

# Honoring Great Careers



The winners of the 2006 Civilian Career Service Awards, with Councilman Dennis Zine.

## ■ Personnel hosts annual Career Service Awards to recognize excellence and dedication.


Material gathered and photos by Leopoldo S. Martinez, Training Analyst, Personnel

**PERSONNEL** — Personnel held its annual Career Service Awards ceremony May 18.

The honors were given for demonstrating outstanding dedication to duty or outstanding leadership qualities.


Thanks to Eduardo Garcia, Personnel, and Maria Aguiniga in Councilman Dennis Zine's office, and especially Leopoldo S. Martinez for their assistance.

Congratulations to the winners. Here are their details.



**Mark Butler**  
Construction and Maintenance Supervisor  
Fuel Svcs. and Environmental Compliance  
General Services

Mr. Butler is responsible for managing the General Services Alternative Fuels Infrastructure projects, which involve the construction of liquefied and compressed natural gas fueling station, and safety upgrades. Because of his technical expertise, know-how and dedication to duty, he has saved the City more than \$1 million in design and construction efficiencies. The City boasts of having the largest municipally owned medium and heavy-duty alternative fuel fleet, due in no small part to Mark's efforts in the fueling and maintenance infrastructure.



**David Diliberto**  
Director of Field Operations  
Field Enforcement Operations  
Animal Services

Mr. Diliberto's dedication to duty was tested in the face of protests by animal-rights activists and smear campaigns. He persevered and became an example of steadfastness and professionalism to co-workers and the public, in times of organizational stress. At the same time, he worked on improving the quality of animal care in Los Angeles, resulting in steady reductions in the number of euthanized animals from 2001 to the present.




**Robert Jensen**  
Former Executive Officer  
Rec and Parks

Mr. Jensen recently retired from the City after enjoying a distinguished 30-year career that spanned six City departments. His legacy was felt far and wide, both within the City's professional workforce, and with many of the City's employee bargaining units. As the Executive Officer for Rec and Parks, he was instrumental in establishing the department's strategic vision and redefining its basic purpose. He used the same successful approach that he used when he spearheaded the Procurement Reengineering project that resulted in savings to the City in excess of \$200 million. Bob has set the gold standard for public service.




**Mildred Owens**  
Senior Management Analyst II  
Assistant Division Head –  
Administrative Services Division  
Public Works

Ms. Owens shines in her role as the Bureau of Engineering's key resource for Personnel and Human Resource issues, where she guides and leads in delivering projects in a timely, efficient and accomplished manner. She's known as Engineering's Personnel walking encyclopedia! Mildred represents the Bureau on critical Personnel issues with the Office of Management-Employee Services, the CAO and the Personnel Department. As Group Manager of the Training Section, she was instrumental in the development and implementation of the Bureau's training classes, and is the force behind the development and implementation of an on-line orientation program for new employees.



**Paul S. Johansen**  
Assistant Director  
Environmental Division  
Harbor

Mr. Johansen was given the challenge of leading the development of the Port's air quality program, and he took it on as the Project Manager. As a result of his exemplary work contributions, the Port completed the historic San Pedro Bay Clean Air Action Plan of reducing port pollution by 45 percent in five years and implemented the first-ever Pacific Ports Clean Air Collaborative Conference. These projects have set the standards for all other ports to follow worldwide.




**Helene Mochedlover**  
Principal Librarian  
Central Library Services  
Library

Ms. Mochedlover has devoted her entire career to building the Library's extraordinary collection of books, materials and special collections in literature and fiction. In the process, she has become the subject specialist in the highly prized and unique collections of the Library on the City's film, theater and television industries. Further, she is responsible for the publication, revision and update of the Library's play index. Through her efforts in these endeavors, she has immensely contributed to the betterment of the Los Angeles Public Library.




**Robyn Peshek**  
Management Analyst II  
Branch Library Services  
Library


Ms. Peshek is the facilities point person working with staff from 71 branch libraries on issues ranging from maintenance, salvage, custodial and other special services requests. In addition, she is the Library's Relocation maven. She is involved in moving branches, whether into new quarters, temporary quarters, or in and out of bookmobiles and temporary offices. Her unrelenting efforts were integral in the City's Library building program, which was achieved on time and under-budget!




**Palisades Maintenance**  
Pacific Region



**Eliseo Gonzales**  
Park Maintenance  
Supervisor  
(not shown)



**Wilfredo Gavidia**  
Senior Lead Gardener



**Robert Johnson Bey**  
Senior Gardener

**Steve Ramos**  
Senior Park  
Attendant II

Messrs. Gavidia, Johnson Bey, Ramos and Gonzales share a common thread – of living through an incident, and being steadfast in their duty to the City and the residents of Los Angeles. This incident occurred at the Venice Beach Pier, where the rest-

room facility separated from the pier and fell into the ocean! Because of their selfless actions, from securing the facility to evacuating people, no one was injured.

**Team West Valley Animal Shelter**  
(Team Award)  
Animal Services Represented by:



**Jan Selder**  
Senior Animal Control  
Officer II



**Troy Boswell**  
Senior Animal Control  
Officer



**Sergio Rios**  
Animal Care  
Technician Supervisor



**Rowena Quijote**  
Senior Clerk Typist

Ms. Selder, Messrs. Boswell and Rios, and Ms. Quijote accepted the 2006 Civilian Career Service Team Award on behalf of the West Valley Animal Shelter. They, along with their co-workers, epitomize a team's strong sense of mission to the City by embracing the goals of excellent quality animal care and animal rescue. In the process, they have united or reunited pets with their owners, while dealing with the challenges of on-going construction, cramped kennel and medical space, a frustrated public, and power failures to name a few. The West Valley Animal Shelter Team has the best record in the number of animals adopted for the past two years. They also had a net decrease in the number of animals euthanized, resulting in West Valley Animal Shelter being rated a star facility.