

**The Hillsborough County Sheriff's  
Hispanic Advisory Council Presents**



**❖ 25TH ANNUAL ❖  
HISPANIC LAW ENFORCEMENT  
APPRECIATION AWARDS DINNER**



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JAY J GARCIA MD



David Gee

Sheriff of Hillsborough County

P.O. BOX 3371  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33601  
PHONE 247-8000

September 25, 2009

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Law Enforcement Appreciation Award's Dinner. It is always an honor for me to attend and personally congratulate the various award and scholarship winners.

The Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council serves our office and community in a very special way. The Council provides scholarships to students, who might not otherwise have the opportunity to obtain an education. During the past year, the Council has served the Hispanic community by providing backpacks with school supplies to needy children and provided holiday dinners for the less fortunate. Your support this evening makes all of this possible.

I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council for their dedicated service to the Sheriff's Office and community. Our office is very fortunate to have the support of such dedicated volunteers.

All of us at the Sheriff's Office will continue to pledge our best to you as we work to make Hillsborough County a safer place for all citizens. Have a wonderful evening and enjoy the program!

Sincerely,

David Gee  
Sheriff

DG/wds



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# Welcome to the 25th Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner



Its that time of year when The Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council recognizes our Law Enforcement Professionals for all they do for us day in and day out.

We take pride in the work and dedication the Sheriff's Office provides and tonight we acknowledge the contributions made by Hispanic personnel and others to make our community a better place for all.

The members of the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council accomplished many efforts to make our community better with the help and support of the volunteers, advertisers, and banquet attendees this past year. Those efforts and dedication allowed us to contribute positively to our community.

Together, this year we achieved the following:

- 1st Annual Advisory meeting with the Sheriff
- At our annual Back to School Event, we provided school backpacks with school supplies to 125 needy students.
- Three USF students received an annual scholarship for a period of five years, including Carlos Regalado, who is now in his third year
- During our annual Thanksgiving dinner outreach, the council provided turkey dinners to needy families at the St. Joseph Catholic Church, The ECHO program in Brandon and The Sheriff's Office Child Protection Investigations Section
- Christmas clothing for male juvenile participants in the YES program in Wimauma
- The annual Teddy Bear Event allowed the Council to provide teddy bears to the Children's Advocacy Center
- Presented the Elderly participants of Hillsborough County Senior Citizen centers Teddy Bears for Valentine's Day
- 1st Easter Egg hunt for the Children of the Children's Home

With your help and dedication we are making strides in our community and reaching out in the name of the Sheriff and his dedicated Staff and volunteers. We thank you for the support and we congratulate all the award recipients and look forward to seeing you all again in 2010.

Gracias,  
*Tony Morejon and the SHAC*

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**PROGRAM**

Invocation..... Jeannette Palencia

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome..... Tony Morejon  
Council President

**DINNER**

Entertainment ..... "Salsa with the Stars"

**LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS**

Volunteer of the Year ..... Ramon Rivera

Civilian Employee of the Year ..... Diana Gryder

Bailiff of the Year ..... Master Sergeant Gilbert Valdez

Detention Deputy of the Year ..... Deputy Jorge Silva

Law Enforcement Deputy of the Year ..... Deputy Carlos Cuevas

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Hispanic Advisory Scholarship ..... Zuleydis Crumpler

Ralph Castellano Scholarship ..... Carlos Regalado

USF Foundation Scholarship ..... Diana Aguilar- Flores

USF Foundation Scholarship ..... Jonathan Campana

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Hispanic Advocacy Award ..... Patrick Doone

Raymond E. Fernandez Award ..... Sheriff David Gee

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Your generosity will make possible future awards, scholarships,  
and a number of community projects which this organization  
welcomes and appreciates on behalf of its recipients.

***¡Muchas Gracias, Amigos!***

## RAYMOND E. FERNANDEZ

Raymond E. Fernandez was born in New York City in 1915 of parents from Asturias, Spain. As a child, Spanish was his first language and, as a result, he felt the sting of discrimination. This experience spurred him on to perfect his English and to vow to fight discrimination whenever and wherever he found it.

