



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

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News Release

For Immediate Release
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Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Graduates Seven from Command College

Pueblo, CO: Seven Pueblo County Sheriff's deputies graduated Friday, June 13, from the elite National Command & Staff College's Command and Staff Leadership Program Session #30. The National Command and Staff College is a globally recognized program for public safety leaders and elite military units, focusing on leadership skills and strategic thinking.

The program consisted of 240 hours of online instruction followed by 80 hours of classroom instruction. The classroom segment for Session #30 was held at the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office. Each graduate receives 6 hours of graduate-level college credit.

PCSO members who completed the program are Captain Shelley Bryant, Captain Caitlin Garcia, Captain John Romo, Lieutenant Bethany Solano, Lieutenant Dante Guadagnoli, Lieutenant Jeremy Cardona, and Lieutenant Jesse Alcantara. In addition to the seven deputies from Pueblo County, five deputies from Mesa County graduated in this session.

As part of the graduation ceremony, several students received awards for their outstanding work in the program, including PCSO's Captain Caitlin Garcia, who was presented the Magnus Award and Lt. Dante Guadagnoli, who received the Top Student award.

"I'm extremely proud of our seven Pueblo County Sheriff's deputies who completed this rigorous program," said Pueblo County Sheriff David J. Lucero. "They dedicated many hours over the past few months to acquire this top-level leadership training that will enhance and benefit our agency moving forward."

Sheriff Lucero commended the deputies for their commitment and dedication to the program as they completed the time-intensive coursework while still performing their respective daily job duties.

The program included completing 41 online learning modules that focused on individual, group, leadership, and agency. The residency portion of the program focused on building skills in areas such as authentic and deliberate leadership, recruitment/retention, wellness, communication, and facilitating critical special incidents.

As part of the course curriculum, participants were required to complete a capstone research proposal focused on a topic that is significant and timely for law enforcement. The project required extensive research, critical thinking, and writing. The team of Pueblo County's Lt. Bethany Solano, Lt. Jeremy Cardona, and Mesa County's Sgt. Joseph LeMoine was presented with the top award for their project on Colorado Legislation Affecting Law Enforcement.

With this group of graduates, the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office now has eight employees who have graduated from the National Command and Staff College. Sgt. Brian Ziolkowski was the first from PCSO to graduate from the elite program in Session #26 in October 2024.

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