

**34TH ANNUAL  
IRVINE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT  
AWARDS BANQUET**



***Wednesday, February 23, 2005  
7:00 PM***

***Irvine Marriott Hotel  
Irvine, California***

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## 2004 POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR



### STEVE GIANNINI

*Police Officer*

Steve Giannini is a Police Officer currently assigned to Patrol in the University area of Irvine.

In 1982, Steve began his law enforcement career with the Orange County Sheriff's Department as a Reserve Deputy. He joined the Irvine

Police Department in 1984 as a patrol officer. In addition to serving in Patrol, Steve has also worked as a K-9 handler during his 21 years with the Irvine Police Department.

Steve possesses Intermediate and Advanced Certificates from the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Steve was selected as the *2004 Police Officer of the Year* because of his outstanding work ethic and service to the community. His peers nominated him because he exemplifies the department's core values of *integrity, respect, quality service, and accountability*. These values, combined with his positive attitude have contributed to his overall success in the field. Steve approaches his daily duties with a fresh perspective each and every day. His peers who nominated him commented on the consistently high performance level that he has demonstrated this year. Steve led the department in arrests during 2004. Steve is an outstanding ambassador of the Irvine Police Department as he exemplifies the values of the organization.

# 2004 CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR



## DENNIS RUVOLO

### *Senior Animal Services Officer*

Dennis Ruvolo is a Senior Animal Services Officer currently assigned to the department's Animal Services Unit.

In 1976, Dennis began his career with the City of Irvine as an Animal Services Officer. In 1993, he was promoted to Senior Animal Services Officer.



Dennis has an Associate of Arts degree from Santa Ana College and has attended both the Basic and Advanced Humane Academies.

Dennis was selected as the *2004 Civilian of the Year* because of his long-term dedication to the Irvine community. During this year Dennis has played an important role in ensuring the quality of life for the animal population of the City of Irvine.

Dennis has rescued lost and injured pets and returned them safely to their owners with professionalism and great care. Dennis has successfully mediated disputes between pet owners with great appreciation for the animals and the community. Dennis is an active leader of his team, providing an outstanding role model for new members of the Animal Services team.

During this year, Dennis provided special assistance to the Pacific Wildlife Project. This organization is a special bird rescue organization housed at the Irvine Animal Shelter tasked with relocating rehabilitated wildlife.

In September 2004, Dennis took the lead in handling a difficult rescue of a Queensland Healer that was trapped in a flood canal for approximately four days. The dog was safely rescued and happily reunited with its owners.



# MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



## JAY OSTROW

*Police Officer*

Jay Ostrow is a Police Officer currently assigned as a Detective for the University area of the City of Irvine.

In 1990, Jay began his law enforcement career with the La Palma Police Department as a Reserve Police Officer. Jay was hired by the Garden Grove

Police Department in 1991 as a Police Officer. While at the Garden Grove Police Department, Jay worked a variety of assignments and was the recipient of their Community Policing Award in 1995. Jay joined the Irvine Police Department in 2000 and has worked in Patrol and as a detective.

Jay possesses both Intermediate and Advanced Certificates from the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

In August 2004, Jay identified an individual who was suspected to have been involved in a series of commercial burglaries in Irvine and throughout Southern California. Jay began to attack the crime pattern and developed several informants. As the suspect began to be identified, Jay coordinated a surveillance managing several outside resources. As a result, the investigative team was able to observe the suspect in the act of breaking into a closed business and stealing property. At Jay's direction, the suspect was taken into custody and the crime series was stopped.

Jay was selected for a Meritorious Service Award because of his ability to coordinate several impactful investigations that demonstrated outstanding performance and service to the community this past year.

# MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



## JESSICA KIBBY

### *Public Safety Dispatcher II*

Jessica Kibby is a Public Safety Dispatcher II currently assigned to the department's Communications Bureau.

In 1999, Jessica began her law enforcement career with the Irvine Police Department as a Public Safety Assistant. Jessica became a Public Safety Dispatcher I in 2003, and was promoted to Public Safety Dispatcher II in 2004.



Jessica has an Associate of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Golden West College and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Fullerton.

Jessica was selected for a *Meritorious Service Award* because of her significant contributions to the success of the Communications Bureau. In 2004, Jessica worked diligently to serve the Irvine community as a 911 dispatcher. She worked hard to become extremely proficient on the new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and was a resource for her co-workers during the transition to this new system. Jessica performs her job duties very proactively and sets an outstanding example for others to follow. She places a high priority on the safety of field personnel, and is able to anticipate their needs when handling calls for service.

Jessica often volunteers for extra work and projects to contribute to the overall efficiency of the Communications Bureau and has made valuable suggestions on how the dispatch operations could be streamlined. Jessica often develops new and creative ways of completing tasks that would benefit her co-workers. She also shares her proficiency and motivation as a Communications Training Officer. In this role, she has already proven her ability to teach dispatch trainees with accuracy and dedication, the same qualities she uses in performing her duties on a daily basis.



# MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



## WILLIAM BINGHAM

*Police Officer*

William (Bill) Bingham is a Police Officer currently assigned as a Detective for the University area of the City of Irvine.

In 1999, Bill began his law enforcement career with the Irvine Police Department, and has worked in Patrol and as a Field Training Officer. He participated as a member of the

Spectrum Policing Team as well as the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team. Bill was awarded a *Unit Commendation* for his contributions as a member of the 2002 Spectrum Policing Team.

Bill was selected for a *Meritorious Service Award* because of his involvement in many areas within the department. As a member of the department's SWAT Team and as a Field Training Officer, Bill leads by example. He has been able to quickly establish a rapport with his arrestees and has often been successful in developing information that has led to many additional Irvine crimes being solved.

