



The Z Award winners with their award presenter, from left: Councilman Dennis Zine, Deputy Michael Marshall, Officer Douglas Larkin, Asha Greenberg, Maria Quintero, Officer Jose Moldonado and Officer Ronald Franklin.

Z Is for AWARDS Exzelleence



Third District Councilman Dennis Zine.

■ Councilman Dennis Zine hands out his annual Z Awards, recognizing excellence in civil public safety service.

By Sharon Sandow, Chief of Staff for Councilman Zine; Photos by Alive! staff

COUNCIL — Councilman Dennis P. Zine hosted the fifth annual Z Awards April 26 at the Warner Center Marriott Hotel in the San Fernando Valley. The Z Awards, awarded by Third District City Councilman Dennis Zine and which honor those who serve and protect the safety of citizens, brought out more than 500 prominent members of the business and residential community, including Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and City Council President Eric Garcetti.

Seven worthy recipients received awards, including Asha Greenberg from the City

Attorney's office; Officer Ronald Franklin of the California Highway Patrol; Officer Douglas Larkin of Valley Traffic, LAPD; Office Jose Maldonado of West Valley Division, LAPD; Deputy Michael Marshall of the Sheriff's Department; Maria Quintero of 911 Valley Communications Dispatch; and Firefighter Wayne Shuetz of the LAFD.

These individuals exemplified excellence in their respective fields. Chosen by a committee of dedicated individuals representing the business community, the residential community, and

Neighborhood Councils, the men and women honored were chosen from a large pool of biographies of other excellent individuals.

"I am always pleased to host this worthwhile event, which in its fifth year has grown into a special time for those serving our community in the public safety fields," said Councilman Zine. "From my over 37 years in law enforcement, I know how far a 'thank you' from the community goes in the lives of those who work in the public safety arena. I am proud to host this event and the honorees, as always, were very deserving of this award."

"Receiving this award left a warm feeling with me, which will last a long time," said Asha Greenberg of the City Attorney's office, who earned an award for her fine work in shutting down nuisance properties Citywide but most particularly in the San Fernando Valley. "Sharing this day with my family and colleagues made it all the more special to me."

The Club thanks Yvette Whitaker from Councilman Zine's office for her assistance.



The certificate for Michael Marshall.



Council President Eric Garcetti presents a certificate of congratulations to Councilman Dennis Zine.



Karla Ross sings God Bless America during the ceremony.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa attended the awards ceremony.

Officer Ronald Franklin

California Highway Patrol

A native Californian, Officer Ronald Franklin was born and raised in South Los Angeles. After a ride-along as a Police Explorer Scout, at the age of 16, he knew that he wanted a career in law enforcement.

While attending UCLA as a political science major, he worked as a security guard at LAX. At 21, Ron was hired as a police officer and trained at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Academy and worked for the City of Inglewood for four years.

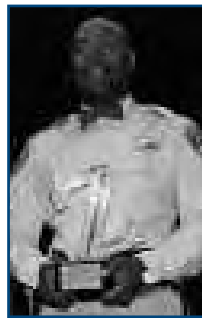
He then joined the California State Police and worked in patrol for six years. He was a field training officer and the department's weaponless defense and crowd control instructor. Ron also served on the Governor's Protective Detail that included protection for the Governor, State Treasurer, State Controller, other State officials and visiting dignitaries.

When the California Highway Patrol merged with the California State Police, he was assigned to several different divisions, where he served as an area hit-and-run investigator, the area association representative, Explorer post adviser, and school bus safety coordinator. During this period, he obtained his certificate in the use of radar enforcement.

Ron graduated from the CHP Motorcycle Training Academy and is a Motorcycle Enforcement Officer assigned to the West Valley CHP office. He was on the C.H.O.K.E. program and Southern Division Speed Enforcement Detail and is assigned to the Southern Division Honor Guard Detail as well as the Protective Services Detail for dignitary escorts.

He has received awards for his participation in the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade and continues to give back to his community by talking to elementary school students on safety.

Ron is married to Dolline and they have a daughter, Danielle, 9. He also has two adult sons. He is an usher at his church and enjoys spending time with his family, traveling and working out.



Z Award winner CHP Officer Ronald Franklin.

Firefighter/Paramedic Wayne Schuetz

Los Angeles Fire Department

Firefighter/paramedic Wayne Schuetz was born in the small town of Doylestown, Penn., but he was raised in Northridge, graduated from Granada Hills High School and attended Moorpark College.