After serving in the U.S. Army Corps Military Police, he joined the New York City Police Department and retired with twenty years of service. A move to Florida kept him in law enforcement and by the time he joined the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office in 1971, he had twenty-five years of law enforcement experience. He served in the Detention Department until 1981, when he retired as a Sergeant.

The following year, he approached then-Sheriff Walter C. Heinrich with a proposal to set up a committee comprised of members of the community to act as liaison between Hispanics in Hillsborough County and the Sheriff's Office. This led to the creation of the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council. Ray served as its chairman until shortly before his death.

His entire life was devoted to the advocacy of Hispanic causes and to improving the condition of Hispanics in our country and community. Many organizations benefitted from his tireless efforts, including the Hispanic Defense League, of which he was a founder, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Ser-Jobs for Progress, the Hispanic Caucus and the Florida Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

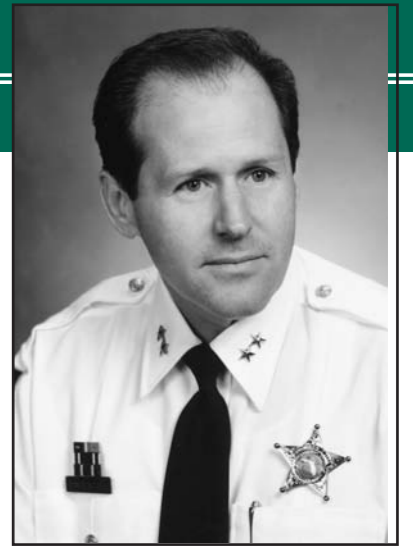
Locally, he organized the Hispanic Law Enforcement Officers' Association, comprised of Hispanic law enforcement personnel from agencies at all levels of government.

Raymond E. Fernandez gave a lifetime to the advancement of Hispanics in our society and to promoting understanding between people. He was a proponent of justice for all and made tremendous gains by working within our system of government to bring about change. He was an advocate and a fighter and he set a great example for others to follow. Most of all, he believed in the American dream and in this country's ability to do what is right.

In honor of his outstanding contributions, the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council has established the "Raymond E. Fernandez Award", presented each year to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the criminal justice system.

# 2009 Raymond E. Fernandez Award

## Sheriff David Gee



Choosing the winner of our most important prize, the Raymond E. Fernandez award, is often a difficult task for the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council. The competition among those making significant contributions to the criminal justice system is fierce, and the past recipients are a roll call of the best and the brightest. This year, however, the choice was close at hand and indisputable. Without hesitation, we selected the Sheriff of Hillsborough County, David Gee.

Sheriff Gee has served the county for over 31 years in progressive positions of leadership, including homicide investigator, Internal Affairs supervisor, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Deputy. Throughout his years of public safety and community service, his experience, education and training strengthened his belief that law enforcement can only be effective if it provides service and protection based on the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. As a result of that integrity, professionalism and steadfast leadership, he was elected Sheriff of Hillsborough County in January 2005.

Immediately upon taking office, he began implementing a three-year Strategic Operations Plan reflective of his priorities and principles. The HCSO has initiated community programs, targeting gangs, street racing, robbery, sale of alcohol to minors, criminal activities near schools, safe disposal of unwanted prescription medications, drunk driving, sexual predators, removal of guns from the street and involvement of trained citizens to serve as additional eyes and ears for law enforcement.

Sheriff Gee is also professionally active as a member of the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force, Co chair of the Region 4 Domestic Security Task Force and Chair of the Region 4 Gang Reduction Task Force as well as a law enforcement aviator and past chairman of the Brandon Boys and Girls Club. He has received numerous awards ranging from two Sheriff's Office Distinguished Service Medals of Valor to the Human Rights Council Award and the Patriotic Employer award for supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force.

