

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL

# *Medal of Valor*

## Luncheon

2004



*Michael S. Carona*  
Sheriff - Coroner

# 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 actions in rendering aid during a lifesaving or life-threatening situation under circumstances which pose danger to the employee, or in the performance of an endeavor 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.*

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## **SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SHERIFF'S MEDAL OF VALOR PRESENTATION LUNCHEON**

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**Hyatt Regency Irvine  
Thursday, April 1, 2004  
11:30 a.m.**

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# Program

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**Singing of the National Anthem**  
Mr. Tim Kepler

**Invocation**  
Monsignor John F. Sammon

**Introduction**  
Mr. David R. White II, President  
Sheriff's Advisory Council

## **Luncheon Menu**

Freshly Baked Banquet Rolls  
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Spinach Salad with Mandarin Oranges, Toasted Almonds  
Citrus Vinaigrette  
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Grilled Top Sirloin Steak, Forest Mushroom Sauce  
and  
Seared Marinated Chicken Breast with Pineapple Papaya Salsa  
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Roasted Red Pepper Mashed Potatoes  
Steamed Asparagus, Yellow Squash, Broiled Tomato  
\*\*\*

Citrus Cheesecake Square with Chocolate Stick  
Raspberry Coulis  
\*\*\*

Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee,  
a selection of Specialty Teas and Iced Tea

**Award Presentation**  
Sheriff Michael S. Carona  
Mr. Ed Arnold

**Closing Remarks**  
Sheriff Michael S. Carona

**Singing of "God Bless the U.S.A."**  
Mr. Tim Kepler

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## **2003 Medal Recipients**

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### **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**

Deputy Jamie Vogel

Deputy Kenneth Binning

Deputy Steven Armand

Deputy Frank Liu

Deputy John Angello

Deputy Christopher Corn

Deputy Stephan Shandrick

Deputy Joseph Warner

### **MEDAL OF COURAGE**

Deputy Daniel Missel

### **MEDAL OF VALOR**

Deputy Sean Howell

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Mission is to provide responsive, professional and caring law enforcement services to all people in Orange County. We will respond to calls for service promptly, protect lives and property to the very best of our abilities, initiate and maintain crime prevention programs and apprehend criminal offenders. All Sheriff employees are expected to behave in a friendly, helpful and effective manner, as appropriately determined by the circumstances and nature of the duties they may be called upon to exercise.

*Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department*



## ***MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING***



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



**JAMIE L. VOGEL**

Jamie was born in Neptune, New Jersey and grew up in nearby Allentown. He graduated from Allentown High School in 1987. After graduation, Jamie moved to Southern California where he worked as a restaurant manager in Newport Beach for several years. He is currently attending Rancho Santiago College in Orange working toward a degree in political science.

In 1996, Jamie joined the Sheriff's Department. He was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Intake Release Center, Men's Main Jail, and the Theo Lacy Branch Jail. While working in the jail, Jamie received two letters of commendation and was a member of the Orange County Sheriff's Color Guard.

In 2002, Jamie was transferred to the South Operations Division where he is presently working patrol in the City of Mission Viejo.

Jamie currently resides in Aliso Viejo with his wife, Deenean. He enjoys sports, golfing in Palm Desert and Napa Valley, traveling, and taking day trips with his wife.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**



KENNETH L. BINNING

Ken was born and raised in San Francisco, California, where he graduated from South San Francisco High School in 1979. He attended San Jose State University and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Operations. He later obtained his graduate degree, Masters of Public Administration from California State University Long Beach.

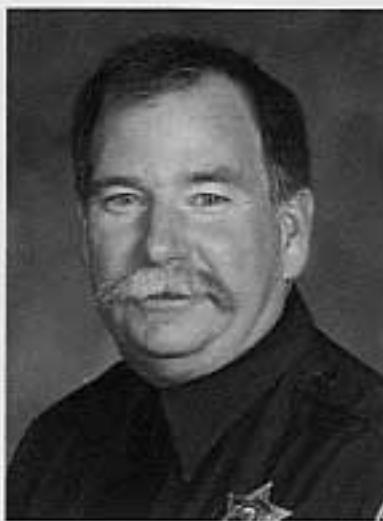
Ken joined the United States Marine Corps in 1983, at the rank of Lieutenant. He was a helicopter pilot and was stationed at Quantico, Virginia, the Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Florida, and at the Marine Corps Air Station in Tustin. During his military career, Ken received seven medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross with Roman Numeral I and Navy Commendation Medal. He completed his service with the Marine Corps as a Captain.

