

News Release

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>>City and business editors<<



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

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Air District inspector wins prestigious award

FRESNO – An annual award bestowed by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) has recognized the outstanding accomplishments of a compliance inspector in the Southern Region of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

Amelia Yuan of Bakersfield is the recipient of this year's Rodney Swartzendruber Outstanding Inspector Award. The award, named for a Valley Air District air-quality inspector who died in the line of duty, is given each year by CAPCOA's Enforcement Managers' Committee to an inspector in one of the state's 35 air quality management districts.

Yuan, a senior inspector and 15-year District employee, was recognized for her dedication to public service, extraordinary productivity and developmental work with special air-quality projects.

"As a District, we are lucky to have quite a few [candidates] to choose from, but Amelia stands out based on her commitment, her efforts and her accomplishments," said Compliance Manager Mike Oldershaw in his nominating letter.

The award has been given since 2003 in honor of Rodney Swartzendruber, an inspector who was killed in an auto accident while assisting the state Air Resources Board with monitoring near the Westley tire fire in Stanislaus County in 1999. It recognizes inspectors who consistently demonstrate outstanding performance and who make significant contributions that benefit air pollution control efforts in an exemplary way.

"This recognition is yet another concrete example of the high level of dedication and professionalism of District staff, and our air quality is the better because of it," said Jon Adams, the District's director of Compliance.

The Valley Air District covers eight counties including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and San Joaquin Valley air basin portions of Kern. For assistance, contact the nearest District office in Modesto at (209) 557-6440, Fresno (559) 230-6000 or Bakersfield (661) 326-6900.