Two new Deputy Chief positions: Chief of Detectives and Professional Standards Bureau

This past month, I have taken another major step in reorganizing our Department and in strengthening its ability to target the worst criminal offenders in our communities. The most visible sign of this reorganization is the appointment of a new Chief of Detectives, the first Chief of Detectives in the LAPD in more than 30 years. The new Detective “boss” is Deputy Chief James McMurray, who previously served as Commanding Officer of Internal Affairs Group. He promoted to Deputy Chief and was sworn in at the Police Commission meeting on April 15th.

Deputy Chief McMurray is one of the few high-ranking commanding officers in the LAPD who has extensive experience in detective work, spending 28 of his 34 years with the Department on the detective side. He has been the O.I.C. of Hollywood Homicide and the Commanding Officer of Detective Services Group. My mandate to Chief McMurray is to reform and recast our detective effort and to make our Department’s detectives a driving force in our fight against crime.

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A note regarding citizen complaints...

Continuing audits of Department personnel revealed a number of disturbing failures to record and document complaints from citizens. This is entirely unacceptable. Under the Consent Decree and as a responsible law enforcement agency, we must record every citizen complaint, no matter how minor or frivolous. Recent reforms to the discipline system are designed to do a better job separating the minor and frivolous from the important and serious complaints in the adjudication process, but they did NOT make any changes to the intake process. Those decisions cannot responsibly be made at the point of intake.

The Department is going to do a fair and expeditious job of evaluating complaints, but you, the officers and supervisors in the field, must do a thorough and honest job of accepting and reporting them. Otherwise our Department will continue to be accused of hiding or covering up complaints which is something that none of us want. I will not tolerate any failures to receive, record and process ALL complaints from any source against Department personnel. There will be no excuses for failure. We have come too far together in restoring the image of the Department to have it damaged again.
Chief’s Message

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and disorder in the City of Los Angeles. He is to “champion” their needs and issues by presenting strong arguments and proposals for their technological equipment, personnel resources and space needs.

Over the years, detective work in the LAPD has become burdened with processing a vast amount of paperwork. This workload has become overwhelming. The detective emphasis on processing the criminals who are already in custody and the respective paperwork is a misuse and inappropriate prioritization of our detective resources and a source of frustration for our best detective talent. I am convinced that detectives can add a huge amount to a police department’s anti-crime efforts by targeting pattern criminals and by helping to dismantle gangs and other criminal enterprises. Focused work by detectives and narcotics investigators coordinated with our patrol resources, technical services and programs will significantly improve their impact, not only in solving crime and improving clearance rates, but as importantly, preventing crime.

Prior to his new appointment, Deputy Chief McMurray has been chairing the detective re-engineering committee that has looked at every aspect of detective operations. The committee has proposed a series of exciting reforms that I believe will set us on the right course. Working with the District Attorney and the City Attorney, subcommittee chairman Commander Michel Moore has negotiated changes in filing procedures that may reduce the paperwork burden by as much as 70 percent. Meanwhile, subcommittee chairman Captain Ron Sanchez and his team have made significant recommendations for restructuring the detective tables, including a provision for increased night-time and weekend detective presence in each of the 18 Area commands. Together with the expansion of field narcotics units grounded in the Geographic Areas and the Area Gang Impact Teams developed under the direction of Chief Michael Hillmann, our enhanced detective effort will help us to use intelligence and information as never before in defeating the gangs and other criminals who prey on our citizens. Expanded use of on-call take home vehicles to improve response time to major crime scenes is also under review.

Replacing Deputy Chief McMurray at Internal Affairs Group, to be renamed the Professional Standards Bureau, is Deputy Chief Michael Berkow. Deputy Chief Berkow was most recently the Chief of Police for the City of Irvine. He has also served as Chief of Police for Coachella and South Pasadena Police Departments. Chief Berkow spent his early career in the Rochester, New York, Police Department where he worked in...
Ray Charles and his manager continue their support of LAPD youth programs

In January 2003, Chief William J. Bratton met with legendary recording artist Ray Charles to thank him for his continuous support for the Los Angeles Police Department’s youth programs, including the Explorer and Jeopardy programs. Mr. Charles and his manager, Joe Adams, have donated thousands of dollars over the years that have benefited hundreds of disadvantaged inner-city children. These funds allow the participants to experience a variety of multicultural and social events.