In 1993, Ken joined the Sheriff's Department. He was assigned to the James A. Musick Facility and later worked at the Central Jail Complex/ Men's Jail. Ken transferred to the North Operations Division in 2000, and later transferred to the South Operations Division where he is currently a Motorcycle Officer in the City of Mission Viejo.

Ken currently resides in Mission Viejo with his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Bill, age eight, and Bernie, age seven. Ken enjoys taking an active role in his children's lives, traveling extensively with his family, participating in church activities, biking and weapons proficiency.



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



**STEVEN D. ARMAND**

Steve was born in Huntington Park, California. His family later moved to Newport Beach where he attended Newport Harbor High School graduating in 1970. He attended Orange Coast College and the University of Nevada, working towards his general education.

After college, Steve worked in his family's ceramic tile business. In 1983, he enlisted in the United States Army serving in both the Nevada Army National Guard and the California Army National Guard as a specialist for flight operations.

In 1985, Steve joined the Sheriff's Department. He was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Men's Jail and the James A. Musick Honor Farm. In 1988, he was transferred to the South Operations Division where he worked in the City of Mission Viejo for 15 years. In 2003, Steve was transferred to the Harbor Patrol Division and is currently assigned to the Newport Beach Office.

In 2002, Steve received the Department's Medal for Lifesaving. He also received the "Hometown Hero Award" from the City of Mission Viejo and the "Orange County Fire Authority Chief's Heroism Award" for his heroic actions in saving the life of a 16 year old traffic accident victim.

Steve currently resides in Mission Viejo with Georgina, his wife of 28 years. He enjoys water sports, studying military history and traveling throughout the world with his wife.



**DEPUTIES JAMIE VOGEL, KENNETH BINNING  
and  
STEVEN ARMAND**

**Rendered first Aid to a Suicide Victim**

During the morning hours of Monday, March 10, 2003, Deputies Jamie Vogel, Ken Binning and Steve Armand were working patrol in the City of Mission Viejo when they were sent to check on the welfare of a man at his home. A female informant reported her ex-boyfriend was despondent over their recent break up. The ex-boyfriend had called the informant at work and said he was going to hang himself. The informant said her ex-boyfriend had made similar threats in the past but never actually attempted to kill himself.

Deputy Vogel was the first to arrive at the home. As he knocked on the front door, he looked through the frosted windowpane adjacent to the door and saw a figure in the foyer of the home. When he looked closer he saw the figure was actually a man hanging by a cloth-like noose around his neck. Deputy Vogel tried to open the front door; however it was locked. He advised dispatch that he would be forcing entry into the house. He entered the home and saw a male hanging motionless from a sheet tied around his neck. The sheet was secured to the second floor banister.

Deputy Vogel took hold of the man's torso, cut the sheet with a knife and lowered him to the ground. He checked the man's vital signs and determined he was not breathing and did not have a pulse. Deputy Vogel requested paramedics respond and he started Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Deputies Binning and Armand arrived at the home and assisted Deputy Vogel with CPR. The deputies rotated positions and continued to administer CPR for about seven minutes until paramedics arrived and took over lifesaving efforts.

The man was transported to a nearby hospital for treatment. Despite the exemplary efforts of Deputies Vogel, Binning and Armand the subject succumbed to his injuries.



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



**FRANK LIU**

Frank was born in Kowloon, Hong Kong. His family immigrated to the United States when he was eight years old, settling in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from Dorsey High School in 1980 and later attended Santa Ana College working toward a degree in criminal justice.

In 1980, Frank joined the United States Navy. He was a Hospital Corpsman and was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, Beirut, Lebanon, and North Carolina. During his military career, Frank received six medals including, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Expeditionary Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. He completed his service with the Navy as a Hospital Corpsman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class.

Frank started his law enforcement career in 1986, as a police officer for the Monterey Park Police Department in Los Angeles, California. In 1990, Frank joined the Orange County Marshal's Department, which merged with the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 2000. He was assigned to the Central Justice Center and is currently working at the North Justice Center.

