



**Chief's Message**



Six Los Angeles police officers will be honored for bravery and heroism above and beyond the normal demands of police service.

This year's Medal of Valor honorees are true examples of this Department's mission to safeguard the lives of the people we serve. These individuals embody the ideal that as a Department, our people are truly our greatest strength and asset. It is because of our people that LAPD is number one.

I wish to extend my personal congratulations to Officers Juan Gonzalez, Ray Olivas, Gina Holmstrom, David Stambaugh, Brian O'Hara and Sergeant Scott DeFoe as I proudly look forward to presenting each of these officers with their medals. I appreciate their heroic actions as these six individuals represent all the men and women of this fine organization through their outstanding efforts.

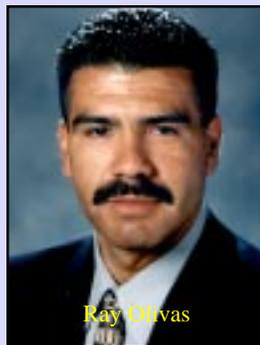
I also want to encourage Department employees to attend the Medal of Valor ceremonies to honor these fine officers as LAPD's best. The annual awards luncheon, sponsored by the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce will be held on September 5, 2002, at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel.

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**2002 Medal of Valor Honorees**



Juan Gonzalez



Ray Olivas



Scott DeFoe



Gina Holmstrom



David Stambaugh



Brian O'Hara

On Thursday, September 5, 2002, six Los Angeles police officers will receive Medals of Valor, the highest honor awarded by the Department. Officers Juan Gonzalez, Ray Olivas, Gina Holmstrom, David Stambaugh, Brian O'Hara and Sergeant Scott DeFoe, will be commended for acts of bravery and heroism beyond the call of duty during a luncheon ceremony at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. The event, sponsored by the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, annually attracts more than 500 community leaders, elected officials, members of the business community, Department personnel and Chamber of Commerce members.

These six officers were involved in two separate incidents, each extremely

dangerous and involving life and death situations.

"Often, an opportunity occurs to challenge an officer's mettle and prowess. Without forethought, these challenges are met with determination,

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# Medal of Valor *continued...*



Editorial Committee  
**Commander Gary Brennan**  
**Commander Daniel Koenig**  
**Commander Earl Paysinger**  
**Lieutenant Ann Barrera**

Writer/Editor/Designer  
**L.V. Sturges**

Managing Editor  
**Steven Reifel**

Graphic Design Assistance  
**Tanya Thomas**

Technical Support  
**Jim Ungari**

Editorial Support  
**Pedro Muñiz**

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**Los Angeles Police Department**  
**150 N. Los Angeles Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90012**  
**Room 731**  
**Mail Stop 400**  
**Phone (213) 485-3281**  
**Fax (213) 485-1952**

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fearlessness and tenacity in the face of incredible odds,” said Chief Pomeroy, adding that these heroes are an exceptional group of officers who characterize courage and bravery.

Officers Gonzalez and Olivas were involved in a dramatic rescue of two individuals from a burning passenger van after it collided with another vehicle that lost control due to a tire blow-out. When the two vehicles collided, the van landed on its side and ignited with two people trapped inside. Both officers made repeated attempts to rescue the vehicle’s occupants as the flames engulfed the van. With the assistance of a passing motorist armed with a fire extinguisher, and encountering extreme heat, the officers were able to extract the driver, who was trapped behind the steering wheel, and the passenger, an elderly man with his foot caught in the wreckage. These two lives would have been lost had it not been for the actions of Officers Gonzalez and Olivas.

The second incident involved Ser-

geant DeFoe, and Officers Holmstrom, O’Hara, and Stambaugh in a search situation with a search dog. As the officers searched the backyard of a residence for an armed man already responsible for wounding five individuals, the search dog alerted them to the suspect’s location. Immediately, the barricaded suspect engaged the officers in a gun battle, with the

officers advancing toward the suspect and providing cover fire for each other as they each sought a safe location. Because the only cover was within the range of the gunman, the

officers again provided each other with cover fire, actively exposing themselves to gunfire to protect and rescue their fellow search team members.

Since its inception, the Department has honored 498 officers with the Medal of Valor, with this year’s recipients bringing the total to 501. Tickets for the luncheon are available at a reduced price for Department employees of \$40 per person and are available by contacting the Chamber of Commerce at (213) 580-7585.

***The Medal of Valor is the Department’s highest award and is presented to officers who distinguish themselves by conspicuous bravery and heroism above and beyond the normal demands of police service.***

## Kids Receive Bicycles from Officers

For the past three years, Detective Ferdinand Faustino and personnel from Rampart Area have volunteered their personal time to run the Virgil & Berendo After School Bicycle Program.

