

Attachment B

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POST Excellence in Training Award

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About the Award

The POST Excellence in Training Award annually recognizes truly outstanding law enforcement trainers. Previously known as the Governor's Award for Excellence in Peace Officer Training, the awards for training excellence began in 1994.

The POST Excellence in Training Award recognizes individuals and organizations for outstanding achievements and contributions to law enforcement training. The award encourages and fosters innovation, quality, and effectiveness. The award is given in three categories: Individual Achievement, Organizational Achievement, and Lifetime Achievement. The awards are presented by the Commission at a special ceremony in June. Runners-up receive honorary certificates of recognition.

Review Process

The nominations for the three categories of the award are reviewed each year by the POST Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee includes representatives with broad-based interests in the law enforcement profession. The nominations are evaluated using specific criteria for the three awards. The Committee deliberates and makes its recommendations to the Commission. The Commission makes the final award selections.

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2011 Award Winners

2011 Individual Achievement

Lieutenant Chris J. Perez, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LACSD), was assigned as a Sergeant to the Pitchess Detention Center Range from July 2009 to March 2011 when he was promoted to Lieutenant. While there, he became the catalyst for changing the manner in which firearms training is taught and learned by law enforcement students. From his analysis of officer-involved shootings, he identified the essential skill sets needed to be successful in deadly encounters and then put in place the training that would effectively teach those skills. Lieutenant Perez developed an instructor guide and standardized drills that still stressed accuracy, but emphasized response under combat situations. While in this assignment, Lieutenant Perez developed the three-phase plan that: 1) Implemented a mandated instructor update training and competency program, 2) changed all firearms courses to closely enact the actual skills and mind-set to prepare for combat situations, and 3) redesigned obsolete ranges to facilitate the new training paradigm.



Runner-up: Debbie Eglin, Corporal, San Diego Miramar College, School of Public Safety is the runner-up for the 2011 POST Excellence in Training Award for Individual Achievement.

2011 Organizational Achievement

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office has been in the forefront of training excellence for several years. An example of this valuable and effective training is "Urban Shield" created in 2006. "Urban Shield" is a 48-hour continuous exercise that is highly interactive, challenging and task driven. It provides first responders from all disciplines, public and private, to train together in a real-life setting to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to perform key tasks required in large-scale disasters. It is designed to identify and stretch regional resources to their limits, while expanding regional collaboration and building positive relationships. Urban Shield challenges the skills, knowledge, and abilities of all who participate, and has received national and international recognition. This award was accepted on behalf of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office by Commander Donald M. Buchanan.



Runner-up: Criminal Justice Institute (CJI) is the runner-up for the 2011 POST Excellence in Training Award for Organizational Achievement.

Work in Progress

Honorable Mention: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Muslim Community Affairs Unit – Sergeant Mike Abdeen and Deputy Sheriff Morsi received Honorable Mention for the 2011 POST Excellence in Training Award for Organizational Achievement.

2011 Lifetime Achievement

Executive Director Michael Gray of the San Diego Regional Training Center is responsible for managing a number of POST legacy training programs such as the Instructor Development Institute (IDI) and the Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation's (ICI). Mr. Gray began his law enforcement career in 1984 with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He began his training career as a department Field Training Officer in 1989. In 1993, while working LASD's Auto Theft Taskforce, he became the administrator and instructor for the ICI Vehicle Theft Investigations Course, training more than 300 investigators during this assignment. After retiring from the Sheriff's Department, he continued to pursue his passion of training law enforcement personnel. In 1997, Mr. Gray graduated from Class 6 of the POST Master Instructor Development Program and was later selected to be a co-facilitator in this program from 2007-2011. One of Mr. Gray's most significant accomplishments was overseeing the initial design and development of the annual POST Instructor Symposium which has received outstanding acclaim. In recognition for his contributions, he was awarded the ICI Excellence in Instruction Award in 2006 and the Robert Presley ICI Founder's Award in 2009.



Runner-up: Robert Schirn, Head Deputy District Attorney (Retired), Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is the runner-up for the 2011 POST Excellence in Training Award for Lifetime Achievement.

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Past Award Recipients

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