Frank currently lives in Yorba Linda with his wife, Wendy, and their daughters Samantha, age 14, six year old Amanda, and three-year-old twins, Lauren and Lindsey. Frank enjoys golfing and spending time with his family and friends. He also likes to fly his radio-controlled airplane at Fountain Valley Regional Park.



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



**JOHN R. ANGELLO**

John was born and raised in Escondido, California and graduated from Escondido High School in 1982. He attended Miramar College in San Diego County majoring in criminal justice.

John started his law enforcement career in 1985, with El Centro Police Department as a police officer and later transferred to the Escondido Police Department. In 1990, he joined the Marshal's Department, which merged with the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 2000. He has previously been assigned to the West Justice Center, the Harbor Justice Center, and is currently working at the North Justice Center.

John currently resides in San Bernardino with his wife, Cheryl, and their children, Patrick, 21, Jillian 12, and Connor, who is eight years old. He volunteers at his community church and spends time coaching his children's softball and baseball teams.



**DEPUTIES FRANK LIU  
and  
JOHN ANGELLO**

**Saved the Life of a Heart Attack Victim**

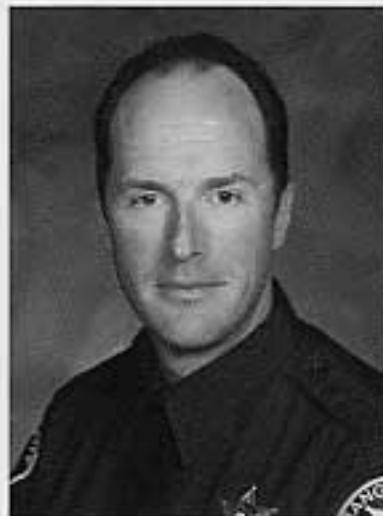
On the morning of Friday, January 3, 2003, Deputy Frank Liu and Deputy John Angello were working in the detention area of the North Justice Center. Deputy Liu was conducting a check of the inmates in the court holding area when he noticed a male inmate in one of the cells, by himself, slumped over on a bench. Deputy Liu checked on the inmate and found he was having difficulty breathing. Deputy Angello arrived and together they moved the inmate onto the ground to help open up his airway. Paramedics were requested to respond to their location.

While monitoring the inmate's condition, the Deputies saw that he had stopped breathing and began to turn blue. Deputy Liu and Deputy Angello immediately started Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Deputy Angello began chest compressions while Deputy Liu started the Ambu Bag breathing component of CPR. Both Deputies continued CPR for several minutes until paramedics arrived and took over lifesaving efforts.

The inmate was transported to a nearby hospital where the Captain of the Fullerton Fire Department stated that the inmate was still alive due to the lifesaving effort of Deputy Liu and Deputy Angello.



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



**CHRISTOPHER F. CORN**

Chris was born in Santa Maria, California and grew up in Huntington Beach. He graduated from Marina High School in 1984. He later attended Goldenwest College, working toward his bachelor's degree.

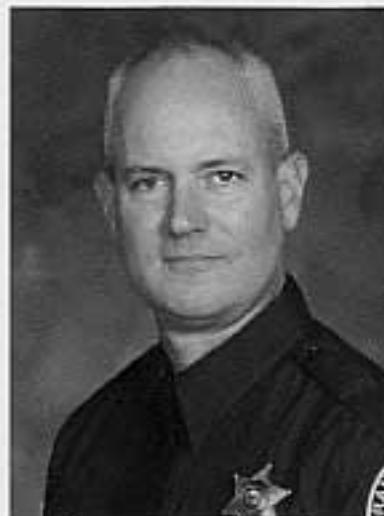
In 1987, Chris joined the United States Navy specializing in electronic technology. He was stationed at Manama, Bahrain during Desert Storm and Desert Shield, and also in San Diego, California. During his military career, Chris received nine service medals, including the Navy Achievement Medal, Sea Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal and Good Conduct Medal. He completed his service with the Navy as a Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class.

Chris joined the Sheriff's Department in 1994 and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Men's Jail. Six years later, he transferred to the South Operations Division working in the City of Lake Forest. He is currently assigned to the Harbor Patrol Division at the Newport Beach Office and is a member of the Sheriff's Department Dive Team.

