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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL PAL ANNOUNCES FEBRUARY 2020 INSPIRATIONAL AWARD HONOREES

Honorees for February Include Youth, Law Enforcement Officer, and Volunteer of the Month

Charlotte, NC- The National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. (National PAL) is pleased to announce the February recipients of its monthly Inspirational Awards which recognizes individuals in the National PAL network who inspire their colleagues and friends and are steadfast in their service to their communities.



Maddy Bonilla, our February Youth of the Month, is one of San Mateo County Sheriff’s Activities League youth leaders. Bonilla has participated in almost every program San Mateo SAL has to offer. As a Teen Leadership Council member she has accumulated over 300 community service hours participating in tutoring services, cleanups, and food giveaways. Additionally, she has attended seven youth leadership/mentoring conferences, served as a youth staff member for SAL STAR Camp (for four consecutive years), and was voted 2019 Youth Staff of the Year. Bonilla also took it upon herself to develop a Little Einstein day camp where she taught 30 underachieving SAL participants basic science concepts through interactive labs. While balancing her SAL commitments, she has managed to maintain a 4.3 GPA and serves as Captain on her varsity soccer team.

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Month is **Corporal Anton Washington** of the Prince George County Police Department. Corporal Washington has served in the force for the last 11 years. In that time, he has been praised by his colleagues for his commitment and dedication to Prince George County PAL. In addition to his daily duties, Corporal Washington serves in a plethora of roles including coaching two basketball teams, hosting robotics camps, and fundraising for PGC PAL. He also advises 60 young explorers and counsels families experiencing hardship thus, acting as a supportive staple in his community. He continues his mentor duties within the department’s College Dream Park Basketball League where he mentors youth through athletics in the Lakeland Community.



Volunteer of the month, **Tammy Del Bene**, has dedicated herself to the South County Sheriff Activities League since 2012. Since joining she has helped solidify essential administrative and fundraising efforts. Within her several critical volunteer roles (Chair of Fundraising Development Committee and Division Manager of the Annual Support Campaign) She is responsible for recruiting volunteers and preparing other volunteers to fundraise in their local community. Del Bene has also dedicated herself to find sponsors, participants, and valuable items for their annual fundraising auction events.

Erin Larazo, Alumni of the month, evolved from a shy youth PAL participant into a strong confident leader after her involvement at Santa Barbara Police Activities League. During her time in SBPAL, Erin served over 1,000 community service hours, maintained a 4.0 GPA, and graduated with honors from her high school. In her junior year, she served as the Youth Leadership Council President and shined at the NPAL Youth Summit as a youth leader. Before leaving for college, she also created a mosaic mural and tutored youth in SBPAL. Today, she gives back to her PAL as a mentor and volunteer.



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About The National Association of Police Athletics/Activities League, Inc. (National PAL)

National PAL exists to prevent juvenile crime and violence by providing civic, athletic, recreational, mentoring, and educational opportunities and resources to all National PAL Member Chapters. National PAL builds bridges between kids, cops, and the community, fostering a positive environment across the country. As a membership organization, National PAL provides local Chapters with training, resources, and opportunities to create a new program to improve upon and enhance the quality of existing programs and to increase opportunities in their community.