The Department is dedicated to promoting and ensuring the safety, education, and welfare of all young people throughout the City. Our programs encourage youth to avoid drugs and gangs, and to stay in school. These programs help to keep young people off the streets, while instilling a sense of community pride, self-discipline, and leadership ability, all in a positive environment.

Chief’s Message

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patrol, narcotics investigation, and as the co-commander of a joint police-FBI investigative task force. He has been a friend and professional colleague for over twenty years.

Deputy Chief Berkow is an attorney, a former law clerk to a Federal Judge, and has extensive international policing experience, serving with the United States Department of Justice as the first Director of the Haitian National Police Project and the Somalia National Police Project. He was also the police liaison for former President Jimmy Carter’s election-monitoring mission to Jamaica and has provided anti-corruption training for police forces in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania. I welcome him to our Department and to the challenging task of the Professional Standards Bureau. I have upgraded the Internal Affairs function to a bureau level and Deputy Chief Berkow will be reporting directly to me.

Recent Actions by the Police Commission

• Continued to move forward in obtaining a new Police Administration Building and temporary relocation while a new building is being built. At this time, it is probable that a temporary building will be purchased and not leased.

• Approved unfreezing positions in Scientific Investigation Division to assist in clearing the large amount of backlogged cold cases.

• Approved the new Standards and Procedures for the Anti-Terrorist Division. These standards enhance public safety in Los Angeles while maintaining individuals’ and organizations’ civil rights.
By Lieutenant John Thomas

Nestled away in the once segregated “Negro Section” of Evergreen Cemetery in Boyle Heights, lay the remains of one of this City’s forgotten LAPD African-American heroes. Buried beneath a headstone whose words, “Gone, but not forgotten,” have long since faded, Patrolman Frank Evan Corley’s headstone, complete with his photograph in uniform, stands as a monument honoring a life sacrificed in service to others.

According to newspaper accounts from both the Los Angeles Times and the California Eagle newspapers, twenty-nine year old Frank Corley, an African-American Los Angeles Police Officer, was killed in the line of duty on August 24, 1924.

Born July 14, 1895 in Leesville, Texas, Patrolman Frank Evans Corley was appointed to the Los Angeles Police Department on June 1, 1921. A World War I combat veteran, Corley had previously earned a living as a tailor before joining the Department. Married, and the father of two children at the time of his death, he would serve the City only three short years before being gunned down while coming to the aid of another Los Angeles Patrolman, Elmer Roberson, during an off-duty officer-involved shooting.

Like Patrolman Charles P. Williams (killed in the line of duty on January 13, 1923), whose African-American identity was also unknown until 1998, Frank Corley’s valiant sacrifice adds yet another glimpse into the little known contributions of African Americans in both this City’s history and the Los Angeles Police Department’s proud legacy of public service.

Upon his appointment to the LAPD, Corley was assigned to Central Division, which was the only place that black officers were allowed to work in the years prior to the opening of Newton Street Division in 1925. In the year preceding his death, Corley was assigned to Central Traffic Detail where he worked as a traffic officer in the area of Central Avenue and 7th Street. Officer Corley earned a reputation for professionalism, receiving numerous commendations for his exemplary service. Earlier that year, he was commended by Chief of Police R. Lee Heath for single-handedly capturing an armed bank robber at the Pacific Southwest Bank at Central and 7th Streets.

It was a warm Sunday summer night in 1924, when a group of “professional” men were engaged in a crap game at the rear of Pierson’s Drug Store at 12th Street and Hooper Avenue. One of those men was off-duty LAPD officer Elmer Roberson. During the game, an argument ensued between Roberson and another gambler, later identified as the gunman, Luther Bryant. The argument escalated into a physical altercation between the two men. Roberson’s firearm fell from his jacket. Bryant recovered the weapon and fired six rounds in Roberson’s direction. Roberson was struck three times by the gunfire.

Hearing the gunfire from the street,
Corley ran into the drugstore to investigate when he was shot. A citizen, J.A. Gilmore, was also shot and killed. A doctor who happened upon the scene drove Officers Corley and Roberson, and Mr. Gilmore, to the Receiving Hospital where Corley died enroute. Bryant had fled from the location on foot. He later telephoned and surrendered to police. Roberson would recover from his injuries, but was fired from the Department the following month for Conduct Unbecoming an Officer.