Chris resides in Mission Viejo with his wife, Donna. In his leisure time he can be found relaxing on their 30 foot cabin cruiser in the Pacific Ocean, or riding his dirt bike in the desert with his wife and friends.



## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING



### STEPHAN A. SHANDRICK

Steve was born in Westminster, California and grew up in nearby Huntington Beach. He graduated from Marina High School in 1978. Steve attended California State University Long Beach where he received his Bachelors of Science Degree in Aeronautical Science.

In 1986, Steve joined the Sheriff's Department and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Men's Jail. In 1989, he was transferred to the South Operations Division where he worked in the City of Lake Forest and later in the City of Laguna Hills. While in patrol, Steve was selected to be a Field Training Officer and later chosen to be part of the Directed Enforcement Team.

Steve was transferred to the Training Division in 1997, where he was assigned as an Academy Tactical Officer. In 2003, Steve was transferred to the Harbor Division where he is currently working at the Newport Beach Office.

In 1994, Steve received the Department's Medal of Valor Award for his actions during an officer involved shooting with an armed bank robber.

Steve lives in the City of Lake Forest with his wife, Julie and their two children, Alyssa, 17, and Steven, 14. He enjoys riding his mountain bike; target shooting, traveling and spending time with his family.



**DEPUTIES CHRISTOPHER CORN  
and  
STEPHAN SHANDRICK**

**Saved the Life of a Drowning Victim**

On the night of Wednesday, February 12, 2003, Deputy Chris Corn and Deputy Steve Shandrick were assigned to harbor patrol at the Newport Beach Office. They were working in the Sunset Harbor area where Deputy Corn was diving in order to clear away debris that had become entangled with the propeller of the fireboat.

They received a call to assist Seal Beach Police Department regarding a report of three people in the ocean off of the Seal Beach Pier. It was reported a female was seen floating in the water and two men had jumped off the pier into the ocean to save her. Deputy Corn quickly removed the remaining debris from the propeller and they responded toward Seal Beach Pier. Due to the distance, heavy surf conditions, cold water and the potential for the victim to suffer from hypothermia, they responded with emergency lights and sirens.

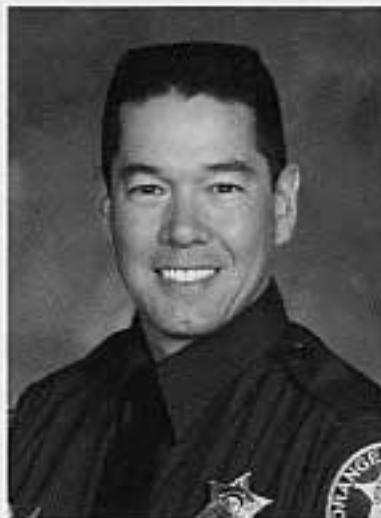
While enroute, they were notified two Long Beach Fire/Swift Water Rescue Team members were in the area conducting drills and would also respond. When they arrived they saw four people in the ocean, two firemen, one rescuer and an unconscious female.

In the heavy swells the boat was maneuvered to the rescuers' location, which allowed Deputy Corn and Deputy Shandrick to pull the four people out of the water and onto the boat. They saw the female was not breathing and found she had no pulse. Deputies Corn and Shandrick immediately began Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) as they transported the female to the Long Beach Lifeguard Dock in Los Alamitos Bay. Upon arrival at the dock the deputies handed over the victim to Long Beach Paramedics.

The female was transported to a nearby hospital where she remained in critical condition for several days. Despite the heroic efforts of Deputies Corn and Shandrick she eventually succumbed to her injuries.



## **MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING**



**JOSEPH E. WARNER**

Joe was born in Santa Ana, California and grew up in Lake Forest. He attended El Toro High School where he graduated in 1981. After high school he attended Saddleback College where he majored in criminal justice.

Joe joined the Sheriff's Department in 1986. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to the Central Jail Complex where he worked at the Men's and Women's Jails, as well as the Intake Release Center. Joe was later transferred to the South Operations Division where he worked patrol in East Unincorporated and was selected as an original member of the Critical Incident Response Team. He is currently assigned to the City of Rancho Santa Margarita.

Joe currently resides in San Clemente with his wife, Julia, and their two sons, Jake, age seven and Ian, age four. He enjoys surfing and snow skiing. He takes pleasure in being his children's Cub Scout Master and coaching their baseball team.



