



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 3, 2014

CONTACT: Tom Flannigan
415.749.4900

Bay Area Air District inspector wins prestigious award

SAN FRANCISCO – The California Air Pollution Control Officers Association has recognized the outstanding accomplishments of Bay Area Air Quality Management District inspector Naomi Bernardo, as the recipient of the 2014 *Rodney Swartzendruber Outstanding Inspector Award*.

The award is given each year by CAPCOA's Enforcement Managers' Committee to three inspectors who work for the state's 35 air quality management districts. It recognizes inspectors who consistently demonstrate outstanding performance and who make significant contributions that benefit air pollution control efforts in an exemplary way.

"Over the years, Naomi Bernardo has played a significant role in the Air District's efforts to educate and provide outreach to the public and the regulated community," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Her dedication and focus, as well as her bilingual skills, have been instrumental to our success with the District's compliance advisories and inspections."

Bernardo, an Air District employee for 41 years and Daly City resident, was recognized for her dedication to public service and her key role as an air quality inspector. As an air quality inspector, her assignments have included nine years with the agency's asbestos program and, most recently, eight years as an industrial area inspector covering the San Francisco / mid-Peninsula area which includes the Hunters Point neighborhood of San Francisco.

Bernardo has been recognized for her contributions to the District via her bilingual skills, translating numerous compliance advisories, inspections, and providing outreach to the Spanish-speaking community in the Bay Area. Her work has garnered much appreciation from the community and overwhelming respect among her peers as well as those she inspects.

The Rodney Swartzendruber Award honors an air quality inspector who gave his life in the line of duty, and is presented to nominated inspectors who display exemplary dedication and performance in the pursuit of clean air. Bernardo is one of two recipients this year for service from a large air district.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

###