



September 20, 2013 (Issue 95)

The **City of Vallejo** proudly held two badge pinning ceremonies this week to honor 18 Police Department promotions and new hires, and 14 Fire Department promotions and graduations. Several employees recognized currently live and/or grew up in Vallejo.

Police Department

The **Police Department** recognized new hires and promotions from February through August 2013. Each received recognition as loved ones and role models pinned their new badge. The following personnel were recognized (bios are accessible in [past issues](#) of the City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report):

New Hires

- Officer Jodi Brown, Badge #637 - Hired May 6
- Officer Terry Schillinger, Badge #638 - Hired June 3
- Officer Zachary E. Jacobsen, Badge #639 - Hired July 15
- Officer Michael D. Fuentes, Badge #640 - Hired August 12
- Officer Hubbel S. Richmond, Badge #641 - Hired August 12
- Officer Amanda L. Blain, Badge #642 - Hired August 12
- Officer Hans R. Williams, Badge #643 - Hired August 26
- Officer Brandon Bessette, Badge #644 - Hired August 26



Promotions

- Jim O'Connell - Promoted to Captain on June 1
- Lee Horton - Promoted to Captain on June 29
- Jeff Bassett - Promoted to Lieutenant on June 29
- Herman Robinson - Promoted to Lieutenant on July 13
- Kent Tribble - Promoted to Sergeant on February 9
- Michael Nichelini - Promoted to Sergeant on June 29
- Jason Potts - Promoted to Sergeant July 1
- Stephen Darden - Promoted to Sergeant on July 13
- George Simpson - Promoted to Corporal on July 1
- Sanjay Ramrakha - Promoted to Corporal on August 24

K-9 Introductions

- K-Bar is a male Dutch Shepherd - Handler: Officer Megan Sheridan
- Jeory (Your-ee) is a male Belgian Malinois (Mal-in-wa) - Handler: Officer Waylon Boyce

The new dogs are relatively young because the department is looking for performance and longevity. They are both from champion lines in Holland, are new to law enforcement, and are exceptional athletes, specializing in suspect apprehension, trailing and article searching. They are expected to be certified as cross-trained narcotic detector dogs by early 2014.



Officer Boyce & Jeory

For additional information please contact Lieutenant Sid DeJesus at (707) 648-4321.

Fire Department

The **Fire Department** recognized promotions, and the graduation of Firefighter/Paramedic Apprentices from November 2012 through September 2013. Each received recognition as loved ones and role models pinned their new badge. The following personnel were recognized (some bios are accessible in [past issues](#) of the City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report):

Graduation of Apprentice Firefighter/Paramedics

- Brad Anderson - graduated on September 20
- Carlos Barillas - graduated on September 20
- Sean Ginnodo - graduated on September 20
- Ricky Laniohan - graduated on September 20
- Justin Legasa - graduated on September 20
- Dominik Martin - graduated on September 20
- Danny Saballos - graduated on September 20
- Anthony Shair-Ali - graduated on September 20



Promotions

- Marke Sharpe - promoted to Battalion Chief September 20
- Cliff Campbell - promoted to Battalion Chief September 20
- Jason Welsh - promoted to Captain in November 2012
- Kyle Long - promoted to Captain in November 2012
- Dyhanne Strohmeier - promoted to Engineer in November 2012
- Melissa Leitzke - promoted to Engineer in November 2012

In 2012, the City Council accepted a Federal SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Program) Grant, which provided funding for nine Firefighter positions for a two-year period. Recruitment for those positions concluded in the Spring and a 15-week Academy started in June. With the Recruit Academy graduation taking place today, Interim Fire Chief Ron Prince plans to begin staffing Engine 21 once again tomorrow, September 21.

"By having this extra emergency response capability, the Department will accomplish several service delivery improvements," said Chief Prince. These efficiencies include: Quicker response times to all fire and medical calls (for the last three years, the Ladder Truck responded to these calls and due to the nature of this large piece of apparatus, response times are inherently slower); Improved capacity to deliver large volumes of water at fires in the downtown area; Provide quicker response to greater alarm fires throughout the City; Significantly reduce the wear and tear on the highly specified and expensive Ladder Truck via a reduction of required medical responses by this vehicle in Station 21's district.

For additional information, please contact Interim Chief Ron Prince at (707) 648-4526.



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