

Employees of the Month, April 2015

Rosa Rodriguez - Custodian

Public Works

Rosa Rodriguez deserves a huge thank you for the amazing service she provides to the employees and inmates of the Jail. Rosa has been working for the Sheriff's Office for 11 years and has given outstanding service.

Rosa has her regular janitorial jobs but is also responsible for bio-hazard cleaning. This involves dropping whatever she is doing and going to the location in which an inmate has had an incident leaving bodily fluids such as blood, vomit, feces or flooded their cell. This job is not for people without a strong stomach. Once she gets to the location, she must put on a bio-hazard suit, shoe covers, face masks and gloves. There are times when she has to go in after an OC Fogger has been deployed on an inmate, in order to clean the cell. The residue left from this fogger affects people by giving them headaches and bothering their eyes, nose and throat. She willingly goes in because she knows it's her job to do, and she does it without complaining. She proceeds with cleaning with a pressure washer designed specifically for this type of clean up. The cleaning time may take up to an hour for each job depending on the extensiveness of the mess. This job is very demanding both mentally and physically.

Rosa is on call 24/7, 365 days a year. And most of the time, she is called out at least once per weekend or holiday which would be difficult while trying to maintain a normal home life.

In the past 6 months there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of bio clean ups to do. Usually it was a few per week but now are up to 1-2 per day. Keep in mind that she still has to get her regular duties done as well. I can only imagine how difficult it would be to keep up with everything especially with the added pressure of doing so many bio-hazard clean ups. I want Rosa to know that she doesn't go un-noticed. She does a wonderful job in spite of the pressure she is under and needs to know how valuable she is to us here at the Sheriff's department. We love and appreciate you for your friendship and the fabulous job you do!

Karen Peterson
Jail Medical

And from Alan Bennett:

The nurses in the jail medical division would like to nominate Rosa Rodriguez as Employee of the Month.

Since August, 2014, the jail has housed a particularly difficult inmate, whose behavior this whole time, has created an extraordinary amount of extra work for our angel of hygiene.

It has been a difficult and challenging situation to deal with the after-effects of this inmate's continued shenanigans. Without going into the gory details, she has to clean up after this inmate who has been decorating the cell, daily, repeatedly, with their own bodily "resources".

I cannot count the number of times that she has been in the Jail Medical division with the bio-hazard cleanup equipment, spending the significant amount of time necessary to clean the mess. This is no small effort, or accomplishment, especially when she has been called down several times in one day, day after day after day. It is a smelly, disgusting, hazardous job.

It takes a great deal of time and effort to suit up and clean the entire cell from ceiling to floor, let alone several times a day, plus weekends, nights, holidays too. Not the way one envisions spending their Thanksgiving and Christmas days. She has done an admirable job, all the while remaining unbelievably cheerful, and keeping up with all of her other duties, too.

Again, this is no small accomplishment, as it has been a significant amount of extra work, piled on top of her usually heavy workload. She is to be commended for a job well done, and deserves recognition for all the times that she has cheerfully gone above and beyond.

We in medical want to publicly express our appreciation, and commiseration.
Well done, Rosa, well done!

Alan Bennett, and the nurses in medical.