## DEPUTY JOSEPH WARNER

### **Saved the Life of a Heart Attack Victim**

During the afternoon of Sunday, March 9, 2003, Deputy Joe Warner was working patrol in the City of Rancho Santa Margarita when he was dispatched to a residence where a man had stopped breathing and had possibly suffered a heart attack.

Deputy Warner arrived at the residence and was immediately directed into the house by a frantic woman pleading with him to help her husband. He entered the house and saw the husband lying on the living room floor while his two daughters were attempting Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The man's eyes were opened and fixed, his face was blue and he was unresponsive. Deputy Warner took control and began the chest compression portion of CPR while he instructed the daughter to give the breaths.

Deputy Warner saw the chest rise and the male victim began to breath on his own. The man stopped breathing again so Deputy Warner continued with chest compressions while the man's daughter gave the breaths. After a short time the man again began to breath on his own. Deputy Warner told the daughter to stop giving the breaths but he continued with the chest compressions.

A short time later, paramedics arrived and Deputy Warner continued with chest compressions until paramedics were able to establish a regular heart rhythm and stabilize the man before transporting him to a local hospital. The man was conscious and talking by the time he arrived at the hospital. The man was admitted into the hospital where he was treated and later released.



TRAILING THE LEADER



## ***MEDAL OF COURAGE***



## MEDAL OF COURAGE



**DANIEL P. MISSEL**

Dan was born and raised in Davenport, Iowa. He graduated from Assumption High School in 1984, and in the same year joined the United States Marine Corps. He was originally stationed at El Toro Marine Base and later served overseas in Iwakuni, Japan. During his military career, Dan received several medals including the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and the Meritorious Unit Citation. He completed his service with the United States Marine Corps as a Corporal.

Dan joined the Sheriff's Department in 1990, and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Men's Jail. He also worked at the James A. Musick Facility and the Theo Lacy Branch Jail. Dan was later transferred to the South Operations Division where he worked in the City of San Juan Capistrano. He is currently assigned to the City of San Clemente.

In 2000, Dan received the "Deputy of the Year" award from the City of San Juan Capistrano. In 2002, he was the recipient of the Sheriff's "Gold Star" award and was recently awarded "Deputy of the Year" for the City of San Clemente.

Dan currently lives in Mission Viejo with his wife, Sandy, and their three children, Kyle, age 10, Lauren age eight, and the youngest one, Rebekah, age four. He enjoys taking Tae Kwon Do lessons with his children, going to the movies, playing the guitar and working out to stay in shape.



## **DEPUTY DANIEL MISSEL**

### **Hit and Run Investigation Turns Into An Officer Involved Shooting**

During the afternoon of March 17, 2003, Deputy Daniel Missel was working patrol in the City of San Clemente when he was dispatched to follow up on a hit and run accident. The suspect's license plate showed that the vehicle was registered to an address in San Clemente. Deputy Missel drove to the given address and waited for the suspect and the vehicle to return.

A short time later, Deputy Missel observed the suspect arrive in the vehicle and park in the driveway of the residence. Deputy Missel approached the car and made contact with the suspect who quickly exited the vehicle. While speaking to the suspect, Deputy Missel saw a large caliber handgun on the passenger seat. During the initial contact the suspect became uncooperative and began to reach into the passenger side of the window to retrieve the handgun. In an attempt to subdue the suspect and to keep him from gaining control of the handgun, Deputy Missel pulled out his department issued pepper spray and sprayed the suspect. The pepper spray appeared to have no affect on the suspect and he was able to grab the handgun out of his vehicle and turn toward Deputy Missel.

In self-defense, Deputy Missel immediately drew his handgun and fired several rounds at the suspect striking him. At the same time he was firing his weapon Deputy Missel moved to a position of cover. The suspect turned and while running into the house fired a round at Deputy Missel. The suspect remained barricaded in his house until the Sheriff's SWAT Team subsequently took him into custody.



STORY OF THE MEDAL



*MEDAL OF VALOR*



STORY OF THE MEDAL



*MEDAL OF VALOR*



## **MEDAL OF VALOR**



**SEAN A. HOWELL**

Sean was born in Covina, California and grew up Diamond Bar. He graduated from Diamond Bar High School in 1992. After high school, he attended Mt. San Antonio College where he obtained certification and licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician. He is currently attending National University at an Orange County satellite campus working towards a bachelor degree.

