



Employee Continuous Service Recognition

June 18, 2024

COUNTY OF VENTURA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Theresa Betka

25 Years

Assessor

Chief Deputy Assessor

Terry Betka is currently the Chief Deputy Assessor of Administration in the Assessor's Office. She has her Master's Degree in Public Administration and Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Management Information Systems.

Terry started in the Assessor's Office on August 4, 1998, as a fixed-term Auditor-Appraiser Trainee and was offered a permanent position shortly thereafter. She then worked her way up through the ranks and in 2012, got her dream assignment promoting to Chief Appraiser, responsible for managing the development and implementation of the Assessor's piece of the Property Tax Assessment and Collection System (PTACS) project, OASIS.

One aspect of her career that Terry has most enjoyed is the variety of assignments she has been responsible for and the opportunity to work with a truly amazing group of people in the Assessor's Office.

Congratulations on reaching this milestone in your career and thank you for your service to our community.



Rebecca Carpenter

25 Years

Health Care Agency

Psychiatric Technician-IPU

Rebecca Carpenter officially began her career on the Crisis Team as a Psychiatric Technician in 1999, having previously worked there in a temporary staffing assignment.

Rebecca has consistently been an advocate for her community and most notably those struggling with mental health concerns. She has provided support and at times volunteered her personal time to provide mental health education and training to law enforcement officials interfacing with community members via the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program. She has also served as an educator for the County's 5150 designation course.

In her Crisis Team role, Rebecca demonstrates respect, integrity, and compassion for those she serves, and she regularly contributes her knowledge base and valuable experience to her team.

We thank you for your 25 years of service to our community. Congratulations.



Jesus Castillo

25 Years

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Service Technician II

Celebrating 25 years of dedicated service, Jesus Castillo has been an invaluable asset as a Sheriff's Service Technician or SST, from his time working at the Pre-Trial Detention Facility, to his current specialized assignment as a Field Evidence Technician with the Crime Scene Investigations (CSI) unit. His unparalleled expertise and unwavering commitment epitomize the vital roles that SSTs have within the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. We are grateful to have him as a colleague and wish him continued success.

We offer congratulations and gratitude for your 25 years of service to our community.



Richard Ellison

25 Years

Fire Department

Fire Engineer

Richard Ellison's first duty assignment was Hazmat 50 in Camarillo in 2000. He is actively engaged in the Hazmat program as a state-certified instructor in Railcar Safety, Highway Emergency Response, Radiological Emergencies, First Responder Operational, WMD, and Hazmat Incident Command. He currently provides instruction at the Ventura County Fire Department Trainee Academy, the Ventura County Sheriffs' Academy, the Fire Department's Annual HAZMAT Refresher Certification, and Community Emergency Response.

Richard is currently assigned to Station 40 and USAR 40 in Moorpark. As an urban search and rescue specialist, he serves as the Plans Team Manager for the state Regional Task Force (RTF-7) and as the Technical Information Specialist.

Richard and his wife, Tomi, have been married for 24 years. Together, they have two children, Cole and Kaiya, who are both away at college.

We thank you for 25 years of service dedicated to the safety of our community.



Renee Fleener

25 Years

Assessor

Chief Appraiser

Renee Fleener started in the Assessor's Office in 1998 as an Assessor's Technician, promoting to her current position as Chief Appraiser. Renee has extensive experience in the Assessor's Office and prior to her current management assignment, in the Residential Section, she managed the Appeals, Exemptions, and Public Service Sections.

Renee always sought opportunities for improvement. She graduated from the County's Leadership Excellence & Action Program, through the County's Nuts & Bolts Training, she became a Certified County Manager, and she completed the Management Council's Strategic Leadership Academy.

Renee has successfully faced challenges, which have included overseeing appeals on properties damaged in the La Conchita landslide, assisting victims of the Thomas Fire, and during the COVID-19 pandemic successfully implemented teleworking.

We congratulate you on reaching this milestone in your career and thank you for 25 years of service to our community.



