

2010 Chief's Citation Award

PROPERTY/EVIDENCE FACILITY STAFF

The Chief's Citation Award is intended to recognize members of a Team or Unit for participating in an incident, event, or series of events, or project which has a substantial positive impact on the community or the police department. The incident, event, or project must be superior in nature and further the Department's mission and overall effectiveness.

Members: Shannon Hallam, Phyllis Jessen, Rick Hayes, Mike Fetcho, Tom Bell, Kevin Berry, Sally Wright, Ty Madison

Lt. Mullennix wrote, "Since 2007, I have had the great fortune to work with Shannon Hallam and her staff as they labored tirelessly to provide outstanding service to law enforcement personnel, the prosecutor's office, defense counsel, and the public in efforts to properly document and store evidence, have it ready for transport and processing, make evidence available for exhibition in court or to return to citizens when appropriate, or dispose of it via destruction or auction. When I began my working relationship with them, the ratio of items in to items out was 2 to 1. The ratio is now approximately 1 item in to 1.5 items out. That was a critical turnaround because of the extremely limited space. Most sections were at 100% capacity or higher. Their excellent work ethic and implementation of innovative ideas such as making the facility go paperless, policy changes that directly affected not having to store large amounts of marijuana and method of storage and preservation of DNA, to providing records with the ability to retrieve information from BEAST which directly improves their access, eliminates scanning of documents, which in turn will save an immense amount of paper has also contributed to the quality of service provided by Shannon and her staff to the police department as a whole, and specifically contributed to the efficiency of the Records Division. Shannon was also instrumental in implementing a procedure whereby she and her staff would handle the items seized by SIU and auction that which could be auctioned, thereby taking over duties formerly performed by the SIU administration, greatly reducing SIU's work load. These are only a few, but some of the most poignant achievements and contributions to the community and police department. It is difficult to imagine what more they could do regarding efficiency and innovation, but if it can be done, they will find a way.

Due to the critical state of the current state of the building now housing the Property/Evidence facility, Shannon Hallam and Tom Bell became intensely invested in the search for a new location for a new Property/Evidence facility or an existing facility that could be renovated to suit our needs, while continuing to perform their regular duties at an extremely high level of proficiency. They visited numerous sites, worked closely with police administration, and with the real estate and finance department of the city. While the project had the full support and participation of the Mayor, finance, real estate and other critical entities, as well as the police administration, their expertise regarding the footprint of the facility and daily operational necessities was invaluable to the process as it moved forward. The fruit of the labor is a facility currently undergoing remodeling with a completion/opening target date of spring 2011. The Property/Evidence staff's efforts epitomize the criteria set forth for the Chief's Citation Award."

