



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** April 5, 2021  
**TO:** City Council Members  
**FROM:** Turu VanderWiel, Chief of Police  
**SUBJECT:** 2020 Employee of the Year Recognitions.

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### RECOMMENDATION

The Sonora Police Department's 2020 employee recognitions.

### DISCUSSION

Each year the Police Department recognizes exceptional performance in the following categories: Officer of the Year, Reserve Officer of the Year, Civilian Employee of the Year, the Marshall McMaster Community Service Volunteer of the Year, and the Ronald Billings II Police Explorer of the Year. These recognitions are peer-nominated, and leadership endorsed.

The following individuals were selected as the Sonora Police Department's employees of the year for 2020.

Officer of the Year, Scott Mallon – Scott has been with the department since 2016 and was recently promoted to the rank of Sergeant this past November. His peers recognized his leadership contributions well before his promotion and appreciate that he is always willing to set time aside to help out. With more than thirteen years of law enforcement experience under his belt, department staff sees him as a wealth of knowledge. His coworkers appreciate the time and energy he has put into the Field Training Program, and one newer officer attributes his success thus far to Scott's mentorship. For me, Scott's willingness and ability to step up and fill a leadership role during supervisor shortages greatly benefited the continuity of delivering police services to the community.

Reserve Officer of the Year, Danny Duffy – Danny has been with us since 2018. As a retired military officer with law enforcement experience, his professional demeanor and calming presence is reassuring to all. Junior officers appreciate his expertise and perspective, and just about everyone noted his positive attitude. Officers appreciate that Danny is always willing to engage during calls for service and not be afraid to get involved with complex cases. Staff members stated he is a great partner and is easy to work with.

Civilian Employee of the Year, Naomi Moran – Naomi has been with the department since 2010. She is known to be proactive in her duties and is not known to complain. She has a positive attitude but also takes her job very seriously. She is good at researching information and addressing problems before they develop. Her coworkers say that she is fun to work around, likes sharing her knowledge and that she "rocks." I appreciate Naomi's commitment to the department and her active involvement in improving internal processes.

Marshall McMaster Community Service Volunteer (CSV) of the Year, Robby Roberts – Robby has been with the volunteer unit since joining the Police Explorers at the age of twelve. Although COVID restrictions significantly impacted our ability to utilize volunteers in 2020, Robby still made a notable presence, volunteering more than twice as much as the next highest contributor. Robby works full-time as a 9-1-1 Dispatcher for the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Department and loves the profession enough to volunteer his free time to Sonora PD. Staff commented that Robby is upbeat, always wears a smile to work, and is willing to come out and assist with short notice, many times with little rest.

Ronald Billings II Explorer of the Year

Because we could not utilize our junior volunteers during the pandemic, there will be no recognition for this category.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund.