



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: July 26, 2023
TO: Parks and Recreation Department Employees
FROM: Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2023 Fourth Quarter Employee of the Quarter Selections

It is my pleasure to announce the winners of the Parks and Recreation Department's Employee of the Quarter (EOQ) winners for the Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2023.

As you know, winners are nominated by their peers, supervisors, and managers each quarter. Then, each Deputy Director reviews their division's nominations for eligibility, and chooses up to six nominations to forward to the Parks and Recreation Department Rewards and Recognition Selection Committee. Winners are selected by the Rewards and Recognition Selection Committee (see attached roster of committee members) based on some or all the following criteria: exceptional work performance, customer service, professionalism, cooperativeness, work schedule availability and attendance, and dedication.

Each selectee receives one day (8 hours) of Discretionary Leave and a \$300 cash award. Please note that all Discretionary Leave and monetary awards are prorated for part-time and hourly employees, per City policy.

I am excited to recognize the following **Parks and Recreation Department Employees of the Quarter** for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2023:

- **Basilio Nacar**, Greenskeeper, who goes above and beyond his responsibilities, exceeding expectations, displays excellent problem solving, and provides outstanding results at the Torrey Pines Golf Course for patrons to enjoy;
- **E. Diego Arrizon**, Recreation Leader, who has done an exceptional job coaching three soccer teams in three different age groups, along with his outgoing personality and work ethic, inspires other staff to go the extra mile;
- **Gabriela Gonzalez**, Pool Guard II, who has used her incredible skills and talent to create a new logo for the swim team and was instrumental in a restart of the swim team;
- **Jordan Oden**, Assistant Recreation Center Director, who has been working as an OCA Account Clerk since February 2023 and has quickly learned and assumed all responsibilities of the position in a very short time, while closing out and preparing for the Fiscal Year;
- **Najja Lyon**, Park Ranger, who has consistently demonstrated a sustained level of hard work and initiative as part of the Chollas Lake Park operation while quickly addressing safety issues and closures throughout the springtime storms;

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- **Manuel “Mike” Thomas**, Equipment Technician II, who has done an exceptional job addressing public safety concerns allowing patrons to have a safer and more enjoyable experience as well as making playgrounds welcoming and safe for communities;
- **Maria Corrales**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who is an outstanding, hard, and self-motivated employee, that has been instrumental this past quarter with volunteering for numerous special projects and completing many Get-it-Done tickets;
- **Susana Torrez**, Recreation Leader I, who has demonstrated remarkable work for the Memorial Community and Recreation center and as a leader of the Spring and Summer camps she provides a safe and fun environment for all participants.

My heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to all these employees who are some of our many, many wonderful employees who exemplify the Parks and Recreation “Heart of Service.” I’m proud to say that’s why we’re the best darned department in the City of San Diego!

A huge thank you, as always, to all of you who took the time to recognize and nominate some of our many exceptional employees, and my sincere appreciation goes out to all of you who work so hard, whether nominated and/or selected this time around or not. Our department is truly fortunate to have so many hard-working and dedicated employees with a true Parks and Recreation “Heart of Service”!

Thanks to everyone who was involved in this process: Nominators, nominees, the Rewards and Recognition Selection Committee, and, last, but not least, those who were selected as this quarter’s Employees of the Quarter. My congratulations to all!

Sincerely,



Andy Field
Director
Parks and Recreation Department

Attachment: Fiscal Year 2023 Parks and Recreation Rewards and Recognition Committee Members

cc Parks and Recreation Department Unclassified Leadership Team
Parks and Recreation Department Rewards and Recognition Committee Members
Division Payroll Specialist