



TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL

*Medal of Valor*

LUNCHEON 2009

ORANGE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

# THE MEDALS



The Medal of Valor is awarded for conspicuous bravery or heroism above and beyond the normal demands of law enforcement service in response to criminal situations involving extreme danger to the officer.



The Medal of Courage is awarded for the display of bravery or heroism above and beyond the normal demands of law enforcement service in response to a non-criminal situation involving extreme danger or a criminal situation involving danger to a lesser degree than required for the Medal of Valor.



The Medal of Merit is awarded for conspicuous performance of duties, which brings significant status or recognition to the department.



The Medal for Lifesaving is awarded for conspicuous actions while effecting, or attempting to effect, a lifesaving rescue or any other act which, if successful, would be considered lifesaving. This award may be made for actions rendered without danger to the officer.



The Purple Heart Medal is awarded for an officer incurring serious injury or death during exposure to hazardous actions or the apprehension of a suspect.

*"In valor there is hope." - Tacitus*



*Honoring the men and women  
who keep us safe.*



**TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL  
MEDAL OF VALOR  
PRESENTATION LUNCHEON**

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Hyatt Regency Irvine  
Thursday, April 9, 2009  
11:30 a.m.

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# **Program**

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## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Lieutenant Colonel Pete Baumgarten

## **National Anthem**

Mr. Thomas Cummings

## **Invocation**

Reserve Chaplain Sandy Otsuji

## **Introduction**

Joseph D. Carruth, President  
Sheriff's Advisory Council

## **Luncheon**

## **Award Presentation**

Sheriff Sandra Hutchens  
Mr. Ed Arnold

## **Closing Remarks**

Sheriff Sandra Hutchens

## **Singing of "God Bless America"**

Mr. Thomas Cummings

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# Luncheon Menu

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## Salad

### RED & YELLOW BELIGUIN

Baby Arugula, Blue Cheese, Toasted Pecans, Pear Segments  
Citrus Mustard Vinaigrette

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## Entree

### Plated Duet

GRILLED NEW YORK STEAK & ARLENE CHICKEN

in a Demi Glace Sauce

Dauphinoise Potatoes

Green Beans, Asparagus & Roasted Red Peppers

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## SLICED BREAD PRESENTATION

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## Dessert

### CHOCOLATE POTS DE CRÈME

Whipped Cream, Chocolate Shavings & Chocolate Coulis

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Starbuck's Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Herbal Teas  
Iced Tea Available

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# 2009 Medal Recipients

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## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING

Sergeant James Fouste  
Deputy Juan Arciniega  
Deputy Timothy Brown  
Deputy Tim Cullen  
Deputy Mike Danciulescu  
Deputy Carlo Di Ganci  
Deputy Marisella Elmore  
Deputy John Frey  
Deputy John Good  
Deputy Richard Hassett  
Deputy Stephen Hoffman  
Deputy Jason Ito  
Deputy Jason Ivins  
Deputy Cory Martino  
Deputy Lawrence Packard  
Deputy James Peak  
Deputy Matthew Prince  
Deputy Jay Roberts  
Deputy Tracy Sizemore  
Deputy Shane Thomas  
Deputy Scott Watson  
SSO Michael Baker  
SSO Robert Kiefer

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION PLAQUES

CHP Robert Rand  
CHP Michael Stoney  
Oscar Felix  
Paul Hartigan  
Scott Hartigan  
Linda Pierog  
Jeff Rogers



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# 2009 Medal Recipients

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## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**

Investigator Chris Catalano  
Investigator Garrett DeGiorgio  
Deputy Brian Gunsolley  
Deputy Patrick Kinney  
Deputy Gino Rodriquez  
Deputy Mark Wehrli  
SSO Jason McMillion

## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

Lieutenant Gary F. Smith  
Sergeant Kevin Bieker  
Sergeant Daniel Elsner  
Sergeant John Murray  
Investigator Wendy Davis  
Investigator Daniel Salcedo  
Investigator Brian Sims  
Deputy David Beeler  
Jim Amorino  
Ramin Aminloo

## **MEDAL OF VALOR**

Deputy Gary Lewellyn  
Deputy Richard Olszynski



# MISSION STATEMENT

The men and women of the Orange County Sheriff's Department are dedicated to the protection of all we serve. We provide exceptional law enforcement services free from prejudice or favor, with leadership, integrity, and respect.

## Core Values

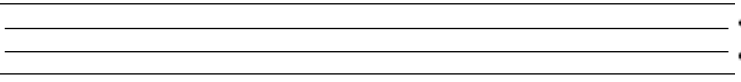
**Integrity** without compromise;

**Service** above self;

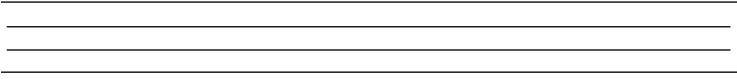
**Professionalism** in the performance of duty;

**Vigilance** in safeguarding our community.

*Orange County Sheriff's Department*



***MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING***



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

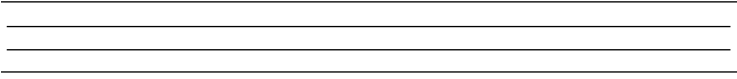


**JUAN C. ARCINIEGA**

Juan was born and raised in Lima, Peru. He attended Colegio Claretiano High School/Secondary School in Lima and graduated in 1982. Juan moved to the United States in 1988. He is continuing his education through Ashford University Online and is working toward a degree in Criminal Justice.

Juan began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1998 when he was hired as a Correctional Service Technician at the Intake and Release Center. Juan promoted to Sheriff's Special Officer and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. In 2002, he graduated as a Deputy Sheriff from the Sheriff's Academy, class #156, and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex, Central Men's Jail, where he continues to work today.

Juan lives in the city of Orange with Julie, his wife of 21 years, and their children; Jennifer, age 21; Alexander, age 18 and Kyle, age 16. Juan enjoys relaxing at home with his family.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**



### **CARLO DI GANCI**

Carlo was born in the Bronx, New York, but grew up in Mission Viejo after his family moved to California. He attended Aliso Niguel High School and graduated in 1996. After graduation, Carlo enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served as an aviation ordnance specialist and was stationed in Beaufort, South Carolina and Iwakuni, Japan. He completed his military service as a sergeant.

Carlo joined the Sheriff's Department in 2002 as a Deputy Sheriff Trainee and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. He has received a commendation for stopping an assault on an inmate and identifying the assailants and another commendation for his professional conduct when confronted by an agitated inmate. In 2007, Carlo received the Medal for Lifesaving.

Carlo lives in Riverside with his wife, Amber, and their three children, Colin, age 11; Abigail, age two and their newest addition, four-month-old Carson. In his spare time, Carlo enjoys restoring classic automobiles and spending time with his family.



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**DEPUTY JUAN C. ARCINIEGA**  
**DEPUTY CARLO DI GANCI**

**Saved the life of a Cardiac Arrest Victim**

Early on Sunday morning, March 2, 2008, Deputy Juan Arciniega and Deputy Carlo Di Ganci were working their assigned positions at the Central Men's Jail when inmates in a housing cell began yelling "man down"; a term that means someone is unconscious or has collapsed. Several deputies responded to the area and quickly moved the man out of the small, restricted space of the cell and laid him down in the corridor.

Deputies Arciniega and Di Ganci arrived and immediately began assessing the 26-year-old inmate's condition. When Deputy Di Ganci discovered that the man had no pulse and was not breathing; he and Deputy Arciniega began Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). A few minutes later medical personnel arrived with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and took over CPR. After two cycles were administered the man's heart began to beat. The victim was transported to the hospital by fire department personnel and was expected to survive.

The nurse at the hospital expressed her appreciation to the deputies for their lifesaving efforts. The fast response and immediate actions of Deputy Arciniega and Deputy Di Ganci, along with the advanced treatment by the medical staff, saved the man's life.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**



### **MICHAEL A. BAKER**

Michael was born in Burbank, California and raised in Cypress, graduating from John F. Kennedy High School in La Palma in 1977. Michael attended Capernwray Bible College in Carnforth, England in 1978 and 1979. When he returned to America, Michael worked several jobs, including a stint at Knott's Berry Farm, before settling into the security field.

Michael joined the Sheriff's Department in 1991 as a Special Officer at the Central Justice Center. He has also worked periodically at the North Justice Center and is currently assigned to the Central Court. Michael received a Lifesaving Medal in 2008.

Michael lives in Corona with his wife Debbie and has four children, Brandon, age 25; Candace, age 23; Geoff, age 22 and Ed, age 19. Michael and Debbie operate their own internet travel agency and Michael enjoys hanging out on the beach at Maui whenever he can.





## PLAQUE

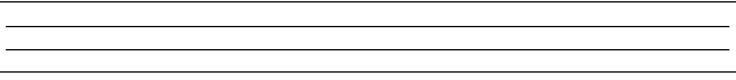


### **OSCAR G. FELIX JR.**

Oscar was born in Mexico but grew up in the city of Orange, California. He attended Orange High School and graduated in 1981. After high school, Oscar worked as an ambulance driver and attendant, and became an emergency medical technician. He also enrolled at Santa Ana Community College, earning an Associate of Arts degree in Nursing in 1985.

Oscar currently works as a licensed vocational nurse for Maxim Health Care Registry. He has been working with terminally ill patients for the last five years.

Oscar lives in the city of Orange. His hobbies include drawing, painting, cooking, and dancing. He enjoys listening to classical music and traveling.



## PLAQUE

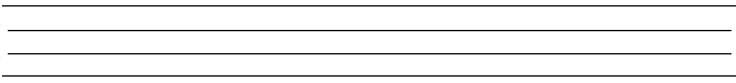


### LINDA J. PIEROG

Linda was born on March Air Force Base in Riverside, California, but grew up in New Mexico, California, Washington, Maryland, and Texas. She graduated from Frederick High School in Frederick, Maryland in 1970 and ended up back in California to attend Cal State Long Beach. Linda is a self-described “perpetual student”. After earning her Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing, she attained a Master’s Degree in Business from Pepperdine University and a Master’s Degree in Nursing from St. Louis University.

Linda is an emergency department nurse practitioner at St. Joseph’s Hospital and CHOC. She is the practice manager for the physicians of the third busiest emergency department in California. She has been teaching CPR to hospital staff, physicians, and civilians since 1976 and continues as a member of the American Heart Association Affiliate Faculty.

Linda lives in Monarch Beach with her husband, Dr. James Pierog. They have been married for 35 years and have two children; Margaux Pierog and Dr. Jessica Pierog. She relaxes by exercising, reading, and playing golf.



**SHERIFF'S SPECIAL OFFICER MICHAEL A. BAKER  
MR. OSCAR G. FELIX JR.  
MRS. LINDA J. PIEROG**

**Saved the life of a Cardiac Arrest Victim**

During the mid-morning hours on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, Sheriff's Special Officer Michael Baker was working at the Security Desk of the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana. A call was received advising that one of the jurors in the juror assembly room needed medical assistance. SSO Baker responded immediately with an Ambu-bag and an AED.

