



Ceres Department of Public Safety

Art de Werk, Chief/City Manager/Director of Public Safety



Chief Art de Werk

2727 Third Street, Ceres, CA 95307

Office: (209) 538-5726 Fax: (209) 538-5707

<http://www.ci.ceres.ca.us/Newsroom.html>

<http://www.facebook.com/CeresPoliceDepartment#!/CeresPoliceDepartment>

NEWS RELEASE

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News Release Contact: Administrative Sergeant Jose Berber, Public Information Officer

Email: jose.berber@ci.ceres.ca.us

Phone: (209) 538-5719

MADD Recognizes Three Ceres Police Officers for DUI Enforcement

At a luncheon at the Ripon Community Center in Ripon, law enforcement personnel from the North Central Valley were recognized by the California Office of Traffic Safety, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their outstanding contributions to help stop the crime of DUI last year.

Three Ceres Police Officers were honored at the event for making 25 or more DUI arrests over a one year period: Officer Freddie Ortiz (39 arrests), Officer Christopher Melton (26 arrests), and Officer Brittney England (25 arrests). Each of these officers was presented with plaques, challenge coins, and "23152" pins to affix to their uniforms. The California Vehicle Code section for driving under the influence is 23152 and the pin is red in color to symbolize MADD's mission: to represent the victims of impaired driving crashes and specifically for peace officers, to memorialize and honor those officers who have been injured and killed in impaired driving collisions.

All three recipients of 23152 pins are currently assigned to patrol. Officer Freddie Ortiz has been with Ceres Police Department since April of 2009 and is a member of the SWAT team. Officer Christopher Melton joined the department in October of 2004 and Officer Brittney England became a full-time police officer with Ceres Police in July of 2011.

Of this accomplishment, Chief Art de Werk said, "DUI enforcement has been this agency's priority for many years. That priority reflects the grave danger that these intoxicated and drugged motorists create for innocent people with whom they share the roads. These officers have excelled in the field of DUI enforcement and it makes me proud. I very much appreciate, as does the rest of the community, that these officers have done so much to keep our streets safe."

Photos from the event are attached.



From left to right: Lieutenant Rick Collins, Officer Brittney England, Officer Freddie Ortiz, and Deputy Chief Mike Borges (not pictured: Officer Christopher Melton)



Left to right: Officer Brittney England and Officer Freddie Ortiz (not pictured: Officer Christopher Melton)