



WILLIAM J. BRATTON
CHIEF OF POLICE

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

If you were to look up the definition of “transparent,” Merriam-Webster’s dictionary gives three examples of the meaning of the word: free of pretense or deceit, easily detected, and readily understood. When applied to a law enforcement organization, it becomes clear that transparency must exist in order to accomplish what I believe is a key objective: establish and maintain the trust of the communities that we are sworn to protect and serve. Being a transparent organization is essential in building that trust and in our day-to-day operations.

The Board of Police Commissioners has begun efforts to make the LAPD more transparent. At the December 13, 2005 meeting, Commissioners unanimously

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LAPD Lauded for Making L.A. Second Safest U.S. City

Go ahead—brag a little. The Department kicked off 2006 with the lowest crime rate in 50 years. The 19 percent decline in Part One Crime, experienced over a three-year period, makes Los Angeles the second safest large city in America, of cities with populations greater than one million. This feat positions the City ahead of San Diego at number three, and just behind New York as number one.

Chief Bratton credits the men and women of the Department, who work tirelessly to protect our communities, for sustaining crime reduction and improved public safety. At the community level, officers detect, prevent, and root out crimes. Thus safeguarding the lives and property of the people we serve.

“Reductions in crime don’t just happen,” he said. “Police departments can and do have a huge influence on the crime rate.”

With a workforce of about 9,300 officers, the Department exceeded its 2005 Part One Crime reduction goal of 10 percent, slashing crime by 14 percent. Using assertive policing techniques, computer-mapping programs, and extra detectives and patrol officers in high-crime areas, the Department has been able to target repeat offenders, successfully maximizing the crime-fighting effect.

Homicides, for instance, dropped six percent below 2004 totals to 487. This is the first time since 1999 that the City has seen fewer than 500 annual homicides.

Other Part One Crime reductions seen include rape, which fell 16.3 percent; robbery, which decreased 4.1 percent; and aggravated assaults, which dropped 40 percent. In early 2005, after adopting the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting guidelines, the Department discovered that, for years, it had over reported aggravated assaults.



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adopted a new procedure regarding the release of information on Categorical Use of Force cases to the public. The new procedure, which began on January 1 of this year, allows for the Commission's Inspector General to publicize, on the Department's website, summaries of Categorical Use of Force incidents. Although the information publicized will include relevant facts surrounding the incidents, as well as the Police Commission's ruling on policy issues, no officers' names will be released.

Mayor Villaraigosa endorsed this effort and applauded the Police Commission for this significant step that ensures that the public is fully informed on all Categorical Use of Force cases. The Los Angeles Police Protective League also supports this move, in part. While not in agreement that the information should be placed on the Department's website, the League agrees a balance has been struck by providing as much information as possible without revealing personal information about the involved officers or disclosing sensitive tactical maneuvers and procedures.

In short, this is a win-win situation for all, and a decision that I, too, fully support. As Police Commissioner Anthony Pacheco said when the action was approved, "This is a defining moment in transparency."

Another issue being discussed by the Police Commission, and one that has caught the attention of the Federal Consent Decree Monitor and the media, is the issue of cameras in patrol cars. As one of the original recommendations of the Christopher Commission, this idea has been considered, studied, and debated since 1991. The Department even had a pilot program in the late 1990s. But

because of budgetary constraints and videotape storage issues, video cameras were not put into the Department's fleet of black and whites.

With the ongoing challenges of analyzing traffic-stop data to determine the likelihood of racial profiling and advances in recording technology, digital video cameras in patrol vehicles are a viable and effective method of providing transparent documentation of incidents.

Digital video cameras in patrol cars are not something that police officers should fear but rather should welcome and praise, as this technology can resolve many of the issues that arise when an officer takes enforcement action. These would include the "he said, she said" scenarios, and issues that arise relating to use of appropriate force, especially when dealing with combative or uncooperative suspects. If officers are enforcing the law constitutionally, compassionately, and consistently, video cameras in patrol cars will serve as their strongest allies. The images provided by these cameras would prove to be valuable tools when use of force issues are being scrutinized and when fighting false complaints. A study done by the International Association of Chiefs of Police revealed that once a complainant was made aware that the traffic stop or contact was recorded, more than 50 percent of the time the complaint was withdrawn. These cameras will also provide stronger evidence in the debate over racial profiling.

The initial cost of outfitting patrol vehicles with digital video cameras and supporting infrastructure is estimated at

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MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSION

Shortening the Time of Use of Force Investigations By President John W. Mack

In our first few months as Commissioners at the Los Angeles Police Department, I am particularly proud of the Police Commission's approval of two significant new policies that directly



John W. Mack,
President
Los Angeles
Police Commission

affect you, the men and women of this Department. I believe these new changes are extremely beneficial to your career as a member of the LAPD, while they

also enhance our relationship with the diversified communities that you serve.