When he arrived, he found Oscar Felix and Linda Pierog, both off-duty nurses were already administering CPR to the 47-year-old subject. After a quick assessment confirmed the man had no pulse and was still not breathing, SSO Baker deployed the AED, administering one shock cycle to the victim. The man immediately regained consciousness. When fire personnel arrived they transported the victim to the hospital where he was expected to make a full recovery.

The quick, effective response and immediate lifesaving actions of SSO Baker, Mr. Felix, and Mrs. Pierog saved the man's life.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

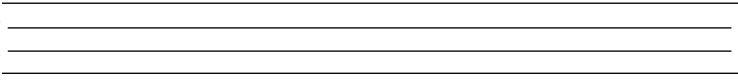


### **TIMOTHY D. CULLEN**

Tim was born and raised in Orange County. In 1984, he graduated from Katella High School in Anaheim. After graduating from high school, Tim enlisted in the United States Army and served as a medic, attaining the rank of corporal. He was stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Pusan, Korea, and Fort Irwin, California. Tim is currently working toward a degree in Criminal Justice through Ashford University.

Tim joined the Sheriff's Department in 1989 and was assigned to the Musick Facility after completing the Sheriff's Academy. In 1994, he transferred to the Central Jail Complex and worked at both the Central Men's Jail and the Intake/Release Center. Tim transferred to the South Operations Division in 1997 and later worked on the jail expansion project at the Lacy Facility. In 2002, he moved to the West Operations Division and the city of Stanton. Tim is a Field Training Officer and is currently working on the Stanton Directed Enforcement Team. Tim was awarded the Medal of Courage and the Medal for Lifesaving in 2006 by OCSO. He also received the Red Cross "Bravo for Bravery" award and the Orange County Fire Authority's "Highest Award for Bravery".

Tim resides in Placentia with his wife, Tracey, and their children, Ian, age 20; Ryan, age 13; Madison, age 10 and Bailey-Drew, age nine. Tim likes watching and coaching his kids in sports and going to the movies. He studies classical viola and likes woodworking and surfing. Tim also holds a black belt in Tae Kwon Do.



## **DEPUTY TIMOTHY D. CULLEN**

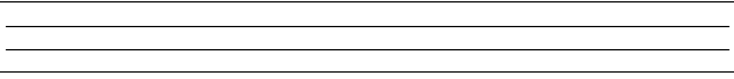
### **Saved the life of an Overdose Victim**

In the early afternoon on Monday, April 21, 2008, Deputy Tim Cullen and his trainee, Deputy Justin Mathieson, were working patrol in the city of Stanton. They were dispatched to a report of a possible overdose victim who was found in the restroom of a fast food restaurant. When they arrived, they found a 21-year-old male subject lying unconscious on the floor of the restroom.

Deputy Cullen immediately conducted an assessment on the victim and discovered he was not breathing. He repositioned the man's head to open his airway, but the man still did not start breathing. Deputy Cullen used his Ambu Rescue mask and administered several breaths to the victim, eventually enabling the man to begin breathing on his own.

Fire department personnel arrived and administered advanced lifesaving treatment. The victim was stabilized and transported to a nearby hospital where he recovered from his condition.

Paramedics at the scene said the man would have died had Deputy Cullen not acted immediately to restore the man's breathing. The timely and effective efforts of Deputy Cullen saved the man's life.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

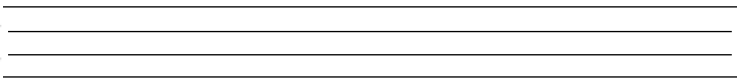


**JASON G. ITO**

Jason was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Monterey Park, California. He attended Alhambra High School and graduated in 1983. Jason then enrolled at the California State University of Los Angeles, attaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science in 1988. Jason worked as a software designer for Hughes Aircraft and Syseca Inc. until 1995 and also worked for a jewelry manufacturing company.

Jason joined the Sheriff's Department in 1998 and was assigned to the Lacy Facility after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. After a temporary assignment in Professional Standards in 2001-2002, Jason returned to the Lacy Facility until transferring to South Operations in 2005. Jason works in the city of Rancho Santa Margarita where he is currently assigned as the School Resource Officer. He was awarded a Gold Star in 2001.

Jason currently lives in the city of Brea. His hobbies include cooking and working out.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

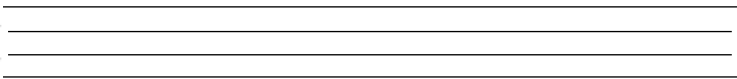


**JAMES A. PEAK**

James was born in Orange, California but grew up in Spokane, Washington. He went to North Central High School in Spokane and graduated in 1989. After high school James eventually moved back to California and took his first full-time job, joining the Sheriff's Department in 1993. He enrolled at the California State University of Fullerton in 1996 and graduated in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science.

James' first assignment with the Sheriff's Department was at the Lacy Facility and included temporary assignments at John Wayne Airport and Sheriff's Transportation. He transferred to North Patrol in 2003 and then moved to South Operations in 2005, where he was assigned to patrol in the city of Rancho Santa Margarita. In 2006 and 2007, James worked a special assignment in the Terrorism Early Warning Group before returning to Rancho Santa Margarita.

James resides in RSM with his wife, Deirdre, and their children, Ashley, age 22; Kara, age 11; and Sara, age seven. His main hobbies include working with computers and watching and playing hockey. He also enjoys relaxing at home with his family.



**DEPUTY JASON G. ITO**  
**DEPUTY JAMES A. PEAK**

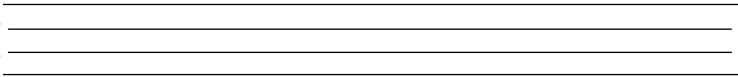
**Saved the life of a Cardiac Arrest Victim**

On Friday, April 25, 2008, Deputy Jason Ito and Deputy James Peak were patrolling the city of Rancho Santa Margarita in the early morning hours of their midnight shifts when they received a call of a woman not breathing. Both deputies responded quickly and were the first emergency personnel to arrive on scene. They found the 57-year-old woman in her bedroom, lying unconscious in bed.

Deputies Ito and Peak immediately assessed the woman's condition and discovered she was not breathing and had no pulse. Deputy Peak quickly deployed an AED and administered one shock. Deputy Ito then began CPR and continued until Fire Department personnel arrived and started advanced medical treatment. As her condition stabilized, she was taken to the hospital for additional treatment and was expected to survive.

A paramedic told the deputies' supervisor that they did a great job providing lifesaving efforts. The quick, immediate response and efficient first-aid provided by Deputy Ito and Deputy Peak helped save the woman's life.





## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

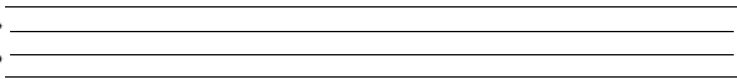


**SHANE W. THOMAS**

Shane was born in Bedford, Indiana but grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he attended Doherty High School. He graduated in 1992 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was stationed in Washington D.C., where he served at Camp David and was part of the Presidential Guard, and in Twenty-nine Palms, California. Shane attained the rank of corporal during his four years of service.

Shane joined the Sheriff's Department in 2000 as a Deputy Sheriff Trainee and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex, Intake/Release Center after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. In 2002, Shane was awarded a Medal for Lifesaving. Shane is currently assigned to the Intake/Release Center.

Shane lives in Lake Elsinore with his wife, Michele, and their three children, Kylee, age 11; Colby, age seven and Travis, age four. Shane enjoys hiking, dirt biking, and camping with his family.



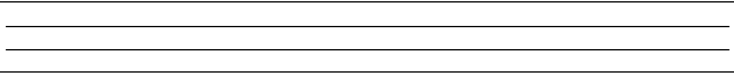
**DEPUTY SHANE W. THOMAS**  
**MR. JEFFERY L. ROGERS**

**Saved the life of a Cardiac Arrest Victim**

Late in the morning on Saturday, July 5, 2008, Deputy Shane Thomas of the Central Jail Complex, Intake/Release Center was eating brunch with his uncle, Jeff Rogers and their families in the city of Lake Elsinore. Suddenly, a woman at an adjacent table collapsed to the floor. Deputy Thomas and Mr. Rogers, a registered nurse, reacted immediately and rushed to the aid of the 44-year-old victim.

After quickly assessing the woman's condition and discovering that she was not breathing and had no pulse, Deputy Thomas and Mr. Rogers began administering CPR to the victim. They continued CPR for over five minutes until fire department personnel arrived and started advanced life support treatment. The woman was taken to the hospital for additional treatment and eventually recovered from her cardiac episode.

The Riverside County Fire Chief commended Deputy Thomas and Mr. Rogers for the lifesaving measures they provided to the victim. The victim's father called the Sheriff's Department to commend the two heroes, stating that they were "guardian angels sent from above." He added that had Deputy Thomas and Mr. Rogers not come to the rescue, his daughter would be dead. The immediate and assertive response of Deputy Thomas and RN Rogers saved the woman's life.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

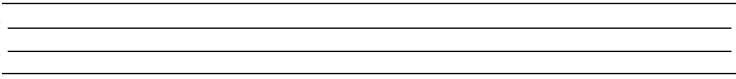


### **ROBERT H. KIEFER**

Bob was born in Tonopah, Nevada, but grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he graduated from Washburn High School in 1963. Bob enrolled in the University of Minnesota and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism in 1967. He worked in advertising and marketing, owned and operated a veterinary dermatological manufacturing company, and worked as a sales and marketing executive for a large real estate company. In 1990, Bob opened his own consulting firm for residential real estate developers and construction lenders.

In 1999, Bob began a career with the Orange County Marshal's Department and became a Sheriff's Special Officer when the Marshal's Department merged with the Orange County Sheriff's Department later that year. He worked as a Detention Officer and Bailiff in South Court until transferring to Harbor Court last year. Since 2004 Bob has also been a Life Saving /AED instructor for the Sheriff's Department.

Bob lives in San Juan Capistrano with Nancy, his wife of 42 years. They have three children and six grandchildren. Bob loves the ocean and is an avid surfer. He won bronze medals at the 2000 and 2002 Police & Fire Olympics. He also likes to ski, scuba dive, and go on cruises.



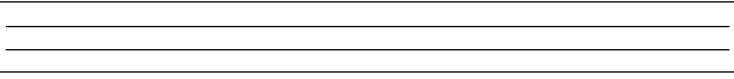
## **SHERIFF'S SPECIAL OFFICER ROBERT H. KIEFER**

### **Saved the life of a Victim of a Seizure**

Just after twelve o'clock on Sunday, August 24, 2008, Sheriff's Special Officer Bob Kiefer of the Harbor Justice Center was standing in the checkout line at a grocery store in the city of San Juan Capistrano when he heard a commotion. He turned and saw a 49-year-old man thrashing about on the floor, apparently having a seizure. SSO Kiefer ran to the man's side to see if he could help and directed another bystander to call 911.