Kristi Hamlet

25 Years

Clerk-Recorder & Registrar of Voters

Records Technician IV

Born and raised in Ventura County, Kristi Hamlet says she, “graduated from the School of Hard Knocks where I got a degree in Life.”

In more than 25 years working for the County, Kristy is a customer service superstar, appreciated for her kind smile and helpful attitude. Kristi says she has met a lot of great people and some celebrities along the way, like the son of celebrated civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., the dastardly villain J.R. Ewing (Larry Hagman), TV personality Bob Eubanks, and many others. No two days are the same in the County Clerk’s Office.

Kristi has three daughters and eight grandchildren and shares the joy of caregiving for her mother who is a 100-plus-year-old Super Senior. Kristi also enjoys riding bikes and attending concerts and comedy shows with friends.

We congratulate you on reaching this milestone of 25 years. Thank you for your wonderful customer service to our community.



Darin Hendren

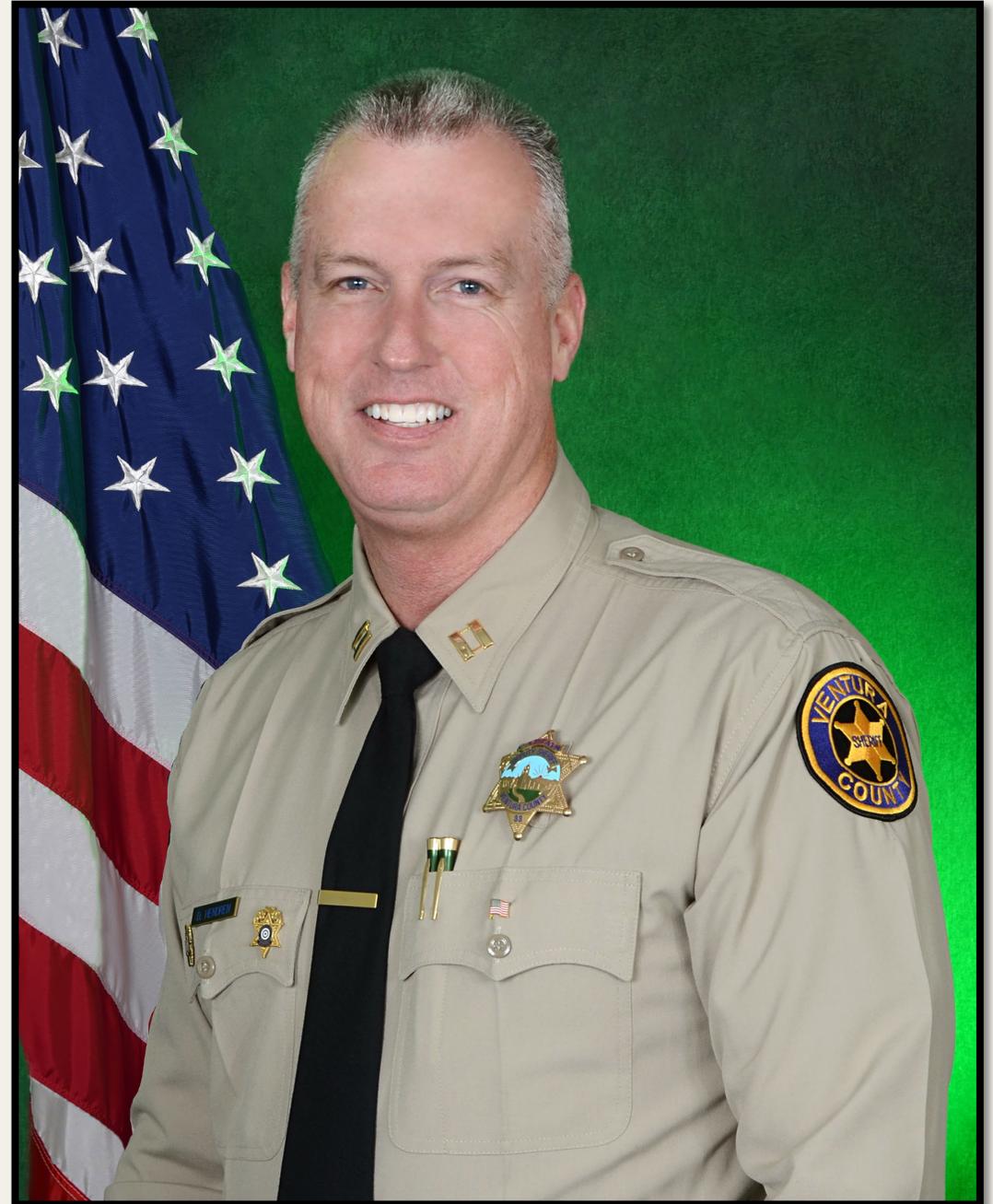
25 Years

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Captain

Over the last 25 years, Captain Darin Hendren has worked a variety of assignments including custody, patrol, and investigations. Darin has also held collateral assignments as a Firearms Instructor and Tactical Response Team member. Darin is currently the Chief of Police for the City of Moorpark and thoroughly enjoys serving the residents of Ventura County by providing a safe place for them to live, work, and play.

Thank you for your work in service to our community and congratulations on reaching this career milestone.



Jesse Hernandez

25 Years

Human Services Agency

HSA Senior Program Manager

Jesse is a compassionate and intentional leader. He cares about his colleagues and is dedicated to serving the public. He leads with a positive outlook and supports his team members through challenging situations with compassionate mentorship.

Jesse began his public service career as a Client Benefit Specialist administering benefits for food security and health coverage. Over the span of 25 years, Jesse has held supervision, management, and leadership roles, expanding his experience in multiple service delivery areas. He has experience in all benefit programs, administrative and policy functions, and Employment Services. In his current role of Division Manager, he leads several management teams in the Human Services Agency's Community Services Department.

