



## Duvall named ODOT's Division One Employee of the Year for 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sam Duvall was recently recognized as the 2013 Employee of the Year for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Division One. He was previously named the division's Employee of the Quarter in 2013.

Duvall, a nine-year ODOT employee, is a Transportation Superintendent II at Checotah Interstate Maintenance.

"Sam is constantly thinking about the safety of his crew and the traveling public," a coworker who anonymously nominated Duvall said. "He will never pass a car stopped on the shoulder of the highway without stopping to make sure that everything is alright. Sam truly cares about people and he will go above and beyond to help anyone."

To help spread the word about driver awareness in highway work zones, Duvall recently appeared in an ODOT public service video and shared his experiences about the dangers he and his crew members face every day working on I-40.

"Sam and his crew do a great job of maintaining one of the most heavily-traveled highways in this part of the state," Division One Engineer Darren Saliba said. "He is truly an asset to the department and the traveling public."

Duvall lives in Checotah with his wife Tami, a teacher at Checotah Public Schools. They have two grown children, Kadee and Riley. He is active in his church, serves as a volunteer firefighter with the Lotawatah Fire Department and is an accomplished steer wrestler who enjoys watching his family and friends compete in rodeos.

Division One employees are nominated by coworkers for the award, which recognizes exceptional employee dedication, hard work and the highest standards in job performance throughout the year. The division, headquartered in Muskogee, oversees highway construction and maintenance activities in Adair, Cherokee, Haskell, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah and Wagoner counties.

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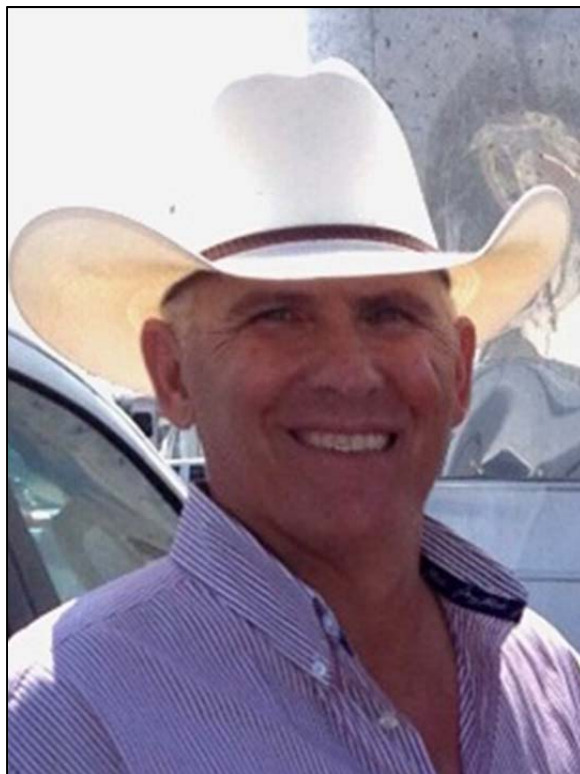
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**INFORMATION RELEASE**

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