



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Sheriff's Association Issues Awards at Annual Conference

December 11, 2015 – The Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) recognized seven members of the Washington County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) for achievements in 2015. The annual conference was held in Bend on December 9, 2015. Seven WCSO individuals received awards across seven different categories, including "Sheriff of the Year" for 2015, awarded to Sheriff Pat Garrett.

The "Sheriff of the Year" is selected by the OSSA Awards Committee, based upon their assessment of the participation and contributions made by an Oregon Sheriff toward OSSA's objectives and efforts in the current year. This award signifies exemplary service.

This past year, Sheriff Pat Garrett served on nine committees to include the Budget, Strategic Planning and the Oregon Law Enforcement Leadership Forum which addressed matters critical to statewide public safety. The following highlight some of Sheriff Garrett's contributions:

- He was a voluntary contributor to the Governor's Task Force to lobby for adequate funding for future public safety programs in Oregon.
- He participated in discussions with Oregon Sheriffs, Oregon District Attorneys, Oregon Chiefs of Police, and the governor to encourage the Governor's Office to fully fund critical services provided by the Oregon State Police and the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.
- He provided public testimony for increased funding of local Community Mental Health Programs (SB 5526) which is another growing concern for all Oregon Sheriffs.
- Sheriff Garrett worked tirelessly on behalf of OSSA to lead contract negotiations with the Lexipol company to incorporate OSSA Jail Standards into a new, standardized custody manual available to all jails in Oregon.
- He presented written testimony in support of HB 2239 for Legal Aid for people that are victimized and in need of legal advice or representation.
- He serves on the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Police Policy Committee.
- Sheriff Garrett serves on the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Committee. The HIDTA mission focuses on the disruption of the illegal drug market in our state by partnering with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.
- Sheriff Garrett represented OSSA on a statewide workgroup to study and make recommendations to the Oregon Legislature about ways to best manage prison healthcare costs.



Photographed (L-R): Deputy David McPherson, Todd Ehlert, Sheriff Pat Garrett, Detective John Shipley, Deputy Brian Rogers, Deputy Jerry Shamoan

Deputy David McPherson received the Distinguished Service Award for his fast actions in applying a tourniquet to a gunshot victim's leg which was credited in saving the man's life.

Special Deputy Todd Ehlert received the Civil Support Staff of the Year Award for exemplary work in the Civil Division.

Detective John Shipley received the Distinguished Service Award for his untiring efforts and commitment as a Child Abuse Detective.

Deputy Brian Rogers received the Distinguished Action Award when he sacrificed his personal vehicle off duty as he intentionally used it to block a seizure victim's speeding vehicle on the freeway and then rendered aid.

Deputy Jerry Shamoan received the Jail Supervisor of the Year Award for his constant efforts as the Jail Work Crew Supervisor seeking donations while contributing thousands of hours of free labor toward community projects and helping the needy.

Doctor Michael Shertz (not pictured) received the Volunteer of the Year Award for his volunteer time dedicated to the Washington County Tactical Negotiations Team providing medical assistance.

Sheriff Pat Garrett said, "I congratulate our staff members who were recognized by OSSA. While I'm humbled and appreciate the gesture by OSSA, the award is truly a symbol of our great team at the Washington County Sheriff's Office. It's their good work that permitted me to help my wonderful colleagues as we work together to address important public safety challenges across Oregon."