

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: January 13, 2022

From: Police Department

Subject: Presentation of the 2021 Officer of the Year – Herb Ross Award to Officer Jackie Yeung

Background: The Herb Ross Officer of the Year Award is presented to a Capitola Police Officer each year. This honor is named after past Capitola Police Sergeant Herb Ross, a man who stood for integrity, professionalism, and hard work. Sergeant Ross worked for the Capitola Police Department from 1973 until 2001 and during this time was a mentor to so many. He was responsible for developing several community outreach programs, such as the first Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program, the Juvenile Diversion Program, Cops Reading to Kids, and the Safe Ride Home Program. Sergeant Ross received a Capitola Mayor's proclamation for his service in 1996 and the following year was named Citizen of the Year by the Capitola Chamber of Commerce. The Herb Ross Award is a way to honor Sergeant Ross and Capitola Police Officers who go above and beyond to serve our City and greater community.

Discussion: Officer Jackie Yeung has been selected as our department's 2021 "Officer of the Year". Officer Yeung grew up in Santa Cruz County and attended Harbor High School. While attending high school, Officer Yeung volunteered his time at Capitola PD as a police explorer. After serving as a police explorer, Officer Yeung took an opportunity with Sacramento Police to attend their police academy and serve as an officer. After finishing the police academy, Officer Yeung worked for Sacramento Police for about a year, when he then made the wise decision to return to the Santa Cruz region and was hired by the City of Capitola in 2015.

In 2021, Officer Yeung obtained his second stolen vehicle award. To receive this award, an officer must locate 12 stolen vehicles (3 of the recoveries must be of vehicles still occupied by a suspect) in a 12-month period. Officer Yeung completed this task two years in a row and has also received the California Highway Patrol 1085 Award. Officer Yeung continues to be a high performer and has been selected to be the next CIU Detective. Besides his patrol duties, officer Yeung is a Field Training Officer and Firearm Instructor. Officer Yeung has helped develop our firearms training and continues to train our officers in tactics.

In addition to his work commitments, Officer Yeung continues to support the Special Olympics by participating in Police in Pursuit; a funding raising event to benefit Special Olympics Northern California. Throughout his years of service, Officer Yeung has demonstrated the highest level of professionalism and dedication to Capitola residents, our community, and his fellow employees. The selection process for this award was peer nomination followed by the unanimous vote from the supervisory and command staff of the Police Department. Please join the City in introducing Officer Jackie Yeung as the 2021 recipient of the prestigious Herb Ross Award - Officer of the Year.

Report Prepared By: Andrew Dally, Chief of Police

Reviewed By: Chloé Woodmansee, City Clerk

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager