



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Officer Frank Bonifacio
Officer Johnna Watson
Media Relations Office
510-238-7230
opdmedia@oaklandnet.com

News from: **Oakland Police Department**



Media Advisory

July 3, 2014

Oakland Police Department's 169th Basic Academy Graduation

Oakland, CA — On Thursday, July 3, 2014, at 10:00 AM, 34 members of the 169th Oakland Police Recruit Academy graduated at the Scottish Rite Center.

Oakland Police Chief Sean Whent was joined by Mayor Jean Quan, Assistant Chief Paul Figueroa, Deputy Chief David Downing, Deputy Chief Danielle Outlaw, Oakland Police Officers Association President Sergeant Barry Donelan, Personnel Resources & Training Division Commander Captain Donna Hoppenhauer, dignitaries and representatives from the City, and Training Section staff: Lieutenant Sekou Millington, Sergeant Mary Guttormson, Sergeant Bryan Hubbard, Officer Mario Bonilla, Officer Luke Sincerny.

The Scottish Rite Center erupted with celebration from family and friends as Lieutenant Sekou Millington announced the names of our new officers and welcomed them to the ranks of the Oakland Police Department.

Chief Whent acknowledged the dedication of the graduates, saying, "Today marks the end of 6 months of intense training and the beginning of an extraordinary career." He continued, stressing the importance of collaboration and teamwork: "The Oakland Police Department is more than a collection of dedicated people. It is a team of people, both sworn and non-sworn that work together, alongside the community, to make this City safer."

The 34 graduates are:

- Roland Alexander Aguilar
- Patrick Gabriel Airoso
- Jose Luis Alcantar
- Casey Elizabeth Altman
- Chris Alroy Alva
- Kevin Lee Anderson
- Adam Kyle Barragan
- William Patrick Berger
- Julian Bordona
- Jason Michael Cach
- Micah Kihapi'ilani Cannella
- Brian Anthony Castillo
- Sophia Alma Garrett Coysh
- Xavier Alejandro Diaz
- Maxwell Steven D'orso
- Michael Ericksen
- William James Fogarty

- Robert Ray Hardy
- Ernesto Clemente Hernandez
- Brandon Pierre Hraiz
- Jesus Efrain Iniguez
- Vanessa Alita-Marie Kelley
- Matthew Bryan Lee
- Carlos Manuel Lopez
- Aung Tint Lwin
- Edgar Macedo
- Uriel G. Martinez-Contreras
- Daniel Darnell Mullens
- Roberto Rene Rececendez
- Kenneth Christopher Reynolds Jr.
- Robert Walter Spring
- Benjamin Sebastian Stolz
- Joshua W. Trujillo
- James Kenji Yamashita

Most trainees received their badges from Chief Sean Whent, although five had the distinct honor of being pinned by members of their own family who currently serve in law enforcement:

- Vanessa Kelley - father, Darrell Kelley, Oakland Police Department Sergeant of Police
- Micah Cannella - uncle, Jeffhry Cid, Oakland Police Department Police Officer
- Kevin Anderson - cousin, Jared Jaksch, Vallejo Police Department Corporal
- William Berger - cousin, Nick Piermarini, Concord Police Department Police Officer
- Daniel Mullens – brother, Dominic Mullens, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Officer

Officer Michael Ericksen was honored as class valedictorian for having the highest overall academic and performance standing in the class.

In a special gesture of love and respect, the 169th included an honorary graduate in their class ceremony. Emilio Marco Bejarano Penn, 8, proudly dressed in his own miniature OPD uniform including hat and gloves, was saluted by Chief Sean Whent, who pinned an honorary badge on his chest. Emilio, who has been diagnosed with a severe illness, dreams of growing up to be a police officer catching all the bad guys.

The diversity of the City of Oakland is reflected in the class with many of the graduates speaking a second language, including Spanish, Tagalog, Burmese, German, French, and Danish. Of the 34 graduates, 3 are women and 31 are men. Many are college graduates and all come from interesting life and work experiences. The addition of the graduates to the police force is an important accomplishment in our continued efforts to grow the Police Department and increase public safety in the City of Oakland.

With distinct honor and pride, the new officers vowed to protect, honor, and serve the communities and families of Oakland.

Nixle Tip Watch allows tipsters to send OPD a tip three ways:

1. *Text* **TIP OAKLANDPD** to **888777** from your cell phone
2. *Call* our toll-free tip hotline at **855-TIPS-247** (855-847-7247)
3. *Respond* to OPD's Nixle messages

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510-238-7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

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