

**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 Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department

3. Title (if applicable) Surviving an Active Shooter

4. Agency/Organization (if applicable) Training Bureau / Video Production Unit

5. Mailing Address

6. Contact Numbers

**Section 2. Nominator Information**

7. Name Scott W. Gage

8. Title Captain

9. Agency/Organization Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department / Training Bureau

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](#)POST Marked  
12-3-15

## 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.

The Video Production Unit's (VPU) mission is to create law enforcement training content for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and to support the many units and employees with specific video production needs. In addition, VPU is a resource for other Los Angeles County Departments and allied law enforcement agencies. The Video Production Unit's most recent project, Responding to an Active Shooter, is being used within the Department, but is in high demand by a number of law enforcement agencies from across the country. The VPU staff consists of one sergeant, one deputy, and five professional staff members.

With social media reshaping many aspects of law enforcement training and how it reaches its targeted audience, the Department called upon the Video Production Unit to produce a variety of short community outreach videos. These videos are currently posted on the Department's Facebook web page and on the Department's Youtube channel. Surviving an Active Shooter (public version) is just one example of their involvement in community outreach which has went beyond local venues reaching out across the world.

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

After the mass casualty shooting in Aurora Colorado in 2012, the Video Production Unit saw the need for developing an updated training video to help educate law enforcement officers on how to respond to these ever increasing events. With many active shooter incidents ending before law enforcement arrived on-scene, VPU saw a need to educate the public on how to escape and evade an active shooting situation, but more importantly, how to respond and communicate to law enforcement officers once they arrive on-scene.

To date, the civilian version (Surviving an Active Shooter) has over 360,000 views on Youtube worldwide. With active shooter situations sadly becoming more common, the need to better train law enforcement on their response to these situations was identified by VPU. VPU has received over one hundred requests for its video link. The training videos provided a much needed resource for smaller agencies across the country that were unable to create their own training videos. The 16 minute video (Responding to an Active Shooter) could potentially be the only outside training they receive concerning their response and deployment to one of these horrific events. Besides the requests from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, VPU was recently contacted by private companies, the Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Army concerning the development of their own training videos.

The VPU collaborated with the Sheriff's Tactics and Survival Unit and other subject matter experts to craft scripts that were consistent with policy, tactics, legality, and risk management concerns. Other obstacles that were overcome by the unit was the difficult task of obtaining a site for a large scale filming event at local malls, obtaining actors and role players, and adjusting schedules to meet the small window of availability. The entire VPU staff was responsible in developing a contemporary training video that served to be a substantial contribution to law enforcement and the public. Their innovative approach has used technology to impact and train thousands of individuals.

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Within the law enforcement community, a training video is a common way of disseminating information to a large number of personnel with minimal cost. Over the years, law enforcement has attempted to educate the public on a variety of topics but those attempts were usually in the form of a short (30 second) Public Service Announcement (PSA). Usually the message that the PSA delivered was short lived because it failed to hit a large audience and the message was easily forgotten because it failed to impact the viewer on an emotional level.

Surviving an Active Shooter was the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's first attempt to train a large number of the civilian population, not in a PSA format, but in a public service film. The nine minute film was designed to impact the viewer on an emotional level, and by the use of multimedia (Youtube) was designed to hit large number of viewers.

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**b) Impact**

It is the Department's belief that the learning points in the training video can save lives. To date, the civilian version of the video has been viewed by over 360,000 people in 146 different countries. With the United States and Canada with the most views (followed by England, Australia and Germany), it is our goal to better prepare not only the responding law enforcement officer but the citizen who will be faced with this life altering event.

Within the law enforcement community, the law enforcement version of the video (Responding to an Active Shooter) is available to them via password protected secure server. To date, over one hundred law enforcement agencies, from across the country, have downloaded the law enforcement version of the video. Many agencies have sent messages to the VPU staff thanking the Department for use of the video.

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**c) Reputation/Recognition**

The Video Production Unit has a long history within the Department dating back to the 1950's. With very few full time law enforcement video production units in the Country, the demand for their past and current projects is constant. The videos produced by VPU are likely to be in video libraries of hundreds of law enforcement agencies from coast to coast.

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DVD with the law enforcement version of the video (Responding to an Active Shooter) and the civilian version of the video (Surviving an Active Shooter).

**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