
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FOR OUTSTANDING JOB PERFORMANCE

DATE: July 29, 2026
TO: Odis Jones, City Manager
THROUGH: Troy Dunlap, Assistant Chief of Police
FROM: Jason Sims, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Employee Recognition for Outstanding Job Performance - **John Tropeano**

BACKGROUND

On June 16, 2026, at approximately 6:55 p.m. Culver City Police officers responded to a hit-and-run traffic collision at the ARCO Am/PM located at 11181 Washington Boulevard, where a white Toyota Camry struck two pedestrians in the parking lot before fleeing the scene. Through coordinated investigative efforts and by using the FLOCK Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology to track the vehicle's movements, CCPD determined the Toyota Camry had been stolen approximately one hour earlier during an armed knife point carjacking in downtown Los Angeles. As officers converged on the suspect vehicle, the driver refused to surrender, fled from officers, and embarked on a violent pursuit through Culver City. The pursuit included the suspect driving in opposing lanes of traffic, reaching high rates of speed and repeatedly using the stolen vehicle as a deadly weapon against innocent members of the public.

While assigned to the Downtown Culver City Farmers Market, Sergeant Tropeano immediately recognized the danger posed by the approaching pursuit through one of the City's busiest pedestrian areas. Working alongside Officer Miller, he quickly began clearing the congested intersection of pedestrians, Farmers Market patrons, spectators gathered to watch a soccer match, and other members of the public. Using the patrol vehicle's public address system, Sgt. Tropeano issued loud verbal commands directing people away from Culver Boulevard and out of harm's way. His swift actions dispersed the large crowd just moments before the suspect entered the downtown corridor while driving at a high rate of speed in the wrong direction of travel. At approximately the same time, the suspect accelerated toward a group of approximately sixty running club members, who were forced to scatter to avoid being struck.

As the pursuit progressed and the suspect continued to intentionally endanger the public, Sergeant Tropeano made the difficult, time critical decision to stop the threat by using pursuit intervention techniques. Although the initial intervention was unsuccessful, Sergeant Tropeano remained committed to protecting the public and continued coordinating efforts to safely end the pursuit. Moments later, the suspect drove into a McDonald's parking lot and collided head on with another vehicle in the drive-through lane, Sergeant Tropeano and Officer Miller used their patrol vehicle to successfully disable the suspect's vehicle, preventing any further attempts to flee or injure additional members of the public.

When the suspect exited the vehicle and attempted to escape on foot, Sergeant Tropeano immediately pursued him and, together with assisting officers, safely took the suspect into custody. Throughout the encounter, Sergeant Tropeano remained focused on protecting the public, coordinating officers, and bringing the incident to a safe conclusion.

Despite sustaining multiple injuries, Sergeant Tropeano continued performing his duties until the suspect was safely in custody and the scene was secure. Sergeant Tropeano's decisive leadership, extraordinary courage under extreme pressure, tactical decision making, and unwavering commitment to public safety directly contributed to ending a violent incident that had already resulted in numerous victims and prevented the likelihood of additional serious injuries or loss of life. His actions exemplify the highest standards of professionalism, bravery, and dedication expected of a Culver City Police Department supervisor and reflect great credit upon himself and the Culver City Police Department.

AUTHORITY

According to Civil Service Rule 15.2 and 15.3, employees exemplifying outstanding job performance criteria may be recognized for their performance through the Outstanding Job Performance Recognition program. The program allows for single awards or a combination of any of the outlined recognition awards.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE

That the City Manager approve the Outstanding Job Performance Recognition award pursuant to Civil Service Rule 15.4 for John Tropeano, Police Sergeant, to receive award of three (3) working days off with pay and a cash award of \$500.00.

Approved By

Odis Jones

Odis Jones, City Manager

07/21/2026

Date