Two months later in a surprising turn of events, the prosecution, fearing an acquittal, offered Bryant an opportunity to plead guilty to manslaughter instead of first degree murder (the original charge). Bryant accepted the deal, pled guilty to manslaughter citing self-defense and was sentenced to only 10 years in San Quentin State Penitentiary.

In the 79 years since Patrolman Corley’s untimely death, the dangers inherent to law enforcement in the City of Angels have changed little. Los Angeles has always had its share of violence. Yet, thousands of men and women; black, white, yellow and brown have proudly worn the Los Angeles Police badge of duty and sworn duty. It is in this manner, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. often said when looking at the country’s racial condition, that “We are all woven together in a single garment of destiny.” As Los Angeles Police Officers, let us never forget that singular mission, “To Protect and to Serve” and to do so with dignity and honor as a living tribute to those who sacrificed much to our shared legacy.

Lieutenant Thomas is an 18-year LAPD veteran, currently the Adjutant to the Chief of Police.

Author’s Note: I am indebted to Department Commander Secretary Angie Roman, whose volunteer work for the Los Angeles Police Historical Society led to the discovery of Frank Corley’s sacrifice. Thank you. I must also acknowledge and thank Lois Ungari, Rick Morton and Tanya Thomas for their contributions.

Operations-Valley Bureau Area Warrant Detail

Recidivism is defined as a tendency to relapse into a previous condition or mode of behavior. This term is typically used to refer to criminals who continue to prey on members of society. These recidivists, or repeat offenders, should clearly be at the top of law enforcement’s priority list for prosecution and incarceration if we as law enforcement professionals are to seriously impact crime and the fear of crime in our community.

Operations-Valley Bureau (OVB) recognized the fact that the Department’s approach to addressing repeat offenders was in need of revitalization. The OVB command staff wanted to develop a means of getting to these repeat offenders without creating some new task force, but rather by a simple yet effective way to prevent these individuals from preying on members of the community.

With this in mind, OVB Area commanding officers got together to discuss a means of impacting this criminal element to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The discussion led to the implementation of a warrant detail designed to impact this group of criminals who have already demonstrated their propensity for the commission of crime by having an

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During this quarter, the Career Development Section staff is spotlighting Lieutenant Evangelyn Nathan as an example of a career-oriented employee. Lieutenant Nathan is currently assigned to the Operations-South Bureau Homicide Task Force. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree at California State University, Dominguez Hills, in Business Administration and a minor in Marketing. She is currently a member of the following organizations:

- The Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives-Board of Directors, Secretary; the Los Angeles Women Police Officer Association-Board of Directors, 3rd Vice President; the Peace Officer’s Association of Los Angeles County; the Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation; the LAPD Peer Counseling Program; the Peer Network/Mentor Program; the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives; the New Frontier Democratic Club; and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Los Angeles and Inland Empire African-American Community Advisory Council (Mentor).

**Question:** What career path did you take to your present assignment?

**Answer:** I was appointed on June 29, 1981, and have had the following assignments: 1981, Police Officer I, 77th Street Patrol; 1983-1984, Police Officer II, Wilshire Patrol; 1984 Police Officer II, Narcotics (undercover Buy Team); 1984-1985, two Sergeants, five Detectives II, three Detectives I, and six Police Officers. On February 10, 2003, Chief Bergmann officially activated the Area units with a briefing and a training session, which was provided by a Subject Matter Expert from the Fugitive Warrant Section, Detective Support Division.

