



Scott LaChasse  
Chief of Police

# BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

## OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

### BPD MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION TEAM WINS AWARD

DATE: October 22, 2014

On October 21, 2014, the Burbank Police Department's Mental Health Evaluation Team (MHET), was presented with the 2014 *Extra* MILES recognition award at Pacific Clinics' 23rd Annual MILES Conference, "Bullying: From Awareness to Action."

The MILES (Mental Illness and Law Enforcement Systems) coalition, led by Pacific Clinics, has worked together since 1991. Other coalition partners include the San Gabriel Valley Police Chiefs' Association and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. MILES recognition awards are presented to individuals and programs that go the *extra mile* to improve the quality of service to this vulnerable population.

Four years ago, the Burbank Police Department created the MHET team to respond to a significant increase in mental health-related calls for service.

Pacific Clinics presented its 2014 *Extra* MILES Recognition Award to BPD's Mental Health Evaluation Team for their work with high-risk individuals living with mental illness. Last spring, the Burbank Police Department's MHET team responded to a local middle school regarding a possible suicide pact between two 13-year old students. The team's interviews with the students exposed another troubled youth and a female student bully.

Unlike thousands of other teenagers, these students were fortunate that someone noticed their situation and contacted the Burbank Police Mental Health Evaluation Team for assistance.

**QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT MAY BE DIRECTED TO  
OFFICER JOSHUA KENDRICK, @ 818-238-3223**

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