



Director Charles L. Ryan

Volume 11, Issue 01

# Special Edition

## Annual ADC Recognition Awards



**Director Charles L. Ryan provides the opening remarks for the 2010 Annual Arizona Department of Corrections Employee Recognition Awards at COTA.**

On Dec. 17, the Arizona Department of Corrections honored the dedication and commitment of its officers and staff at a Department-wide awards ceremony at the Correctional Officers Training Academy in Tucson.

The Employee Recognition Awards honor the character, determination and professionalism that ADC staff share as they performed a

valuable service to the state.

The Employee of the Year award was presented in four categories, non-uniform, Correctional Officer, Supervisor and Administrator.

Correctional Records Tech Rhonda Henry, ASPC-Lewis is the department's non-uniform Employee of the Year. Correctional Officer of the Year is CO II Robbin Cronin, ASPC-Douglas. Lt.

Darryl Troutt, ASPC-Winslow is the Supervisor of the Year. The Administrator of the Year award goes to Chief Procurement Officer Denel Pickering, Central Office.

Director Charles L. Ryan presented the Medal of Valor, the Department's highest honor, to CO II James L. Vanscoter, ASPC-Lewis. The Medal of Valor is given for an act of heroism that involves a con-

spicuous risk of life and shall be of such grave nature that performance of the act is clearly above and beyond the call of duty.

Life Saving Medals were presented for actions, which resulted in the saving, or preservation of a human life in which the rescued person would have died without the employee's direct action. CO II Mark Ramirez, ASPC-

Eyman; CO II Christina Renault and Capt. Brain Wilson, ASPC-Lewis; CRN Rowena Geraldoy, CO II Jared Davis and LPN Elizabeth Chavez, ASPC-Tucson and Sgt. Ray Morgan, Sgt. Shawn Sanders, Sgt. Patricia Landers, Sgt. Russell Simpson, Nurse Rebecca Janega and Lt. Lisa Oberle from COTA received Life-saving Medals.

Director Ryan presented Meritorious Service Medals to employees for performance of their duty that greatly exceeded the normal demands of the Department. Meritorious Service Medals were awarded to Donna Marie Markley, Travis Coleman, Kristine Harkins, Sam Keomaka, Anthony Zelenak, Nishith Dave, Karen Pulley, Charles Flanagan and Dr. Michael Adu-Tutu, Central Office; Andrew Tafoya, Fugitive Apprehension Unit; Cecillia Nerio, ASPC-Douglas; Todd Masterson and James Montgomery, ASPC-

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Eyman; John Cooper, ASPC-Lewis; Gregory Denning, ASPC-Perryville and Shawana Hardesty and Tamara Swerline, ASPC-Safford.

Community Service Awards were presented to ADC staff in recognition of their selfless act or courage and heroism in support of the community welfare. These awards were given to CO II David Dennis, CO II Kristina O'Toole and CO II Tara Stark, ASPC-Eyman; Sgt. Gary Reed, ASPC-Lewis

and CO II Mark Baca, ASPC-Winslow.

Special Recognition Awards, in acknowledgement of the recipient's extraordinary contribution and dedication to the Department, were presented to Marvin Shatto, ASPC-Douglas; Barbara Shearer and Robin Smithson, ASPC-Eyman; Jeremy Smith, Manual Romero and Ramon Sanchez, ASPC-Florence; Doreen Heba, ASPC-Perryville; Angie Adams, ASPC-Safford; Grant Squires, ASPC-Yuma;

Sumi Erno, Monica Heiselman, Diann Staymates, Leslie Boothby, Karen Ingram and Denel Pickering, Central Office and to the U.S. Marshals Service.

Unit Citations were presented to the ASPC-Douglas K9 Unit; ASPC-Douglas Wildland Fire Crew; ASPC-Safford K9 Unit; Arizona Correctional Industries, Fleet Management, Central Office; HR & Background Investigation Unit; IT Applications and Data Management;

Staff Development and Training Bureau; Electronic Monitoring Unit, Interstate Compact, Sex Offender Coordination Unit and Warrants and Hearings Unit, Community Corrections.

Several employees were presented their 30-year Length of Service pins, including Allen Wiechmann, Carson McWilliams, Kimberly Daniel, Lacy Scott, Linda Exley, Nelson Morrow and Nolan Morrow. Martin Hall received his 35-year service pin.