The Human Services Agency appreciates Jesse's commitment and collegial spirit.

Congratulations on this career milestone and thank you for your 25 years of service to our community.



Ramon Hernandez

25 Years

Resource Management Agency

GIS Specialist I

Ramon Hernandez joined the County of Ventura on April 19, 1999, as a Drafting Technician II in the Resource Management Agency where 25 years later, he is now a GIS Specialist who has generated thousands of Radius Maps notifying the public of proposed projects. Ramon is always eager to help the Resource Management Agency and our customers.

Ramon also has a creative side that has served the County well, such as building to-scale models for court hearings and creating personalized *Welcome to RMA* signs for new employees. His true passion is music, and he has been an active musician since high school. He's still waiting on that big recording contract.

Congratulations, Ramon, on your 25 years of service and thank you for using your creativity in service to the County of Ventura and our customers.



Mariann Kovats

25 Years

Public Works Agency

Supervising Accounting Technician

Supervising Accounting Technician Mariann Kovats has dedicated 25 years with the Public Works Agency, Fiscal Division. Her can-do mindset has inspired her fellow co-workers and demonstrates what it means to be a true team player. Mariann's fiscal expertise has led her to be the "go-to" person for accounts payable questions, in and outside of the Public Works Agency.

During her career with PWA, she has handled many roles and fiscal responsibilities. She won PWA's coveted Employee of the Year Award in 2017.

In her free time, Mariann loves photography, capturing family portraits and candid shots, and showing the love family members have for each other.

The Public Works Agency is very proud of Mariann and joins with the Board of Supervisors to congratulate her on 25 years of dedicated service.



Serafin Lopez

25 Years

Harbor Department

Facility Operation Specialist I

Serafin Lopez is truly a story of success in the County of Ventura. He was hired as an extra help employee in 1997 and after being recognizing for his aptitude and potential for professional growth, he became a permanent, full-time maintenance worker in 1999. Serafin continued to develop excellent skills in welding, plumbing, framing, concrete work, beach tractor operations, and unique skills in dock maintenance.

In 2015, Serafin was promoted to Maintenance Supervisor where his leadership and skill to instruct and train became evident through the work and skill his team demonstrated. In 2023, Serafin was promoted to Facilities Operations Specialist and his knowledge and historical recognition of the Harbor's facilities continue to prove to be invaluable.

Congratulations and thank you for your leadership, hard work, dedication, and 25 years of service with the County of Ventura.



Gene Mecagni

25 Years

District Attorney's Office

Manager – Sheriff Information Systems

Gene Mecagni joined the District Attorney's Office as a Senior Office Systems Coordinator in February 1999. He became Information Technology Manager in 2002.

Since then, Gene has skillfully led the office through the amazing development of computer technology. When he took over, Google was new, and the iPhone was years away; how far technology has come.

For converting the office to Outlook email, Gene received a 2015 County Service Excellence Award.

His 2018 decision to switch to laptop computers improved mobility and proved invaluable when COVID mandated remote work.

The District Attorney's Office is grateful for Gene's two decades of foresight and leadership.

Thank you for your work in service to our community and congratulations on reaching this career milestone.



Laura Wuertele

25 Years

Human Services Agency

HS Program Analyst II

Laura Wuertele's County service began with the Recorder's Office in 1999, then moved to the Human Services Agency in 2000. Since then, Laura has been a Medi-Cal Eligibility Worker, Lead Worker, and Supervisor, and since 2015, a Program Analyst covering several program areas.

Laura has had the opportunity to network with state staff and peers in other counties, and with other service organizations in the community.

Laura says it has been an honor to work for an Agency whose mission, vision, and values so closely align with Laura's own, and to make life a little better for the residents of Ventura County.

Congratulations and we thank you for your service to our community through the first 25 years of your career with the County of Ventura.