Shortly after being appointed by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, this Commission appointed Executive Director Richard Tefank, Inspector General André Birotte Jr., and Police Administrator Gerald Chaleff to the all important task of finding ways to reduce the time it takes the Department to perform quality investigations of Categorical Use of Force cases. While a thorough and complete investigation is paramount, a shorter timeframe is equally important for both the involved officer and the community.

Through numerous consultations and reviews of the investigation process, our appointed team proposed seven recommendations including the purchase of digital recorders, the transfer of some personnel assigned to investigating the criminal side of

investigations to the administrative side, and interviewing officers in a two-phased approach. The Commission unanimously approved the recommendations with the goal of reducing the investigative time by several months, therefore addressing one major concern frequently expressed by members of communities of color, and at the same time not putting individual officers' lives on hold for unnecessarily extended periods of time.

The Police Commission's other action designed to enhance your career through improved communications with the community by reducing distrust, is the public release of basic information on Categorical Use of Force incidents. Our new plan provides a critical balance of transparency to the community while still protecting peace officer personnel information.

The newly created document will

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Recent Actions by the Police Commission

- DECEMBER 6:**
 - Received a briefing from West Los Angeles Community Police Advisory Board Co-Chairs Gene Nebeker and Captain Carol Aborn-Khoury.
 - Approved Memorandum of Agreement with City Housing Authority to provide funding for a Department liaison and cash overtime details in various housing developments.
- DECEMBER 8:**
 - Held a Joint Meeting with the Public Safety Committee to review Consent Decree issues with the Independent Monitor Michael Cherkasky.
- DECEMBER 9:**
 - Commissioner Pacheco attended the Recruit Graduation.
- DECEMBER 13:**
 - Adopted a new procedure for the public release of information pertaining to Categorical Use of Force cases.
 - Beginning in 2006, a newly created document detailing each case, absent officers' names, will be available on LAPDOnline.org.
 - Received a briefing from Southwest Community Police Advisory Board Co-Chairs Yvette Jones and Captain James Craig.
 - Received a full report on the status of TEAMS II.
 - Received a status report on streamlining of the booking process.
- DECEMBER 20:**
 - Presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Central Traffic Division personnel involved in the Cops for Tots Car Show.
 - Approved recommendations of increased lighting, a gated entrance, more aggressive tree trimming, and increased traffic enforcement to prevent cruising and criminal activity in an alley north of Melrose Avenue.

Real-Time Analysis & Critical Response Division

For the past few years, the City of Los Angeles has realized crime reduction. In order for the City to become more efficient at addressing crime, focus on crime must be on a week-to-week 24/7 basis.

Historically, the Department has not been organized to respond to crime on a 24/7 basis in the most efficient manner possible. Crime information is not gathered Citywide on a real-time basis. Additionally, at this time the connection between crime analysis and off-hour detective support is not maximized. Finally, there is no support entity to ensure crime scene information gathered by Area entities is processed through databases expeditiously in a Citywide configuration.

Similarly, the Department entities tasked with managing a major emergency are not consolidated under one entity. Emergency Operations Section and Incident Command Post Unit report to Special Operations Support Division, yet the Department Command Post reports to Communications Division.

This has led to the lack of a robust 24-hour real-time crime information processing and investigative support center, which has made information flow between Areas sometimes inefficient. Additionally, the time required to staff the Department Operations Center (DOC) in an off-hours activation and the time required to respond to major off-hours incidents with Incident Command Post support equipment has been lengthy.

Real-Time Analysis & Critical Response Division (RACR) will address many of those problems. The

Division will be a 24/7 information processing center that will have three major functions. They are Real-Time Crime Analysis, Detective Support and Department Operations Center.

RACR will be providing the Department with Citywide real-time crime pattern analysis and mapping. Selected violent crimes will be mapped, analyzed for patterns, and passed to RACR detectives for



Department Operations Center utilized by Real-Time Analysis and Critical Response Division.

investigative support. The crime analysis function will work closely with Areas in communicating observed patterns and also work very closely with RACR detectives in communicating information to be used in furtherance of Area support.

RACR detectives will provide support to Areas during the early critical stages of certain violent crimes. RACR detectives will be available to access databases and process information about suspects, victims or locations, as Area resources are still processing the scene. The goal will be to provide the field investigative unit with information that can be used to

further the investigation, cause an arrest to be made, or improve the chances of obtaining a criminal filing.

Finally, because RACR will be staffed 24/7, officers will be cross-trained to run the DOC in the event of a major emergency requiring DOC activation. Additionally, employees will be trained and permitted to respond to the scene of Area incidents with requested command post equipment such as light trucks, canteen, mobile command post vehicles, etc.

RACR Division is an organization designed to improve the way in which the Department processes information. This will allow for more timely analysis of Citywide violent crime patterns and trends. Also, RACR support will allow for quick information processing

for violent crimes, freeing up patrol and Area detective resources to do quick follow-ups and/or make arrests of suspects.

