

LEADERSHIP AWARD

Ricardo Valera – Division Director Regulatory Division, Lower West Coast Service Center

Ricardo was nominated for the Leadership Award by his staff. When Ricardo assumed the role as Director of the Regulatory Division in January 2007, he rallied his troops and infused them with enthusiasm. It is no wonder that the Regulation Permitting 101 outreach activity was so successful. The regulatory staff at the Lower West Coast Service Center has continued the momentum by holding mini workshops on E-Permitting and by attending meetings of local homeowners associations.

Ricardo's organizational skills and personality have increased performance and productivity. He is confident and exudes self awareness. He is conscious of how his actions and decisions impact others. Ricardo leads with enthusiasm, expressing "thumbs-up" or "job well done" on a regular basis; he has created an atmosphere of positive thinking that supports new and innovative approaches.

While the District has changed the way we do business through E-Permitting and E-Compliance, Ricardo has stayed abreast of issues and has assisted staff through the bumps in the road. Ricardo encourages us to be more cost effective as we continue to do more with less.

According to his staff, Ricardo should be on the annual list of items that are inventoried each year due to their value; he is truly a District Asset!