Veronica Zamora

25 Years

Health Care Agency

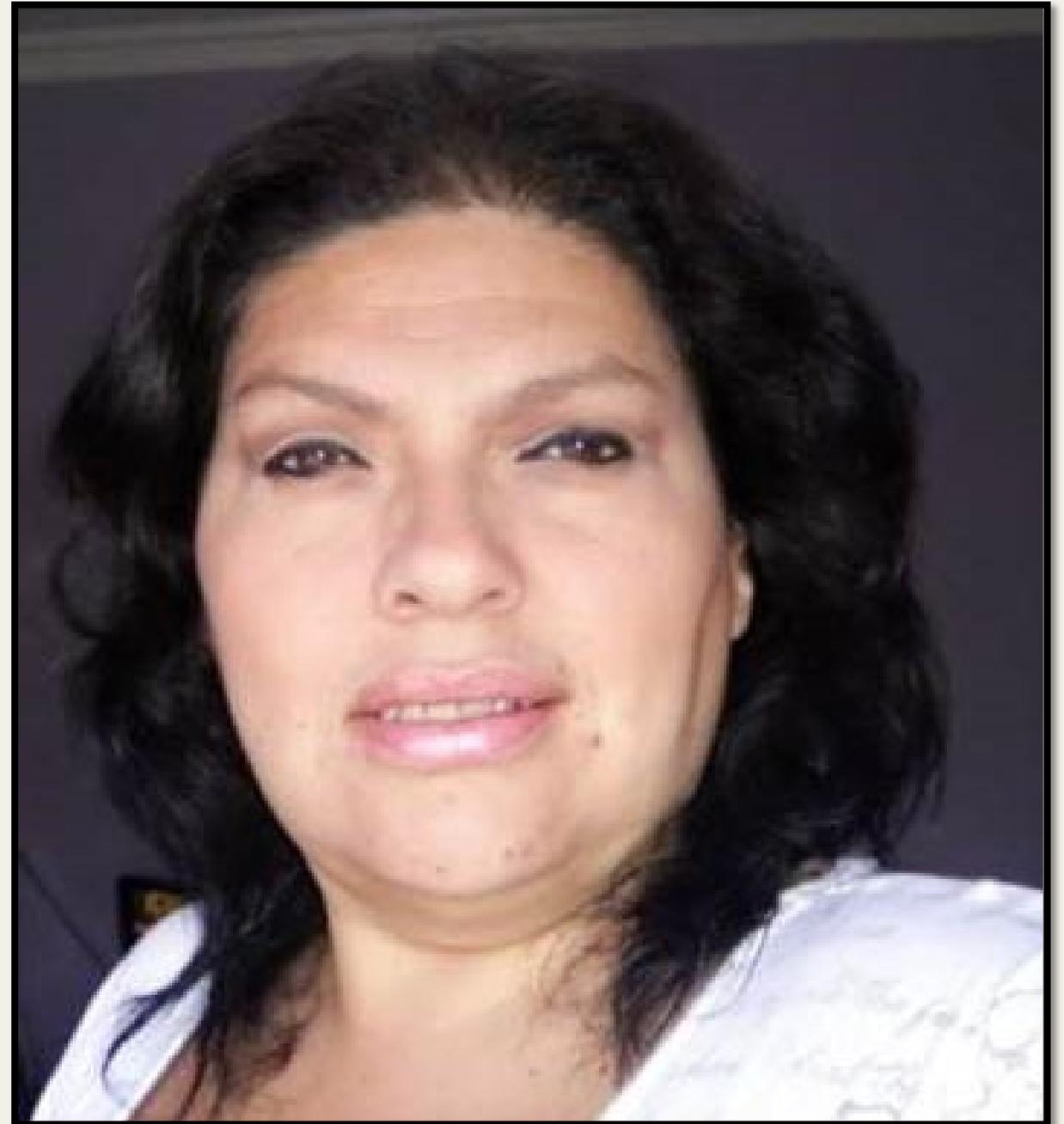
Office Assistant III

Veronica Zamora's career with the County of Ventura began in 1994, when she started as extra help in the housekeeping department of the Ventura County Medical Center. She later went on to directly serve the public as a patient representative, assisting mothers of newborns with the Medi-Cal process in the Admitting Department.

In 2006, Veronica transferred to Ventura County Public Health and currently supports the day-to-day operations of three public health nursing programs as an Office Assistant III.

Veronica's selfless service to our community over the years has had an important and positive impact upon the health and well-being of countless children and families across our communities.

Congratulations and thank you, Veronica, on your 25 years of dedication and service.



Gregory Margetin

30 Years

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Sergeant

During his career, Greg Margetin has worked both jails, East and West County Patrol, Detectives, Narcotics, Intelligence, In-Service Training, the Basic Academy, and Courts. Greg was also a long-time member of the SWAT Team, Arrest and Control Instructor Cadre, and the Air Unit.

Greg has a passion for training and a deep love for his fellow deputies.

Our congratulations and thanks to Sergeant Margetin on reaching this career milestone and for 30 years of service to the County of Ventura.