In 1999, he entered the Ventura County Police and Sheriff's Reserve Academy, where he was president of his class. He was also honored with the Robert Stoffey Award for leadership and teamwork. He began his career with the Ventura County Emergency Medical Services as an Emergency Medical Technician, and was there in 1999-2000.

After earning his Emergency Medical Technician certification from Moorpark College, he was invited to return to the college as an assistant instructor, where he served from 1999 to 2002.

In 2001, he was accepted to the UCLA Daniel Freeman Paramedic School and graduated as class president. He was honored with the school's first leadership award in the institution's 30-year history.

He joined the LAFD in 2003 and was once again the president of his class, this time at the State Fire Marshal Fire Academy, subsequently serving in South Los Angeles and then with Battalion 17 in the Third District as a Firefighter/Paramedic with the Los Angeles Fire Department.

An acknowledged leader among his peers, Wayne has been an EMT Instructor at Los Angeles Valley College from 2000 to 2003, assisting Dr. Alan Cowen, Retired Deputy Chief of the LAPD; Paramedic Supervisor and Division Manager for AmbuService Ambulance in 2003-04; and a Clinical Instructor at the UCLA Paramedic School at Daniel Freeman, from 2003 to the present. He joined the LAFD as a Firefighter/Paramedic in 2003, and continues in that capacity.

Wayne has volunteered for the California State Firefighters Association, serving on its EMS editorial board. His wife, Tracy, comes from a fire-fighting family, as her father has been an LAFD Captain for 35 years. Wayne credits his father-in-law's career as having an important role in increasing his interest in serving in the firefighting field.

Wayne and Tracy have two children, ages three and one. Wayne is training for the Senior PGA and is also an avid water-skier and home handyman.



Z Award winner Firefighter Wayne Schuetz, LAFD.

Asha Greenberg

Assistant City Attorney

Assistant City Attorney Asha Greenberg is a first-generation immigrant. She graduated from Whittier College of Law and was the recipient of numerous AmJur Awards, was on Law Review and graduated magna cum laude and class valedictorian.

After a short stint in private practice, she joined the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office in 1983.

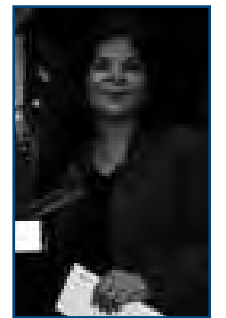
Asha has handled a variety of assignments in the City Attorney's Office, including prosecuting cases in Los Angeles and supervising the Pretrial Unit in the West Los Angeles Branch. In 1990, she began working in the FALCON Narcotics Abatement Unit that eventually became the Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP) that she currently supervises. CNAP is part of the City Attorney's Neighborhood Prosecutor Program. Prosecutors in her section have rid our communities of drug houses, illegal massage parlors, problem motels and other neighborhood nuisances.

In addition to her professional responsibilities, she has written state legislation and local ordinances that have greatly increased public safety, including the City's forfeiture ordinances for prostitution, drugs, illegal dumping and street racing. Most recently, in response to a motion by Councilman Dennis Zine, she revised the City's motel registration ordinance in order to reduce prostitution and other illegal activities at hotels and motels. Asha has also worked on wide-ranging revisions to the City's adult entertainment ordinances.

Her CNAP prosecutors have been responsible for dealing with problems at several Valley locations, including adult bookstores, Talk of the Valley and The Big Apple. Additionally, she successfully handled the appeal of a trial court decision in which the prostitution vehicle forfeiture ordinance was invalidated and \$50,000 assessed against the City for attorney's fees. Asha obtained a reversal of both the invalidation of the ordinance and the \$50,000 award. She has also filed receivership cases, one of which resulted in the rehabilitation of a substandard apartment building and another case that corrected several years of a loan fraud perpetrated on two elderly women.

Urged to run for a seat on the Santa Monica City Council due to the crime challenges facing the City, she successfully served as a Councilmember from 1992 to 1998. During that period, Asha was responsible for many changes in city policy that significantly increased public safety.

Asha is married to Maxwell Greenberg, a former Los Angeles Police Commissioner. They have two sons, David and Jonathan.



Z Award winner Asha Greenberg, Assistant City Attorney.



