

COUNCIL

Awardz for Excellenz

Councilman Dennis Zine hands out his 8th annual Z Awards.



On May 6, Councilman Dennis Zine honored six public safety personnel for public safety personnel who go above and beyond what is expected of them to serve the citizens of the Third Council District and the greater Los Angeles community. The celebration was held at the Warner Center Marriott Hotel in Woodland Hills.

The recipients were:



Officer Samuel Davis
- LAPD Valley Traffic Division

Officer Davis is assigned to the Valley Traffic Division COMP-STAT 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 have lowered the incidents of hit and run collisions within Operations-Valley Bureau. In 2009, he issued 2,778 traffic citations and impounded 221 vehicles. During December 2009, Officer Davis issued more than 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 LAPD and has been assigned to the WestValley 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.



At the ceremony, from left: Metro Board Member and Former Assemblyman Richard Katz (host); Capt. Selwyn Lloyd, LAFD; Deputy Joseph Cerda, L.A. Sheriff's Dept.; Officer Samuel Davis, LAPD Valley Traffic Division; Councilman Dennis P. Zine; Senior Lead Officer Evelyn Solano, General Services/Public Safety; Officer Gary Shanahan, LAPD West Valley Area; Officer Dennis Cunningham, LAPD Topanga Area; radio host Kevin James (presenter); Officer Jeff Ferber, California Highway Patrol; and radio host Peter Tilden (presenter).



Officer Dennis Cunningham
- LAPD Topanga Area

Officer Cunningham is a 12-year veteran of the LAPD who has established himself as one of the Department's best. He was promoted to Police Officer III and handpicked by Capt. 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
- Public Safety 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. In a solo patrol car, in addition to her SLO duties, Officer Solano has amassed impressive statistics with more than 63 parking citations, 27 personal service citations, seven Release From Field Custody arrests, and ten misdemeanor arrests during the past several months.

patrol unit in 2009, he made more than 697 arrests. Of those arrests, 425 were for open charges, ranging from possession of narcotics and weapons-related violations. He seized a large amount of narcotics during traffic and pedestrian stops.



Officer Jeff Ferber
- California Highway Patrol

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 who 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 13 suspects, with 12 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.

The Club congratulates all the safety officers honored with a Z Award!



Capt. Selwyn Lloyd
- LAFD

Capt. 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 Dennis Zine, East Los Angeles College, and the LAFD. Currently, Capt. 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.

Congratulations

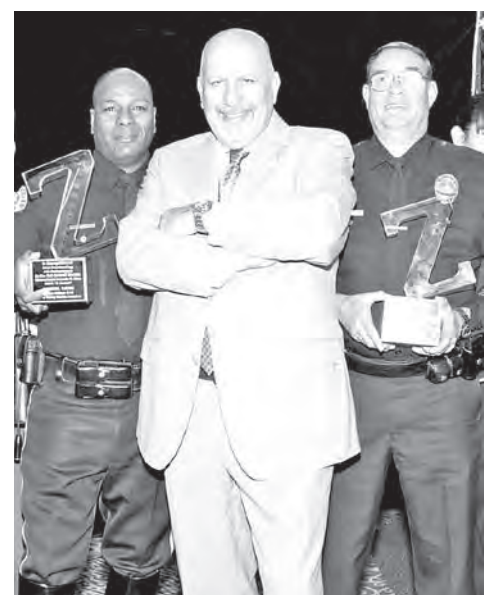


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Deputy Joseph Cerda
- LA County Sheriff's Dept.

Deputy Cerda is assigned to the Chatsworth substation, patrolling for the MTA in the San Fernando Valley. While working a single-man



Officer Samuel Davis, LAPD Valley Traffic Division; Councilman Dennis P. Zine; Officer Gary Shanahan, LAPD West Valley Area.