

**Nomination Form****POST Excellence in Training Award****Application for 2015 Nominees**[POST Home](#)  
[California Home](#)[Section 1 – Nominee](#)[Section 2 – Nominator](#)[Section 3 – Justification](#)[Section 4 – Documentation](#)**Section 1. Nominee Information**1. Award Category (select one only) ☒ Individual ☐ Lifetime ☐ Organizational

2. Nominee Dale Lovvik

3. Title (if applicable) Deputy Sheriff

4. Agency/Organization (if applicable) Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Palmdale Station

5. Mailing Address

6. Contact Numbers

**Section 2. Nominator Information**

7. Name Don P. Ford

8. Title Captain

9. Agency/Organization Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Palmdale Station

10. Mailing Address

11. Contact Numbers

12. Department Head/CEO

13. Signature

**Complete all remaining sections. Attach additional pages if needed.**[Section 3 – Justification](#)[Section 4 – Documentation](#)[How to Submit](#)

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## Nomination Form: POST Excellence in Training Award Application for 2015 Nominees

[Section 1 – Nominee](#)[Section 2 – Nominator](#)[Section 3 – Justification](#)[Section 4 – Documentation](#)

### Section 3. Justification for Nomination – REQUIRED

#### 14. Describe the individual's or organization's purpose and training responsibility.

Deputy Lovvik is assigned as one of three School Liaison Deputies for the Palmdale School District. The district serves 22,000 students at 24 sites and covers 75 square miles. Deputy Lovvik has voluntarily taken responsibility for safety training of school students and staff at his assigned schools. Deputy Lovvik developed and presented a plan to train school administrators and staff in proper procedures for response to an active shooter and natural disaster. His plan included options for sheltering in place, evacuating, and reunification of students with their parents. Deputy Lovvik obtained required materials, including two way radios and base radios to provide communication between classrooms and administrative offices and between campuses and district headquarters. He wrote a detailed school safety plan for each campus, then gave inservice training to teachers and school administrators at several sites. After completing training he supervised drills that practiced the skills needed, including actual evacuations, marking of classrooms with color coded door tags for searchers, exercising notification procedures to administrators and parents, and debriefing students on their experience.

Deputy Lovvik then took his training concerns one step further. He designed and obtained approval to conduct teen Community Emergency Response Team training to students. This program taught basic first aid and other disaster response skills to multiple students, allowing them to take a leadership role in the case of a disaster, natural or manmade. After completing the training each graduating student received a backpack with emergency supplies they could keep to assist in the event of need.

#### 15. Describe the nominee's overall achievement.

Deputy Lovvik's efforts at training staff and students in emergency response skills covered all 24 campuses of the school district. This meant that every employee and student present on the day of the training or drill received proper instruction and had the opportunity to exercise their skills under the direction of trained deputies and medical staff. The vast majority of the 22,000 students were thus able to participate. This took great logistical skill and planning as well as convincing sometimes skeptical staff of the value and necessity. Deputy Lovvik convinced school administrators and teachers to make the financial and classroom time commitment to ensure the safety of the children he was charged with protecting was actually going to happen in event of a real need.

Deputy Lovvik's efforts at CERT training have resulted in 150 young men and women being trained at the same level as adult CERT volunteers across the nation. In addition to the hard skills of first aid, evacuation, and notification protocols, the students have achieved a level of leadership and self confidence that teachers report is visible in their classroom demeanor.

Another positive outcome of the training was to expose issues surrounding special needs students in times of crisis. As a result of the training scenarios presented, Deputy Lovvik and school staff have been able to develop better options for students with physical and mental challenges. The overall feedback from parents, staff and school administrators has been extremely positive and has led to ongoing training and capability building by staff members now that they have been exposed to basic concepts of emergency preparedness.

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**Application for 2015 Nominees****Section 3. Justification for Nomination** *continued***16. Give explanations for each of the following three criteria to support your nomination.****a) Innovation**

Deputy Lovvik's dedication and perseverance in teaching classroom responses to disaster is not particular to him or Palmdale School District. What is unique is his follow up decision to teach individual students CERT skills normally reserved for adults. Once the idea to teach youth these survival skills was made the teaching methods had to be modified to match the learning styles, languages (both english and spanish were used) and carving out classroom time and credit were essential in bringing the program within the reach of less advantaged students.

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**b) Impact**

The first and most obvious impact of Deputy Lovvik's training has been the increased capacity of both staff and students to respond effectively to an emergency. The program has demonstrated that even young students can have a positive impact in an emergency. The leadership of competent students on other students in crisis can be an invaluable aid to teachers likely to be overwhelmed. The immediate connection of someone their own age calmly and decisively assisting a frightened student is well worth the cost of the program, and certainly is worthy of recognition. A secondary and surprising impact discovered was that students were willing to work harder at other academic requirements in order to be selected for the CERT classes. The sense of accomplishment by successful students will likely reap more benefits in their school careers.

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**c) Reputation/Recognition**

Deputy Lovvik's efforts and the friendly manner he approached have led to widespread acceptance of the program by formerly skeptical teachers. The success of the program was recognized by local newspapers and in awards given to participants by the School District Board of Trustees.

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**Section 4. Support Documentation – REQUIRED**

**17. Provide a brief list of any supporting documents included with this application.**

Copy of Graduation Press Release  
2 photos of CERT class.

**To complete your application:**

- 1) Make sure you have filled in all applicable sections.
- 2) Print and sign form.
- 3) Attach all supporting documents.
- 4) Send your completed application to:



**Excellence in Training Screening Committee**  
**c/o California POST**  
**Executive Office**  
**860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100**  
**West Sacramento, CA 95605**

Application questions: 916.227.2808 — Janice Bullard