But the Hispanic community has long regarded him as a very special amigo to us all. He recruits, employs, and supports Hispanic law enforcement officers. He unfailingly supports Hispanic involvement in initiatives to make the community safe for its most vulnerable citizens. The Council also counts on him for encouragement and help with all our own projects. It is no wonder we didn't have to look far to find the man who exemplifies the best in law enforcement leadership and the spirit of Raymond E. Fernandez—Sheriff David Gee.

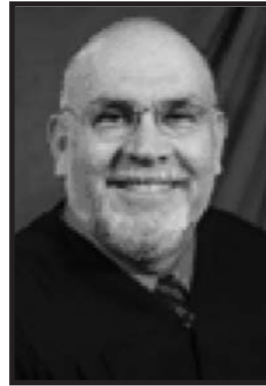
The Raymond E. Fernandez Award Winners  
 ~ HALL OF FAME ~



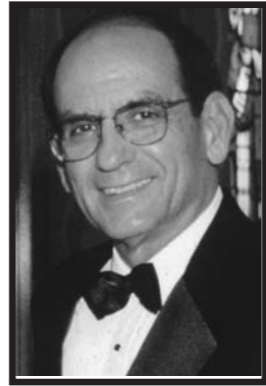
2009  
 Sheriff David Gee



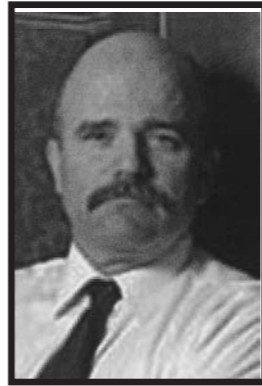
2008  
 Julianne M. Holt



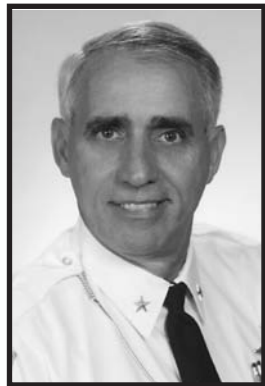
2007  
 Judge Manuel  
 Menendez, Jr.



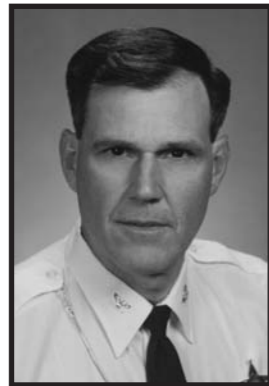
2006  
 Richard D.  
 Muga



2005  
 Greg Kehoe



2004  
 Sheriff  
 Cal Henderson



2003  
 Colonel  
 Jose Docobo



2002  
 Linda Thorpe



2001  
 Major Robert  
 De Luna



2000  
 Judge F. Dennis  
 Alvarez



1999  
 Judge Virginia  
 Hernandez  
 Covington



1998  
 Adalberto Tosca



1997  
 Judge  
 E. J. Salcines



1996  
 Ralph  
 Fernandez



1995  
 Sheriff  
 Walter C. Heinrich

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# 2009 Hispanic Advocacy Award

## Patrick Doone



Personally and professionally, Patrick Doone has lived a life of commitment and devotion to the welfare of the Hispanic community. For twenty-three years, he has worked in dropout prevention and post secondary programs serving migrant and seasonal farmworker students at the USF Center for Migrant Education. For the past five years, he has been president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at the church of St. Mark the Evangelist. Part of a Catholic lay ministry serving the less fortunate, the St. Vincent de Paul Society has provided Thanksgiving meals to Hispanic families throughout the Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco area. The Society also participates in the Florida Catholic's Long Sleeve Shirt Campaign to provide and distribute long sleeved shirts to protect Florida farmworkers from sun and pesticide exposure. With worthy endeavors such as these, it is easy to see why Patrick Doone is the Council's choice for the Hispanic Advocacy Award.



## Hispanic Advocacy Award Winners ~ HALL OF FAME ~



2008  
Delia Sanchez



2007  
Dr. Manuel Duran



2006  
Reverend James N. Holmes

## The Members of the SHERIFF'S HISPANIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

*thank the men and women of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office  
for their dedicated service to our community!*



Tony Morejon  
President



Arlene Segovia  
Vice President



Jennifer Whelihan  
Secretary



Ana Morejon  
Treasurer



Maritza Astorquiza



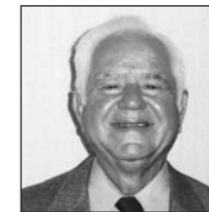
Thelma Castellano



Carlos Cuevas



Margarita Gonzalez



Emilio Lefler



Richard Muga



Marilyn Padron



Jeannette Palencia



Dr. Delia Palermo



David Schmidt



Joanna Walker

Not Pictured:

Lorena Colin, Lizette Hernandez, Sylvia Reeves, Santos Rodriguez, Margie Soto

# Scholarship Recipients 2009



## Hispanic Advocacy Scholarship

### Zuleydis Crumpler

Raising a family is never easy. Attending graduate school is also challenging. Working twelve hour shifts at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office seems more than a full time job. Yet our next winner balances all three –along with a husband who is also in graduate school. Combining nearly nine years of dedication to the HCSO with her pursuit of a Masters in Human Services, Zuleydis Crumpler is the deserving winner of a scholarship from the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council.

## Ralph Castellano Scholarship

### Carlos Regalado

Ralph Castellano was a beloved and well-known Tampa educator who had been a member of the Council for many years. Ralph educated and inspired students for more than three decades, sharing his love of biology and education with students at Jefferson High School and Hillsborough Community College. He brought his dedication, love of learning, and gentle humor to the Council, and we honor him tonight with the Ralph Castellano Scholarship.

Tonight's winner Carlos Regalado is once again the recipient of the Ralph Castellano Scholarship award. In Carlos, the Council has found a candidate so worthy, so outstanding that we have decided to assist him in all four years of his college education. This scholarship is made possible by not only the Council, but also generous contributions made in Ralph Castellano's honor. The Council will like to again congratulate Carlos Regalado for being awarded the Ralph Castellano Scholarship. Keep up the good work!

## USF Foundation Scholarship

### Diana Aguilar-Flores

Diana Aguilar-Flores is a freshman at the University of South Florida where her major is undeclared. She attended Zephyrhills high school where she took several AP classes and graduated Cum Laude with a 3.5 GPA. She was involved in the National Art Honor Society, the Drama Club, Compassionate Students international, the Cross Country team, and the Tennis team. She also spent several hours volunteering at the Zephyrhills hospital, West Zephyrhills elementary, and the Suncoast Arts Fest. Diana wishes to offer hurricane relief services as an electrical engineer, to include helping underprivileged Latinos in the community. Diana is from Mexico and will be the first in her family to obtain a college degree. Diana enjoys painting and may look to enrolling in the master's program as well.

### Jonathan Campana

Jonathan earned a 3.7 GPA from Pineview High. He served as president of Fellowship Christian Athletes and was a member of the Bible Club and the Drama Team. Jonathan has played the guitar since 7th grade and has performed for his youth group, other churches and organizations helping disabled children. He recently returned from a missionary trip to an orphanage in Ecuador. Jonathan has been accepted in the Honors College. He will major in Psychology and plans to pursue a Master's in Industrial Psychology.

*Congratulations to all the  
2009 Scholarship Awardees!*



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Pam Iorio, Mayor

**Best Wishes for a Successful and Enjoyable Hispanic Law Enforcement Appreciation Awards Dinner**

**September 25, 2009**

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*"We support and applaud all the 2009 Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council Award Winners and Scholarship Recipients."*

# Special Recognition 2009



## Hispanic Detention Deputy of the Year

### DEPUTY JORGE SILVA

Deputy Silva has been employed by the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office since June 2, 1997. During that time, he has worked at both the Orient Road and the Falkenburg Road Jails as a deputy in various housing units in the direct supervision and confinement jail settings. Deputy Silva has proven that he can successfully supervise pods that house as many as 72 inmates on a daily basis. An active member of the Tactical Action Control Team (TACT) since January 2003, he faithfully participates in all training exercises and actual call-outs for service. This year he took on the role of the facility escort for the Falkenburg Road Jail. A special note should be made of the fact that during his more than twelve years on the job, Deputy Silva has maintained a perfect attendance record.

