



April 9, 2021

San Diego Association of Public Safety Dispatchers  
5663 Balboa Ave #387  
San Diego, CA 92111

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to nominate Dispatcher Elaine Winchell from La Mesa Police Department for Dispatcher of the Year for the San Diego Association of Public Safety Dispatchers.

Elaine has been a dispatcher for our department for an impressive 35 years, and is the most tenured employee in our entire department with a total of 37.5 years. Throughout her impressive career, she has received a total of 62 formal commendations. Elaine has been a Communications Training Officer for 31 years, and has played an instrumental role in creating, implementing and revising our Dispatch Trainee Manual. In addition, Elaine was a Tactical Dispatcher with our Special Response Team (SWAT) for 8 years, and single handedly wrote the Tactical Dispatcher Manual used by our team.

Elaine has steadily gone above and beyond in her service to our department and the community throughout her career. She volunteered to train our Retired Senior Volunteers in CLETS and Radio Operations. She was a POST Dispatch Academy Instructor. When our department switched from cards to Computer Aided Dispatch, Elaine was the Coordinator and Trainer for the CAD implementation project. She also stepped forward to act as the GIS Liaison between our CAD vendor and the city's GIS Consultant, to keep our GIS data up to date.

While her years of service and contributions throughout her career are extraordinary, Elaine's dependability and work ethic should also be commended. She is exceptionally reliable and trustworthy when performing all of the extensive duties required of her as a Police Dispatcher and Trainer. She shows conscientiousness and industriousness in fulfilling her job functions, often thinking "outside the box" to find creative solutions. Although Elaine does not desire overtime on her own, she is the first to volunteer to fill last minute overtime shifts due to sick callouts.

Elaine is a dedicated servant to Public Safety, and is undoubtedly deserving of this prestigious award.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Shelby Felan  
Communications Supervisor