



## Chris Sanchez Wins Second Year in a Row at Lineman's Rodeo

At this rate, Chris Sanchez will have to move into a bigger place in order to accommodate all his trophies.

The LADWP lineman finished first in the Apprentice Best of the Best category out of 284 contestants at the International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo, which took place on October 13-14 in Bonner Springs, Kansas. It marked the second straight year Sanchez finished first in that category.

"It's pretty unreal," said Sanchez, who currently works out of West LA. For his achievement, he was honored by the Board of Water and Power Commissioners at their meeting on October 25.

Randolph Bowen, West LA District Superintendent, spoke glowingly about Sanchez's achievement.

"Chris is a hard worker and a fast learner, so it's not that much of a surprise that he has excelled in the Rodeo competition," Bowen said. "But finishing first two years in a row in the International Lineman's Rodeo is amazing."

Sanchez previously worked at Edison for four years prior to joining LADWP. But with Edison he was used as a ground man and was never given an opportunity to ascend to Apprentice status. With LADWP, he is now one year away from graduating to Journeyman.

"They gave me a chance right away here," Sanchez said of LADWP. "The whole process didn't make sense over there. Here it made sense."

Several LADWP linemen also competed along with Sanchez in the International Lineman's Rodeo this year and performed admirably, which speaks to the quality of the Department's training program. LADWP and IBEW Local 18 worked in partnership to send linemen to the competition.

"Finishing in first place at the International Lineman's Rodeo is a remarkable achievement. To do it in consecutive years is extraordinary," noted Andrew Ken Executive Director of LADWP Power System, Construction, Maintenance and Operations. "We're very proud of Chris and all of our linemen who competed in year's event. We look forward to keeping them in the LADWP family for many years to come."

**Caption:** Chris Sanchez (center) was honored at the Board of Water and Power Commissioners Meeting on October 25th.

