

City of Laredo



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

June 28, 2024 / Vol 12

## MIGUEL K. HERNANDEZ I.S.T DEPARTMENT

**Tell us about your career journey and what led you to work for the City of Laredo?**

After working at a school for 6 years, I decided that I needed a change in work environment. That's when I started applying to different places. I saw that the City had an open position in the IST Department, so I applied and have been here for 3 and a half years.

**What do you love most about your job?**

What I love most about my job is how it aligns perfectly with my passion for technology.

**What advice would you give to a new City of Laredo employee?**

Learn from others that have already been here for a while, as they will teach everything you need to know to complete your tasks.

**What is a "guilty pleasure" that you enjoy whenever you have time for yourself?**

Playing video games

**What three words would your friends use to describe you?**

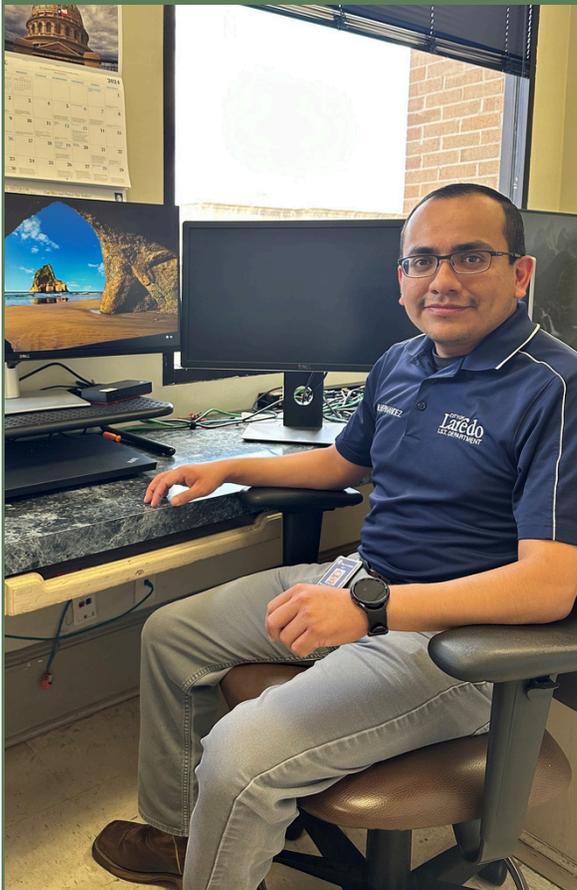
Hardworking, trustworthy, and supportive

**What's one song you have completely memorized or one song you cannot get out of your head because you just "love it" so much?**

A Bar Song (Topsy)- Shaboozey

**What is a quote that you find yourself using or referring to often?**

"Life is a journey, not a destination"



**MIGUEL K. HERNANDEZ**

Name you like to go by: Miguel

Department you work in: I.S.T

Job title: Network Specialist I

City of Laredo



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## ISMAEL CISNEROS FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Tell us about your family

I've been married to my beautiful wife, Gabriela, for 9 years and we have two boys, a 6 year old and a 3 year old.

### What three words would your friends use to describe you?

Friendly, respectful, analytical

### What do you love most about your job?

I love the Camaraderie in the Fire service. The people I've worked alongside have always made showing up to work very enjoyable. It feels rewarding when you get to fully apply the skills you've learned in training to make a positive impact on the outcome of an emergency.

### What is a "guilty pleasure" that you enjoy whenever you have time for yourself?

Wine and Charcuterie with my wife

### What are three things still on your bucket list?

Visit Yosemite National Park, see the Northern lights, and still figuring out the third

### Tell us about your career journey.

Prior to joining the City of Laredo, I worked at H-E-B as a cashier. Another employee encouraged me to take the Firefighter Entrance Exam, which I did. I passed every aspect of the Hiring Process and eventually made it in at the age of 19.

### What's something surprising that not many people know about you?

I skipped the 2nd grade

### What is a quote that you find yourself using or referring to often?

"The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts." - Marcus Aurelius



## ISMAEL CISNEROS

Name you like to go by: Ismael

Department you work in: Fire

Job title: District Chief Training

Division

City of Laredo



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## KARINA J. BADILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Tell us about your family

I love spending time with my girls and my husband. We love going on family trips and having game nights.

### What do you love most about your job?

I enjoy the opportunity to interact with people from different departments and help them with their questions and problems. I like that I get exposed to new challenges everyday, which has helped me to develop both professionally and personally.

### Tell us about your career journey and what led you to work for the City of Laredo?

I graduated with my Associates in 2019 and was working at El Metro through an agency at that time. I wanted to grow professionally and was looking for a bigger opportunity. I found an opening at the Laredo Police Department and decided to give it a try and luckily I was chosen for the position.

### What three words would your friends use to describe you?

Hard worker, kind, and outgoing

### What is the one thing that you wish you were "brave" enough to do?

I wish I was brave enough to skydive.

### Who is your "role model" and what have you learned from them?

My mom is my biggest role model because she taught me to be strong, independent and confident.

### What is a quote that you find yourself using or referring to often?

"Life is all about taking risks. If you never take a risk, you will never achieve your dreams."

## KARINA J. BADILLO

Name you like to go by: Kari

Department you work in: Police

Job title: Personnel Assistant I