All indications point to a successful undertaking. Since the program was initiated, OVB Area units have made 67 felony and 44 misdemeanor warrant arrests. Several of the units have expanded their focus to include individuals who have been identified as being responsible for the commission of criminal acts via crime reports. Those efforts have yielded an additional 18 arrests for felony charges and three arrests for misdemeanor charges.
The Following Personnel Were Commended by the Community During the Month of March

Executive Secretary
Anna Pedrosa

Supervising Criminalist
Doreen Hudson

Reserve Officer
Erica De Smith

Police Officer I
Eduardo Alvarez
Daniel Garcia
Stephen Underwood

Police Officer II
Joseph Albright
David Alvarez
Bob Arellano
Corey Austin
Michael Bissett
Jose Bonilla
Thomas Brown
Holly Capra
Wallace Carr
Sophia Castaneda
Gilbert Centeno
Enrique Chavez
Jackie Chavez
Robert Cosner
Mario Cruz
Bryan Dameworth
Ernest Fisco
Ardwin Flores
Ruben Garcia
Misty Goodnight
Michael Grant
Oscar Gutierrez
Steven Hillmann
Daryl Hinson
Jorge Juarez
James Kilgore
James Kuklok
Ramon Martinez
Ernie Mason
Roderick Miller

Mark Mireles
Joanna Needham
Gary Newton
Ryan Nguyen
Greg Ortiz
George Oto
Clinton Perez
Daniel Putnam
Bert Quechenberger
Rachel Raigoza
Sheryl Reynolds
Kenneth Sanquist
Mark Smith
Richard Smith
U.S. Taylor
Lonnie Truong
David Tyson
Ernesto Vicencio
Phillip Walters
Dale Washburn
Timothy Wienekowski
Francois Wise
Tim Wolleck
Carlos Zaragoza

Nancy Reeves
Scott Reitz
Michelle Rodriguez
Theresa Skinner
Peggy Thusing

Detective I
Arnold Adauto
Guam Bowen
Paula Chavez
Robert Dinlocker
Timothy Kirkpatrick
William Longacre
George Molina
Yehuda Packer
Mike Rashtian
John Snee
Andrew Woods

Detective II
Frank Amador
Ben Black
Gilbert Escontrias
Mike Howard
Ken Lockwood
Tom Mann
Daryl Maxwell
Ralph Morten
Dan Nee
Emma Ramirez
Robert Rivera
Marcella Winn

Police Officer III
Fred Alexander
Bennie Boatwright
Dario Delcore
Reuben Derma
Joel Estrada
Derwin Henderson
Dale Hickerson
Ronald Johnson
Anhoney Keller
Ron Kim
Lawrence Koreen
Kenneth Lefever
Gerardo Madera
Rich Mathias
Pablo Monterroso
Mike Neighbors
James Nuttall
Hugh Ogara
Amby Owens
Jonathan Pinto

Detective III
Patrick Barron
Barbara Bella
Troy Bybee
Ray Hernandez
Steve Koman
Lou Koven
Ruben Lopez
Sean Mahoney
Joseph Pau
William Scott

Lieutenant I
Steve Ruiz
Tom Smart

Lieutenant II
Dennis Cremins
Mike DeCoudres
Mike Felix
Jimmy Grayson
Geoffrey Taylor

Captain I
James Craig
Patrick Findley

Captain II
Charles Roper

Captain III
Kirk Albanese
Joseph Curreri

Deputy Chief
Michael Hillmann

Chief
William Bratton
Career Spotlight

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Question: What was your favorite assignment?
Answer: South Bureau Homicide. Homicide is the kind of assignment that allows me to utilize all of my knowledge, skills, and abilities. Everything I have learned during my career, including my interpersonal skills and knowledge about the community, comes into play in this assignment.

Question: What advice do you have for other employees regarding having a successful career with the Department?
Answer: Figure out who you admire and why. Sit down, talk to them, and get sound advice. Map out a destination. You cannot get there if you do not know where you want to go or what you want to do. Step out of the box and challenge yourself. Dedicate yourself to police work, the City you serve, and the Department for which you work. Think of every assignment as an interview for your next assignment. Figure out your weaknesses and strengths and improve upon them. Maintain a balanced life... professional, personal, continuing education, family, finances, etc. Maintain a positive attitude. Do not forget to be nice to people. When the job is no longer challenging, fun, exciting, desired, etc...look for an opportunity elsewhere in the Department. Do not lose yourself trying to be someone else.

Roll Call of Events

May 3 - Memorial Run at Dockweiler Beach, 8:15 a.m
May 17 - Los Angeles Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament Rancho Park, 10 a.m.
May 23 - LAPD Memorial Ceremony, Parker Center Memorial, 1 p.m.
May 31 - LAPD Armed Forces Family Appreciation Day Elysian Park Academy, 11 a.m.

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

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