

Media Contact:

Leslie Arroyo
Communications Director
(650) 829-6603
leslie.arroyo@ssf.net



FOLLOW US!  

The City of South San Francisco

For Immediate Release

South San Francisco's Police Volunteer Receives San Mateo County's "Explorer of the Year"

Sergeant Explorer Arianna Realyvasquez has volunteered more than 1,100 hours for the South San Francisco Police Department

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., June 2, 2017 - It's often said, one of the greatest gifts you can give is your time, and for Sergeant Explorer Arianna Realyvasquez, she has given the City of South San Francisco, and our community, a great gift. Recently, she received the 2016 San Mateo County and Pacific Skyline Council Explorer of the Year Award during an Explorer Academy graduation ceremony.

"We are proud of Arianna and all of our Police Explorers for their dedication and commitment to helping make South San Francisco a safer place for residents and visitors alike," said South San Francisco Police Chief Jeff Azzopardi.

Sergeant Explorer Realyvasquez hails from a family in law enforcement, so it's no surprise that she is studying Criminal Justice at Skyline College. She has been a Police Explorer for four years and has been to several National Explorer Conferences, and has also served as a mentor/instructor, called a "Red-Shirt" Squad



Leader, at the Police Explorer Academy.

There are many roles a [South San Francisco Police Explorer](#) fills, including "Ride-A-Longs" with police officers on their beats, helping to fingerprint children, assisting the department's Records and Communications section, and assisting with safety programs and crime prevention in the community.

"We need more people like Ariana and want to encourage local youth to participate in the South San Francisco Police Explorers Program as it offers real-world experience in law enforcement," said Chief Azzopardi.

Interested in law enforcement? Want to serve your community? Then being a South San Francisco Police Explorer may be just for you! Some of the requirements are below:

- You are between the ages of 14 and 21 years.
- You must either reside or attend school in South San Francisco.
- If you're a student at a South San Francisco school, you must maintain at least a "C" grade or 2.0 GPA.
- You must be a U.S. citizen or in the process of becoming a naturalized citizen.

All new South San Francisco Explorers are required to attend a nine-week (nine consecutive Sundays) Explorer Academy.

For those interested in applying for the [South San Francisco Police Explorer Program](#), please call the SSFPD's School Liaison Officer at 650.829.3924. Also, be sure to check out their new [Instagram](#) page and stay in touch with what the Explorers are doing.

About South San Francisco

The City of South San Francisco proudly remains *The Industrial City*, a reflection of its steel mill and ship building past, redefined to reflect the innovative, entrepreneurial and industrious spirit which has made South San Francisco the Biotech Capital of the World, with 214 active biotech companies and growing. A vibrant community of 64,585 residents, South San Francisco enjoys a high quality of life with an extensive public parks system, active library and learning programming and a dynamic, engaged community making South San Francisco a great place to live, learn, work and play.