



Today, 3 October, the Consell de Formentera honoured local agents of law and order. This year's celebration was marked by special shows of appreciation for Officer Carlos Malberti Moragón, whose exemplary record spans more than fifteen years of public service on the force, and for Officers Marc Aragay Torres, Marc Roig Ferrer, José Antonio Perera Escandell and Javier Torrens Trias, for their work to stop criminal trafficking of migrants.

In remarks, Consell de Formentera President Alejandra Ferrer extended kudos for the winners to the entire local force, whom she thanked for the extra effort required this year given the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions officers were called on to enforce. Ferrer spoke about the need for more manpower to enforce environmental regulations and additional agents from the Balearic Directorate General of Emergencies, Labour and Health, reasoning, "Local police can't be in charge of *everything*."

Councillor of Interior Josep Marí, too, praised the entire local police force for their tireless work this summer. "We know we have to work to add more officers to the local force. Today we are taking steps to deliver more training courses, make the hiring process faster and more agile and make sure officers can stay where they received training".

Officer Carlos Malberti Morogán was honoured for more than fifteen years of outstanding service and a record free of disciplinary action.

Officers Marc Aragay Torres, Marc Roig Ferrer and José Antonio Perera Escandell received the green badge of merit for outstanding efforts on 24 July. The men's actions helped lead to the arrest of a ship captain who has been charged with illegal trafficking of migrants. It is the second time the individual has been accused of the crime, and aggravating circumstances include putting passengers in danger and for trafficking minors, some very young.

Officers Marc Roig Ferrer and Javier Torrens Trias were honoured for outstanding efforts on 19 September, when they successfully directed actions that led to the arrest of two boat captains for the alleged criminal trafficking of migrants, with the aggravating circumstance of putting

passengers, some of them minors and women, in danger. It was Roig's second such distinction that day.

The ceremony was held at Hotel Formentera Playa and attended by local central government envoy Enrique Sánchez Navarrete, members of the National Police and Civil Guard, as well as Vice-President Ana Juan, cabinet and opposition councillors, and family and friends of the local officers.

*3 October 2021
Communications Office
Consell de Formentera*