To prevent the man from injuring himself, SSO Kiefer carefully held the man's head and arms as the seizure continued. He periodically assessed the man's breathing to make sure the victim's airway was not obstructed while another bystander assisted him with restraining the man. After about a minute, the convulsions subsided and SSO Kiefer conducted a quick assessment. The man's pulse was weak and rapid, he was drooling profusely, and his breathing was becoming more and more shallow. After another minute passed, SSO Kiefer was unable to find a pulse and the man had stopped breathing.

SSO Kiefer immediately began CPR. After three cycles were administered, the victim regained a pulse and breathing but he started to convulse again. SSO Kiefer continued to hold the man for a few more moments until fire department personnel arrived and began advanced medical treatment. The victim was transported to the hospital for further treatment and released later that evening. The immediate and effective response of Sheriff's Special Officer Kiefer was instrumental in saving the man's life.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**



### **JAY C. "JC" ROBERTS**

JC was born in Portland, Oregon and grew up in Bend, Oregon. He attended Bend High School and graduated in 1977. JC enrolled at Southern Oregon University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology and Psychology in 1983. During his college years, JC worked as a truck driver and a logger. He was also an assistant coach for the Central Oregon Community College wrestling team.

JC started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1983 and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. He also worked at the Lacy Facility for a short time before transferring to South Operations in 1986, working in all of the unincorporated communities before they incorporated into cities. JC transferred to Harbor Patrol in 1989 and still works there today. He has been a member of the Underwater Search and Recovery Team for almost twenty years and was also a member of the Mounted Unit from 1985 to 1987. JC is a licensed U.S.C.G. certified 100 ton vessel captain, an FBI certified Underwater Post Blast Investigator, and an AED/CPR Instructor.

JC lives in Riverside with his wife, Laurie Lynn, and a household of dogs, cats, and horses. JC loves the outdoors. He enjoys spending his free time with his wife, going hunting and camping, working with animals, and competing in rodeos.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

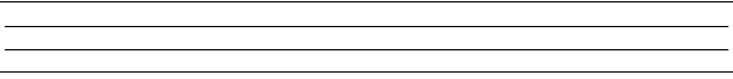


### **TRACY SIZEMORE**

Tracy was born in Long Beach, California and grew up down the coast in South Laguna. He graduated from Laguna Beach High School in 1967 and worked as a Laguna Beach Lifeguard for five years. Tracy enrolled at Southern Utah University in 1969 and also joined the Air Force ROTC that same year. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History while serving as a para-rescue specialist and attained the rank of lieutenant in his five years of service.

Tracy was the co-director of the Goldmine Ski School, now part of the Bear Mountain Ski Resort and also worked for the San Clemente Lifeguard Department. In 1981, he became a Police Officer for the city of San Clemente and became a member of the Sheriff's Department when OCSA assumed police services for San Clemente in 1993. In 1994, Tracy transferred to Harbor Patrol and has been enjoying working the harbors ever since.

Tracy lives in San Clemente with Michaela, his wife of 27 years. He has three sons; Teague, age 23; Seaver, age 21 and Kaelan, age 20. Tracy loves to spend his free time in the water, surfing, boogie-boarding, and scuba diving. He also volunteers with the Snow Valley Ski Resort Ski Patrol. Tracy has won multiple gold medals in the Police Olympics for surfing on both long and short boards and boogie-boarding.



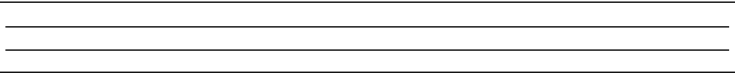
**DEPUTY J.C. ROBERTS  
DEPUTY TRACY SIZEMORE**

**Saved the life of a Near-Drowning Victim**

On the afternoon of Friday, October 3, 2008, Deputy J.C. Roberts and Deputy Tracy Sizemore were working their regular shifts at Harbor Patrol in the Newport Beach Harbor. They were dispatched to a report of a fisherman in the water off of Cameo Shores, about one mile south of the harbor entrance. They responded to the scene “Code 3” with lights and siren, in Orange County Rescue Fireboat #2.

The deputies, with the assistance of Newport Beach Police Department helicopter “Eagle”, located the 23-year-old victim floating face down in the water approximately 20 yards offshore from the rocky cliffs from which he had fallen. Despite the choppy surf, Deputy Sizemore was able to maneuver the fireboat within three feet of the victim. He and Deputy Roberts pulled the unconscious fisherman from the cold ocean water and immediately began assessing his condition. The victim was not breathing and had no pulse. Deputy Sizemore set up the oxygen tank and then quickly piloted the boat back to the emergency dock while Deputy Roberts deftly administered CPR on the moving boat.

By the time they reached the dock, the victim had regained a pulse and was breathing on his own. The man was transported to the hospital and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit where he was expected to survive. The extraordinary rescue efforts and lifesaving first-aid provided by Deputy Roberts and Deputy Sizemore saved the young man’s life.

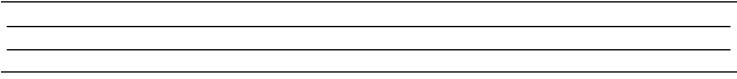


***MEDAL OF COURAGE***



***MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING***





## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

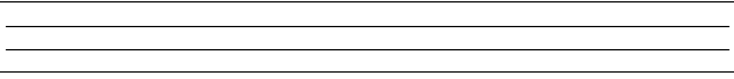


### **JAMES FOUSTE**

Jim was born in Santa Ana, California and grew up in nearby Irvine. He attended Woodbridge High School and graduated in 1985. Soon after, Jim enrolled at the University of California, Irvine, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1992.

Jim began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1993 and was assigned to the Intake/Release Center after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. In 1995 Jim was selected to work in the Classification Unit at the IRC. In 2000 he transferred to South Operations and was assigned to patrol in the city of San Juan Capistrano. Jim promoted to Sergeant in 2003 and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. He transferred back to South Operations in 2005 and currently is a patrol supervisor in the city of Laguna Niguel.

Jim lives in Trabuco Canyon with his wife, Monica, and has three children: Jenna, age ten; James, age five and six-month-old Mason. Jim likes to spend his free time with his family. He stays in shape by practicing the martial art of Brazilian jiu jitsu.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

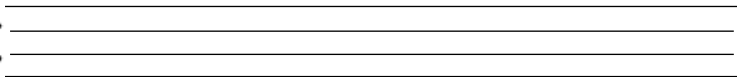


### **TIMOTHY D. BROWN**

Tim was born in Whittier, California and grew up in Azusa. He attended Western Christian High School in Covina and graduated in 1988. Tim enlisted in the United States Navy after high school and served for three years as a boatswains' mate on the USS Missouri. In 1991, he enrolled at Azusa Pacific University and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. Before joining the law enforcement family, Tim worked in construction and was a sixth grade Language Arts Teacher.

Tim started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1998 as a Sheriff's Special Officer and worked at both the Intake/Release Center and the Central Men's Jail. He attended the Sheriff's Academy in 1999 and graduated as a Deputy Sheriff in Class #143. Tim was assigned to the Lacy Facility after completing the academy. He transferred to South Operations in early 2008 and is currently assigned as a patrol deputy in the city of Mission Viejo.

Tim lives in Moreno Valley with Tabitha, his wife of 13 years, and their children; Abigail, age seven; and Aidan, age three. For relaxation, Tim enjoys traveling and reading.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

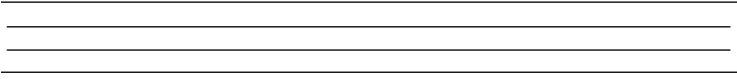


### **MIHAIL C. “Mike” DANCIULESCU**

“Mike” was born and raised in Bucharest, Romania. He attended the Caragiale Institute of Learning and graduated in 1988. Mike enlisted in the Romanian army in 1989 and attained the rank of sergeant during his 18 months of service. Since moving to America, Mike has attended classes at Irvine Valley College and is working toward a degree in criminal justice.

Mike began his Sheriff’s Department career in 1991 working in the Commissary Unit. He became a Correctional Services Officer in 1992 before attending the Sheriff’s Academy in 1996. After graduating as a Deputy Sheriff, Mike was assigned to the Lacy Facility. In 2002, Mike transferred to North Patrol and then made his way to South Operations in 2003 where he was assigned to the city of San Clemente. He transferred to the city of Mission Viejo in 2006 and, after completing Motor Training School, became a Motor Officer in Mission Viejo where he is currently assigned. Mike has received a “Gold Star” quarterly award and a “503” award for recovering stolen vehicles.

Mike lives in Norco with his wife, Camille. He likes to spend his time relaxing with his family and enjoys watching and playing soccer.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

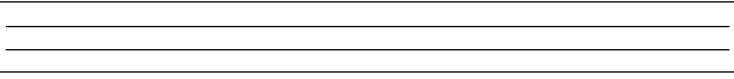


**JOHN R. FREY**

John was born and raised in the state of Pennsylvania and graduated from high school in 1975. After high school John decided to enlist in the United States Marine Corp. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton, Quantico, Virginia, and Okinawa and also served on the USS Blue Ridge, USS Coral Sea, and the USS Barbour County. John attained the rank of sergeant during his eight years of service.

John joined the Sheriff's Department in 1986 and graduated from the Sheriff's Academy as a member of Class #74. He was assigned to the Musick facility and worked there until transferring to South Operations in 1990, where he was assigned to the city of Dana Point. John is currently assigned as a Patrol Deputy in the city of Laguna Woods.

John lives in Southern California with his wife and two children. He particularly enjoys spending time with his family and sharing in his kid's activities. John's hobbies include photography and gardening.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

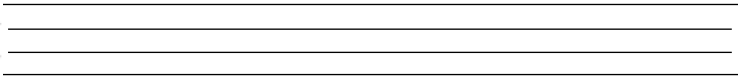


### **MATTHEW D. PRINCE**

Matt was born in Chico, California and attended Quincy High School, graduating in 1983. After graduating from high school, Matt enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was stationed in Washington D.C. as part of the Presidential Honor Guard, Camp Pendleton, and various other locations in the United States. During his eight years in the military, Matt advanced to the rank of sergeant and participated in the liberation of Kuwait.

Matt began his law enforcement career with the Sheriff's Department in 1993. After graduating from the Sheriff's Basic Academy he was assigned to the Lacy Facility. In 2000 Matt was transferred to the South Operations Division and assigned to the city of Laguna Niguel. In 2004 he was the Laguna Niguel "Deputy of the Year" and in 2005 he was selected to be a member of the Directed Enforcement Team. Matt is a Field Training Officer and serves as the Terrorism Liaison Officer for Laguna Niguel. He is also a member of the Critical Incident Response Team and Bicycle Patrol Team. Matt received the Medal for Lifesaving in 2007.

