

It is difficult to quantify or qualify what is extraordinary about Shannon. Listen for his loud deep laugh and you will know your workday is going to be a good one. I hope that I have been able to highlight that Shannon Bryant is a strong candidate for Monterey County Fire Chief Association's Firefighter of the year. My sincere appreciation to the association for the difficult decision you have ahead in naming the next FFOTY.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Vaughn", with a stylized, flowing script.

Michele Vaughn,

Fire Chief



City of Salinas

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Date: December 8, 2020

To: Monterey County Fire Chiefs Association

From: Michele Vaughn, Fire Chief

Re: MoCo Fire Chiefs Association Nomination- Shannon Bryant

Dear Chiefs,

Please accept my nomination of Engineer Shannon Bryant as Salinas Fire Department's nominee for the Monterey County Fire Chief Association's Firefighter of the year.

Shannon came to the Salinas Fire Department in 2003. He came to Salinas from Banciforte Fire Department and has been an asset since joining us. He was promoted to Fire Engineer in 2006 and was appointed to the Hazmat team in 2017 through a competitive process. Shannon has been assigned to station 3 at our training division for 12 years and contributes to the overall success of each firefighter that comes through the tower.

Shannon is a "go to guy" in our organization. We give him a problem and he is always able to come up with a solution. He has built many of the training props in use today, including Bryant Place, a comprehensive ventilation and hose drill prop. He is constantly rehabbing the props so that our firefighters can maintain a high level of skills and ability to be response ready. We sincerely thank him for this.

Not only has Shannon built props for our division of training, he has built food pantries, gear lockers, tables and rehabbed many of our fire department signs on the stations. Shannon takes great pride in his work and offers a craftsmanship you can't find in most contractors. He has a long history of construction and carpentry which the City of Salinas has benefited from. Again, we thank him for his support and making our stations a better place to be.

What many people do not know about Shannon is his commitment to humankind. His humanitarian efforts do not get recognized daily nor a yearly basis. Shannon and his family are very involved with fund raising and donating money to organizations that assist those with substance abuse. This is an on-going effort year after year. Shannon has built homes for firefighters who have lost their homes in fires around the state, he has built homes in Mississippi and Ft. Luis in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and he has built school furniture for an orphanage in Hatti after the devastating 7.0 earthquake. These are just some of the amazing efforts put forth by Shannon to make positive difference in a person's life. What is most important here is that Shannon does this on his own dime and time. These acts of kindness represent not only the Salinas Fire Department in good light but represent all firefighters in the good that we can all do in giving back.

One last recognition Shannon represents well daily. He is a family man with 3 grown daughters and 3 grandchildren. Listening to him interact with his wife, daughters and grandchildren through the years has been delightful. He truly represents what it means to physically and emotionally support his family. He gives 150% of himself to them and we are thankful that we get to share him with his family.