*The U.S. Marshals Service received a Special Recognition Award for their exceptional efforts in helping capture three escaped Arizona*



*After the awards ceremony, ADC staff presented Director Ryan a plaque, which reads: "With deep respect and gratitude, the men and women of the Arizona Department of Corrections honor Director Charles L. Ryan for your leadership. No one has given or done more for Corrections in Arizona. Thank You"*

*ADC Directions is an official publication of the Arizona Department of Corrections.*

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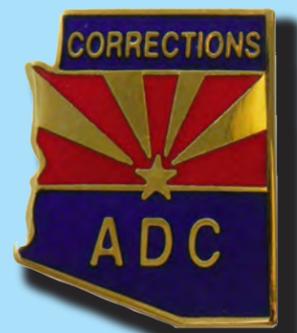
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*This publication is to promote the work of ADC and the achievements of its staff. Your questions or comments are welcome.*

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*Employee Recognition Award Photos continued from pg. 2***Non-Uniform  
Employee of the Year:  
Rhonda Henry, ASPC-  
Lewis**

Rhonda Henry has proven to be both dependable and reliable in her duties as a Correctional Records Tech I. During the past year Rhonda processed nearly 2,200 releases without a single error. Since Jan. 2010 she has been the only release tech in the unit and processing INS releases for Winslow, Yuma and Kingman in addition to her job requirements while at ASPC-Lewis. Although she had accepted a position at ASPC-Perryville, CRTI Henry stayed at Lewis due to the shortage of staff. She stayed long enough to help train her replacement.

**Correctional Officer  
of the Year: Robbin  
Cronin, ASPC-Douglas**

CO II Cronin has been a part of the ASPC-Douglas family since 2006. Her attention to detail and ability to manage inmates shines as both the **medical security officer** and kitchen security officer. **Officer Cronin is** a team player and has a 'can do' attitude that is contagious. Her job knowledge, security and observation skills, and professionalism make her a true asset. Her interactions with the public, staff and the inmate population are always professional and of the highest standards. She has a positive demeanor with all she encounters. She is well liked by her peers, and well respected among the inmate population. **Officer Cronin is also** a member of the US Army, serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for 13 months.

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Supervisor of the Year: Darryl Troutt, ASPC-Winslow

Lt. Troutt is currently the Dayshift commander, Operations Lieutenant, and Swing Shift Supervisor at the Apache Unit. He always performs these duties in a professional manner and he does so without hesitation. He is always willing to adjust his schedule as needed. He continually exceeds expectations in the performance of his duties in all areas. Lt. Troutt is often sought out by his subordinates, peers, and complex administration for his expertise. He always presents ideas and suggestions to improve operations.

Administrator of the Year: Denel Pickering, **Central Office**

Denel has achieved results well beyond expectations on many occasions this past year. She renegotiated 63 contracts, resulting in annualized savings of around \$800,000, assisted in the renegotiations of the Kingman private prison contract for annual savings of almost \$4million, secured several contracts or agreements for health care services to inmates, assisted in the renegotiations and extensions of food services contract, oversaw the development and implementation of ADC's piece of ProcureAZ, a new statewide government procurement system and renegotiated or terminated private lease space to consolidate operations. All of these achievements were in addition to the daily job requirements that she manages for ADC procurement and 500 contracts.



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## *Medal of Valor: James L. Vanscoter, ASPC-Lewis*

**On Nov. 25, 2009 Officer Vanscoter initiated the Incident Command system in the Buckley Unit kitchen. Inmates had turned off both sets of lights in the kitchen and 13 inmate kitchen workers began to assault two other inmate workers. Two female canteen employees were also in the kitchen at the time of the fight. Officer Vanscoter, with limited visibility, called out to the inmates to stop fighting and utilized his chemical agents on the attacking inmates. Those 13 inmates then moved away from the two inmates and moved towards officer Vanscoter. They yelled at Vanscoter to get back into the kitchen control room, but he stood his ground to protect the two inmates. The inmates approached him in a violent manner with broom and mop handles, but Officer Vanscoter was able to secure one injured inmate by grabbing the inmate and dragging him away from the fight into the loading dock area, where he secured the inmate with one of the female Canteen employees. He then attempted to get the second inmate, but he was encircled by the inmates and forced into the kitchen control room enclosure. The inmates kicked the door closed and began to throw food trays, and mop buckets at him through the bars to prevent him from coming out to secure the second victim. At this time, two staff from the yard entered the kitchen and turned on the lights. They ordered the inmates to the ground, ending the assaults.**

