



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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8th Annual “Z Awards For Exzellece”

Recognizing the outstanding acts of professionalism by our public safety personnel

The 8th Annual “Z Awards For Exzellece” will be held on **Thursday, May 6th at 11:30am** honoring public safety personnel who go above and beyond what is expected of them in order to serve the citizens of the Third Council District and the greater Los Angeles community. The celebration will be held at the Warner Center Marriott Hotel located at 21850 Oxnard Street in Woodland Hills.

List of the 2010 “Z Awards For Exzellece” Recipients:

- **Officer Samuel Davis, LAPD Valley Traffic Division:** Officer Davis is assigned to the Valley Traffic Division COMPSTAT Unit which is responsible for reducing fatal and serious injury traffic collisions in problem areas. Officer Davis' citation average has been approximately 30 citations per day, the highest daily average for all of the officers assigned to Valley Traffic Division. He also maintains one of the highest daily averages of vehicle impounds which has lowered the incidents of hit & run collisions within Operations-Valley Bureau. In 2009, he issued a total of 2778 traffic citations and impounded 221 vehicles. During the month of December in 2009, Officer Davis issued over 600 speeding citations on Roscoe Boulevard. Because of his tenacity, traffic collisions on Roscoe have dropped dramatically.
- **Officer Gary Shanahan, LAPD West Valley Area:** Officer Shanahan is a 30-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department and has been assigned to the West Valley area since 1982. Officer Shanahan has spent his entire career working in a field patrol capacity creating partnerships with the community. His approachable and respectable demeanor have allowed him to develop long lasting relationships, and his character is reflected in the numerous commendations he has received throughout his career. He has been able to become very familiar with the area and developed strategies to combat its crime trends.
- **Officer Dennis Cunningham, LAPD Topanga Area:** Officer Cunningham is a 12-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department who has established himself as one of the Department's best. He was promoted to Police Officer III and handpicked by Captain John Sherman, Topanga Division's Commanding Officer, to become an inaugural member of the new Topanga Station's Gang Enforcement Detail. As a gang investigator, he has made a number of significant, high-profile arrests. One such arrest occurred when Officer Cunningham detained and searched a known high-level gang shot-caller and found him to be in possession of a Tech 9 machine gun, narcotics, and money. That arrest led to Officer Cunningham initiating and being team leader for Topanga GED's first search warrant. His aggressive, proactive style of policing earned him the respect of his peers and supervisors as well as the honor of being selected Topanga's first Officer

of the Quarter. In December, Officer Cunningham was instrumental in the identification and arrest of a door-to-door magazine salesman who brutally beat, sexually assaulted, and robbed a woman at her home in Woodland Hills.

- **Officer Evelyn Solano, Office of Public Safety, LA City General Services:** Senior Lead Officer Solano is responsible for 83 parks and 13 libraries as well as the west-end Foothill area. Though she covers a significant area, she has been very successful at maintaining consistent communications within her area of operation and enjoys a good working relationship with area Council offices as well as the West Valley, Topanga, Devonshire, and Van Nuys Area LAPD SLOs. As a solo patrol car, in addition to her SLO duties, Officer Solano has amassed impressive statistics with over 63 parking cites, 27 personal service cites, seven Release From Field Custody arrests, and ten misdemeanor arrests during the past several months.
- **Captain Selwyn Lloyd, Los Angeles City Fire Department:** Captain Lloyd is not only an outstanding firefighter with exceptional technical and leadership abilities, but is highly respected by his supervisors and peers for his dedication on duty and to the citizens he serves. He is planning on dedicating the next few years to working with at-risk youth who aspire to a career in the fire department. He also puts forth efforts to diversify the future ranks of the Fire Department by running a fire academy with the help of Councilman Zine, East Los Angeles College, and the LAFD. Currently, Captain Lloyd is an instructor at the East Los Angeles Fire Academy, an instructor/counselor at the Reseda Fire Explorer Post, and a counselor/youth instructor with the West Valley Willing Worker Program.
- **Deputy Joseph Cerda, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department:** Deputy Cerda is currently assigned to the Chatsworth sub-station patrolling for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority in the San Fernando Valley. While working a single-man patrol unit in 2009, he made more than 697 arrests. Of those arrests, 425 were for open charges, ranging from possession of narcotics and weapon related violations. He seized a large amount of narcotics during traffic and pedestrian stops.
- **Officer Jeff Ferber, California Highway Patrol:** Officer Ferber excels as a CHP Officer, having received multiple commendations for his enforcement and public service efforts including the California State Medal of Valor. In 2006, Officer Ferber was assigned to the FBI's Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) team where he investigated and incarcerated individuals that prey on children. Recently, Officer Ferber and the SAFE team set up a sting in the West Valley area luring "would-be" predators to meet with what they thought were young girls. This operation netted thirteen suspects, with twelve convictions and one still awaiting trial. Officer Ferber was responsible for the arrest and conviction of a teacher in the West Valley area who was abusing students. This teacher is now serving a long prison sentence.