



Rialto Police Department

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PRESS RELEASE

Release Date/Time: November 24, 2025/ 10:00 a.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rialto Police Department

PRIDE Platoon – Class 20 Graduation

Rialto, CA — The Rialto Police Department proudly announces the graduation of PRIDE Platoon Class 20, recognizing 27 exceptional youth who completed the department's cornerstone leadership and character-development program.

The PRIDE Platoon—representing Pride, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Enthusiasm—remains one of Rialto's most influential youth outreach efforts. The program was introduced 15 years ago by Chief Mark P. Kling to strengthen relationships between local youth and the police department while promoting accountability, confidence, and positive decision-making. Since its launch, the program has contributed to a 40% reduction in juvenile crime, marking it as a proven model of community engagement and prevention.



This year's class was honored by the presence of guest speaker José "Josesito" Lopez, the retired professional boxer admired as the "Riverside Rocky." Lopez inspired the graduates with a powerful message emphasizing life choices, hard work, determination, and discipline—values that closely align with the mission of the PRIDE Platoon.

The program's success has been made possible through the continuous support of Rialto's elected officials, who have consistently championed PRIDE Platoon as a vital investment in the city's youth. In addition to building character, the program also plays a key role in developing the future of the police department. PRIDE Platoon serves as a recruitment pipeline into the Rialto Police Explorer Program, and has even produced successful hires—such as Officer Doriam Couto, a program graduate who now serves the community as both a police officer and a field training officer.

The Rialto Police Department extends special appreciation to the dedicated staff whose commitment drives the program forward, including Executive Assistant Jeanette Lopez and Captain Cameron Nelson. Their leadership and passion continue to shape meaningful opportunities for Rialto's youth.



The department congratulates the Class 20 graduates on their extraordinary achievement. Their determination, discipline, and growth reflect the bright future of the Rialto community.

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