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PRESS RELEASE

Wheelhouse Credit Union Announces 2022 *Badge of Honor* Scholarship Recipients

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

San Diego, CA – July 18, 2022 –Wheelhouse Credit Union (Wheelhouse) has awarded five \$1,000 “*Badge of Honor*” Scholarships to college-bound students, honoring the heroic efforts of San Diego County’s first responders and their families.

In the third year of the *Badge of Honor* program, 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 2022 *Badge of Honor* Scholarship recipients are:

Recipient	School	City	College Attending	Family First Responder
Alaina Austin	Ramona High School	Ramona	Cal Poly Pomona	Registered Nurse/Charge Nurse
Ember Yanez	Ramona High School	Ramona	Pomona College	Forest Firefighter
Logan Maestas	La Costa Canyon High School	Carlsbad	Boise State University	San Diego Fire Rescue
Alyssa Sutherland	Carlsbad High School	Carlsbad	Boston University	Registered Nurse/Wound Specialist
Hannah Tomechak	San Marcos High School	San Marcos	Penn State University	Sergeant, Sheriff’s Department

“We have tremendous gratitude to our first responder heroes and their families for all they do to support our San Diego community. Our *Badge of Honor* scholarships honor and acknowledge the dedication and sacrifice our first responder families make in their commitment to serving others,” said Wheelhouse President/CEO Lisa Paul-Hill. “We congratulate each of these scholarship recipients for their outstanding high school achievements, and wish them the very best as they begin their college journey.”



Wheelhouse President/CEO Lisa Paul-Hill (second from left) presents scholarships to Badge of Honor scholarship recipients (L-R) Ember Yanez; Alyssa Sutherland; and Alaina Austin.

[Photos of all recipients here.](#)

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 Sustainability 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 \$106,000 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 nearly 30,000 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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