



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FOR LINCOLN COUNTY**

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MICHELLE BRANAM
District Attorney

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Chief Deputy District Attorney

District Attorney Michelle Branam hosted the 22nd Annual Lincoln County Law Enforcement Recognition Banquet (LERB). The banquet was held on Friday, May 18, 2018, at the Best Western Agate Beach to kick off the weeklong National Police Week. This annual event pays tribute to local law enforcement for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to serving the people that live, play in and visit Lincoln County.

The following agency awards were presented:

- Lincoln City Police Department presented by Chief Jerry Palmer
 - Officer of the Year: Officer Hayden Tolzman
 - Non-Sworn Employee of the Year: Dispatcher Selina Weitzel
- Lincoln County District Attorney's Office presented by District Attorney Michelle Branam
 - Deputy District Attorney: R. Lynn Howard
 - Support Staff: Anna Semple
- Lincoln County Sheriff's Office presented by Sheriff Curtis Landers
 - Corrections Division: Bryce Miller
 - Patrol: Dalynn Shinholster
 - Support Staff: Corrections Cook Bruce Walker
 - Volunteer: Kay Eldon
- Lincoln County Community Justice presented by Supervisor Jen Landers
 - Employee of the Year: Andrew Morgan
- Newport Police Department presented by Chief Jason Malloy
 - Employee of the Year: Officer Calvin Davis
- Oregon State Police presented by Lt. Cari Boyd
 - Employee of the Year: Trooper David Wertz
- Toledo Police Department presented by Sergeant Michael Pace
 - Officer of the Year: Officer Michael Henderson

- Dispatcher of the Year: Cara Ammons
- Willamette Valley Communications Center presented by Director Mark Buchholz
 - Communications Shift Supervisor: Brenda Faxon
 - Lead Dispatcher/Trainer: Karin Jackson
 - Police/Fire Dispatcher: Becky Robison

DUII and MIP Enforcement Awards: The Partnership Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (PAADA) presented this year's DUII Enforcers of the Year as well as MIP Enforcer of the Year.

The LERB Committee, through Gina Lekas, presented the Special Recognition for Years of LERB Service Award to TyRae Risewick.

District Attorney Michelle Branam presented the 2018 Inductee into the Lincoln County Law Enforcement Hall of Honor to Mike Hart:

Before the development of the Lincoln County Juvenile Justice facilities, the probation office was in a leaky, rat-infested office, the closest youth shelter was 60 miles away and detention facilities were very limited and only available in Salem or Portland. There were few resources for youth in Lincoln County, tying the hands of the courts and juvenile system. This also stretched families' resources and the connection to their children when they were placed out of the area for services. Retired Judge McMillan, Mike Hart and retired Alan Peterson recognized the lack of services was taxing the juvenile system and the families in Lincoln County. The Judge wanted a shelter home for youth and from there, the story unfolds. Mike Hart advocated for, helped design, and maintained the highest quality of juvenile services that at the time was unheard of outside the metro areas. In addition, in doing so, he "one upped" the metro areas with the combined Juvenile Justice Facilities in Lincoln County, the only one of its kind in the State.

Mike Hart served the youth of the local community for over 41 years. The ability to have a juvenile shelter, detention and probation office all in one facility, to offer a continuum of care to youth, the court, and the community made sense to Mike and he helped make it happen. Mike Hart was instrumental in the design and operation of all the juvenile justice facilities AND practices in Lincoln County. Mike was committed to (and expected the same of his staff) the concept that LCJD was to provide legally mandated and community based services to youth in the juvenile system. He wanted the youth close to their home and to assist the youth and their families in accountability, rehabilitation and community restitution. He never let us forget "we rehabilitate within the context of public safety, as that is our #1 duty to the community." If our youth were close to us we could facilitate reformation, but also ensure community safety, as no matter where the youth were, the bottom line responsibility was ours.

We could go and on with stories testifying to Mike's commitment to youth, responsibility to his staff, and dedication to this community, but the form you supply is too short to cover over 41 years of service; 41 years of integrity without compromise.

More information:

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