

WILLIAM J. BRATTON
CHIEF OF POLICE

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

This is the time of year when our thoughts turn to family, a time of looking back and assessing the past year. As I reflect on my first year as your Chief, I can say without any reservation, I truly did save the best for last. I feel privileged to be a part of the LAPD family.

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DEPARTMENT SELECTED AS AWARD WINNER FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

In recognition of outstanding participation for National Night Out activities this year, the Los Angeles Police Department was selected as a National Award Winner by the National Association of Town Watch, the sponsor of National Night Out. Los Angeles placed tenth out of 22 cities with a population of 300,000 or more for outstanding participation in the annual crime, drug, and violence prevention program dubbed "America's night out against crime."

"At this year's event there was stronger participation from several LAPD stations and more participation is expected at next year's event," said Officer Tanya Hanamaikai, Community Relations Section, and Department

coordinator for National Night Out for the past four years.

The Department held numerous activities across the City including several marches, street fairs, cookouts, block parties, peacewalks, candlelight vigils, and neighborhood watch meetings, each designed to present crime-free zones and provide an atmosphere to encourage communities to take back their neighborhoods. At this year's event, held on August 5th, the Department worked with Channel 35 to videotape events that took place during National Night Out in Los Angeles. The videotape was submitted to the National Association of Town Watch to be used in judging the City's participation.

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Chief's Message *Continued from page 1*

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The monthly news publication serving sworn and civilian employees, and those interested in the activities of the Los Angeles Police Department, is published by the Public Information Office, Public Communications Section, Public Relations Unit. The Los Angeles Police Department does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned within these pages.

The BEAT deadline for material submission is the 4th of each month for the following month's publication.

Submit your materials to:
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This publication is available on line at www.LAPDOnline.org.

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Over the past 12 months, we've all been on a learning curve. I've had to learn the differences between West Coast and East Coast-policing styles, and you've come to understand many of the ideas, initiatives and expectations I have for this organization. One of my primary missions was to refocus this organization to be more responsive to the crime problems in the city and more proactive in our community-policing and trust-building efforts. That is what the re-engineering of the LAPD is all about. But first, I had to take the time to learn how this Department works, as well as learn about the people behind the badge, and the civilians who are the glue that holds the Department together. What I've learned and have come to respect is the essence of this organization, the traditions and history that have shaped and influenced the Department, and the pride and esteem felt by each

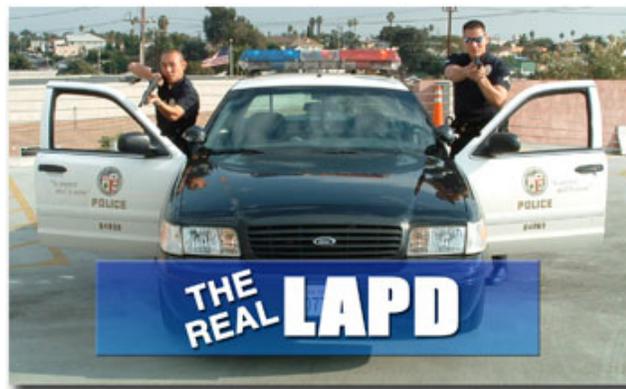
member of our LAPD family. That is what I like to call "the Real LAPD."

I have become keenly aware of just how difficult it is to be a cop in Los Angeles. The level of violence here directed against the police, compared with other large cities, is disturbing. Gang members outnumber us considerably and have little respect for law enforcement. The volatile mixture of gangs, guns and narcotics is the source of significant amounts of violence in this city, and the simple truth is, we don't have enough cops on the streets at any one time to

make a significant, timely impact on that problem. My number one priority is to get more officers on the streets by increasing our numbers, but that will take time.

There is a flip side to our limited ranks and it represents one of our greatest strengths. Because we are so few, we have become very good in performing our duties, being efficient, skillful, and tactically superior. What we lack in quantity, we have overcome in quality. To that end, the officers of the LAPD have become the best and most highly trained urban police force that I have ever encountered. You are truly second to none.

What I have also observed and support as "the Real LAPD," is the



cohesiveness of this organization, and how officers depend on each other. Again, because there are so few, there is

a special and unique bond between partners. I'm sure that comes from the dangers that patrol cops face out on the street. Your partner is your first-line back up and the trust required in that type of relationship often extends beyond the job. Your partners become your brothers and sisters both on and off the job.