**Officer Vanscoter's actions and heroism prevented serious injuries to staff and inmates. Officer Vanscoter truly stepped up in the face of danger to protect those that needed it.**

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Lifesaving Medal: CO II Mark Ramirez, ASPC-Eyman

On May 17, 2010 CO II Mark Ramirez was called to the restroom area to help an inmate in distress. An **inmate was on the floor in front of a toilet gasping for air**. Ramirez activated the ICS, then knelt behind the inmate and performed the Heimlich maneuver. After about 5 or 6 thrusts, the food was lodged free and the inmate could breathe again. Ramirez then assisted the inmate to a bench where he could be evaluated by the nurse. The inmate was medically cleared to remain in the unit. The rapid response and correct application of training protocols by CO II Ramirez saved the life of the inmate.



Lifesaving Medal: From left to right....Lt. Lisa Oberle, Sgt. Patricia Landers (Ret), Sgt. Russell Simpson and Sgt. Shawn Sanders. (Not Pictured - Sgt. Ray Morgan and Nurse Rebecca Janega), COTA.

During the Fit Pro Testing Run at the Correctional Officers Training Academy on April 1, 2009, an ADC applicant fell down and lost consciousness. Sergeants Pat Landers, Ray Morgan and Shawn Sanders ran to his aid. Sgt. Landers activated ICS and Sgt. Morgan and Sanders began CPR. Nurse Rebecca Janega, Lieutenant Lisa Oberle and Sgt. Russell Simpson took over the CPR. COTA staff then proceeded to clear an area for emergency vehicles.



Lifesaving Medal: CO II Jared Davis (Not pictured - CRN Rowena Geraldoy, and LPN Elizabeth Chavez), ASPC-Tucson

On June 4, 2010 an inmate suffered a seizure and was unable to move. On the way to medical, CRN Geraldoy stated that the inmate had stopped breathing. Once at medical and a pulse had been found, CO II Davis and Geraldoy began CPR. LPN Chavez also administered CPR and provided necessary medical equipment. As life saving measures were being performed, it was noticed that the inmate had fresh track marks on his right arm near the elbow. Narcan was administered by CRN Geraldoy. The inmate was now in stable condition and was transported to the hospital for observation. The quick response and sharp observations during the crisis enable these three employees to save the life of the inmate.



Lifesaving Medal: CO II Christina Renault and Capt. Brian Wilson, ASPC-Lewis

On June 18, 2009 an inmate was discovered with self-inflicted wounds to his head, neck and chest. CO II Renault and Captain Wilson entered the cell. Both applied pressure to the inmate's wounds and kept the inmate conscious and awake while waiting for the emergency responders. **Because of their quick action**, the inmate was able to recover from these injuries. The inmate lost 3 pints of blood, but it surely would have been worse if not for the prompt actions of CO II Christina Renault and Captain Brian Wilson.

*Employee Recognition Award Photos continued from pg. 6*



MS: CO II Cecilia Nero, ASPC-Douglas.



MS: Gregory Denning, ASPC-Perryville



MS: CO II Todd Masterson, ASPC-Eyman



MS: CO II James Montgomery, ASPC-Eyman.



MS: CO III John Cooper, ASPC-Lewis



MS: Lib. II Tamara Swerline, ASPC-Safford



MS: CO II Shawna Hardesty, ASPC-Safford

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*MS: Andrew Tafoya, Central Office.*



*MS: Anthony Zelenak, Central Office.*



*MS: Charles Flanagan and Dr. Michael Adu-Tutu, C.O..*



*MS: Dona Markley, Central Office.*



*MS: Karen Pulley, Central Office.*



*MS: Kristine Harkins, Central Office.*



*MS: Nishith Dave, Central Office.*



*MS: Sam Keomaka, Central Office.*



*MS: Travis Coleman, Central Office.*



*CS: CO II David Dennis, CO II Kristina O'Toole and CO II Tara Stark, ASPC-Eyman*



*CS: Sgt. Gary Reed, ASPC-Lewis*



**CS: CO II Mark Baca, ASPC-Winslow**