

Superior Accomplishment Award

April 2025

EMPLOYEE: Thomas Xiong

UNIT: Stormwater

TITLE: Water Resource Control Engineer

SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Matt Scroggins, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

Thomas Xiong is a Water Resource Control Engineer in the Fresno office's Stormwater Program and has been with the Central Valley Water Board since March 2023. Thomas is the only person in the office working daily on compliance and enforcement duties related to the industrial and municipal stormwater permits. His area of responsibility spans more than seven counties and includes approximately 600 dischargers. Not only does Thomas competently manage a high workload and competing priorities, consistently provide excellent customer service, produce well-organized and thoughtful products, and conduct himself professionally, he has (on his own initiative), performed several acts that are clearly and unquestionably above the normal requirements of his position.

Examples of Thomas' efforts to go beyond that normally expected include: 1) He volunteered to produce culturally relevant public outreach materials. Thomas was the catalyst for the State Water Board translating stormwater help guides into Spanish. This effort furthers the Central Valley Water Board's strategic objective to engage with underserved and underrepresented communities; 2) He drafted an inspection prioritization methodology for program-wide consideration. This methodology would ensure that planned inspections for the fiscal year are selected based on program priorities set by the executive management group and will help maintain consistency across all three Central Valley Water Board offices; 3) Thomas volunteered to prepare a presentation on verifying and remanding MS4 Annual Reports and gave the presentation at the Central Valley Water Board's annual Stormwater Program Kickoff meeting; 4) Thomas serves on the Fresno office's Laboratory Committee and regularly prepares valuable recommendations; and 5) He undertook a lead role in training and mentoring a Scientific Aid.

The above examples are only a subset of Thomas' actions that go above and beyond. In less than two years Thomas has established himself as a "go to" person and sets a great example for the office and region. His professionalism, judgment, work ethic, and attitude are highly valued, and his dedication to the Board's mission is greatly appreciated. Consequently, Thomas is most deserving of a Superior Accomplishment Award.