In April 2004, Bill observed two suspicious vehicles and made contact with the vehicles' occupants. He quickly realized that the subjects were involved in serious crimes. Additional suspects were identified and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a pound of methamphetamine and a substantial quantity of marijuana were removed from the streets of Irvine.

In August 2004, Bill developed a response plan to numerous vehicle burglaries that had been occurring in the Irvine business complex. Bill organized an undercover surveillance and was successful on the first night of the surveillance. Two suspects were arrested with burglary tools and stolen property from a burglary in the City of Brea. Several other Irvine burglaries were cleared and attributed to these two arrestees.

# MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



## DEBORAH GUNDERSON

### *Management Analyst II*

Debbie Gunderson is a Management Analyst II currently assigned to User Support.

In 1990, Debbie began her law enforcement career with the Irvine Police Department as an Administrative Aide. In 1992, Debbie was promoted to Public Safety Dispatcher and in 1995 she was again promoted to Supervising Public Safety Dispatcher. In 2004 Debbie was promoted to her current assignment as a Management Analyst II in Business Services.



Debbie has a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration from the University of La Verne.

Debbie was selected for a *Meritorious Service Award* because of her role in improving both the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and the Mobile Data Computers (MDC). This was accomplished while taking on new projects within her area of expertise.

This past year, Debbie spearheaded a project to reduce duplicate data entry for stolen property between the Records Management System (RMS) and California Law Enforcement Teletype System (CLETS). This project save data entry time and allows staff to be more productive.

This year Debbie has been essential to the implementation of the Avtex System. This computer-based system may be used to deliver a telephonic message to homes and businesses in a geographic area within the City of Irvine. These voice messages may alert residents of a neighborhood to crimes or provide tips for preventing future crimes. This system would also be very useful in the management of an unusual event that may necessitate the evacuation of an area of Irvine.



# UNIT COMMENDATION



## ANIMAL SERVICES

The Irvine Police Department's Animal Services Unit is being awarded a *Unit Commendation* for their combined efforts this past year.

In addition to responding to a record number of calls for service during 2004, this unit is also being recognized for the excellent quality of service they provided during this period. This level of service, that the Irvine residents have come to expect, is performed with sensitivity and care.

This past year, Animal Services Officers rescued over 1,500 animals including ducks and dogs that had become trapped in storm drains. Animal Services has been involved in numerous difficult cases; i.e., illegal sales of puppies and cruelty/neglect investigations. These cases were investigated and filed completely within Animal Services. The sincerity and compassion shown by Animal Services personnel throughout these cases has been remarkable.

The 2004 Animal Services Unit is overseen by Business Services Administrator Carl Pagano, and includes: Animal Services Supervisor Debi Geary, Senior Animal Services Officers Kim Cherney, Duncan Gill, and Dennis Ruvolo, and Animal Services Officers Jan Mandell and Michael Rodgers.

# UNIT COMMENDATION



## FIELD TRAINING OFFICERS

The Irvine Police Department's Field Training Officers are being awarded a *Unit Commendation* for their extensive training efforts this past year. Consisting of 23 experienced police officers, this one-on-one training program affords each new police officer the opportunity to gain experience from various officers. In addition to gaining the practical skills and techniques that are utilized in field assignments, the trainees are also introduced to the department's values.



Aside from their normal field training duties this past year, the Field Training Officer's collectively created a new trainee scheduling format, and updated, reconfigured, and published a trainee workbook and resource manual. This model program was then submitted and certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

The department recognizes those officers who play such a vital role in the future of the department with a *Unit Commendation*. The 2004 Field Training Officers include: Officers Carrie Egan, Mike Fender, Mike Hallinan, Dave Husted, Jamie Hutchcraft, David Kelley, Mike Li, Matt Mahoney, Scott McClellan, Matt Ricci, John Sabino, Cathy Scherer, Tim Schilling, Noelle Smiley, Shirley Sumner, Scott Vales, Rob Warren, Dave Williams, Paul Gooder, Ray Velarde, Senior Officers Bob Kluck and Steve Soto, and Sergeants Barry Aninag, Al Murray, Jim Lowder, Dennis Maisano, Bill Whalen, Bill Russell, and Jim Broomfield, Lieutenant Tom Hume, and Senior Public Safety Assistant Pam Colby.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE / POLICING AWARD



## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Irvine Police Department's School Resource Officers (SRO's) are being awarded a *Unit Commendation* for their efforts this past year. The SRO's provide a positive police presence on all of Irvine's high school campuses. These officers act as educators and role models for Irvine's youth working their way through their teenage years. SRO's work closely with school administrators, faculty, and staff to ensure a safe educational environment at every school site. SRO's help educate students by teaching classes that highlight the rights and responsibilities of juveniles and young adults. The SRO's are also involved in programs that provide very powerful messages on alcohol awareness. One such program, *Every 15 Minutes*, is an award winning program dealing with the traumatic effect of an alcohol-related traffic fatality.



In addition, School Resource Officers are on site to identify problems before they become traditional police issues. School Resource Officers have been critical to the success of several investigations during the past year involving juvenile-related crimes.

Based upon a rumor that a gun had been brandished in an Irvine park, SRO's developed information through their pre-established relationships with the student population that led to the arrest and prosecution of a suspect in this case. This is a direct result of the positive trust and relationships that SRO's have developed with Irvine youth and would not have been possible through traditional policing approaches.

The 2004 School Resource Officers include: Christine D'Alena, Dale Lawrence, Dave Tran, Michael Tu, Kevin Von Luft, Robert Warren, and Steve Wolf.