

News from: **Oakland Police Department**

For Immediate Release

March 30, 2018

178th Basic Recruit Academy Graduation

Oakland, CA — Today, Friday, March 30, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., 13 members of the Oakland Police Department's 178th Basic Recruit Academy graduated. The ceremony was held at the Scottish Rite Center.

Oakland Police Chief Anne E. Kirkpatrick was joined by Mayor Libby Schaaf, Deputy Chief Leronne Armstrong, Deputy Director Virginia Gleason, Oakland Police Officers Association representative Sergeant Barry Donelan, Training Division Commander Captain Jake Bassett and Training Section staff: Sergeant Bryan Hubbard, and Recruit Training Officers Maria Madlansacay, Jeffery Cid, and Francisco Romero. OPD Chaplain Father Jason Landeza gave the invocation.

Celebratory cheers from family and friends rang out as the graduates were announced and welcomed to the ranks of the Oakland Police Department. Chief Kirkpatrick thanked the graduates' families and loved ones for supporting them during the demanding half year academy training.

The 13 newly sworn Police Officers are:

1. Kimberly Albino
2. Brandon Beal
3. Joshua Faleafine
4. Ricardo Gomez
5. Imani Hiller-Bateau
6. Alvin Mai
7. Edvin Mendez
8. Allen Nunley IV
9. Elizabeth Pelayo
10. Soledad Ramirez
11. Ruben Reyes
12. Homayoon Saffarian
13. Jose Vega

Most new officers received their badges from Chief Kirkpatrick, although five had the honor of being pinned by members of their own family who currently serve or have served in law enforcement:

1. Elizabeth Pelayo: badge pinned by her cousin, OPD Officer Gloria Beltran
2. Joshua Faleafine: badge pinned by his father, retired OPD Officer Sammy Faleafine



City of
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3. Kimberly Albino: badge pinned by her husband, OPD Officer Kaleo Albino
4. Ruben Reyes: badge pinned by his brother, OPD Officer Cristobal Reyes.
5. Alvin Mai: badge pinned by his brothers, OPD Officers Chau Mai and Luan Mai.

Edvin Mendez was honored as class valedictorian for having maintained the highest overall academic standing in the class. He was also a recipient of the firearms, force options and RBT award. Ruben Reyes received the esprit de corps award, and Kimberly Albino was honored with the physical fitness and defensive tactics awards.

In several important ways, the 178th academy class is a well-rounded group. Two graduates live in Oakland; most of the class are in their twenties; one class member speaks Vietnamese and six speak Spanish. Over half have an associate's or bachelor's degree and one class member has a master's degree. With four female graduates, women make up nearly a third of the class.

The graduates are a welcome addition to our Oakland family and represent another step forward in our efforts to grow the Police Department and increase public safety in the City of Oakland.

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

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