Matt lives in Diamond Bar with Tina, his wife of 14 years, and their three children, Hayley, age 13; Hannah, age ten and Thomas, age four. Matt's hobbies include mountain climbing, hiking, and snowmobile riding. He enjoys family trips and participates in Polynesian cultural events in which his daughter dances.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

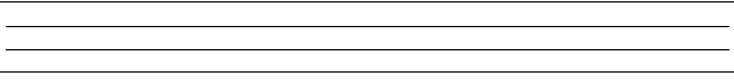


### **SCOTT C. WATSON**

Scott was born in Canoga Park, California and grew up in the city of Upland. He attended Upland High School and graduated in 1986. After high school Scott attended Chaffey College and worked as a police reserve in the city of Ontario.

Scott began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1999. After graduating from the Sheriff's Academy he was assigned to the Lacy Facility. In 2007, Scott completed a 60-day temporary assignment on patrol in the city of San Juan Capistrano and was then transferred to South Operations. He is currently a patrol deputy in the city of Laguna Hills.

Scott lives in Lake Elsinore with Susan, his wife of ten years and their eight-year-old twins, Mark and Megan. Scott also has three older children; Jeremy, age 23; Justin age 20 and Jamie, age 19. When he is not busy having fun with his family, Scott enjoys motorcycle riding and traveling.



## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**



### **BRIAN D. GUNSOLLEY**

Brian was born in Santa Monica, California and grew up in the city of Goleta, California. He attended Dos Pueblos High School and graduated in 1989. Brian worked as a phlebotomist for the Santa Barbara Cancer Foundation from 1990 to 1993, and then enrolled at the University of California, Los Angeles in 1993. He worked for the UCLA Police Department as a community service officer while he attended classes. He graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. Brian was a department manager for Long's Drug Store in Brentwood from 1997 to 1999.

Brian began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1999 and was assigned to the Intake/Release Center after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. Brian was eventually selected to work in Classification; Special Handling/Gangs. He was a Central Jail Complex "Employee of the Month" in 2004 and received a Gold Star quarterly award in 2006. Brian transferred to patrol in 2007 and was assigned to South Operations. He currently works in the city of Laguna Hills and he received a commendation from the Orange County Board of Supervisors in 2008.

Brian lives in Lake Elsinore with Dena, his wife of 12 years, and their children, Nolan, age 11 and Kaitlin, age seven. He enjoys spending time with his family and likes to go camping and hiking.



## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**



### **MARK WEHRLI**

Mark was born and raised in Long Beach, California and attended Pacifica High School in the city of Garden Grove. He graduated in 1981 and shortly thereafter began working at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, eventually earning a promotion to shift supervisor.

Mark began his career in law enforcement when he was hired by the Orange County Marshal's Department in 1988. After spending two years at the West Justice Center, Mark became an Investigator in the Warrant Service Detail and became a Deputy Sheriff in the 2000 merger between the Sheriff's Department and the Marshal's Department. In 2002, Mark transferred to the Central Men's Jail. He stayed there for six years before transferring to the Lacy Facility in 2008. Mark promoted to Deputy II in November of 2008 and is currently completing his Bachelor's degree in criminal justice at California State University, Fullerton.

Mark lives in Norco with his wife Diana, and their children; Kimberly, age 18; Mikaela, age 13; and Hayden, age seven. He enjoys watching baseball and hockey and is an accomplished bowler. Mark has been a member of the Professional Bowler's Association since 2006.





## PLAQUE



### **CHP OFFICER ROBERT S. RAND**

Robert was born in Santa Monica, California but grew up in Coronado, California. He attended Coronado High School and graduated in 1982. Robert enrolled at San Diego State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Industrial Technology in 1989. While he was in school, Robert worked for the Coronado Beach Lifeguard Service and Corsair Marine, a sailboat manufacturing company. He left the lifeguards as a sergeant after 13 years.

Robert began his career with the California Highway Patrol in 1996 and has been assigned to the Capistrano station since graduating from the CHP Academy. He received an American Legion Award for Valor in 2002 and was the Orange County Auto Theft Advisory Committee "Officer of the Year" in 2004 and 2005.

Robert lives in San Clemente and spends his spare time on his fishing boat, plying the coastline for fishing and diving opportunities.



**SERGEANT JAMES FOUSTE  
DEPUTY TIMOTHY BROWN  
DEPUTY MIKE DANCIULESCU  
DEPUTY JOHN FREY  
DEPUTY MATTHEW PRINCE  
DEPUTY SCOTT WATSON  
DEPUTY BRIAN GUNSOLLEY  
DEPUTY MARK WEHRLI  
CHP OFFICER ROBERT RAND**

### **Rescued a Suicidal Woman from a Freeway Overpass**

Late in the afternoon on Sunday, August 10, 2008, in the city of Laguna Hills, a despondent 22-year-old woman climbed out onto the ledge of the Alicia Parkway freeway overpass on the outside of the protective fencing with the intent of ending her own life. Laguna Hills Deputies Brian Gunsolley and Scott Watson, Laguna Niguel Deputies Matt Prince and Mark Wehrli, Mission Viejo Deputies Tim Brown and Mike Danciulescu, Laguna Woods Deputy John Frey, Laguna Niguel Sergeant Jim Fousté, and California Highway Patrol Officer Robert Rand responded to the scene.

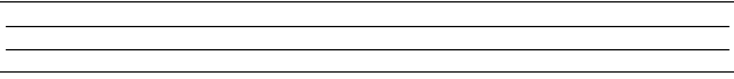
Deputy Gunsolley arrived first and was talking to the woman while holding onto her fingers through the fence to prevent her from releasing her grip. When Deputies Prince and Wehrli and Officer Rand arrived, the woman straightened her arms and appeared to be preparing to jump. Deputy Wehrli and Officer Rand, without regard for their own safety, went to the end of the safety fencing, climbed onto the ledge and inched their way out to the woman. As they grabbed hold of the woman's right arm, she let go of the fence and kicked her legs off the ledge. As Deputy Wehrli and Officer Rand struggled to hold onto the dangling woman, Deputy Gunsolley courageously climbed over the fence and grabbed onto the woman. Together, they managed to support the woman's weight and keep her from falling.

As this was happening, Deputies Brown, Danciulescu, Frey, Watson and Sergeant Fousté had arrived on scene and were standing by to assist. When the woman released her grip and attempted to fall, they all went into action, climbing the fence and grabbing onto their comrades who were perilously close to being pulled from the ledge by the suicidal woman.

As these peace officers held on with all their strength, Deputy Prince was coordinating with the fire department to get a ladder truck underneath the overpass. While the woman tried to break free from the grasp of the men who were trying to save her life, Deputy Prince rode up to them in the basket ladder and was able to grab onto and restrain the subject. After

getting her into the basket, Deputy Prince assisted the exhausted officers onto the ladder and the fire department moved them all to safety.

The courageous actions of Deputies Gunsolley, Wehli, and Officer Rand and the coordinated lifesaving efforts of Sergeant Foust and Deputies Brown, Danciulescu, Frey, Prince, and Watson prevented the woman from taking her own life.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

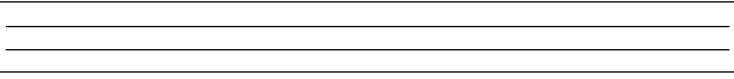


### **MARISELA “Lollie” ELMORE**

“Lollie” was born in Los Angeles, California and grew-up in nearby West Covina, She attended Charter Oaks High School and graduated in 1992. After graduating from high school she attended Mount San Antonio College where she began working on a degree in criminal justice.

Lollie joined the Sheriff’s Department in 1995. After graduating from the Sheriff’s Academy she was assigned to the Central Women’s Jail where she was selected as a Training Officer in the jail. In 2001 she transferred to the North Justice Center and in 2004 she moved over to the Lamoreaux Justice Center. Lollie returned to the Central Women’s Jail briefly before transferring to the South Operations Division in 2006. Lollie is assigned to the city of Dana Point. She was awarded the Medal of Valor in 2007.

Lollie lives in Corona with her two children, Jacob, age five and Lucas, age three. Lollie loves spending time with her family and enjoys spending her spare time going shopping.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

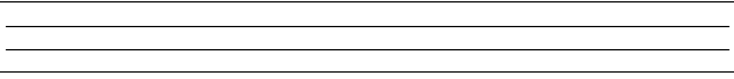


### **JOHN M. GOOD**

John was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Temple City. He graduated from Temple City High School in 1985 and enrolled at Pasadena City College. John worked at Alpha Beta from 1983 to 1994 while going to college and attained an Associate of Science degree in Psychology in 1990.

John started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1994 and was assigned to the Lacy Facility after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. He transferred to South Operations in 2001 and was assigned to patrol in the city of Dana Point. John was awarded a Dana Point Meritorious award in 2005 and worked on the Special Enforcement Team in 2006 and 2007. He was named Dana Point 'Deputy of the Year' in 2007. John currently serves as the School Resource Officer in Dana Point.

John currently lives in south Orange County with Alison, his wife of 16 years, and their two children, Adam and Megan. John loves to travel and take vacations with his family. He also enjoys spending time playing soccer with his kids.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

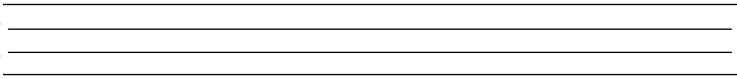


### **RICHARD HASSETT**

Rick was born in Inglewood, California and grew up in the city of Santa Ana. He attended Saddleback High School and graduated in 1977. Rick enrolled at Santa Ana College and worked in several different occupations before deciding on a career in law enforcement.

Rick joined the Sheriff's Department in 1986 and was assigned to the Lacy Facility after graduating from the academy. He transferred to the Intake / Release Center in 1988 as one of the initial staff members of the new facility. In 1990 Rick transferred to the Musick Facility to round out the Custody phase of his career. Rick transferred to patrol in South Operations in 1991 and was assigned to the city of San Juan Capistrano. In 1993 he transferred to the city of Dana Point, where he continues to work today. Rick is a Field Training Officer and was named Dana Point's "Deputy of the Year" in 1997.

Rick lives in Mission Viejo with Marguerite, his wife of 26 years. He has two children; Meghan, age 24 and Mary, age 21. Rick enjoys jet-skiing for relaxation and has two pet pit-bulls.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**



### **STEVEN J. HOFFMAN**

Steve was born and raised in the city of Saint Johns, Michigan. He attended St. Johns High School and graduated in 1989. Steve enlisted in the United States Marine Corp shortly after high school and served as an anti-armor specialist at stations in California, Georgia, Okinawa, and Somalia. He attained the rank of sergeant during his four years of service from 1989 to 1993.

