



# Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

Kelly Hoover  
Public Information Officer  
(805) 681-4192

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## News Release

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### **14 Custody Deputies Graduate from the Academy** **The Graduates Completed 450 Hours of Training**

**Goleta-** After 450 hours of training which involved many physical, mental and academic challenges, 14 Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office Custody Deputies graduated today, December 20, from the Custody Deputy Academy. The graduates received their certificates of completion before a packed room of family, friends and members of their new Sheriff's Office family. The traditional ceremony took place at Goleta Valley Church in Goleta and began with live music provided by the Sheriff's Pipe and Drum Corps and ended with the graduates reciting the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

The Custody Deputy Academy graduating class includes Lars Burkhardt, Frankie Castillo Jr., Gino Ceccheto, Roberto Gutierrez, Justin Haney, Brandon Hanson, Jonathan Kraetsch, Andrew Long, Jake Malone, Christopher Norling, Paul Otero, Mark Pericho, Kameron Reif and Ryan Southwick.

Sheriff Bill Brown gave the welcoming remarks and reminded the new custody deputies of the important role they play in our community. He said, "We welcome this impressive group of custody deputies to the ranks of the Sheriff's Office. Our corrections staff performs difficult and dangerous work each and every day. They protect and serve others by keeping criminals in custody, but also by working with offenders to change their lives for the better. We all owe them a debt of gratitude for their willingness to serve in this important role."

The Sheriff's Training Bureau puts on the Custody Deputy Academy which exceeds the minimum state mandated training hours.

The Sheriff's Office will begin a new recruitment in January to hire additional custody deputies and is continually looking for the best candidates to fill these positions. If you are interested in a career as a Custody Deputy with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, please visit our website at [www.sbsheriff.org/jobopenings](http://www.sbsheriff.org/jobopenings)