Prior to working for the Sheriff's Department, Sean worked full time as a grocery market supervisor and part time as an Emergency Medical Technician with an ambulance company. In 1995, he joined the Sheriff's Department and was assigned to the Central Jail Complex/Intake Release Center, and later worked at the James A. Musick Facility. Sean is currently assigned to the North Operations Division.

Sean is a Bike Patrol Instructor and teaches CPR for the American Red Cross. He teaches these courses as part of the Advanced Officer Training at the Sheriff's Training Facility.

Sean currently lives in Chino Hills with his wife, Cheri, who works as an Investigative Assistant with the Department's Fugitive Warrant Bureau. They recently celebrated the birth of their first child, Cody. Sean enjoys camping, dirt bike riding, and taking trips to the river with his family and friends.



## **DEPUTY SEAN A. HOWELL**

### **Domestic Violence Escalated Into An Officer Involved Shooting**

During the rainy, late night hours of March 15, 2003, Deputy Howell was working patrol in the unincorporated area of North Orange County. Deputy Howell and two other deputies were sent to a residence in Yorba Linda regarding a female who had reported being assaulted by her boyfriend. The assault occurred outside of the boyfriend's parents' home. The female informant was able to run away from her boyfriend and entered the home. She locked the front door in order to keep the boyfriend outside, however the suspect began to bang on the front door. While deputies were responding, dispatch advised them that the boyfriend had broken into the home and was assaulting his girlfriend and family members with a 12-inch knife.

Due to the inclement weather and the distance of the responding deputies, the Brea Police Department dispatched an officer to the residence in Yorba Linda. The dispatcher advised the deputies that the suspect's mother was now calling on the Sheriff's Desk 911 emergency line to inform dispatch that her son was out of control and destroying their home. The mother also stated that her son was threatening to stab family members. She pleaded with the dispatch operator for the Sheriff's Department to hurry.

Deputy Howell and a Brea Police Officer were the first ones to arrive at the scene. Deputy Howell saw the suspect walk out the front door of the home holding the female as a hostage in front of him with a large 12-inch knife held to her throat. Deputy Howell pulled his duty weapon out of the holster, pointed it at the suspect and ordered him to drop the knife. The suspect refused to drop the knife and continued to walk toward the officers. The suspect's father grabbed him from behind allowing the female to break away from the suspect's grasp.



After a short struggle both father and son fell to the ground. The suspect was still holding the knife in his hand when he stood up and began to advance towards the officers. The suspect's father stood up and again grabbed the suspect from behind knocking them both to the ground for the second time. The suspect broke away from his father's grasp and stood up while holding the knife in his hand. The suspect again advanced toward Deputy Howell and the Brea Police Officer ignoring their commands to drop the knife.

The Brea Police Officer fired his less lethal weapon at the suspect striking him four times with beanbags. This had no obvious affect on the suspect and he continued to advance toward the officers with the knife in hand. Fearing for his life and the life of the Brea Police Officer, Deputy Howell fired his weapon at the advancing suspect. The suspect was struck and fell to the ground where he succumbed to his injuries.

## **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.

## God Bless The USA

If tomorrow all the things were gone I'd worked for all my life,  
And I had to start again with just my children and my wife,  
I'd thank my lucky stars to be living here today,  
'Cause the flag still stands for freedom  
And they can't take that away.

*(chorus)*

I'm proud to be an American where at least I know I'm free,  
And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me,  
And I gladly stand up next to you and defend her still today,  
'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land,  
God Bless the U.S.A.

From the lakes of Minnesota to the hills of Tennessee,  
Across the plains of Texas from sea to shining sea,  
From Detroit down to Houston and New York to L.A.,  
There's pride in every American heart  
and it's time we stand and say:

*(repeat chorus)*

*Lee Greenwood*

Orange County  
**Sheriff's**   
**Advisory**  
**Council**

On behalf of Sheriff Michael Carona and the members of the Sheriff's Advisory Council we thank you for joining us for The Sixteenth Annual Sheriff's Medal of Valor Presentation Luncheon.

The Sheriff's Advisory Council is a non-profit, charitable organization 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 15 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, Sheriff Michael Carona 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.



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