Steve started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1993 and was assigned to the Musick Facility after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. In 1999, Steve transferred to the Lacy Facility and in 2001 he transferred to patrol in South Operations and the city of Dana Point. Steve has earned three MADD "Duece" awards and received a commendation from the city of Dana Point in 2005. Steve is a Field Training Officer and was named Dana Point "Deputy of the Year" in 2003 and 2008.

Steve lives in Mission Viejo with Karen, his wife of 15 years, and their children, Shawn, age eight and Natalie, age six. He likes the outdoors and enjoys going deer hunting as often as possible.



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



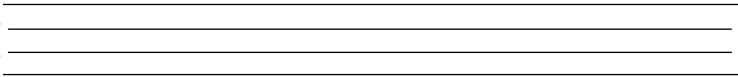
**JASON R. IVINS**

Jason was born in Lompoc, California and grew up in Irvine. He attended Woodbridge High School in Irvine and graduated in 1988. Jason enrolled at the University of California, Irvine in 1990 and graduated in 1993 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. Jason worked as an assistant manager at Von's and at Two Wheel Performance, a mountain bike components and racing store.

Jason began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1999. After graduating from the Sheriff's Academy he was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. In early 2007 Jason was able to work a 60-day rotational assignment in the city of Rancho Santa Margarita before transferring to South Operations. Jason completed his patrol training and is currently assigned to the city of San Juan Capistrano. He received a Divisional Commendation in 2008 for a Critical Incident Response Team call that involved a suicidal subject.

Jason lives in San Clemente with Linda, his wife of 15 years, and their children Morgan, age four; and Sean, age one. Jason is an avid surfer, mountain biker, and motocross rider. He enjoys spending his free time at the beach with his family.





## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

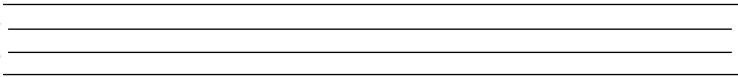


### **CORY MARTINO**

Cory was born in Orange, California and raised in the city of Santa Ana. He attended Century High School in Santa Ana and graduated in 1996. Cory enrolled in college at Chapman University and graduated in 2000 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology.

Cory began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 2000. After completing the Sheriff's Academy he was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. He continued his education while serving his time in Custody Operations and attained his Master's Degree in Human Resource Management from Ashworth University. Cory transferred to South Operations in 2008 and is currently assigned to the city of San Juan Capistrano. He has received Departmental Commendations in 2002, 2008, and 2009.

Cory lives in Anaheim Hills with his wife Lindsay and their children; Gavin, age six; and Gianna, age two. Cory likes to spend his spare time relaxing with his family and friends.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

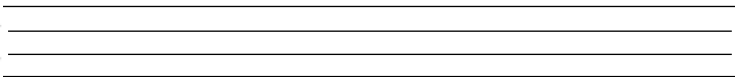


### **LAWRENCE D. PACKARD**

Larry was born in Santa Ana, California. His family later moved to Dana Point and he graduated from Dana Hills High School in 1979. He is currently attending Saddleback College, majoring in administration of justice. Prior to working with the Sheriff's Department, Larry was a photographer, a manager for a photography retail store, and a ship's captain.

Larry started his Sheriff's Department career in 1986 volunteering his time as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff. In 1990 he attended and graduated from the Sheriff's Academy as a Deputy Sheriff and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Men's Jail. He also worked at the Lacy and Musick Facilities before transferring to South Operations and the city of Aliso Viejo in 1997. In 2001, Larry graduated from the Motor Officer's Training Academy and became a Motor Officer in the city of Dana Point, where he continues to work today. Larry is a member of the Sheriff's Action Pistol Team and Large Bore Rifle Team. He participates on the Sheriff's Department Police Olympics Shooting Team and has received seven medals. Larry is also on the Sheriff's Department Dive Team. Larry was awarded the Medal for Lifesaving in 2001 and the Medal of Courage in 2002.

Larry lives in Mission Viejo with his wife, Jill and their two children, Lauren, age 20 and David, age 17. In his free time Larry enjoys water skiing and vacationing on a houseboat with family and friends. He has been active in the Boy Scouts of America as a Scoutmaster and both of his kids are registered scouts.



## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**

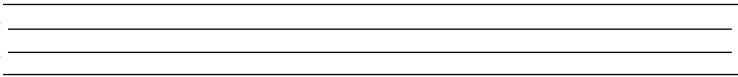


### **PATRICK T. KINNEY**

Patrick was born in Long Beach, California and grew up in Yorba Linda. He attended El Dorado High School in Placentia and graduated in 1989. Patrick worked for both UPS and RJ Reynolds and continued his education at Rancho Santiago College.

Patrick started his career in law enforcement with the Marshal's Department in 1991 as a Court Services Officer. He graduated from Sheriff's Academy class #109 in 1993 as a Deputy Marshal and was assigned to Court Operations at the Central Justice Center. He transferred to the Central Jail Complex in 2000 after the merger between the Sheriff's Department and the Marshal's Department and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. In 2008, Patrick transferred to patrol in South Operations and was assigned to the city of Dana Point, where he continues to work today.

Patrick currently lives in Lake Elsinore with his wife, Karina. He has two children; Zack, age 17 and Hayley, age 16. Patrick likes to relax by running and lifting weights and enjoys spending time with his family.



## PLAQUE

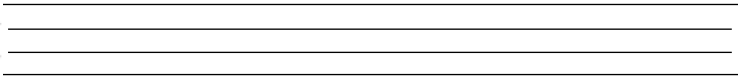


### **CHP OFFICER MICHAEL W. STONEY**

Mike was born on Beale Air Force Base, north of Sacramento, California and grew up in nearby Marysville. He graduated from Marysville High School in 1992 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corp a few months later. Mike was a heavy equipment mechanic and was stationed at El Toro, California and Okinawa, Japan. He attained the rank of sergeant in his six years of service. Mike worked as a Fed Ex driver for several years after his discharge from the USMC.

Mike started his career with the California Highway Patrol in 2001. After graduating from the CHP Academy Mike's first station was in South Los Angeles. He transferred to the Capistrano station in 2003. He has received the MADD Hero Award and four MADD Duece awards, twice as the Top Departmental Arresting Officer. He also was selected for the CHP Division Chief's Award.

Mike lives in Tustin with his wife, Erica, and their children, Summer, age 13; Savannah, age 12 and Tyler, age one. He enjoys four-wheelin' (only in Jeeps, of course) and mountain biking. He likes to participate in paintball matches and won a bronze medal in the Police Olympics.



## **PLAQUE**



### **SCOTT T. HARTIGAN**

Scott was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut but moved to California with his family when he was a small child and grew up in the city of San Juan Capistrano. He attended Dana Hills High School and graduated in 1980. After high school, Scott moved to Arizona and enrolled at the Universal Technical Institute, earning a certificate as an auto technician.

In addition to being a certified auto technician, Scott is a successful entrepreneur. He has owned and operated his own pressure-washing business for the last 25 years. He also owns several Automated Teller Machines as a side business.

Scott currently lives in Capistrano Beach with his fiancée, Julie Sommo, his three children; Sean, age 21; Danielle, age 19; Luke, age 16; and Julie's son, Jason, age 10. Scott likes to go camping with his family and enjoys riding dirt bikes and street bikes.



**DEPUTY MARISELLA ELMORE**  
**DEPUTY JOHN GOOD**  
**DEPUTY RICHARD HASSETT**  
**DEPUTY STEVEN HOFFMAN**  
**DEPUTY JASON IVINS**  
**DEPUTY CORY MARTINO**  
**DEPUTY LAWRENCE PACKARD**  
**DEPUTY PATRICK KINNEY**  
**CHP OFFICER MICHAEL STONEY**  
**MR. SCOTT HARTIGAN**  
**MR. PAUL HARTIGAN**

### **Prevented a Suicidal Woman from Jumping Off a Freeway Overpass**

In the late afternoon hours of Monday, October 27, 2008, Dana Point Deputies Steve Hoffman and Patrick Kinney were dispatched to a report of a woman trying to jump off of a freeway overpass in the city of Dana Point. Familiar with an earlier, very similar incident which required numerous personnel, some risking their own lives, Dana Point Deputies Lollie Elmore, John Good, Rick Hassett, and Larry Packard, and San Juan Capistrano Deputies Jason Ivins and Cory Martino also responded to the scene. CHP Officer Mike Stoney was also dispatched to the scene by his dispatchers. Unbeknownst to these peace officers, brothers Scott and Paul Hartigan were already engaged in their own life and death rescue with the suicidal woman. It would take all of their combined efforts to stop the woman from killing herself.

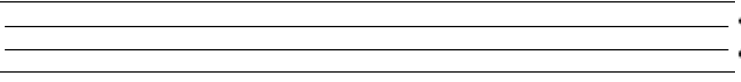
When the deputies and officer arrived at the Via California overpass, they found the woman standing on the ledge of the overpass outside of the safety fencing. Scott Hartigan was standing behind her, wedging her between his body and the fence in an effort to keep the struggling woman from jumping. Paul Hartigan was keeping a vise-like grip on the woman's fingers though the fence and was pleading with her not to struggle with his brother. A bystander had provided a heavy gauge extension cord as rope but the ends were too large to fit through the small mesh of the fence.

Deputy Packard quickly cut the ends off of the cord and pushed one end through the fence but Scott Hartigan could not grab it because the woman continued to push against him and he had to use both of his hands to grasp the fence. While Deputy Elmore distracted the

woman by engaging her in conversation, Officer Stoney, at risk to his own life, climbed out onto the ledge and passed the cord around the woman and back through the fence. This allowed the now exhausted Scott Hartigan to climb back to safety. Deputies Hassett and Hoffman held onto the rope while Deputy Kinney and Officer Stoney handcuffed the woman's right hand to the fence.

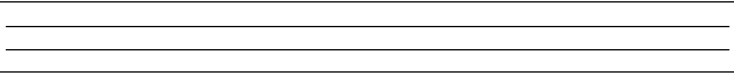
At the same time, Deputies Good, Ivins, and Martino borrowed bolt cutters from a construction crew and cut a hole through the fence. Deputy Packard tied a makeshift harness to Deputy Kinney and he slipped through the hole and onto the ledge to assist Officer Stoney with restraining the woman.

When the fire department arrived, they cut a large hole in the fence and the deputies were able to remove the woman from the ledge and into an ambulance. She was taken to a local hospital for psychiatric evaluation. The courageous actions of Mr. Scott Hartigan, Officer Stoney, and Deputy Kinney, and the coordinated rescue efforts of Mr. Paul Hartigan and Deputies Elmore, Good, Hassett, Hoffman, Ivins, Martino, and Packard brought a successful conclusion to this lifesaving event.



