



PALM BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OFFICER WINS NATIONAL PAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

(Palm Bay)--Palm Bay Police Cpl. Frank Tobar has been named the National PAL Male Volunteer of the Year for 2009 for his work with local teens. Cpl. Tobar received the award at the National PAL Conference held last week in New Orleans.

Cpl. Tobar has volunteered his time to Palm Bay PAL for over 5-years and has played a significant role in influencing the lives of dozens of youth in the community. His efforts include taking vacation time to help run the local PAL summer camp, planning special projects, mentoring, public outreach to support the programs and functions of PAL that directly benefit the children and responding without hesitation any time he is called. "His passion for youth, community service and volunteerism is admirable," said Dana Packard, Community Services Division Manager for the Palm Bay Police Department. "He is always looking to help those in need and without the time and assistance both he and his wife provide we wouldn't be able to do all the things we do for our kids." Cpl. Tobar's wife Sheryl was recognized last year as the 2008 National PAL Female Volunteer of the year.

Cpl. Tobar also volunteers a significant amount of his personal time to the Police Explorer Program which is designed to educate teens about careers in law enforcement. Due to Cpl. Tobar's leadership, along with other officers who volunteer as advisors in this program in the last year alone, two participants have been hired as Palm Bay police officers, one was hired as a U.S. Marshal, and three others have become police officers in other jurisdictions. "All of our volunteers enhance our programs," Packard added. "Cpl. Tobar's recent efforts have made him stand out above all the others around the country and we are very proud of him."

Cpl. Tobar's nomination was considered among other nominations from hundreds of PAL chapters throughout the country. Cpl. Tobar received multiple nominations from PAL children, and program supporters.

The Palm Bay PAL is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting positive life choices for young people in the community including a focus on leadership, community service, athletics and academics. To learn more about PAL call 321-952-3530.

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