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PRESS RELEASE

Wheelhouse Credit Union Announces *Badge of Honor* Scholarship Winners

**** Scholarships Support Children of San Diego County First Responders ****

San Diego, CA – August 31, 2020 –Wheelhouse Credit Union (Wheelhouse) has awarded eight \$1,000 “*Badge of Honor*” Scholarships to college-bound students to honor the heroic efforts of San Diego County’s first responders and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic. The scholarships were awarded to rising college freshmen with a parent/grandparent/legal guardian who is an active member of law enforcement, fire protection service, healthcare or EMT in San Diego County.

The Wheelhouse *Badge of Honor* Scholarship recipients include:

Recipient	School	City	Family First Responder
Nathan Austin	Ramona High School	Ramona	ICU Staff Nurse & MRI Technologist
Lainey Bowler	West Hills High School	Santee	Director of Surgical Services
Chiara Curnow	Fallbrook High School	Fallbrook	Flight Nurse
Madalyn Garnica	Bonita Vista High School	Chula Vista	Fire Dispatcher
Danielle McCauley	Carlsbad High School	Carlsbad	School Nurse
Ethan Rosado	Liberty Charter High School	Lemon Grove	Law Enforcement
Trevor Wahl	Cathedral Catholic High School	San Diego	Law Enforcement
Christina Wooden	Canyon Crest Academy	San Diego	Nurse Practitioner

[Photos of all recipients here.](#)

“We want to congratulate all of the recipients for their hard work and outstanding efforts as they prepared for college, finishing their high school education during the Covid-19 Pandemic. It was especially touching to read the tributes they wrote about their “first-responder” parents who clearly made an impact on their lives,” said Wheelhouse President/CEO Lisa Paul-Hill. “Not only are these first responders heroes to all of us, they are also a source of inspiration to their families. We know the incredible sacrifices these individuals and their families are making to help protect our communities, and are proud to honor them. We know each of our scholarship recipients has an exciting college career ahead, and wish them the very best of luck.”

Beyond having a parent, grandparent or legal guardian as a first responder, all recipients recently graduated from San Diego County high schools with plans to attend an accredited college. Award criteria included academic achievement, letters of recommendation, an essay about the first responder in their family, and a desire to make an impact on their schools and communities.

The *Badge of Honor* scholarships are in addition to the Credit Union's annual College Scholarship Program, which was created in 2005 to support high school seniors in San Diego County. Since the creation of these programs, Wheelhouse has awarded \$86,000 in scholarships to local students.

About Wheelhouse Credit Union

Wheelhouse Credit Union (formerly San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union) is a federally insured, state chartered credit union founded in 1934 serving more than 21,000 community members in the greater San Diego area. Wheelhouse is "San Diego Made and Proud," providing a full suite of consumer banking services and a comprehensive set of Energy-Efficient and Solar Loan products for the conscientious San Diegan. The Credit Union is committed to helping its Members succeed while supporting initiatives that help San Diego thrive. Please visit wheelhousecu.com for more information, or follow the Credit Union on Instagram®, Facebook® and Twitter®.

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