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Arapahoe County caseworker receives prestigious award

John Abeyta receives Raymond Frenchmore Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Juvenile System

Littleton, Colo. --- Arapahoe County employee John Abeyta received the Raymond Frenchmore Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Juvenile System from the Arapahoe County Bar Association.

Historically, this award is given to attorneys and judges, but this year John Abeyta, an Arapahoe County caseworker, earned this prestigious honor.

The nomination came from Judge Christine Chauche who, at the annual awards banquet, gave an eloquent speech about Abeyta's years of service and dedication.

Judge Chauche compared Abeyta to Dory in Finding Nemo. She talked about how he was always swimming upstream, constantly avoiding the jellyfish, about to be stung, and that somehow he always managed to survive. She spoke highly about how frequently Abeyta is able to get case resolution, helping to avoid contested hearings.

Abeyta is a Court Liaison with the 18th Judicial District Juvenile Court and covers anywhere from 100 to 150 court hearings per month for caseworkers in the Children and Family Services Division.

"John is always willing to help out and can be found running from courtroom to courtroom on any given day," said Lori Carlson, Arapahoe County Youth Services Administrator. "We know how hard John works, but it was heartwarming to hear such high praise from Judge Chauche."

When Abeyta accepted his award he said: "I dedicate this award to all the caseworkers who do their job without receiving the recognition that they deserve. This award is particularly meaningful to me because I hope to be an attorney some day."

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