Over the past year I have looked into how we investigate crimes, and the outstanding skills that are possessed within the organization by our detective workforce. The American image of the

Are Your Financial and Legal Affairs in Order?

One of the most daunting experiences we face is the death of a fellow officer and friend. It is a topic that makes most of us uncomfortable, but it is necessary to plan for this the same way we plan for career goals and retirements, by doing the paperwork. The more organized Department employees are with these issues, the easier it is for surviving family members.

The first Department documents that are crucial are the Address and Phone Number Record (Form 1.20) and the Divisional Address and Phone Number Record (Form 1.38). When a Department employee dies, the first objective is to contact the next of kin and, when indicated, the person designated to help with the death notification to the employee's loved ones. Often, these forms are outdated and fail to list the current spouse or significant loved ones. It is the employee's responsibility to ensure that these forms are updated and correct. There have been instances where outdated information on the 1.20 has led to delays in notifications, or notifications have been given to the wrong individuals.

When an employee starts with the Department, during the first week they are inundated with forms for benefits, payroll deductions and insurance options. As time passes on the job, relationships change or develop; an



Photo appearing on the front cover of the March 1950 issue of the original "The Beat" magazine.

employee may marry, divorce or remarry. It is imperative to periodically check your beneficiary information, especially after a change in relationships. All insurance benefits go to the individual who is the named beneficiary. Beneficiaries are not disputable, unlike other areas of an employee's estate. In order for an employee to check on the current status of beneficiaries or to change existing beneficiaries, civilian employees should check with the City Benefits Office, and sworn employees can contact the Police Protective League at (213) 386-9955 and the Police Relief Association at (213) 674-3717.

The Department of Pensions and Deferred Compensation Plans may or may not have an assigned beneficiary

on record. If there is no beneficiary assigned, benefits will be awarded to the surviving next of kin. In order for domestic partners to be recognized legally as the next of kin, it is imperative that they register as domestic partners with the City of Los Angeles. Domestic partnerships are coordinated by Employee Benefits at (213) 485-2440.

It is very difficult for surviving family members to try and figure out what an individual's final wishes would have been in the event of their death. When beneficiaries are not specified and there is no living trust or will, a very long and complex legal battle can erupt. This can leave a significantly diminished estate.

If the employee does not document what their wishes are in the event of their death, they are doing their loved ones a serious injustice. Casually telling a loved one their final wishes holds no legal weight. The Department cannot change or solve the legal entanglement involved.

In closing, keep your forms updated with the Department and take the time to create a living trust. Additionally, periodically check on your benefits and who you have listed as beneficiaries. If you have any questions or would like some guidance in this area, the Department's Financial Counseling Team, Employee Assistance Unit, can provide suggestions. They can be contacted at (213) 485-0703. As with most benefits on the LAPD, assistance is just a phone call away. □

MESSAGE FROM POLICE COMMISSION PRESIDENT DAVID S. CUNNINGHAM, III WHAT'S COMING IN 2004



Next year will be a significant one for the Los Angeles Police Department for several reasons.

Most importantly, we will reach compliance with the Federal Consent Decree in June. We will hire more officers because we will have the financial ability. We will reduce crime even further. We will put the Rampart incident behind us. Wishful thinking? I don't think so.

This Department has the experience, knowledge, ability, and leadership to achieve each objective. Of course, I am aware of variable factors that can interfere with the best laid plans. But, I am also aware of the talent of the men and women in this Department and I have complete faith that any obstacle can be overcome.

Compliance with the Consent Decree will heighten LAPD's stature in both the community and the law

enforcement world. We have turned the corner from checking off each compliance requirement to institutionalizing permanent reform. The word "transparency" has been used as catch a phrase for our ultimate Consent Decree goal. I see it more as a matter of trust. We are achieving that trust, both inside and outside of the Department.

The level of service provided by the men and women of this Department given the size of Los Angeles is phenomenal. As we all know, the LAPD has a very low ratio of officers to population. We are not asking to come up to the levels of other major law enforcement agencies... we are just asking for a few more officers. The Police Commission is keenly aware of how thinly stretched we are. It is incumbent on us to do everything in our power to bring in more officers. I am committed to that goal.

I am certain crime will come down even further. While crime is somewhat

cyclical, I put more stock in the men and women of this Department and Chief Bratton, whose tried and true techniques are working here in our City. We are getting stronger as we move forward.

