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City of Downey

Press Release

Downey Family Receives Mayor's Diakonia Award

Downey, Ca, March 16, 2009



Mayor Mario A. Guerra presented his 2nd Diakonia Award to the family during the City Council meeting held on March 10, 2009. Humberto and Irene Santana, along with their daughter Isabel, were recognized for their honorable service to our community. Humberto Santana came back home just two weeks ago after serving his second term overseas in the United States Army.

He was stationed in Iraq for 18 months and is very grateful to be back with his family. He previously served a tour of duty in Afghanistan and has served in the U. S. Army for 8 years.

The Santana family, as well as many other families, serve our country by the sacrifices they make when they endure time apart from one another. "I wanted to honor the Santana family for their mutual service to our citizens. While he was away risking his life for our freedoms, his family sacrificed the love of a husband and father. They inspire us and give hope to all other families who are going through the same situation," said Mayor Guerra.

The Mayor's Diakonia Award will be presented each month to recognize those who provide service and give back to the community. The word Diakonia means "servant" in Greek. Nominations are currently being accepted. Anyone wishing to nominate someone for this award should contact the City Council office at 562-904-7274.

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For Immediate Release