During his off duty time, he is the director of the Greater Tampa Bay Latino Officers Association, which fosters better understanding between the Latino and law enforcement communities. He volunteers in elementary schools through a mentoring program that encourages young children to value reading, and he has participated in the Great American Teach In. Somehow he also finds the time and energy to be a devoted husband and father. Because of his energetic and "systematic approach" to his job and his "fierce pride in his heritage" and citizenship, the Council enthusiastically concurs with his supervisors' choice of Jorge Silva as Hispanic Deputy of the Year.

## Hispanic Law Enforcement Deputy of the Year

### DEPUTY CARLOS CUEVAS

It is a great joy for the Council to recognize one of its own: Deputy Carlos Cuevas, an HCSO liaison to the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council. This deputy stepped in at a difficult moment in the Council's preparation for last year's Recognition Dinner and saw the dinner through to a successful completion. He has recruited dedicated and energetic professionals to serve on the Council's Board and has always made himself a serene and resourceful presence at every event and meeting.

But devoted as he is to the Council, Deputy Cuevas has many other responsibilities. Currently assigned to the Refugee Victimization Program, he has instructed over 2000 refugees in very critical classes, acclimating them to the rules of our society and the laws of our country. But he never rests on his laurels. Instead, he constantly seeks to improve the program and to expand assistance available to these refugees. "Well respected by his supervisors and peers for his strong work ethic and commitment," Carlos Cuevas is the 2009 Hispanic Deputy of the Year.

## Civilian Employee of the Year

### DIANA GRYDER

In her twenty-five year career at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Diana Gryder has exemplified the level of professionalism and devotion to duty that culminated in her position as Executive Assistant to Chief Deputy Jose Docobo. Here she must juggle the needs of outside government agencies, private entities, and citizens of every walk of life. With patience and strong organizational skills, she diplomatically and tirelessly works to resolve the often-conflicting demands of her stressful job. To this end, she works 10-12 hour days, frequently including weekends. She has also been instrumental in brainstorming new ideas to streamline office procedures and has been known as the "go to person for personnel recruitment, fiscal and agency policies."

But she is not just a stellar employee, she is also a superlative daughter, friend, and co-worker. Her devotion to the many needs of her elderly mother- everything from cooking and cleaning to shopping and transportation- is both legendary and constant. Yet despite the pressures of career and family, Diana Gryder remains an attentive listener and wise counselor to both friends and co-workers. The Council heartily congratulates Diana Gryder, the Hispanic Civilian Employee of the Year.

## Volunteer of the Year

### RAMON RIVERA

Since he joined the Volunteer Citizen Patrol in August 2007, Ramon Rivera has received several commendations for his help to the community. Within the organization, he has taken on the role of Team Leader and trains new volunteers. Described as an asset to the program who always serves more than the required hours each month, Ramon Rivera is the recipient of the Council's award for Hispanic Volunteer of the Year.

## Bailiff of the Year

### MASTER SERGEANT GILBERT VALDEZ

Sweeping changes in the Court Security Bureau necessitated a sure and steady hand with a willingness to embrace new initiatives and methods. Master Sergeant Gilbert Valdes has been called "a consummate professional" who expects the best of subordinates and peers. Never one to shy away from the difficulties of transforming a squad, he "empowered each member to be part of the decision making process as it relates to daily responsibilities, security, and teamwork." With 22 years of service to the Sheriff's Office, Gilbert Valdes remains a man who leads by example and is highly deserving of recognition as the council's 2009 Bailiff of the Year.



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COUNCIL IS  
DEDICATED TO  
HELPING THE  
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As the holidays quickly approach, SHAC will be putting together numerous outreach programs designed to help the less fortunate children and families of the Tampa Bay area.

