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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Explorers win scholarships, score high in competition

Two local Explorers win \$500 scholarships, Post takes two firsts

MURPHY (July 31, 2014) Two members of the Murphy Police Department's Explorer Post were honored recently by the Texas Law Enforcement Explorer Advisors Association with \$500 scholarships during the most recent State Explorer Competition, according to Murphy Police Officer and Post Advisor Sarah Ashmore.

"Two of our outstanding members, Daniel Moszak and Emma Brandon, were each awarded \$500 scholarships," she said. "There were only ten such scholarships awarded in the entire state, and Murphy Explorers took two of them." Both have attained the rank of Sergeant in the Post's leadership team.

Moszak and Brandon are two of the local Post's most experienced Explorers, having been part of the program for several years, and both are planning to make use of the scholarships to continue their education.

Also during the two-day competition, the state's 25th annual held at UT Arlington, the local Post scored first in the state in White Collar Crime and Intoxicated Driver, two of the several scenarios in which Explorers are required to react as though they were the responding police officers.

"The criteria with which they are judged is exactly the same as we adhere to as regular police officers," said Ashmore. "Any clerical mistakes, errors in judgment, missed details or overlooked protocols result in demerits and lowered scores. Of course, in real life, those same mistakes could spell instant disaster or even loss of life."

The two first place finishes mean the Murphy team outperformed all of the 93 teams at the competition, hailing from all over Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma. Team members included Moszak, Jocelyn Manrique, Morgan Sibley and Natalia Segura.

Several other Explorers also attended, serving as actors in the scenario presented by the Murphy Police Department. Each year, the Murphy contingent hosts the Crime Scene Search scenario, sending the actors, judges and equipment for the presentation. Actor/Explorers included Brandon, Mackenzie Richlark, David Eisenzopf and Crystal DeLeon.

"While I serve as lead advisor, we have a wonderful group of advisors and assistants," added Ashmore. Assisting during the recent competition were Damon and Daril Doran, Rick Lopez, Carlos Gallegos and Dave Brandon.

The program is open to youth ages 15-21 who have an interest in law enforcement. Interested individuals should contact Officer Ashmore at sashmore@murphytx.org.

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PHOTOS AND CUTLINES ATTACHED

ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.

PHOTOS AND CUTLINES



MURPHY EXPLORERS GARNER FIRST PLACE AWARDS - At the recently-conducted 2014 Texas Law Enforcement Explorer competition, the Murphy Police Explorer Post team captured two first place awards in the White Collar Crime and Intoxicated Driver scenarios. Team members include (left to right) Sgt. Daniel Moszak, Morgan Sibley, Natalia Segura and Jocelyn Manrique. Moszak and Explorer Sgt. Emma Brandon were awarded \$500 scholarships each from the Texas Law Enforcement Explorer Advisors Association.



MURPHY EXPLORERS WIN SCHOLARSHIPS – Two of the ten statewide scholarships awarded at the 2014 Texas Law Enforcement Explorer competition in July went to Murphy residents. Sgts. Emma Brandon (left) and Daniel Moszak were recipients of the \$500 scholarships awarded by the Texas Law Enforcement Explorer Advisors Association. In addition to the scholarship awards, the Murphy Explorer Team scored two first places in police response scenarios. The competition was held at UT Arlington.