

## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

Sergeant Ozzie Dominguez, Public Information Officer (559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax) odominguez@ci.visalia.ca.us

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## Visalia PD Officer Amerie Norman receives a DUI Enforcement Award.

Individuals, agencies and organizations from across the state were honored Saturday by MADD California for their work and dedication to eliminate drunk driving. The 17th Anniversary of the MADD California Statewide Law Enforcement & Community Recognition Dinner – "Together We Make the Difference", was held on May 31, 2014, at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento. MADD recognized law enforcement officials, government agencies and community advocates from throughout the state, who have gone beyond the call of duty to combat drunk driving, educate the public on the effects of this violent crime and who have done their part in maintaining safer roadways and communities.

Over 550 people were in attendance from 50 of California's 58 counties to attend this prestigious gala. Awards are given to individual officers, departments, state park agencies, media, and community partners whose actions and policies are aligned with our mission to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking.

"The officers recognized with the MADD California Hero Award are experts in the field of impaired driving enforcement. They are leaders in the department in arrests, prevention efforts, and training. Over 130 officers were recognized for the efforts over the last year and we believe that all of the officers have certainly saved lives by removing impaired drivers from California's roads," said Aaron Wade, MADD California Program Specialist.

Officer **Amerie Norman** was recognized from the Visalia Police Department for the positive impact she had in this community during 2013, by her focus on removing impaired drivers from the streets of Visalia. Officer Norman made over **100** impaired driving arrests during 2013. This is the *second year in a row* Officer Norman has achieved this award