Steven Michalec

30 Years

Sheriff's Office

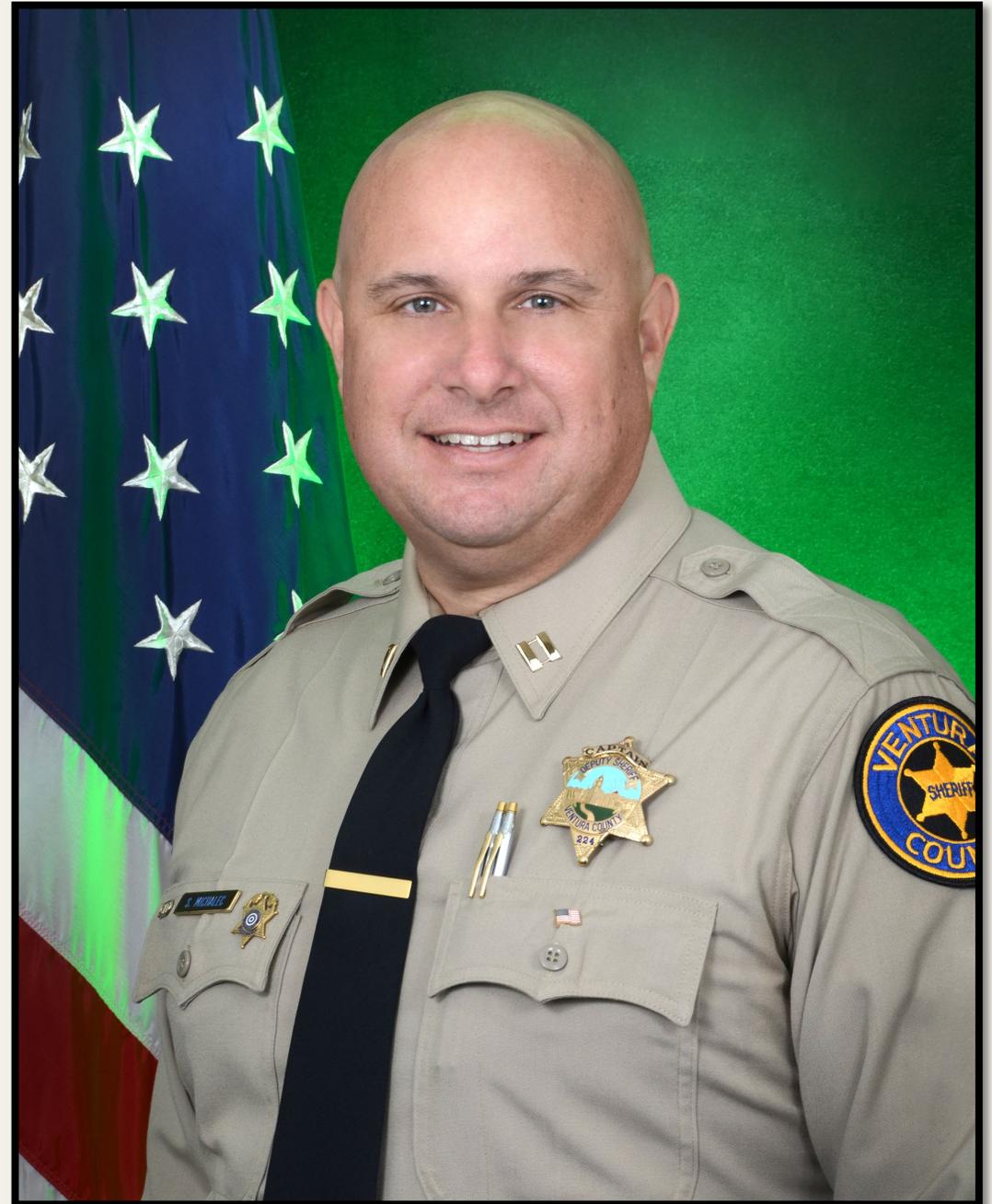
Sheriff's Captain

Steve Michalec joined the Sheriff's Office in 1994 as a Sheriff's Service Technician at the Pre-Trial Detention Facility. Following graduation from the Sheriff's Academy in 1995, his first assignment as a Deputy was at the new Todd Road Jail. In 1997, Steve transferred to patrol at the Santa Clara Valley Station in Fillmore where he worked until his promotion to Senior Deputy. Steve was assigned to the Branch Jail Honor Farm until its closure in 2003 when he transferred to Courts Services. In 2007, Steve moved to patrol at the Ojai Station and in 2008, was selected to be an Ojai Station Detective. In 2012, Steve became a Detective for the Major Crimes/Sexual Assault Unit. The next year, he transferred to a homicide team where he worked until promoting to Sergeant in 2018.

As a Sergeant, Steve worked at the Pre-Trial Detention Facility and patrol in Fillmore, then returned to Major Crimes to supervise a homicide and robbery team. In 2022, Steve promoted to Captain and worked as a Watch Commander until recently taking over as the Dispatch Center Manager.

Steve has lived in Ventura County since 1983 and enjoys playing golf and spending time with friends, family, and his four adult children.

Thank you for your dedication and service to our community for 30 years.



