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## PRESS RELEASE

# VVC Regional Public Safety Training Center Receives National Recognition for Construction Management

**Victorville, June 4, 2012...** Just one month following its public opening and dedication, the Victor Valley College Regional Public Safety Training Center (VVC RPSTC) earned the 2012 Project Achievement award for the firm, gkkworks, from Southern California Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) on May 10, during the CMAA 20th Annual Awards Banquet, in Los Angeles.

The planning, design and construction firm was recognized for outstanding achievement in the \$11-50 million Building/New Construction—Public Building category. Construction cost for the new facility totaled \$31.5 million, and was funded by the voter approved Measure JJ.

Christopher O’Hearn, VVC Superintendent /President, said he was not surprised by the national recognition.

“From the inception of this center, quality has been the driving force from the collaborative learning environment to its innovative design. I am pleased with the construction management recognition, however, I am confident quality instruction will ultimately define the VVC RPSTC,” O’Hearn said.

The nine-acre campus encompasses some 41,500 square feet of buildings and classrooms geared for the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner, as well as a prop yard, fire station and tower for training. It features a 230kW solar photovoltaic (PV) system consisting of rooftop panels and solar covered carports that provide nearly 80 percent of the building’s total electricity demand earning recognition as a Gold LEED facility by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Offering a multi-agency learning environment to maximize disaster training by incorporating fire science, EMT, paramedic, administration of justice, and corrections, the center is described as a “village under a roof. The center features two student lounges, a computer lab and video production lab, 12 Smart classrooms, showers and locker rooms, an indoor tactical shooting range including a 3-D projection scenario program, and an outdoor courtyard blanketed with “N” level wireless network.

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A four-acre prop yard also offers live simulation training opportunities including Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) City buildings for urban rescue training; a confined space/trench prop, a low angle rope rescue prop, a confined space rescue prop, a derailed train car and a five-story tower with burn rooms.

Development of the center was made possible by a collaborative community effort beginning with the passage of Measure JJ in 2008, and the donation of land from the Walmart Corporation in conjunction with the Apple Valley Fire Protection District.

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*Note: The company, gkkworks, is spelled all lower cased.*