

Baby Recruit Makana

Recently, Leticia Rodriguez, a 15-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was promoted to the rank of sergeant. The Badge Pinning Ceremony for Sergeant Rodriguez and 24 other newly-promoted sergeants was held on Friday, August 15, 2014, at the Biscailuz Center Training Academy in East Los Angeles. Sheriff Scott pinned the new sergeants' badges on them and offered insightful words about the role of a sergeant.

It became apparent at the ceremony how deeply Sergeant Rodriguez's family is rooted in LASD terrain when four of her family members arrived, also wearing Sheriff's Star badges. Sergeant Rodriguez, assigned to the Twin Towers Correctional Facility, was supported at the ceremony by her brother, Deputy Antonio Ortega, assigned to Temple Station; sister, Deputy Jocelyn Ortega, also assigned to the Twin Towers Correctional Facility; sister, Deputy Sheriff Trainee Jessica Ortega, of Class #402; and future recruit, seven-month-old daughter, Makana.

Makana stole the show as the cutest and best-outfitted baby recruit. She was dressed in a custom-made, tan and green, mini-Class A uniform, complete with star and nameplate. Her toothy smile and shiny eyes lit up the entire room!

Makana may have a few years to go before she trades booties for boots and becomes the next family member to join the Department, but during that time, she will grow up in an honorable family steeped in a "Tradition of Service."



Sergeant-Mommy Leticia Rodriguez and Baby Recruit Makana.



Sheriff Scott and Baby Makana.



Deputy Antonio Ortega, Sergeant Leticia Rodriguez, Sheriff Scott, Deputy Sheriff Trainee Jessica Ortega, and Deputy Jocelyn Ortega, and (l-r).