Officers provide each participant with a bicycle and the skills to repair and maintain it.

The kids also take part in an after school tutoring program, police escorted bike rides, field trips and

friendly bike competitions.

Thanks to the officers’ unselfish efforts, the program has become an overwhelming success and now has the resources to provide bikes to children outside the program.

If you know of a child who is in need of a bicycle, or would like more information about this program, please contact Detective Faustino, Rampart Area at (213) 207-2147.

# Peace, Rest and Healing at the Desert Refuge Center

by L.V. Sturges  
 Public Relations Specialist

“Work and pray” is the motto of Father Michael McCullough, Executive Director of the Desert Refuge for Peace Officers (DRPO) located in the desert community of Joshua Tree, California. The DRPO is the vision of Father Mike, as he is known by his fellow officers, a Catholic Priest, LAPD Reserve Officer and law enforcement chaplain.

Through his 28 years of ministering to the law enforcement community, Father Mike was led to offer a place of rest and healing to police officers and those who support law enforcement.

The DRPO rests on five acres of land in the solitude of the community of Joshua Tree. Over 45 species of birds have been located in the area and various desert and drought resistant plants surround the DRPO.

“Our purpose is to provide officers with a retreat, offering respite, relief and an opportunity to seek some balance from the often emotionally and physically challenging career,” said



Commander Gary Brennan, a DRPO Board member.

Father Mike’s vision began in 1984 when he decided to offer a place of strength and support for those dealing with the stress and crisis that comes with a career in law enforcement.

“The healing is what touches me the most about the center. Without TV and distractions, people take the time

to think and listen. There is unbelievable beauty in simplicity,” said McCullough.

Finding help and funding continues to be a challenge to the DRPO, but the facility continues to be strengthened through donations of time and money.

“I come out to the center the first weekend of every month. We serve everyone in law enforcement from officers, to the support staff,” said McCullough.

Over 70 visitors traveled to Joshua Tree in 2002 to experience the DRPO. There have been 357 visitors since the centers inception in 1984.

The DRPO is publicized through a mailing list, at Department events and by word of mouth. It is a non-denominational center where people of all faiths are encouraged to come for restoration, relaxation and healing.

“My joy is seeing someone who was struggling, leave with peace and a resolution,” says Father Mike. “It just doesn’t get any better than that.”

## How You Can Help the Desert Refuge for Peace Officers?

The Desert Refuge for Peace Officers is a nonprofit organization. All charitable donations will help the refuge to further develop the land, provide housing facilities for guests, a kitchen with home cooked meals and a chapel for nourishing the soul.

Work parties contribute by providing the labor that keeps the dream on the road to reality.

Donations to the Desert Refuge for Peace Officers are always welcome. For further information, please contact:

**Father Mike McCullough**  
**DESERT REFUGE FOR PEACE OFFICERS, INC.**  
**2515 West MLK Boulevard**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90008-2728**  
**Telephone: (323) 298-7174**

# Department offers Supervisory Cross-Training Program

**Program Purpose:** Helping Department employees develop their full potential is inherent to the Department's Core Values. The Supervisory Cross-Training Program (SCTP) was developed and implemented by the Department as an excellent way to enhance the promotability of Detectives and Sergeants by offering an opportunity for each to train in the other's role.

**Who is eligible:** Employees assigned to the rank and paygrade of Detective II, Detective III and Sergeant II, are eligible to participate in the SCTP. A Sergeant I may participate in the program only upon successful completion of probation and after having been transferred from the probationary division of assignment. Participation in the program is voluntary and is limited to deployment needs. Selection for participation should not be viewed as a competitive process.

**Type of assignment:** Eligible participants will be loaned to work (in the case of Sergeants) as a case-carrying Detective at the Detective I/II level or (in the case of Detectives) as a patrol supervisor at the Sergeant level. Participation in the SCTP does not affect a participant's basic pay.

**How to apply:** An employee wishing to participate must apply by submitting a completed SCTP application to his/her commanding officer. SCTP application forms may be obtained from commanding officers or from the following two sections of the Employee Opportunity and Development Division:

**Career Development Section**  
 250 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 1412  
 (213)485-8777  
 5651 West Manchester Avenue  
 (310)342-3172

**Special Projects Section**  
 Parker Center, Room 809  
 150 N. Los Angeles Street  
 (213)485-4745

**Completion of the SCTP:** Participation in the SCTP for 13 deployment periods constitutes successful completion of the cross-training assignment. Completion of this assignment shall be recorded on the participant's Training Management System (TMS) record.

