



NEWS RELEASE

COLTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Colton Police Anniversary Badge

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Summary:

The City of Colton is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. Colton incorporated July 11, 1887 and hired legendary Virgil Earp as the first City Marshal. Virgil Earp was best known for his participation in the Gunfight at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona on October 26, 1881.

Virgil, with his brothers Wyatt and Morgan, along with friend John “Doc” Holliday went to disarm Frank and Tom McLaury, Ike and Billy Claton, and Billy Claiborne. The confrontation turned into a shootout and is known world-wide as the Gunfight at the OK Corral.

Virgil was elected Colton City Marshal for two one-year terms, with a salary of \$75.00 a month. He served until March of 1889.

The Colton Police Department has since evolved into a modern, full service, law enforcement agency. In recognition of 125 years of service to the residents of Colton, the police department authorized its officers to wear commemorative anniversary badges on their uniforms throughout the 2012 calendar year. The badges are historically styled five-point stars within a circle. The center of the badges depict the likeness of Virgil Earp.

The badges were designed by Colton officers who then purchased them personally. No city funds were used to design or purchase the badges. Wearing the commemorative anniversary badges is voluntary.

Colton Police Officers are proud to serve the City of Colton and its residents. The badges allow the Officers to express their loyalty to the law enforcement profession and honor its history in the City of Colton.
