

Interview with UCI Police Dept.

Michele Ramirez



By: C. Young

Meet Officer Michele Ramirez.

Michele Ramirez was born and raised in Downey, California. One of four children, she grew up playing soccer and played well enough to continue playing at the college level!

Officer Ramirez stays active backpacking and hiking in her spare time and also enjoys paddle boarding on nice summer days. Being outdoors helps her get away from a fast paced life and appreciate the simplicity and beauty of nature. She took time from her busy schedule to introduce herself a bit more.

What do you find rewarding about working with a student population?

Working for a University and constantly interacting with a student population is a very unique and rewarding experience. These students are in a time in their life where they are figuring out who they are, who they want to be and are continuously absorbing so much information and new experiences that are shaping the way they think and behave. Being able to interact, be a role model and build positive experiences with students is a very special opportunity. Also, I am giving the opportunity to create a positive law enforcement experience with each student I interact with, which is a step in the right direction for law enforcement all over the nation.

Do you have any advice for someone looking to start a career in public service?

Public service is a line of work where you have to be extremely selfless. You have to be willing to put others before yourself and have no hesitation about it. So if you're looking to start a career in public service make sure you have fully accepted the idea of dedicating yourself to helping others at the risk of your own well-being.

Why did you choose Law Enforcement as a career?

I wanted a career where I could help people and somehow have an impact on a person's life. A majority of people believe that all contact with police is negative, but that usually is not the case. A person calls the police when they have no other option and are most likely having a very bad day...to be able to show up and provide assurance to that person is a feeling that can't be explained.

If you hadn't gone that route, what do you think you'd be doing instead?

My dream job was to be an astronaut, but as I got older I began to realize that was a little unrealistic for me. On the more realistic side, I thought about doing social work or nursing while I was in college. I just wanted a job where I had a hand in helping someone who couldn't help themselves.

How long have you worked in Law Enforcement? How long at UCI?

My career as a police officer started at UC Irvine, and I have worked here for one year.



All in a Day's Work— Officer Ramirez meeting a member of the UCI Community

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