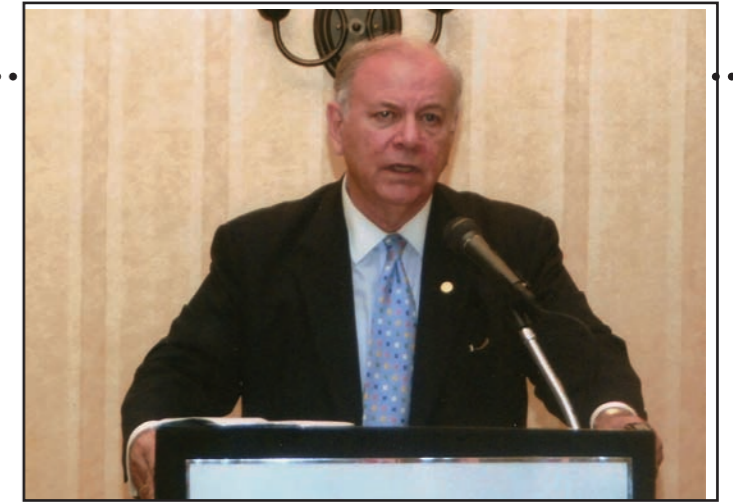
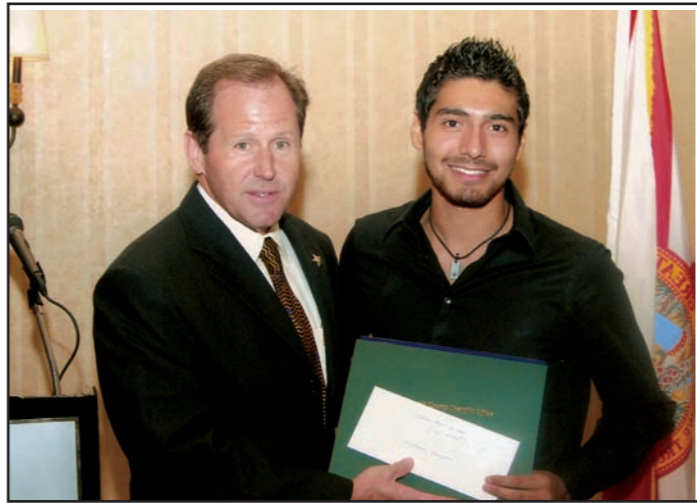
Any donations of time, materials and/or financial assistance to aid in our efforts are always greatly appreciated.

