



PRESS RELEASE

Colorado Department of Law
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 2012

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ARVADA MASTER SERGEANT LARRY BENNINGTON HONORED AS ATTORNEY GENERAL'S 2012 EXCELLENCE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT

DENVER — During a community awards ceremony last night, [Colorado Attorney General John Suthers](#) announced that Master Sergeant Larry Bennington with the Arvada Police Department was the 2012 recipient of the “Attorney General’s Excellence in Law Enforcement Award.” Attorney General Suthers presented the annual award as part of the Arvada Police Awards Ceremony which celebrates the heroes of the community.

“During his 42-years with the Arvada Police Department, Master Sergeant Bennington has become an iconic presence to the police department and to the city,” said Attorney General Suthers. “Master Sergeant Bennington embodies the very spirit of the Excellence in Law Enforcement Award serving the Arvada community honorably for his entire law enforcement career.”

In nominating Bennington, Arvada Police Chief Don Wick wrote, “His integrity has never been in question and his love of service is clearly demonstrated with every shift. Without any intent and without wanting credit, Master Sergeant Bennington has crafted and positively influenced the culture of the Arvada Police Department through his decades of mentoring and leadership.”

The Excellence in Law Enforcement Award recognizes exemplary service by an individual in Colorado law enforcement during that person’s career. The quality of the service performed by an individual is the determining factor. The award’s recipients will have exhibited extraordinary efforts of valor, crime prevention, investigative work, community outreach and other law enforcement functions.

[Master Sergeant Bennington’s](#) has supervised every unit in the department during his career and his list of accomplishments is long, but it is his selfless dedication to mentoring the next generation of law enforcement leaders that made him a standout among this year’s impressive field of nominees. Master

Sergeant Bennington is heavily involved with the Field Training Program that trains new officers. He consistently mentors and trains new officers and newly promoted sergeants. In 2011, Master Sergeant Bennington was approached about the potential for working the graveyard shift. He readily accepted this challenge and is back working the most difficult of hours so that he may mentor others in the department. Master Sergeant Bennington embraced this as an opportunity to continue cultivating the department's next generation of leaders.

A panel of law enforcement leaders — the director of Colorado's Peace Officer Standards and Training program, the executive director of the Colorado District Attorney's Council, the deputy attorney general for criminal justice and two leaders from local law enforcement agencies — selected the finalists for the award. From the finalists, the attorney general selected the winner.

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