"Two Navy guys hamming it up," from left: Council President Eric Garcetti and John Hawkins, President and CEO of the Club.

AWARDS



Z Award winner Officer Jose Maldonado with his wife, Maggie (far left); and co-workers Patricia Blake, W. Valley Watch Commander (second from right); and Sgt. Jeffrey Tint, W. Valley Patrol Supervisor (far right).



Z Award winner Wayne Schuetz with guests and family, from left: Vickie Little; Capt. Dennis Little, LAFD, 35 years; John and Janet Birkler; Tracy Schuetz, Wayne's wife; Wayne Schuetz; and Wayne's dad, Arthur Schuetz.



The Z Awards.



Z Award winner Wayne Schuetz with Firefighter Carlos Rivera.



From left: Sheree Adams and Gennessa Stamp, Council Aide.



Z Award winner Officer Douglas Larkin with his family, Cheryl and Gerald Larkin (to his left) and his wife, Susan, to his right.



From left: Sandra Hernandez; Elaina Lopez; Sara Munoz, Sr. PSR, 8 years; Cathy Sotos, Sr. PSR, 18 years, Club Member; Charlotte Reaves, Sr. PSR, 12 years, Club Member; John Phillips, Communications, 29 years, Club Member; and Cathi Pearson, Sr. PSR, 28 Years, Club Member.

Officer Douglas Larkin

Los Angeles Police Department, Valley Traffic

Officer Douglas Larkin is a native of Southern California and a graduate of Etiwanda High School in Rancho Cucamonga. Following graduation, he joined the Army, where he earned his paratrooper "Jump Wings" and served for three years. Returning from service, he attended Citrus College and joined the California National Guard.



Z Award winner LAPD Officer Douglas Larkin, Valley Traffic.

Following the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, Doug was sent with his National Guard unit to the San Fernando Valley and spent the ensuing days protecting the Northridge Mall and surrounding businesses. He joined the LAPD in 1995 and was assigned to the Northeast Division, where he worked patrol as well as a member of a specialized gang unit. He was later assigned to the Valley Traffic Division, where he worked as a Collision Investigator, where he investigated more than 1,000 traffic collisions and arrested numerous drunk drivers. In 1997, he and his partners earned the Meritorious Unit Citation.

Doug was then transferred to the Rampart Division, where he worked patrol and bicycle duty. He was the first Media Director within the Recruitment Section. He transferred to the West Los Angeles Division, where he served as a Field Training Officer and undercover Vice Investigator and a detective trainee on the Robbery Division.

When the opportunity became available to return to Valley Traffic, Doug jumped at it. He has conducted follow-up investigations on more than 500 cases, including 13 vehicular manslaughter cases. During his 12 years with the LAPD, he has attended the LAPD Basic Detective Course, Collision Investigation School, Vice School, RADAR School, Field Training Officer School, Instructor Development School, Surveillance School, and most recently completed Supervisor's School.

He has been recognized for his superb investigative abilities, dedication and ability to get the job done.

When not on the job, Doug spends his time with his wife, Susan, and his two children, Quinn, 5, and Audrey, 3. Together they travel as much as possible and enjoy frequent trips to Disneyland.

Officer Jose Maldonado

Los Angeles Police Department

Officer Jose Maldonado, a certified Emergency Medical Technician and Drug Recognition Expert, graduated from Los Angeles City College, receiving an Associate of Arts Degree in Administration of Justice. He also attended California State University, Los Angeles, majoring in Criminal Justice.



Z Award winner LAPD Officer Jose Maldonado.

Jose has been with the Los Angeles Police Department for 25 years. During his impressive career, he has worked in a variety of assignments, including 77th Street Area; West Bureau's Gang Unit, formerly known as CRASH (Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums); the Protection Detail for Mayor Richard Riordan; Metro Division; and most recently, West Valley Division.

While at the Metro Division, Jose worked as an Assistant Squad Leader teaching tactics, handling crowd control, providing dignity and witness protection and conducting stakeouts. He was also a member of the LAPD's Mounted Unit and was a member of the Special Weapons and Tactics Unit (SWAT), providing high-risk warrant service, handling barricaded suspect situations, dealing with crowd control/riot situations and serving as a crisis negotiator.