***MEDAL OF MERIT***





## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

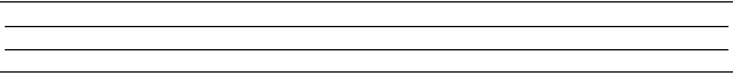


### **GARY F. SMITH**

Gary was born in San Francisco and grew up in the town of Pacifica. He graduated from Riordan High School in 1979 and enlisted in the United States Coast Guard in 1980. Gary was stationed in Oregon and Newport Beach during his six years in the Coast Guard, attaining the rank of petty officer, 2nd class. His specialties were engineering and small boat search and rescue.

Gary joined the Sheriff's Department in 1986 and was assigned to the Lacy Facility after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy, class #74. He transferred to South Operations in 1989 and worked patrol in both Laguna Niguel and Lake Forest. He was a Field Training Officer in both cities and joined the Community Policing Unit in Lake Forest in 1994. He also became a California State Bicycle Patrol Instructor. Gary promoted to Sergeant in 1997 and was transferred to the Men's Central Jail. He also worked at the Lacy Facility and Harbor Court until 2002 when he transferred to the Criminal Investigations Bureau; Economic Crimes Detail. Gary graduated from the Supervisory Leadership Institute in 2003. He promoted to Lieutenant in 2004 and returned to the Lacy Facility. In 2006, Gary transferred to the Investigations Division, assuming the duties of the Criminal Investigations Lieutenant.

Gary now lives in Corona with Debbie, his wife of 27 years, and their children, Nicholas, age 20; Jacob, age 17 and Gary Jr., 14. Gary enjoys camping, water sports, off-road motorcycling, hunting, and fishing. He spends some of his free time restoring his 1969 Chevy Chevelle and enjoying his cabin in Lake Arrowhead with his family.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

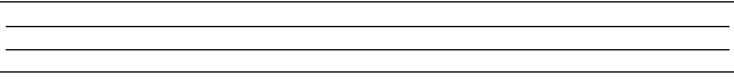


### **KEVIN E. BIEKER**

Kevin was born in Santa Ana, California and grew up in Anaheim. He attended Loara High School and graduated in 1978. Kevin enrolled at Fullerton College, earning an Associate of Arts degree in Police Science in 1981.

Kevin began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1985 as a Deputy Sheriff working at the Central Men's Jail. In 1988, Kevin transferred to North Operations. While working in patrol, Kevin was the vehicle theft recovery officer of the year in 1990 and 1992 and was named "Patrol Deputy of the Year" in 1992. Kevin was selected to work on the Gang Enforcement Team in 1995. In 1999, he promoted to Investigator and worked in several areas, including Backgrounds, Internal Affairs, RNSP, and North Narcotics/Vice. Kevin promoted to Sergeant in 2007 and was assigned to the Lacy Facility for a few months before transferring to the Harbor Justice Center. In 2008, Kevin was assigned to Criminal Investigations where he currently works in the Family Protection Detail.

Kevin lives in Norco with Janet, his wife of 22 years, and their children; Zachary, age 24; Jacob; age 22; Benjamin, age 19 and Emily, age 14. Kevin enjoys camping and fly-fishing whenever he can.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

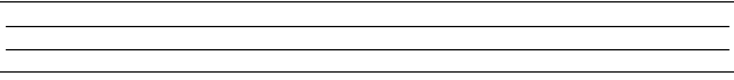


### **WENDY J. DAVIS**

Wendy was born in Upland, California but grew up in Greenville, South Carolina. She graduated from Berea High School in Greenville in 1984. Wendy enlisted in the United States Marine Corp after high school and served as an administrative clerk at Camp Johnson, North Carolina and El Toro, California. She attained the rank of corporal during her four years of service. After leaving the Marines, Wendy went to work for the United States Marshals Service.

Wendy's career with the Sheriff's Department began in 1990. She was assigned to the Intake/Release Center after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy as a Deputy Sheriff. Wendy transferred to South Operations in 1997 working patrol in the unincorporated areas before being assigned to the city of Laguna Niguel in 2000. In 2002 Wendy promoted to Investigator and was assigned to Professional Standards in Backgrounds. She transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division in 2003 and was assigned to the Sex Crimes Unit, the SAFE/FBI Task Force, and the General Investigations Unit. Wendy is currently assigned to the Family Protection Unit.

Wendy lives in Tustin with her pet cat and loves working on home improvement jobs around her house. She enjoys spending time reading, going to movies and pet-sitting for her friends.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

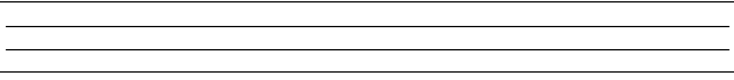


### **DANIEL J. SALCEDO**

Dan was born and raised in the city of Santa Ana, California and attended Santa Ana's Mater Dei High School. He graduated in 1980 and took classes at both Golden West College and Santa Ana College. He also spent as much time as possible hanging out at the beach.

Dan started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1984. After graduating from the Sheriff's Academy Dan was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. In 1985, he transferred to the Musick Facility. Dan transferred to patrol in 1986 and was assigned to South Operations and the city of Dana Point. He was named Dana Point "Officer of the Year" in 1989-1990. Dan was selected to be a member of the Sheriff's Department's initial Community Support Unit, which received a national award for "Specialized Unit of the Year". Dan was also a member of the Department's first Bicycle Patrol Team. In 1992, Dan was assigned to the Drug and Gang Education Unit and worked within that group until his promotion to Investigator in 1996. Dan has been assigned to the Homicide Detail of the Criminal Investigations Bureau for the past 12 years where he has been involved in over 250 death investigations and received numerous commendations.

Dan lives in Orange County with Anne, his wife of seven years. His hobbies include playing golf and watching baseball games. He loves to spend time travelling and exploring the world with Anne.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

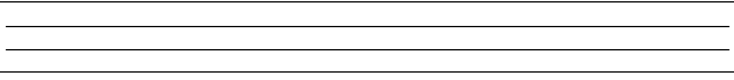


### **BRIAN J. SIMS**

Brian was born in Pasadena, California and grew up in Laguna Niguel. He graduated from Dana Hills High School in the city of Dana Point in 1987 and soon after became a reserve police officer for the Laguna Beach Police Department. Brian hired on with the San Clemente Police Department in 1990.

Brian became a member of the Sheriff's Department in 1993 when OCSD began providing police services for the city of San Clemente. He transferred to the city of San Juan Capistrano in 1997 and was selected as a Tactical Officer at the Sheriff's Training Academy in 1998. Brian promoted to Investigator in 1999 and has worked in North General Investigations, Sex Crimes, and the Fugitive Warrants Detail in Court Operations. He is currently assigned to South Investigations for the city of Lake Forest. Brian received a Medal of Courage in 1993 and a Medal of Lifesaving in 1994. He has earned a MADD award and was named "Deputy of the Year" in 1996 while working in San Clemente. Brian has also been awarded the Investigative Excellence Award by the Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigations.

Brian lives in Mission Viejo with Joann, his wife of 16 years, and their children; Christopher, age 13 and Tiffany, age 11. He enjoys the outdoors and spends most of his free time traveling in his RV with his family. He especially likes boating and jet skiing in Lake Havasu, riding quads in Glamis, and fishing.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**



### **JAMES J. AMORMINO**

Jim was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. He attended Lincoln High School, graduating in 1970. After high school, Jim enrolled at California State University, Los Angeles and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration of Criminal Justice. Jim then became a Police Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department, where he spent the next 28 years.

Jim joined the Sheriff's Department in 1999 as the Director of Public Affairs. He also serves as the Department's Public Information Officer.

Jim lives on the Palos Verdes Peninsula with his wife, Diana. They have two children, Ginelle and Michael. Jim likes to relax at home with his family and is a USC football fanatic.



**LIEUTENANT GARY SMITH  
SERGEANT KEVIN BIEKER  
INVESTIGATOR WENDY DAVIS  
INVESTIGATOR DANIEL SALCEDO  
INVESTIGATOR BRIAN SIMS  
DIRECTOR JIM AMORMINO**

**Solved a High Profile Kidnapping Case**

In the early evening of Wednesday, July 2, 2008, in the city of Lake Forest, Gynnae Ramos arrived at her ex-husband's house to pick up her son, Ryan. Her ex-husband, Lonnie Ramos, shot her when she arrived and fled the area with Ryan. Gynnae survived the attack and was able to provide information to the responding units.

Investigative Sergeant Kevin Bieker assumed supervisory control of the incident and assigned Investigator Wendy Davis as the case agent. Over the next six days, and during a holiday weekend, the task force, managed by Lieutenant Gary Smith, worked around the clock until Ryan was safely returned. The task force included Investigators Daniel Salcedo, Brian Sims, and Director of Public Affairs, Jim Amormino, as well as many other dedicated members of the law enforcement community. Their extraordinary efforts and expertise were instrumental in the safe return of Ryan to his family.

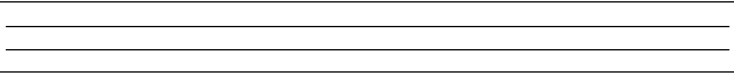
Investigator Davis, with enormous assistance from Investigator Sims, followed up on all incoming leads and coordinated the investigator responses. Their tireless diligence was crucial to the management of this case. Of vital importance to the safe return of Ryan, was the dissemination of information to news outlets throughout California, the southwest United States, and Mexico. Director Amormino used his vast experience in media relations to contact news organizations in Mexico and convince them to cover the story. It was later discovered that Ryan and his father saw one of these broadcasts and it is believed that this caused Lonnie to turn Ryan over to a church in Mexico. Investigator Salcedo utilized his extensive experience in all facets of investigative work, as well as his proficiency in Spanish, to assist with the coordination between agencies in Mexico, Texas, and Orange County.

Sergeant Bieker maintained a determined and organized demeanor, ensured all notifications were made, conducted briefings with outside agencies, and kept command staff well informed. Lieutenant Smith oversaw operations, coordinated briefings, and made certain that team members had all the resources they needed to get the job done.

This case brought local and national attention to the department due to the violence of the suspect and the circumstances of the case. A presentation on the case was recently conducted

for representatives of Team Adam from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The efforts of the entire task force, represented by Lieutenant Smith, Sergeant Bieker, Investigator Davis, Investigator Salcedo, Investigator Sims, and Director Amormino, has brought significant recognition to the Sheriff's Department.





## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

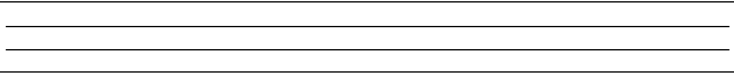


### **DANIEL L. ELSNER**

Dan was born in Orange, California and grew up in Tustin. He attended Tustin High School and graduated in 1977. Dan next enrolled at California State University, Fullerton where he graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology.