In 2004, we will shed the burdensome cloak known as the Rampart Corruption Incident when the Blue Ribbon Panel presents its findings. The Police Commission appointed the Panel because the Department never fully recovered from the incident. The image was still there, and worse, the suspicion was still there... in and outside the Department. Corrective measures were taken, but time has passed and with the advantage of time we can reassess those measures. The Blue Ribbon Panel will close this chapter in our history.

As we all look forward to a landmark year for the LAPD, I wish each and every one of you a happy and prosperous New Year, and more than anything, a safe 2004. □



RECENT ACTIONS BY THE POLICE COMMISSION

OCTOBER 2:

Commissioners Skobin, Cunningham and Saucedo attended the "Twice a Citizen" Reserve Officer Awards.

OCTOBER 8:

Approved the title list of the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2004-2005

OCTOBER 27:

Commissioners attended the Medal of Valor Awards Luncheon

OCTOBER 28:

Reviewed final two proposals for the Police Headquarters Facility

Chief's Message *Continued from page 2*

modern police detective was modeled after Los Angeles police officers through the radio and television series

Dragnet. But that image is merely a Hollywood version of "the Real LAPD." The strengths of our detectives have been overlooked and misdirected by the paper-driven bureaucratic process, primarily making the detective

function that of a desk job. Through the reorganization and the establishment of the Detective Bureau, my goal is to get more of our detectives back in the field, investigating crimes and making arrests. I am also aware that our critical investigative infrastructure is woefully insufficient. We are deficient in our DNA and forensic capabilities and other resources that are critical in our detective's efforts to solve crimes. I will continue to fight for resources that will give detectives the tools they need to perform to the capacity that will again elevate their status to national and worldwide prominence.

I have also come to appreciate the incredible work done in the community through the Senior Lead Officer program. Although small in number, they are the human face of this Department and the essential trust-building link for the people of this City. The work of these 168 officers has helped to build a bridge, and the

efforts have been paying off considerably. Community members are coming forward as never before to



"Dragnet" stars Jack Webb (Sgt. Joe Friday) and Barton Yarborough (Sgt. Ben Romero) visit the Los Angeles Police Department. Photo from the February 1950 issue of the original "The Beat" magazine.

partner with us to reduce crime. SLO's help people have a greater comfort level with police. They are more willing to reach out not only in moments of crisis or terror, but they can speak candidly during investigations and openly regarding quality-of-life issues. These partnerships can and

have led to some of our greatest successes in problem solving and crime prevention. Eventually, I would like every cop to have the time to interact with the community as Senior Lead Officers do. But until we have sufficient patrol staffing levels, the Senior Leads are the thin blue line of our outreach and community-policing efforts.

The strengths of the organization I've mentioned best illustrate "the Real LAPD." As I move into my second year as your Chief, I want to build on these strengths, on the incredible foundation that exists. With your outstanding tactical, investigative, and outreach abilities, coupled with your cohesive, cooperative, and self-reliant spirit, I have quite a story to tell about the men and women of this Department. And this story will be told to the people of Los Angeles and the

decision makers, as the Mayor, the Police Commission, and I fight for the additional resources needed to make this the safest big city in America. Our goals for the Department are to get more cops, more training, the best technology available, and to keep you safe, so that when you leave your LAPD family at end-of-watch, you can return to your own families.

It has been my pleasure serving as your Chief for this past year, and I look forward to serving alongside you in 2004. As an organization, we have made tremendous strides in reducing crime and fear over the past 12 months, but doing better should never be enough for "the Real LAPD." Where we are is not where we need to be. With your commitment and expertise, I am confident that continued success awaits us in the New Year. During this holiday season I wish all the best to you and your families. □

**CRIME WATCH
CITYWIDE**

YEAR TO DATE - 12/6/03

Homicide	- 24.6%	▼
Rape	- 9.1%	▼
Robbery	- 3.8%	▼
Aggravated Assault	- 7.4%	▼
Domestic Violence	- 5.9%	▼
Total Violent Crime	- 6.1%	▼
Burglary	- 1.2%	▼
Burglary/Theft from Vehicle	- 4.1%	▼
Personal/Other Theft	- 6.8%	▼
Auto Theft	- 4.1%	▼
Total Property Crime	- 3.6%	▼

Source ITD, LAPD

DEPARTMENT SELECTED NATIONAL AWARD WINNER FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Continued from front cover

Other areas receiving recognition in the 300,000 plus population category include San Antonio, Texas, ranking first; Minneapolis, Minnesota, ranking second; Houston/Harris County, Texas, ranking third; Metro New Orleans, ranking fourth; Boston, ranking fifth; New York City, ranking sixth; Washington, D.C., ranking

seventh; Chicago, ranking eighth; and Puerto Rico, ranking ninth. Los Angeles came out ahead of Miami-Dade County, ranking eleventh; Philadelphia, ranking thirteenth; Miami, ranking fourteenth; and Los Angeles County, ranking seventeenth.