Jose has spent the last eight years of his career assigned to the West Valley. In 2002, he was awarded the Medal of Valor for his bravery and willingness to help people after an apartment explosion. He was first to arrive at the scene; ignoring his personal safety, he focused on rescuing those trapped inside the building. His actions during the incident were truly heroic. Jose is a role model and leader and he is often sought out for his tactical expertise and advice.

For more than 17 years, Jose has competed in the Police Summer Games, winning numerous medals in swimming and water polo. During his off-duty time, he enjoys camping, hunting, fishing and spending time with his family. He and his wife, Maggie, have been married for 23 years and have ten-year-old twins, Michael and Jessica.

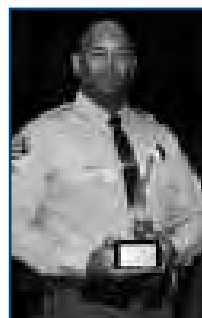


Officer Chris Zine, LAPD, 5 years, son of Councilman Dennis Zine, with Sharon Sandow, Councilman Zine's Chief of Staff.

Deputy Michael Marshall

Los Angeles County Sheriff

Deputy Michael Marshall was born in Heidelberg, Germany, to U.S. military parents and grew up in Gladstone, Ore. Prior to joining the Sheriff's Department, he was a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army, where he served as a Military Policeman for six years. He worked a variety of assignments and locations, including Germany, Honduras, Panama, Korea and Japan.



Z Award winner Deputy Sheriff Michael Marshall.

Following graduation from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy in 1992, he worked various custody assignments including Pitchess Detention Center, Hall of Justice Jail, and Men's Central Jail.

Michael was assigned to the Marina del Rey Sheriff's Station for five years, where he was one of two Marina del Rey Area Community Oriented Policing Services (C.O.P.S.) Deputies. His responsibilities included working with the local Neighborhood Watch and Crime Prevention Unit, as well as dealing with any quality of life issues that affected the community. He was a mentor in the Vital Intervention and Directional Alternatives (VIDA) program, which is a program for at-risk youth. He was a member of the Summer Enforcement Team, which conducted Bicycle Patrol and various law enforcement activities within the Marina del Rey area.

In 2002, Michael transferred to the Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau, the department's largest contract for law enforcement. He is currently assigned to the San Fernando Valley Orange Line as a Motorcycle Deputy. He becomes involved in any transit-related issues and traffic enforcement of the surrounding areas that impact the safe operation of that line in the community. Michael has written more than 1150 citations during the last year for red light and speeding violations. His dedication provides enhanced safety to the public and the transit system.

Michael is an accomplished race car driver. He has competed for several years with his vintage racecars and is a consistent winner. This year, he plans to compete on a national level and compete in a 25-hour endurance race.

Michael and his wife, Monica, have two daughters, Lauren and Camille.

Maria Quintero

Los Angeles Police Department, Communications Division

Born and raised in the San Fernando Valley, Maria Quintero joined the LAPD in 1996. Prior to her career as an LAPD Dispatcher, she worked in accounting and was a Credit Card Fraud Investigator for a local financial institution.



Z Award winner Maria Quintero, LAPD Communications.

Maria began her communications career with the Metro Division as a Police Service Representative and transferred to the Valley when the new Communications Center opened. Her current duties include being Instructor/Bureau Communications Coordinator, Radio Telephone Operator, Emergency Board Operator and Auxiliary Operator.

As the Radio Telephone Operator Training Officer, she is responsible for the overall review of the progress of all trainees assigned to her watch. She has shown herself to be very thorough and her efforts to improve the training program have resulted in her to assistance in developing and implementing recognition and reward programs.

In addition to contributing to the development of Probationary Police Service Representatives assigned to her watch, Maria mentors instructors by setting an example of what is expected of them. Her overall knowledge, coupled with maturity and dependability, has led her to take on the role of supervisor whenever the need arises.

Maria has received various commendations and was recognized as Dispatcher of the Year during National Dispatchers Week in April 2005. Whether working as an Emergency Board Operator talking calls from the public, or dispatching those calls to police cars while working as a Radio Telephone Operator, she always approaches her assignments with professionalism.

She enjoys running, swimming and spending time with her family. She has completed the Los Angeles Marathon twice and has participated in the Baker to Vegas run.



Officer Chris Zine, LAPD, 5 years, son of Councilman Dennis Zine, with Yvette Whitaker, Councilman Zine's District Office Manager, 13 years, Club Member.