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Nomination Form

O.J. "Bud" Hawkins Exceptional Service Award

Application for Nominees

Section 1 – Nominee
Section 2 – Nominator
Section 3 – Justification
Section 4 – Documentation

Section 1. Nominee Information

1. Nominee Name	Rich Meraz	
2. Title (if applicable)	Captain (ret.)	
3. Agency/Organization	Los Angeles Police Department	
4. Mailing Address	Street	[redacted]
	City	[redacted]
	State [redacted]	Zip [redacted]
5. Contact Numbers	Voice ( ) -	Ext
	Cell	[redacted]
	Fax ( ) -	
	Email	[redacted]

Section 2. Nominator Information

6. Name	Pete Ballew	
7. Title	City Council Member	
8. Agency/Organization	City of San Leandro	
9. Mailing Address	Street	[redacted]
	City	[redacted]
	State [redacted]	Zip [redacted]
10. Contact Numbers	Voice	[redacted] Ext
	Cell	[redacted]
	Fax ( ) -	
	Email	[redacted]

11. Signature

▶ Pete J. Ballew (Required)

December 1, 2021 Date

Complete all remaining sections. Attach additional pages if needed.

Section 3 – Justification
Section 4 – Documentation
How to Submit

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Section 1 – Nominee Section 2 – Nominator Section 3 – Justification Section 4 – Documentation

Section 3. Justification for Nomination – REQUIRED

12. Describe the individual's contribution(s) in furtherance of POST's mission and goals.

See attached letter

13. Describe the "legacy" in terms of the sustained impact the contribution(s) have had on POST and California law enforcement. Identify any individuals/organizations that can provide information supporting the described impact.

See attached letter

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Section 3. Justification for Nomination *continued*

14. Describe the evidence of the individual's dedication.

See attached letter

15. Describe how the contribution(s) represent "exceptional service."

See attached letter

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Section 4. Support Documentation — REQUIRED

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

Letter of nomination by Pete Ballew--attached

I imagine other supporting documents will be forwarded to you by facilitators in the SLI program

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:

Hawkins Screening Committee
c/o California POST
Executive Office
860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95605

Application questions: 916.227.2807 — Scott Loggins

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City of San Leandro
Civic Center, 835 E. 14th Street
San Leandro, California 94577
www.sanleandro.org

December 1, 2021

RE: Nomination of Rich Meraz for the Bud Hawkins Award

To whom it may concern:

I would like to nominate Rich Meraz for the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training's Bud Hawkins Award. Rich worked 43 years at the Los Angeles Police Department and retired as a Captain 3 in April, 2007. Even in retirement, Rich has continually enhanced professionalism in California Law Enforcement as a facilitator for the Supervisory Leadership Institute. He also decided he was obligated to share his story as one of the commanding officers of the Rampart Division of LAPD when the Rampart Scandal occurred. Rich shares the importance of accountability, and the importance of recognizing the perishable nature of ethical reasoning, and the importance of strengthening ethical fitness. By partnering with POST on this endeavor, Rich has addressed every SLI class beginning with Class 267 in 2010 on paying attention to the little things, and providing effective training for California Law Enforcement supervisors to ensure professional excellence. As a result, supervisors leave his sessions with a greater sense their responsibility to insure quality, integrity, accountability, cooperation, and encouraging new ideas, and these supervisors are challenged to hold themselves and others to ethical standards expected by POST and the communities we serve.

Having presented to over 210 SLI classes, Rich has surely made a sustained impact upon California law enforcement. Almost every student who participates in Rich's interactive presentations mentions it as one of the most impactful experiences not just in SLI, but in their careers. Rich masterfully weaves many of the SLI leadership concepts of learning outcomes when he presents to students. He strategically plants thought seeds that continue to grow as students continue their careers. Rich also presents (on request) to Police and Sheriff's Departments around the state. Last year, Rich presented to commanders and supervisors of a local Sheriff's Department, and I heard nothing but kudos from those I spoke with who attended.

Rich Meraz is almost 80 years old and continues to facilitate SLI as well as provide the Rampart Scandal learning presentation to every SLI class. He also works as a facilitator at the Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles showcasing the importance of human rights and the dangers of prejudice and discrimination. As an SLI facilitator, I've accompanied SLI classes attending the Museum of Tolerance and have found Rich to be, singularly, the best facilitator I've worked with. His ability to connect with people of all ages and bandwidths (young to old) is remarkable. His humble charisma and ability to connect with people allows

Pauline Russo Cutter, Mayor
City Council: Victor Aguilar, Jr. Bryan Azevedo Peter Ballew
Deborah Cox Corina N. López Fred Simon

him to deliver curriculum with ease. One of my favorite Rich Meraz sayings is, "Humility isn't thinking less of yourself, ... it's thinking of yourself less." He models the way and leads by example in actions and deeds, and remains dedicated to improving the professionalism of law enforcement and future generations of citizens. Given today's narrative surrounding law enforcement, we need committed professionals like Rich more than ever. I very much appreciate your time in considering this request, and humbly remain yours in service,

Peter J. Ballew
City Council Member