**Employee Ratings:** A performance evaluation report, used as a special rating, shall be prepared by the entity to which the participant was loaned. The rating shall be completed at the end of the loan period.

# Advisory Equal Employment Opportunity Committee

In accordance with the spirit for all Department employees, Chief Pomeroy has convened the Advisory Equal Employment Opportunity Committee (AEEOC).

The AEEOC, comprised of representatives of under-represented or minority employee associations, meets monthly to discuss issues of interest to the employee association, and makes recommendations directly to the Chief of Police.

The AEOCC meetings, held the third Wednesday of each month, are open to all Department employees. Employees unable to attend are encouraged to contact their employee association leadership to ensure representation.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Police Service Representative Wanda Williams, at (213) 485-4456 or Sergeant Bob Arcos at (213) 485-2633.

## Medal of Valor Luncheon

September 5, 2002  
 11:00 a.m.

Westin  
 Bonaventure Hotel

Call the Los Angeles  
 Chamber of  
 Commerce for ticket  
 info at  
 (213) 580-7585



# Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation Supports Officers and Families

**By Alan J. Atkins  
 Executive Director  
 Los Angeles Police  
 Memorial Foundation**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation, I would like to thank all Department employees, volunteers and corporate sponsors who participated in the 31<sup>ST</sup> Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament held on May 18, 2002. Your support of the annual fundraiser is critical to the wellbeing of the Memorial Foundation and its ability to provide financial grants to Department employees and their immediate family members who experience unforeseen catastrophic circumstances.

Supporting the Memorial Foundation is about supporting you, your family and other Department employees. The Memorial Foundation has no equal in any law enforcement agency.

The Memorial Foundation is the cornerstone of the Department's Employee Wellness Program. Though being killed in the line of duty is the ultimate sacrifice, there are many tragic life events where the Memorial Foundation becomes involved.

These incidents include paying for life's necessities for officers off work due to long term illnesses or work related injuries, who have exhausted all City pay benefits. Additionally, it pays funeral expenses of active duty officers and their dependents. The Memorial Foundation also pays for college expenses for surviving dependents of officers killed in the line of duty and pays medical and educational expenses of children with disabilities. Each year the Memorial Foundation issues five \$20,000 merit-based scholarships to college-bound students of Department employees. Annually, the Foundation issues grants

in excess of \$400,000 to Department employees and immediate families in their time of need.

Since the Foundation's inception in 1972, almost \$8 million has been issued in direct financial grants without ever asking for repayment. The Memorial Foundation does not receive any direct tax payer support.

A private Board of Directors, comprised of leading business professionals and community leaders, manage the Memorial Foundation. These members are representative of the vast majority of Los Angeles residents who support you in your daily efforts to protect and serve the community.

All too often you do not hear the voices of these supportive people because they are drowned out by the very vocal few. I can assure you that the Los Angeles community supports you and your efforts.

## Long Distance Running Team Places Second

The Los Angeles Police Department's Long Distance Running Team placed second in their class in June, while participating in a run in the United Kingdom.

Runners include Freddie Ackerley, Tony Adler, Heather Arnold, Frank Arredondo, Pete Barrera, Julie Carpenter, Bryan Dameworth, Tracye Fields, Chuck Foote (retired), Jeff Freyermuth, Mike Johnson, Maria Martinez, Martee Miyakawa, Maria Perez, Marcella Piersol, Ivan Ramos, Jim Stepan, Bruce Vermaat, Dalila Vizcarra and Randy Yang.



# LAPD Participates in National Night Out

On August 6, 2002, many Los Angeles communities gave crime a going away party at this year's National Night Out (NNO). The National Association of Town Watch and local law enforcement agencies sponsored the event.

Every Los Angeles Police Department Community Police Stations and their communities participated in the 19th annual NNO to voice support for safer neighborhoods and to promote neighborhood spirit and the community/police partnership.

Events included cookouts, block parties, residents turning their porch lights on (a blue light represents support for law enforcement) and open houses at Community Police Stations. Children held red, white and blue balloons to celebrate NNO and every local station held activities and information sessions to help prevent people from becoming victims of crime.

This event was successful in its



*Children and neighbors meet LAPD officers at National Night Out events throughout the City*

attempt to bring law enforcement and the community together to provide a crime free environment in their neighborhoods. Various Departments

use NNO as a tool to reach out to the community and provide crime prevention information and safety tips.

## *Los Angeles Remembers:* **September 11 Memorial Events Planned**

The City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Police Department and other City Departments are in the process of planning several events honoring those who were affected by the events of September 11, 2001. A series of related activities are scheduled throughout the day on the first anniversary of the terrorist events.

