



# Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

Kirk M. Taylor Sheriff  
J.R. Hall Undersheriff

Mark A. Mears  
Bureau Chief  
*Emergency Services*

David J. Lucero  
Bureau Chief  
*Law Enforcement*

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Bureau Chief  
*Detention*

## News Release

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Gayle Perez 719 924 5471  
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### **Sheriff's Office Inducted into Special Olympics Hall of Fame**

**Pueblo, CO:** The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office was inducted into the Special Olympics Colorado Hall of Fame Wednesday during a virtual ceremony. PCSO was honored as the Law Enforcement Agency inductee into the 2020 Hall of Fame.

Pueblo County Sheriff Kirk M. Taylor and Captain Dawn Ballas were presented with the award by representatives from Special Olympics Colorado. The Hall of Fame honors outstanding individuals, agencies and organizations who have made a profound impact on Special Olympics.

The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office was recognized for being a longtime supporter of Special Olympics by regularly participating in fundraising events to include the Torch Run, the Polar Plunge, the Plane Pull and Tip-a-Cop. The Sheriff's office was instrumental in bringing a Polar Plunge event to Southern Colorado in 2016. The event has become one of the biggest such fundraising events in the state. Since coming to Pueblo County, the Polar Plunge has raised more than \$100,000 for Special Olympics Colorado. PCSO was also recognized for its support of the athletes by attending events and participating in award presentations.

"This is an honor for the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office to be recognized as a Special Olympic Hall of Fame member. We thank you for this award," said Sheriff Taylor. "We, at the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office, support the mission of Special Olympics Colorado and are proud to partner with this fine organization through our participation and support of events that benefit the Special Olympic athletes in our state."

The Hall of Fame award is among several awards the Pueblo Sheriff's Office has received from Special Olympics Colorado. In 2016, PCSO was named the 2016 Agency of the Year and in 2017 Captain Ballas received the Guardian award for her tireless work with Special Olympics.

The virtual Special Olympics Hall of Fame ceremony can be viewed on YouTube and on the Special Olympics Colorado Facebook page (@SpecialOlympicsColorado).

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