Irma Rivera

30 Years

Human Services Agency

HS Client Benefit Supervisor

Irma Rivera began her career with the Human Services Agency as an Eligibility Officer in CalWORKs in the Santa Paula office. Irma enjoyed her time in CalWORKs, which gave her the opportunity to work in many locations. Irma promoted to Client Benefit Supervisor and was assigned to a CalFresh/Medi-Cal training team at the Telephone Road building. She transitioned to the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) Contact Center where she is currently supervising a CalFresh/Medi-Cal team.

The Human Services Agency appreciates having Irma as part of the Contact Center team. Her 30 years of knowledge is invaluable.

Congratulations, on reaching this 30-year milestone in your County career and thank you for all you do for our community.



Selfa Saucedo

30 Years

Health Care Agency

Public Health Division Manager

Selfa Saucedo's County career started in 1994, when she became a Health Educator with Public Health, providing health education to individuals, families, community groups, organizations, and schools on subjects that include family life, immunizations, seatbelts, helmets and child passenger safety, oral health, and health and racial equity. All of this brought Selfa tremendous satisfaction knowing she was providing critical, current, and accurate health information to the community in a language and at a level they could understand.

Selfa has held several other positions in the department and currently is Division Manager for the Community Health Division and Director for the Office for Health Equity, overseeing 10 grant-funded programs and a staff of 30-plus. Selfa is a champion for working across sectors, collaborating with community partners and stakeholders, and combining efforts to protect health and promote well-being to improve the lives of all Ventura County residents.

Selfa has been married for 34 years. Her greatest pleasure comes from being the mother and grandmother of three wonderful children and three equally wonderful grandchildren.

Congratulations on 30 years of vital service and unwavering dedication to our community.



Bryan Sliva

30 Years

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Sergeant

During his career with the Sheriff's Office, Sergeant Bryan Sliva has worked at the Pre-Trial Detention Facility, Ventura County Courthouse, and patrol in Camarillo, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, and Fillmore. His investigative assignments have included the Fugitive Unit, Special Enforcement, Major Crimes, Intelligence Unit, and Narcotics.

Bryan is a dedicated servant to the citizens of Ventura County. He also strives to mentor and train his peers and subordinates. Bryan's most fulfilling assignments have been working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on Domestic Terrorism and Threat cases, and working in the Special Enforcement Units targeting criminals who victimize Ventura County residents.

Bryan is currently serving as the Administrative Sergeant for the Moorpark Police Department where he works to ensure the personnel assigned there have the best equipment and training available.

Congratulations on reaching your 30-year service milestone and for all you do in support of our community.