The first event is the L.A. Remembers Vehicle Procession consisting of two police cars, a fire truck, an ambulance and an L.A. Remembers trailer/billboard. Beginning at 5 a.m., the procession will travel through designated Council Districts, making stops to provide the people of Los



Angeles, an opportunity to reflect on the victims and heroes of September 11, 2001.

A 30-minute memorial service will also be held at 11:30 a.m. on the south lawn of City Hall, culminating with a moment of silence at noon. Civic leaders and the public will be in attendance.

Immediately after the City Hall event, participants will walk in a procession to the new cathedral, Our Lady of the Angels, for a one-hour interfaith remembrance service.

Department personnel and City employees are encouraged to attend this event and join us in honoring the heroes of September 11.

# *The Following Personnel Were Commended by the Community During the Month of May*

<b>FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION EXPERT</b> Shirley, Ava	Avila, Michael Bonner, Eric Boylls, Michael Camacho, Carlos Chan, Vincent Cho, Hyung Curry, Floyd Deamer, Robert Goossens, Donald Guiral, Claude Hanabusa, Sharon Hankins, John Im, Tony Hyong Machuca, Luis MacIvor, Connor Morales, Eddie Moulton, Jason Panek, James Perez, Michael Pugilese, Gary Rodriguez, Gregory Vasquez, Ruben Wycoff, Christine Yerkey, Eric Zendejas, Juan	<b>DETECTIVE I</b> Snowden, Mike Roberts, Mitzi
<b>FORENSIC PRINT SPECIALIST</b> Garcia, Rosalie		<b>DETECTIVE II</b> Escontrias, Gilbert
<b>PRINCIPAL FINGER IDENTIFICATION EXPERT</b> Buenavidez, Pacita		<b>SERGEANT I</b> Carter, David Kelly, Donald Mendoza, Enrique Turner, Loran Vonvoight, Robert Warren, John Zabel, Jason
<b>PRINCIPAL FINGER IDENTIFICATION EXPERT</b> Calda, Rosemarie		
<b>POLICE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE</b> Garica-Sanchez, Lorena		<b>LIEUTENANT I</b> Diaz, Lydia Margolis, Stephan Silverstein, Howard
<b>SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST</b> Aspen, Maria		<b>LIEUTENANT II</b> Hart, William Vega, Raul
<b>SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYST</b> Leawprasert, Prasit		<b>CAPTAIN III</b> Downing, Michael Williams, Gary
<b>POLICE OFFICER I</b> Thayer, Brian	<b>POLICE OFFICER III</b> Brandstetter, David Higuera, Martin Mezich, Chris Sevdalian, Armen Surendranath, Rabindranath	
<b>POLICE OFFICER II</b> Applegate, Michael		

## **Chief's Message** ..... *continued from page 1*

Another way to pay tribute to these officers is by attending the Medal of Valor pre-game ceremony at Dodger Stadium on September 18, 2002. For the price of the game, Department employees and thousands of fans can cheer on these fine officers and enjoy the Dodger game against the San Francisco Giants.

I would like to commend all LAPD personnel who participated in National Night Out activities. Your efforts help to reinforce the community/police partnership that will reduce crime and make Los Angeles a safer place to live, work and visit.

Once again, the employees of this outstanding organization exemplify

professional excellence in the field of law enforcement. My goal of leaving the Department in better shape than when I became Chief will certainly become a reality because of all your accomplishments and hard work.

The Los Angeles Police Department in conjunction with Irwindale Speedway presents

**2nd Annual**  
**Law Enforcement Appreciation Day**  
**at Irwindale Speedway**

13300 E. LIVE OAK AVENUE, IRWINDALE



**Saturday, September 28, 2002**



**"Celebrities vs. Cops" Drag Races**

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Proceeds will be donated to the  
"Painted Turtle Camp,"  
Co-founded by Paul Newman

**ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL**  
**will receive up to (8) FREE admission tickets**

*You must obtain your free tickets in advance.*  
Additional tickets may be purchased at the gate.

To obtain your free tickets please contact:  
Debbey Vernaci, LAPD Public Affairs Section at (213) 485-3281

**Roll Call of Events**

September 5  
Medal of Valor Ceremony,  
Westin Bonaventure Hotel

September 6  
LA Dodgers Law Enforcement Night

September 18  
LA Dodgers Medal of Valor Night

September 22  
March on Crime Fundraising Event for  
the Los Angeles Police Foundation

September 28  
Law Enforcement Day at Irwindale  
Speedway

October 27  
AIDS Walk L.A.

December 21  
Chief of Police Holiday Party

Call Public Affairs at (213) 485-3281  
for additional information.