



**VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Press Release**  
(707) 651-7147

May 28, 2009  
Lieutenant Abel Tenorio

**Police Employees Recognized at Awards Ceremony**

The Vallejo Police Department held its annual awards ceremony today, recognizing employees who distinguished themselves during 2008.

Employees were honored in several categories for heroism, bravery, outstanding performance and good conduct.

Receiving the Department's highest award, the **Medal of Valor**:

Sergeant Jeff Bassett  
Officer John Boyd  
Officer Jim Lofas  
Officer Drew Ramsay

Corporal Bobby Herndon  
Officer John Cunningham  
Officer Rudy Quesada  
Officer Jason Wentz

These officers placed themselves at great risk by entering the burning Casa de Vallejo and rescuing over 100 elderly and disabled residents on August 15, 2008.

**Certificates of Merit** were awarded to the Communications staff that managed and supported the personnel who responded to the Casa de Vallejo fire:

Communications Operator Leslie Barden  
Communications Operator Cathy Morgan

Communications Operator Susan Hart

Officer Ed Barrientos was awarded the **Medal of Courage** for facing down a gunman after a vehicle pursuit on December 27, 2008.

For exposing themselves to serious injury and saving the life of a motorist trapped in a burning vehicle on January 3, 2008, the **Lifesaving Medal** was awarded to:

Sergeant Kevin Hamrick  
Officer George Marcus

Officer Barbara Greene

Also receiving the **Lifesaving Medal** for saving a suicidal subject who was attempting to hang himself on April 1, 2008:

Corporal Tom Lee (Retired)  
Officer Bob Kerr

Officer Jeff Coburn

**Medals of Merit** are awarded to employees for meritorious achievement or contribution to the community, the Department or law enforcement.

- Awarded the **Medal of Merit** for their more than 10 years contribution and dedication to the Force Options training program:

Lieutenant Eric Mortenson  
Sergeant Kelly Schroeder  
Corporal Brian Estudillo  
Officer Jim Capoot

Sergeant Kevin Bartlett  
Corporal Stan Eng  
Corporal Rich Botello

- For outstanding dedication and contributions to SWAT:

Corporal Rob Reynolds

- For outstanding management and assistance in the administration of the Department's finances:

Officer Brent Garrick

- For exercising personal initiative in identifying and obtaining the confession of an attempted murder/bank robbery suspect:

Officer Mat Mustard

- For continued leadership dedication to the Volunteer program including registering sex crime offenders, conducting traffic surveys, staffing DUI checkpoints and training fellow volunteers:

Gerald Seegmiller

Marci Seegmiller

- For continued leadership and maintaining stability in the Communication Center, supporting fellow employees by opening her vacation home for retreats and giving back to the community by organizing volunteer efforts to feed the less fortunate:

Communications Manager Elisia Thomas

Recognition was also given to Corporal Brian Estudillo, **Police Officer of the Year**; Corporal Rob Reynolds and Corporal Jolene Spears-Everett as **Officer of the Year Nominees**; Communications Operator Aimee Pearsall, **Communications Operator of the Year**; Police Clerk Paula Tkacz as **Civilian of the Year**.

Employees presented the **Good Conduct Medal** for receiving three consecutive years of outstanding performance evaluation ratings are:

Corporal Steve Darden	Corporal Bobby Herndon
Corporal Rob Reynolds	Officer Brent Garrick
Communications Supervisor JoAnn Terry	Communications Operator Nicole Yates
Police Clerk Pamela Gallardo	Police Clerk Joe Thompson

Acknowledged for removing stolen and illegal firearms from the community:

Corporal Tel Postolaki (2 awards)	Officer Jason Bauer
Officer Jeremy Huff	Officer Dustin Joseph
Officer Sean Kenney (2 awards)	Officer Bobby Knight
Officer Drew Ramsay	

Contributions by members of the community were also acknowledged:

- Jim Boyle – Regal Collision Repair was awarded a **Certificate of Appreciation** for supplying services to Oakland Police Department during the recent tragic loss of four officers.
- Jim Couch – Retired Vallejo Police Officer received a **Special Medal of Merit** for unselfish and generous assistance to the family of Sergeant Ervin Romans and the Oakland Police Department.

Photographs of the award ceremony may be viewed at [Awards Photos](#)