---

*Sincerely, S.H.A.C.*

Scenes from Last Year's Appreciation Awards Dinner

September 2008



Our thanks to everyone who helped to make it a truly *special occasion*



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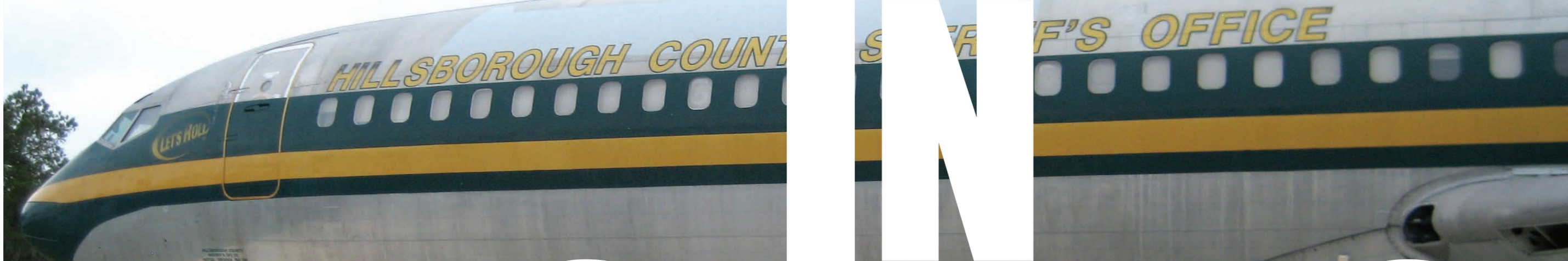
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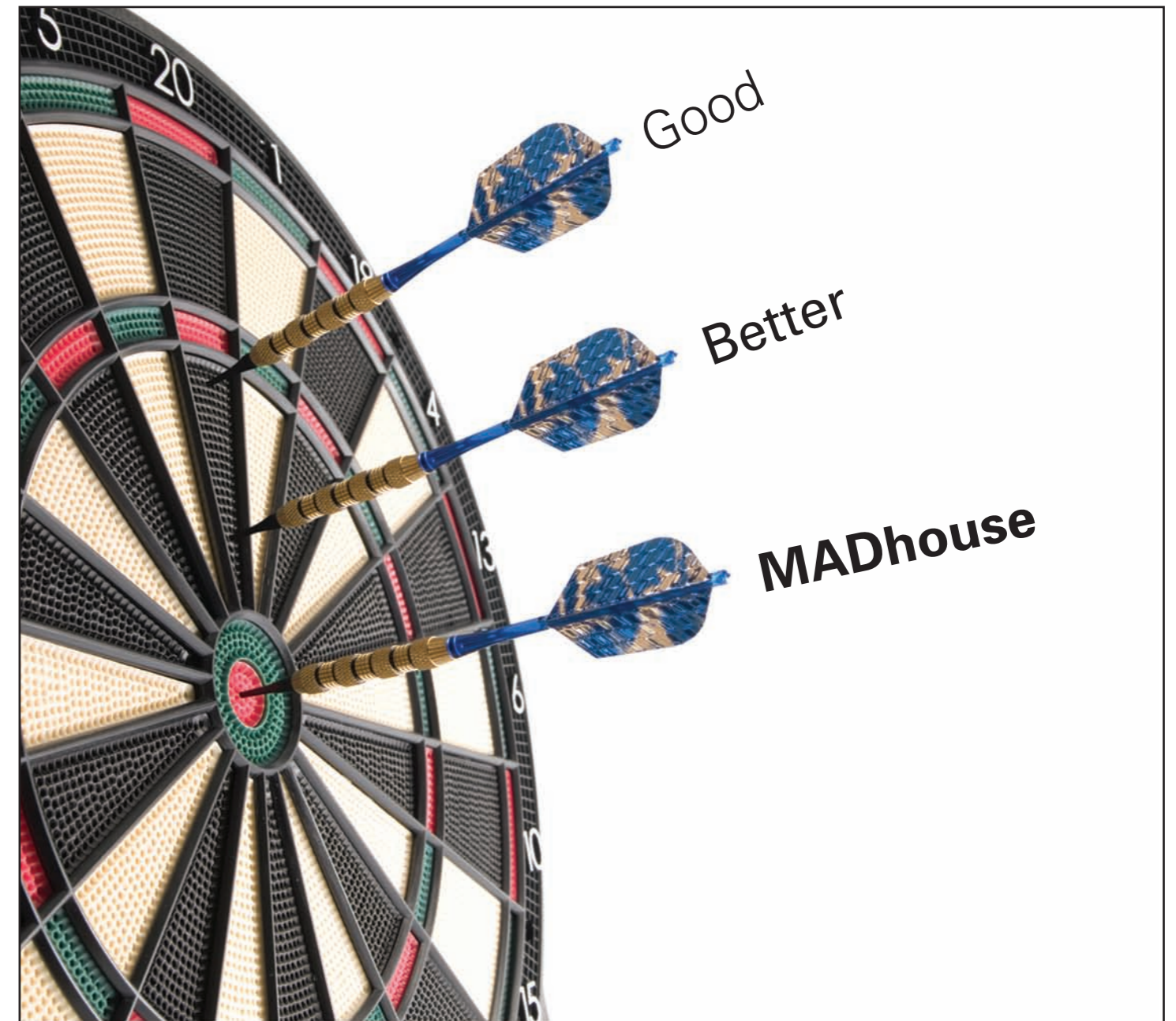
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