National Night Out is an annual

event that has taken place for the past twenty years in an effort to promote neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships. The National Night Out event in 2003 involved 34 million people in 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide. □



Peacewalk and candlelight vigil at Mount Carmel Park in 77th Street Area.



Police Explorer assisting in fingerprinting youth for a child safety program at a West Los Angeles Area National Night Out event.



Community Relations Officer Rasheen Ford shows children a patrol vehicle at a West Los Angeles Area National Night Out event.

The Following Personnel were Commended by the Community in the Month of October 2003

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Maurice Hampton
Sharon Hanabusa
Manuel Hernandez
Benjamin Herrera
Marie Kardiban
Jason Leikam
Andy Lugo
Sam Mather
Christina Mejicanos

Dennis Mesa

Bill Miller

Josh Min

Curtis Morton

Esteban Olivares

Ronald Owen

Rosa Pena

Binnie Phan

Brent Phillips

Douglas Pierce

Maria Reyes-Stell

James Ross

Frederick Russell

Gretchen Schultz

Timothy Scully

POLICE OFFICER III

Kathy Bell

Julie Carpenter

Andre Clansy

Edan D'Angelo

Richard Davis

Reuben Derma

Michael Dutton

Yvonne Enriquez

Peter Foster

Marc Furniss

Carlos Garcia

Mario Gonzalez

Fabiola Humphrey

Ryuichi Ishitani

Marco Jimenez

Harry Lathrop

Thomas Lo

Jaime Martin

Amelia Martinez

Gerald Mimms

Belen Murray

Roger Perez

Nancy Reeves

Thomas Rogers

Jesse Sanchez

Ben Santero

Robert Schlesinger

Melanie Senneff

Darlene Shelley

Anthony Vasquez

Kristian Werner

Felipe Yanez

DETECTIVE I

Patricia Austin

Won Chu

Barrett Halcromb

Keith Hunter

James Kenny

Cristina Korne

Kyle Lewison

Brandon Martin

Luis Martinez

Michael McPherson

Terri Minter

Eric Moore

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Yehuda Packer

Jeffrey Pardy

Wesley Potter

Victor Salguero

Kandis Schmidt

Douglas Stice

Dondee Stout

Stephen Watson

John Zambri

DETECTIVE II

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Frank Lipus

Alberto Marengo

Stacy Morris

John Motto

Steven Reyes

Fred Sicard

Raymond Terrones

Carrie Zipperman

SERGEANT I

John Amendola

Harold Cox

David Cueto

Thomas Gahry

Bob Kain

AJ Kirby

Ronald Lopez

Patrick McCarty

Richard Parks

Lauren Rauch

SERGEANT II

Robert Acosta

Blaine Blackstone

Frank Long

Julie McAlpine

Stephen Moore

Ralph Ward

DETECTIVE III

Thomas Boyle

Franklin Margolis

Richard Munguia

Ron Phillips

Steven Takeshita

LIEUTENANT I

Andy Heredero

LIEUTENANT II

Fred Booker

Michael Felix

David Lindsay

CAPTAIN II

Charles Roper

CAPTAIN III

Mike Chambers

Sergio Diaz, Jr.

Michael Downing

Kevin McCarthy

Vance Proctor

James Rubert

COMMANDER

Bob Hansohn

Mark Leap

Harlan Ward

DEPUTY CHIEF

Gary Brennan

Lee Carter

Michael Hillmann

ASSISTANT CHIEF

George Gascon

Jim McDonnell

COPS FOR TOTS CAR SHOW

More than 6,000 people attended this year's Cops for Tots Car Show that raises money for Children's Charities of Los Angeles. Approximately 420 classic autos, motorcycles, and police equipment were on display at this family event held at the Elysian Park Academy on November 2, 2003.

"This was our best year ever," said Officer Mike Belmonte, Central Traffic Division. The annual car show, now in its eighth year, raised more than \$40,000 this year.



ROLL CALL OF EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 26 - TIME TBA
RECOGNITION DAY**

Elysian Park
Academy Gymnasium

Call Special Events Section
at (213) 847-4882
for additional information.



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