Dan started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1985 and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail after graduating from the Sheriff Academy. He transferred to the Musick Facility in 1987, and then went back to the Central Men's Jail in 1988. Dan transferred to patrol in North Operations in 1989 and became a Field Training Officer and a Drug Recognition Expert. After brief assignments in Transportation and Professional Standards, Dan promoted to Investigator in 2002 and was assigned to the city of Stanton to investigate major crimes. In 2004, Dan promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to the Central Men's Jail. He transferred back to Stanton in 2005 as the Investigative Sergeant. Dan graduated from the Supervisory Leadership Institute and is currently assigned to the Security Bureau.

Dan lives in Riverside with Robin, his wife of 17 years, and has two children, Josh, age 25; and Kyle, age 16. He is a self-described sports fanatic and loves attending all types of sporting events. He also enjoys jet skiing and playing golf.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**



### **JOHN MURRAY**

John was born in Culver City, California and grew up in the city of Diamond Bar. He attended Walnut High School and graduated in 1981. John enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1982 and served as a member of the security police. He attained the rank of sergeant during his four years of service and was stationed in Fort Worth, Texas and Germany.

John began his career with the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 1989. After completing the Sheriff's Academy, he was assigned to the Intake/Release Center. In 1997 John transferred to South Operations and was assigned to the city of Dana Point, where he worked patrol, and rotational assignments with the Selected Enforcement Team and the Tri-Cities Directed Enforcement Team. He joined the Transit Police Bureau in 2006 and became a member of the Right-Of-Way Detail. John promoted to Sergeant in 2008 and is currently assigned to the Central Jail Complex Central Women's Jail.

John lives in San Clemente with Heather, his wife of 14 years, and their son, Calvin, age nine. John is a passionate hockey fan and likes to spend his free time on the ice playing hockey and coaching his son.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**

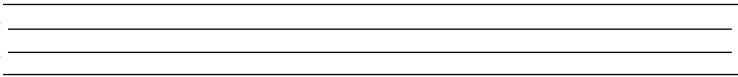


### **DAVID BEELER**

David was born in a U.S. Army hospital in Wurzburg, Germany but grew up in Costa Mesa, California. He graduated from Costa Mesa High School in 1988 and enrolled at Orange Coast College, earning an Associate of Arts degree in 1991. Working his way through college as a waiter and bartender, David also became an on-site manager of the apartment complex he lived in when he transferred to San Diego State University. He graduated from SDSU in 1993 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice.

David began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1993 as a Sheriff's Special Officer at the Musick Facility. He graduated from the Sheriff's Academy as a Deputy Sheriff in 1994 and was assigned to the Intake / Release Center. While there, David attained a Master's Degree in Behavioral Science with an emphasis in Conflict Management and Negotiations from Cal State Dominguez Hills. He also spent time at both the Musick and Lacy Facilities before transferring to North Operations in 2000. After five years in patrol David was selected to be part of the Transit Police Services Bureau in 2005, and was awarded a commendation for his actions regarding a robbery on an OCTA bus. David is currently assigned to the Right-of-Way Detail.

David lives in Norco with his wife Melissa. He has three children; Alicia, age 14; Colton, age eight and newborn Landynn. David relaxes at home by working on his sand rail, his Yamaha Rhino, and some of his friend's off-road toys; then gets to enjoy the fruits of those labors by taking the family out for off-road activities and camping. He also loves getting to coach his son in both baseball and football.



## **MEDAL OF MERIT**



### **RAMIN AMINLOO**

Ramin was born and raised in Tehran, Iran. He moved to Wisconsin with his family in the 1970's and graduated from West Bend's West High School in 1979. Ramin attended the University of Wisconsin, Washington County and the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, majoring in Computer Science. He has worked as a consultant in computer automation for over 25 years, working with many Fortune 500 companies and organizations such as the Los Angeles County Fire Department. Ramin is a licensed multi-engine pilot and serves as a volunteer for the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue team. In 2008, he was selected as a "Volunteer of the Year".

Ramin joined the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 2006 as a Professional Service Responder and holds the title of Senior Developer within the Support Services Division. He assists the Department with developing and maintaining internal computer applications.

Ramin lives in Laguna Niguel with Sylvie, his wife of 22 years, and their children, Misty and Maxime.



**SERGEANT DANIEL ELSNER  
SERGEANT JOHN MURRAY  
DEPUTY DAVID BEELER  
SYSTEMS CONSULTANT RAMIN AMINLOO**

**Created the Tracking and Automated Graffiti Reporting System  
T.A.G.R.S.**

In mid 2007, Lieutenant Jim Rudy of the OCTA Bureau sought to develop an updated method for tracking all incidents of graffiti and tagging. There was a very large volume of reports on hand, but little way of tracking and prosecuting the offenders. He met with Captain Lee Trujillo, who was then a Lieutenant and the Police Chief of Stanton Police Services, and discussed the need for a systems based approach to tracking graffiti so information could be shared between Sheriff's personnel as well as outside agencies.

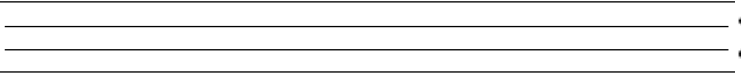
With the approval of Assistant Sheriff Mike James, who was the Captain of the Support Services Division at the time, Systems Consultant Ramin Aminloo was assigned to work with Sergeant Dan Elsner, Sergeant John Murray – a Deputy at the time, and Deputy David Beeler to discuss the development and implementation of a new graffiti tracking program. The goal was to develop a system for identifying taggers in a manner similar to the way Cal Gangs computer system assists gang investigators in identifying gang members.

In April of 2008, they unveiled their web-based tracking system: TAGRS, or Tracking and Automated Graffiti Reporting System. The new system allows graffiti abatement teams to photograph graffiti prior to removal. These photos are stored directly in the TAGRS database via smart phones. Each agency that uses the TAGRS program would assign personnel to maintain their respective entries. When suspects are identified or arrested, their information is inputted and shared with other users of the system.

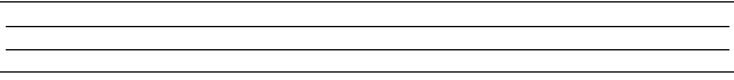
A good example of the success of TAGRS occurred in September of 2008. A Lake Forest resident detained a juvenile for tagging on a wall. The responding Deputy initially took a misdemeanor vandalism report. After interviewing the suspect and learning the name of the tagging crew and some additional crew members, the Deputy used TAGRS to check for all documented incidents of vandalism by this tagging crew. It was found that this crew was responsible for over \$10,000 in damages throughout the city and the Deputy was able to get felony arrest warrants for six suspects. This case would never have come to such a successful conclusion without the information provided by the TAGRS database.

Deputy Beeler, Sergeant Murray, and Ramin Aminloo are now conducting TAGRS presentations to all of the law enforcement agencies in Orange County and have also met with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

Most of these agencies have verbally committed to using the system. The TAGRS program is an example of leading the way in new and innovative methods to combat crime. Sergeant Elsner, Sergeant Murray, Deputy Beeler, and Ramin Aminloo have brought significant positive recognition to the department for their hard work and dedication in bringing the TAGRS program to the forefront of twenty-first century law enforcement.



***MEDAL OF COURAGE***



## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**

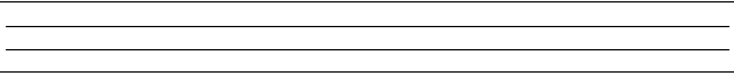
### **CHRISTOPHER M. CATALANO**

Chris was born in Whittier, California and grew up in the Whittier and La Habra area. Chris attended La Habra High School and, after graduating in 1981, he enrolled at Fullerton Community College. His law enforcement career began in 1982 when he became a police cadet for the city of Brea. While working as a cadet Chris continued his education, attaining an Associate of Arts degree in Police Science in 1984 and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Fullerton in 1986.

Chris started his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1987 and was assigned to the Intake/Release Center when he graduated from the Sheriff's Academy. He transferred to patrol in 1993 and was assigned to South Operations and the city of San Juan Capistrano. Chris was named "Deputy of the Year" in 1995 and 1996 and joined the Tri-Cities Directed Enforcement Team in 1997. From 1998 to 2003 Chris was assigned to the Gang Enforcement Team. After his tour in GET was completed Chris worked patrol in North Operations for two years before promoting to Investigator. Chris is currently assigned to the Special Investigations Bureau, South Narcotics Detail in Aliso Viejo.

Chris lives in Anaheim with Bridget, his wife of 21 years, and their children; Meghan, age 18; Nicholas, age 15 and Madison, age 11. Chris enjoys working out, fishing, and camping, and spending time with his family. He also likes to participate in sporting events. Chris is a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan and is certain that this is finally the year.





## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**

### **GARRETT R. DeGIORGIO**

Garrett was born in Harbor City, California and grew up in Long Beach. After graduating from St. Anthony High School in Long Beach in 1989 Garrett worked for the Orange County Probation Department for two years. He enrolled at California State University, Long Beach in 1992 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 1995.

Garrett's career with the Sheriff's Department began in 1996 and he was assigned to the Lacy Facility in 1997 after graduating from the Sheriff's Academy. While working at Lacy Garrett completed his Master's Degree in Behavioral Science at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Garrett transferred to patrol in 2002 and was assigned to the city of Laguna Hills. He was part of the Directed Enforcement Team from 2004 to 2005 and promoted to Investigator in 2005. He was originally assigned to North Investigations and is currently assigned to the South Narcotics Detail in the Special Investigations Bureau. Garrett was awarded a Gold Star in 2002 and was named the California Narcotics Officers Association "Street Level Narcotics Officer of the Year" in 2007.

Garrett currently lives in Long Beach with his wife Cara and their son Dylan. He likes to watch sporting events and spends as much time as he can barbequing and hanging out with his family.



## MEDAL OF COURAGE



### GINO RODRIGUEZ

Gino was born in the borough of Manhattan in New York but grew up in Garden Grove after his family moved to California. Gino attended Rancho Alamitos High School and graduated in 1989. He also attended Golden West College in Huntington Beach.

Gino joined the Sheriff's Department in 1993 as a Sheriff's Special Officer at the Central Men's Jail. In 1995 he graduated from the Sheriff's Academy as a Deputy Sheriff and was assigned to the Musick Facility. Gino transferred to the Lacy Facility in 1999 and then to OCTA patrol in 2000. In 2002, Gino transferred to South Operations and was assigned to the city of San Juan Capistrano. He returned to OCTA in 2004 and also worked in North Operations patrol in 2007 before being selected to the Highway Interdiction Detail in the Special Investigations Bureau. Since June of 2008, Gino has seized over \$619,000 in narcotics and currency as well as more than 30 pounds of methamphetamine. He also assisted in the apprehension of a fugitive wanted for murder.

