



Cheryl Huppertz presents check to Undersheriff Eli Lucero.



Deputy Monica Torres reads raffle winners after Eli Torres draws the winning tickets.



Left to right: Char Tierrey, Therese Cooper, Dana Allsop, Cheryl Huppertz, Linda Holle, Ted Huppertz, Traci Master, and Deputy Monica Torres. These were the ones present for the drawing.

Torrance County deputies frequently respond to active shooter incidents and other violent situations involving firearms and other kinds of threats. Deputies at the Torrance County Sheriff's Office train and prepare for such emergencies.

When first responders are dispatched to a violent emergency, they are not all protected against handgun or rifle gun fire. These brave deputies respond to situations where rifle threats exist.

Despite not having all the necessary equipment to protect them against those threats, they make a conscious decision to respond and never know what kind of scene they will come upon. The equipment required to perform their duty is often too expensive for most police and fire agencies to afford as a part of their general funding.

The Torrance County Sheriff's Office has been involved in five officer involved shootings in the last ten months. Prior to this year, the last shooting took place in 2014. Dangerous calls for service have progressively increased and show no indication of slowing down.

Torrance County Deputies paired with Riata Realty to raise funds to provide protective equipment. The type of gear that will be purchased is Angel Armor. Angel Armor includes a lightweight all-day ballistic vest, ceramic rifle plates and a Galvion helmet. If a situation occurs, our deputies need to be able to respond as quickly and safely as possible. Angel Armor offers a mobility that other companies do not.

Deputy Monica Torres, Renee Sauter of Riata Realty, and Cheryl Huppertz, a local citizen, worked together to coordinate the raffle, asking stores to help sell tickets and finding volunteers to help sell tickets. Two firearms from Rose's Gun Shop were the first two items in the raffle. The raffle drawing was held on December 19 at the Moriarty Lion's Club. A check for \$11,127 was presented to Under Sheriff Eli Lucero, Torrance County Sheriff's Office. The funds came from both the sale of raffle tickets and donations, with Tillery Chevrolet making a generous donation of \$1,000.

Winners of raffle held at Lion's Club in Moriarty on December 19, 2021

1st Place 9 MM Beverly Steven

2nd Place 410 Shotgun Andrew Milton

3rd Place Afghan Trace Smith

4th Place Spices Michelle Dunlap

5th Place Walmart Card Ricky Montez

6th Place Scarf & hat Gary Dickson

7th Place Tumbler and gift basket Joshua Madgling

8th Place Tumbler and gift basket Aaron Sena

Thanks to all who supported the fund raiser for Torrance County Sheriff's Department; it was a community effort! Thanks to Riata Realty for sponsoring the raffle, thanks to Rose's Gun Shop for the firearm donations; thanks to Don Mickey Design for donating the posters; thanks to Traci Masters for knitting the Afghan and the hat and scarf; thanks to Terrel and Gina Willis for the spice set; thanks to Walmart who donated a \$50 gift certificate; thanks to Pete Perez for donating the tumblers and baskets; thanks to Tillery Chevrolet for their \$1,000 donation.

Thanks to the businesses who allowed us to sell tickets in/out of their stores: Tractor Store, Hart's Hardware, and Walmart. Thanks to the business owners who sold tickets: Tag It, Thin Line, Rose's Gun Store, Shorty's, Country Crafts, and Mickey's Place.

Thanks to all individuals who sat in front of stores to sell tickets: Linda Holle, Cheryl Stansbury, Kathleen Brown, Chuck Ring, Terrel & Gina Willis, Therese Cooper, Dana Allsop, Felicia Lee, and Jeannette Dudley.

Last, but not least, thank you Torrance County Deputies for risking your lives daily to keep our communities safe. You are supported and appreciated. Thanks to all those who purchased tickets to support this effort. \$11,127 was given to Torrance County for the purchase of 'Angel Armor' to protect them from rifle shots.