hanging from his neck inside his cell. They cut the man down and took turns performing CPR until he began breathing on his own. Their actions saved the man's life.

### *Medal for Lifesaving*

**Deputy Adam Koliha**

Lake Forest Deputy Adam Koliha was dispatched to a man not breathing call on Friday, June 3, 2011, and found the 68-year-old man laying in bed in full cardiac arrest. He lifted the man out of the bed and onto the floor then administered CPR until the man regained a pulse and began breathing on his own, saving his life.

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**Medal for Lifesaving**

**Deputy Eric Brown  
Deputy Steve Yannizzi**

On Friday, September 30, 2011, Aliso Viejo Deputies Eric Brown and Steve Yannizzi responded to a residence in Aliso Viejo and performed CPR on a 50-year-old woman for over six minutes, eventually restoring her pulse and breathing, saving her life.

**Medal for Lifesaving**

**Deputy Michael Woodroof**

On Saturday, November 5, 2011, Dana Point Deputy Michael Woodroof responded to the area of Dana Point Harbor where a 33-year-old male jogger had collapsed. With the help of a citizen, he performed CPR on the man and helped restore a pulse and breathing, saving the man's life.

**Medal for Lifesaving**

**Deputy Michael Bard  
Deputy William Burk**

North Patrol Deputies Michael Bard and William Burk were dispatched to a home in the unincorporated area of Tustin on Saturday, November 19, 2011, and found a 58-year-old man who hung himself from a pole in the backyard. They quickly began CPR and were able to restore the man's pulse and breathing, saving his life.

**Medal of Merit**

**Deputy Ashraf Abdelmuti**

South Gang Enforcement Team Deputy Ash Abdelmuti was the primary case agent for a gang-related shooting that involved multiple law enforcement agencies and utilized exceptional investigative skills and work ethic to obtain a wiretap warrant, the first ever granted to the Orange County Sheriff's Department Gang Enforcement Team. The evidence obtained led to the arrest of ten gang members on attempted murder charges.

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**Medal of Merit**

**Deputy Quyen Vuong**

Serving as a School Resource Officer in Mission Viejo, Deputy Quyen Vuong utilized new media and technology to create and implement several new programs, including “Text-a-Tip” into the Mission Viejo school system. The programs have resulted in numerous positive benefits throughout the community and have been featured in a series of articles in the Orange County Register. Many school districts in Southern California are now inquiring about the programs.

**Medal of Merit**

**Investigator Mike Thompson**

For more than two years, Homicide Investigator Mike Thompson used extraordinary and tenacious investigative skills to substantiate the suspicious disappearance of an Arizona man last seen boarding a boat at the Dana Point Marina. His efforts led to the arrest and conviction of a 47-year-old man for murder. This was only the second “no body” murder conviction in Orange County history.

**Medal of Merit**

**Sergeant David Harrington**

North Patrol Sergeant Dave Harrington helped initiate and implement several new projects that significantly improved officer safety, training, and performance for deputies working in patrol. He utilized the grant process to supply patrol vehicles with rifle racks, updated the antiquated patrol shotguns, equipped patrol with lifesaving trauma kits, and helped create new, standardized briefing and handgun training that increases the safety and knowledge of every deputy in the department.

**Medal of Merit**

**Sergeant John Hollenbeck**

Utilizing exceptionally creative computer and technical skills, Newport Harbor Patrol Sergeant John Hollenbeck, on his own initiative, created a comprehensive mapping and navigation system for the entire Orange County coastline that is now being utilized by many of the agencies responsible for protecting lives and property along the county’s coastal areas and harbors.

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**Medal of Courage and Medal for Lifesaving**

**Deputy Jerry Contreras**

**Medal for Lifesaving**

**Deputy Michael Padilla**

**Deputy Anton Pereyra**

On Tuesday, March 29, 2011, Dana Point Deputy Jerry Contreras and San Juan Capistrano Deputies Michael Padilla and Anton Pereyra responded to a vehicle collision on Pacific Coast Highway near Doheny Park Plaza Road in Dana Point and found a vehicle engulfed in flames with the driver trapped inside. All three deputies used their fire extinguishers to combat the fire and Deputy Contreras climbed inside the front passenger area in a heroic effort to keep the fire off the driver's pinned legs. They were able to keep the flames at bay long enough for the driver to be extracted, saving the driver's life.

**Medal of Courage**

**Senior Deputy Coroner Bradley Olsen**

**Plaque for Courage**

**Tustin Police Officer Tim Carson**

On Saturday, September 24, 2011, while performing a death notification in the city of Tustin, Senior Deputy Coroner Bradley Olsen and Tustin Police Department Officer Tim Carson were confronted by a distraught woman who attempted to kill herself with a large kitchen knife. Disregarding their own safety, Olsen and Carson grappled with the woman and disarmed her without anyone suffering injury.

**Medal of Courage**

**Deputy John Gomez**

**Deputy George Miller**

**Deputy Thom Spratt**

On Tuesday, November 22, 2011, several deputies, including San Juan Capistrano Deputies George Miller and Thom Spratt and Dana Point Deputy John Gomez, responded to a 911 hang-up call at a residence in San Juan Capistrano. Upon arrival, they were confronted with an intoxicated, mentally unstable 23-year-old man with a knife. The man barricaded himself in a bedroom with his mother and refused to let her leave. At great risk to their lives, Deputies Miller, Spratt, and Gomez entered the bedroom, disarmed the man, and rescued the mother.

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### **Distinguished Deputy**

#### **Lieutenant Robert Wren**

During the course of his career, Lieutenant Bob Wren has distinguished himself with his strong work ethic and consistently high standards and is a shining example to his peers at the Orange County Sheriff's Department. One of the continuing themes of Bob's career has been his ability to bring improvements to every duty assignment by analyzing problematic systems and creating innovative solutions. Bob has been a leader in enhancing officer safety at every level he has worked. Because of his leadership and vision, every deputy sheriff who puts on a uniform is safer and better equipped. Throughout his career, Lieutenant Bob Wren has embodied leadership, professionalism, and integrity and is a worthy recipient of this distinguished medal.

### **Medal of Valor**

#### **Investigator Marcus Perez**

On Tuesday, December 13, 2011, Investigator Marcus Perez was driving on El Toro Road near Rockfield Boulevard when he saw a masked, male subject running through a parking lot with a gun. Stuck in traffic and pointed in the opposite direction, Investigator Perez had to negotiate a u-turn to pursue the subject. A radio call came out at the same time stating an AT&T store had just been robbed and a civilian on 911 was following the suspect on foot. Investigator Perez used his knowledge of the area and the information coming over the radio to find the suspect. A confrontation occurred and Investigator Perez shot the suspect. Investigator Perez showed extreme bravery and skill while apprehending an armed and dangerous robber.

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