



## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\***

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# **Visalia Police Department Wins Prestigious California Law Enforcement Award**

Visalia, CA - The Visalia Police Department has been named the 1<sup>st</sup> place award winner of the California Law Enforcement Challenge Award. This award is sponsored by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) in partnership with the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and the California Office of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC).

The California Law Enforcement Challenge is a competition between similar sized and types of law enforcement agencies. This award recognizes and rewards the best overall traffic safety programs in California. The areas of concentration include efforts to train officers, enforce laws, and educate the public about occupant protection, impaired driving, and speeding. Agencies submit an application which documents their efforts and effectiveness in these areas. The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within its jurisdiction.

A panel of traffic safety experts reviews each application and assign points based on the criteria. After the judging, the scores are averaged and a final score assigned. After all of the applications are scored, the agencies are ranked in their categories. All judges are independent members of the law enforcement community, public safety, and corporate partners who have demonstrated advanced knowledge of highway safety initiatives.

The California Law Enforcement Challenge program allows law enforcement agencies to set comprehensive goals, to strive to reach new heights in traffic safety, to share their experiences with others, and to be recognized for their traffic safety accomplishments

Please contact Lieutenant Brian Winter at (559) 713-4573 if you need additional information.