Evangeline Cachin

35 Years

Health Care Agency

Fiscal Specialist I

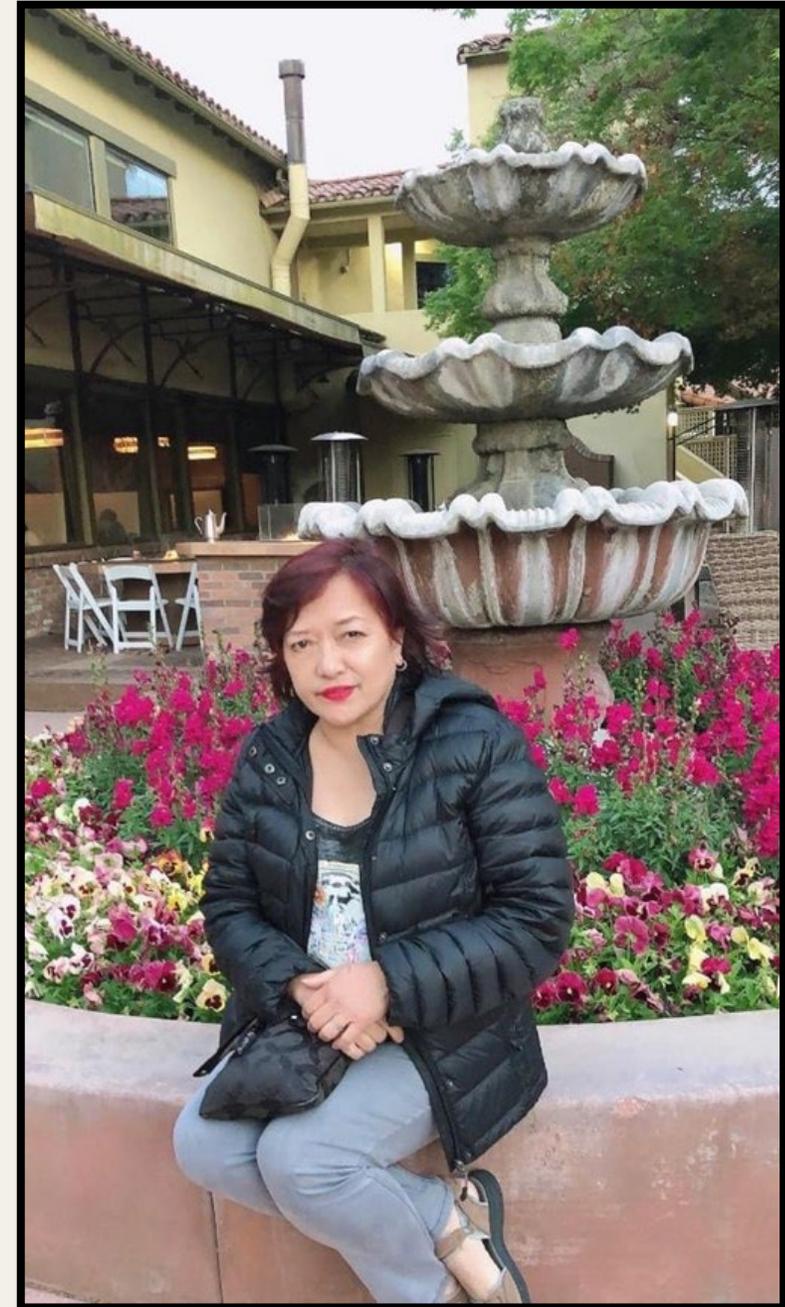
Evangeline Cachin, known as “Vangie,” joined the County in 1988 in the Public Services Agency (now Human Services Agency) as a temporary Account Clerk. In 1989, she received a permanent position as a CalWORKS Medi-Cal Eligibility Officer and Career Services Specialist. In 2003, Vangie moved to the Treasurer-Tax Collector as a Fiscal Specialist for the Public Administrator/Public Guardian. The program was subsequently transferred to the Human Services Agency in 2009 and recently to Behavioral Health.

Vangie received a commendation from previous Director James Isom for her work and she was named Medi-Cal Rookie of the Quarter. As a Medi-Cal Eligibility Officer, 10 of her cases were audited by the State of California and she received a 100% accuracy rating.

Vangie is a dedicated employee who has helped thousands of Ventura County residents during her County career. She is an important resource for the Public Guardian and is a pleasure to work with.

Vangie has been married for almost 30 years and is the mother of two outstanding “no-nonsense” young men. She loves cooking and collecting recipes for tasty meals and desserts.

Congratulations and thank you for 35 years of service to the County of Ventura.



Kevin Chrisman

35 Years

Public Works Agency

Supervisor-Public Works Maintenance

Kevin Chrisman began his career with the Agricultural Commissioner's Office in 1988 and joined the Roads Department, Operations & Maintenance Division, in 1991. After 29 years in different leadership capacities, he was promoted to Public Works Supervisor in 2018. As Supervisor, Kevin co-manages 26 employees and directs his team in preserving and providing routine maintenance for approximately 542 miles of roadway infrastructure.

On a personal note, Kevin enjoys vacationing in Las Vegas and is an avid Facebook Marketplace seller. If you need anything sold, he's your connection.

Congratulations and thank you, Kevin, for your exemplary leadership and dedication to public service.





To date, the careers of these 21 dedicated individuals represent a total of 570 years of County service.

Thank you and congratulations to all.