Gino still lives in the beautiful city of Garden Grove with Kellie, his wife of ten years, and their children; Gino, age four; Niko, age three and four-month-old Vito. Gino loves to spend his off-duty time relaxing with family and friends on his boat at his vacation home in Lake Havasu. He also enjoys going to "Dropkick Murphys" concerts.



**INVESTIGATOR CHRIS CATALANO  
INVESTIGATOR GARRETT DEGIORGIO  
DEPUTY GINO RODRIGUEZ**

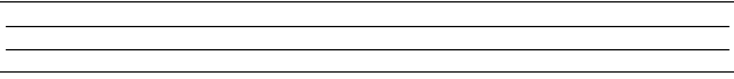
**Disarmed a Violent, Wanted Subject**

In the early afternoon hours of February 8, 2008 Investigator Chris Catalano and Investigator Garrett DeGiorgio of the South Narcotics Detail were preparing to serve a warrant on a suspected drug dealer in the city of Costa Mesa. They saw the suspect leave his home in a vehicle and notified Deputy Gino Rodriguez of the Highway Interdiction Detail that they needed him to conduct a stop on the suspect's vehicle using his black and white patrol vehicle.

Deputy Rodriguez initiated the car stop and approached the suspect as the investigators pulled up behind him in an unmarked vehicle. As soon as Deputy Rodriguez contacted the suspect he determined that the man was agitated. While the suspect initially followed commands and turned his car off, he became verbally belligerent and uncooperative and refused to give up the key. As Deputy Rodriguez quickly grabbed for the man's arms, the man suddenly reached toward his right hip area and pulled out a small, palm-sized revolver with his right hand.

As Deputy Rodriguez calmly struggled with the violent, armed suspect, he yelled to Investigators Catalano and DeGiorgio that the man had a gun. Both investigators disregarded the danger and rushed forward to help as Deputy Rodriguez struggled to gain control of the suspect's hands. Deputy Rodriguez delivered several blows to the suspect's head with his elbow, causing the man to drop the weapon just as Investigators Catalano and DeGiorgio reached the car. Investigator DeGiorgio spotted the weapon on the floorboard and removed it from the car. They quickly overpowered the suspect, handcuffed him, and removed him from the vehicle. He was later booked into custody on numerous charges, including assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer.

The quick, assertive, and courageous actions of Deputy Rodriguez, Investigator Catalano, and Investigator DeGiorgio enabled them to safely take an armed, resisting suspect into custody while preventing him from assaulting or killing them.



## **MEDAL OF COURAGE**

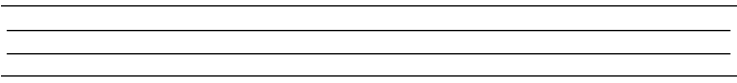


### **JASON L. McMILLION**

Jason was born in the city of Westminster, California and grew up in Garden Grove. He attended Garden Grove High School and graduated in 1988. He enrolled at San Diego State University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, graduating in 1993.

Jason joined the Sheriff's Department in 1995 as a Sheriff's Special Officer. He started out working in the Security Section of the Central Justice Center and currently serves as a Bailiff in Central Court. Jason was awarded the "Civility Award" from the American Board of Trial Advocates in 1999.

Jason now lives in Anaheim with his wife, Michelle. They have been married for ten years and were recently blessed with twin sons, four-month-olds Troy and Trent. Jason likes to go hiking and kayaking and spend time with his family and friends.



## **SHERIFF'S SPECIAL OFFICER JASON MCMILLION**

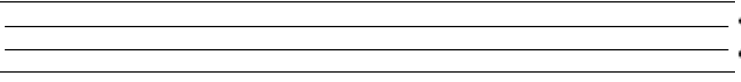
### **Attempted to Prevent a Suicide**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, March 4, 2008, Sheriff's Special Officer Jason McMillion was working as a bailiff in Department 32 on the ninth floor of the Central Justice Center. He was in the courtroom when he heard the hallway emergency exit door alarm activate. The door is located at the east end of the hallway next to his courtroom and allows access to a stairwell that leads to the ground. Between the emergency door and the stairwell is an open landing surrounded by a four foot high concrete wall. SSO McMillion went into the hallway to investigate the alarm.

When he stepped into the hallway, he saw a man standing out on the landing. SSO McMillion opened the emergency door and went out onto the landing and saw the man was standing on the ledge of the concrete wall. He was holding onto a pole with one hand and a cell phone with the other. SSO McMillion immediately realized that the man was distraught and asked him to step down. When the man refused, SSO McMillion, without regard for his own safety, ducked under the pole, stood next to the man, and tried to establish a rapport with the agitated individual.

SSO McMillion repeatedly pleaded with the man to step down from the wall but the man steadfastly refused. Finally, the man tossed his cell phone on the landing, said, "I'm going to jump" and leaned out over the edge of the wall. At great risk to himself, SSO McMillion rushed forward to the edge of the landing and grabbed the man by the jacket, preventing him from falling. He struggled to hold onto the man for a few moments before the man was able to break free and calmly took one step off the ledge, falling nine floors to his death.

Sheriff's Special Officer McMillion courageously placed himself in harm's way in a valiant but vain attempt to prevent the man from taking his own life.



***MEDAL OF VALOR***



## **MEDAL OF VALOR**



### **GARY R. LEWELLYN**

Gary was born and raised in Westminster, California. He attended Westminster High School and graduated in 1987. After high school Gary tried his hand at several vocations, including working as a plumber's assistant and a bouncer at Tijuana Jones' Bar and Grill. Gary also worked as a race car mechanic for six years on Robby Gordon's off-road race team. Gary is continuing his education at California State University, Long Beach, working toward a degree in occupational studies.

Gary began his career with the Sheriff's Department in 1997. After graduating from the Sheriff's Academy he was assigned to the Lacy Facility. He received a commendation in 1998 for his efforts assisting with an investigation of a conspiracy to commit murder against a police officer. Gary transferred to patrol in 2006 and was assigned to the city of Mission Viejo. He was named an "Officer of the Year" in 2008 by the California Robbery Officer's Association. "Big Lew" also played as an offensive tackle for ten years with the Orange County Lawmen football team.

Gary currently resides in Huntington Beach with Nicole, his wife of 12 years, and their children; Delaney, age seven and Sofia, age four. He enjoys camping with his family and riding dirt bikes. Gary also likes to get out on the open road on his 1999 Harley Davidson Road King Classic whenever he can.



## **MEDAL OF VALOR**



### **RICHARD OLSZYNSKI**

Rick was born in Lublin, Poland and moved to Rochester, New York with his family when he was (a child / in his teens). He graduated from Olympia High School in Rochester in 1993 and immediately joined the United States Marine Corp. Rick was a C-130 mechanic and attained the rank of sergeant during his six active duty years. He also served two years in the USMC Reserves. Rick is currently working toward a degree in education at California State University, Long Beach.

Rick joined the Sheriff's Department in 1999 and graduated from the Sheriff's Academy in 2000. He was assigned to the Lacy Facility and worked there until 2007 when he transferred to patrol in South Operations. Rick is currently assigned to the city of Mission Viejo and was named 2008 "Officer of the Year" by the California Robbery Officer's Association.

Rick lives in Southern California with Pernilla, his wife of ten years, and their children, Savannah and Joey. In his spare time, Rick likes to ride motorcycles, hike, and spend time with his family.





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**DEPUTY GARY R. LEWELLYN  
DEPUTY RICHARD OLSZYNSKI**

**Officer Involved Shooting with Jewelry Store Robbery Suspect**

In the late afternoon, on Sunday, March 9, 2008, Mission Viejo Deputies Gary Lewellyn and Richard Olszynski were working their assigned patrol shifts in the city when an armed robbery of a jewelry store occurred at the Mission Viejo Mall. The suspect was armed with a loaded, high-powered handgun along with several clips containing armor piercing rounds. During the robbery, the suspect pointed and waved his handgun at employees as well as other shoppers. The Orange County Sheriff's Department was alerted to the ongoing incident by numerous 911 calls coming in from witnesses at the scene.

The suspect took a large quantity of jewelry and fled across a foot bridge that connected the mall to an adjacent parking structure. As he was leaving, the suspect turned and fired one round back in the direction of the mall but did not strike anyone. Deputies Lewellyn and Olszynski arrived on scene within a few minutes of the first 911 call, and saw the suspect as he fled across the foot bridge into the parking structure. Deputy Olszynski grabbed the shotgun from his patrol vehicle and both deputies made a tactical approach into the parking structure.

Deputies Lewellyn and Olszynski proceeded to the second floor and encountered the heavily armed suspect across the span of the parking area filled with cars but without bystanders. The suspect fired one round at the approaching deputies then doubled-back around a row of parked cars. Using the vehicles as cover and concealment, Deputy Olszynski and Deputy Lewellyn continued their tactical approach. They came upon the suspect as he stepped out from behind a parked car, still stalking the deputies with his deadly, armor piercing weapon. Deputy Olszynski shot the suspect with his shotgun and the suspect fell to the ground. He was treated by Orange County Fire Department paramedics at the scene then transported to Mission Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Deputy Lewellyn and Deputy Olszynski exhibited bravery and heroism in this confrontation with a potentially deadly suspect and utilized outstanding tactics in their calm, professional approach and capture of this heavily armed suspect.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS**

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and to protect property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all, maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in both obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employ unnecessary force or violence and never accept gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession. . . . law enforcement.

# Orange County Sheriff's Advisory Council

On behalf of the members of the Sheriff's Advisory Council we thank you for joining us for The Twenty-first Annual Sheriff's Medal of Valor Presentation Luncheon.

The Sheriff's Advisory Council is a non-profit, charitable organization which was formed in the late 1970's. The council is comprised of business and community leaders whose goal is to provide support and funding for various law enforcement projects that benefit the residents of Orange County for which public funds are not available.

For the past 20 years the Sheriff's Advisory Council has sponsored the Orange County Sheriff's Department Annual Medal of Valor Luncheon. Each year selected men and women of the department are honored for their meritorious service to the residents of Orange County. Medals may be presented in five areas including Valor, Courage, Merit, Lifesaving, or the Purple Heart. This ceremony marks the culmination of a year of excellence and the opportunity for the community to join with the Orange County Sheriff's Department, Assistant Sheriff, Acting as the Sheriff Jack Anderson and the Sheriff's Advisory Council to honor these outstanding men and women. In addition to the Medal of Valor Luncheon, the Sheriff's Advisory Council is pleased to support the Project 999 Fund. '999' is the police radio code for "Officer Needs Help-Emergency." The fund provides emergency assistance for officers who are seriously injured in the line of duty and for families of officers who have been killed. Additionally, a permanent monument at the Plaza of Flags honoring Orange County's Fallen Peace Officers was provided and maintained through the benevolence of the Orange County Sheriff's Advisory Council.



