

# *Announcement*

## *Ralph Hunter Memorial Award*

2017 Recipient

**David Thompson**  
Program Manager

City of Los Angeles, Department of Building & Safety, Local Enforcement Agency  
& Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency

This award is in recognition of an individual who has made a major impact to the solid waste field/Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) program through development of a special or new program, involvement with educational activities, committees and/or workgroups, permitting and/or enforcement, or special achievement that enhances the protection of public and environmental health principles through the LEA/EA program.

David has over 26 years of experience working in the field of solid waste and environmental health. He started in the City of Los Angeles LEA program as its first inspector when it began in 1992. Since then, David promoted to a supervisor and then to Program Manager in 2014. The LEA program, under David's direction, oversees approximately 128 solid waste facilities and operations.

David earned a Master's degree in Environmental and Occupational Health from California State University, Northridge and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography-Ecosystems from the University of California, Los Angeles. David obtained certification as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) and has shared his knowledge with others by providing training to local governments and at educational institutions. His desire to protect the environment and public health by getting involved in challenging topics and working with a variety of stakeholders to find solutions is one of his many leadership attributes. Some of his notable contributions include:

- Southern Cities Local Enforcement Agency Chair
- Enforcement Advisory Council member representing Southern Cities
- Instructor at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Engineering Extension's Recycling/Municipal Solid Waste Management Certificate Program
- Taught solid waste classes at California State University Northridge (CSUN) and Santa Monica City College
- Active participant in multiple technical advisory committees with focus on public health
- Principal in the formation of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency to oversee a landfill that is located in two separate jurisdictions
- Obtained and provided physical and operational landfill data using NASA's remote sensing data and ARB Green House Gas (GHG) mapping project to develop mitigation measures for odors and landfill gas emissions. Mitigation measures developed significantly reduced landfill gas emissions and odor complaints
- Provided technical training to local governments on regulatory projects, Three-Part Test, public hearings, and recycling facilities
- Developed and implemented leading-edge and science-based analytical tools and data mining techniques to provide technically and legally defensible actionable data

David is a worthy recipient of the 2017 Ralph Hunter Memorial Award. Please join us in congratulating him on this achievement.

# Previous Ralph Hunter Award Recipients

2016: Lars Seifert, Imperial County LEA

2015: Ossama "Sam" Abu Shaban, Orange County LEA

2015: Janet E. Gardner, Fresno County LEA

2014: Christopher G. Rummel, Santa Clara County LEA

2013: Lisa J. Jameson, Sacramento County LEA

2012: Ricardo M. Serrano, Solano County LEA

2011: William E. Prinz, City of San Diego LEA

2010: Rebecca Lafreniere, San Diego County LEA

2009: Lori Braunesreither, Contra Costa County LEA

2008: Patti Henshaw, Orange County LEA

2007: Greg Pirie, Napa County LEA

2006: Bob Swift, Sonoma County LEA

2005: Tammy Derby, Sacramento County LEA

2004: Mike Schmaeling, Santa Barbara County LEA