



NEWS RELEASE

May 8, 2013

City Recognizes Employee for “Going the Extra Mile”

The City of Santa Maria is pleased to recognize Stephen Best as the newest recipient of its Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Award. Best, a Corporal in the Police Department, will receive a certificate and recognition at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 21st.



Cpl. Best is responsible for the Santa Maria Police Department’s forensic computer and cell phone investigations. These are typically very complex, time consuming, and time-sensitive. Through resourcefulness and initiative, Steve researched and developed in-house database to cross-check and link thousands of numbers for police-related investigations. This cost-effective solution, accessible by other authorized officers, provides Santa Maria Police with timely information that aids in solving cases involving gang members and violent crimes. Outside law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney’s Office also rely on Cpl. Best’s knowledge and expertise in this specialized field. In addition, his ancillary duties occupy the rest of his time. He conducts quarterly firearms training as a range master, audits and trains officers on all Taser applications, and investigates Internet crimes against children.

Criteria for the GEM Award are: Exhibiting effective leadership on specific assignments; demonstrating positive service to a customer or co-worker; going “above and beyond” the call of duty; showing special initiative, creativity, teamwork, cost containment efforts and entrepreneurial spirit in providing a high level of customer service; and consistently embracing the City’s service standards.

Department:
Contact Person:
Telephone Number:
E-mail Address:

City Manager’s Office
Mark van de Kamp, Management Analyst II
(805) 925-0951 ext. 372
mvandekamp@ci.santa-maria.ca.us