During the next year, the procedures and protocols used by RACR personnel in the furtherance of Area support will be reviewed and modified as necessary. RACR is a support entity designed to improve field operations. Our collective success depends upon mutual cooperation, flexibility and willingness to challenge the process continuously, with a clear focus on operations improvement and enhanced public safety. □

LAPD Holiday Events Brighten Lives

In December, the Department spread holiday cheer throughout Los Angeles with a number of charitable toy, book, and food drives for underprivileged families. Chief Bratton kicked off festivities early in the month at Harmony Elementary School in Newton Area. There, Chief Bratton announced the *5th Annual LAPD Angels Toy and Book Drive*. The community-wide outreach campaign encouraged residents to drop off unwrapped toys and books containing inspirational messages at any of the Department's 19 community police stations. Other charitable giving efforts included Area-specific toy and food drives. Listed below are Department/community efforts that brightened lives.

OPERATIONS-CENTRAL BUREAU

Central Traffic Division, Northeast, and Rampart Areas provided gifts for children through organizations such as the Blind Children's Center, Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, and Los Angeles Mission. Additionally, Central Area and Central City Police Boosters held the 32nd Annual Children's Holiday Program for more than 1,400 participants at the Shrine Auditorium. Similarly, Hollenbeck Area hosted *Miracle on First Street* and distributed toys to 50 families. Newton Area gave away holiday gift baskets to 25 families. Northeast Area and Los Angeles Police Historical Society led a joint toy drive for community children.

OPERATIONS-SOUTH BUREAU

77th Street Area led a toy run for local children and a tree-trimming ceremony for families impacted by violent crimes; 50 families also received holiday baskets. Southwest Area held a Christmas tree dedication for Mothers of Fallen Children and partnered with Holman United Methodist Church to give away toys. In alliance with Mujeres en Acción, a not-for-profit organization, Southwest Area also hosted a *posada*—a Mexican-themed holiday event—to hand out toys and gift baskets to more than 130 disadvantaged families.

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L.A. Second Safest U.S. City *Continued from page 1*

Despite that correction, the rate of decline for aggravated assaults was double digit, so that—even without this one-time correction—the Department achieved its 10 percent goal.

The City experienced equal success relating to property crimes, showing reductions in every major category including burglary, down 5.6 percent; burglary/theft from vehicles, down 12.6 percent; personal or other theft, down 11.7 percent; and auto theft, down 6.6 percent.

Bratton added, "I don't know of any other major U.S. city that has been as successful at reducing the crime rate, and we have done it with half the ratio of officers to residents as New York, with 426 officers per 10,000 residents."

For L.A. to have the same ratio of officers to residents as New York, the

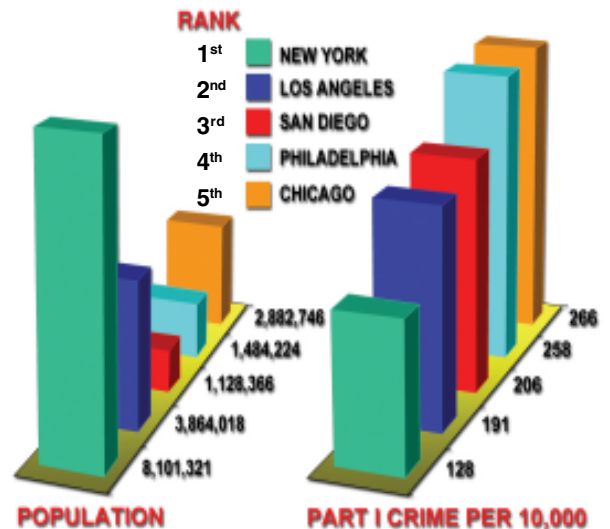
City of Los Angeles would need a total of 17,000 officers.

Chief Bratton remains confident that resources, focus, and political and police leadership can make L.A. even safer. Among the Department's goals for 2006 are an increase of more than 250 sworn officers and an 8 percent overall reduction in Citywide Part One Crimes. Additionally, the Department will push for a 5 percent decrease in traffic collisions and full compliance of the Consent Decree.

"We need the partnership, leadership and support of the City's elected officials and those

who live and work in L.A.," said the Chief. "Working together, we can achieve the goal of making this City not the second largest safe city in America, but the first." □

COMPARISON OF MAJOR U.S. CITIES



Chief's Message *Continued from page 2*

\$25 million. But the returns are far more valuable. Based on conservative Department estimates, the cost savings and reduction in City liability costs as a direct result of fewer complaint investigations, would help pay for the cameras in about six years. Add to that the increased public confidence in the Department's commitment to transparency, and our ability to provide more objective and credible criminal and administrative investigations, the expenditure would be well worth the initial investment.

Use of Force Investigations

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be prepared by the Office of the Inspector General and will be posted on LAPDOnline.org, following the Police Commission's review of the case. The document will provide a synopsis of the events, findings, training and policy issues, and additional considerations. However, it will not contain any officers' names or any confidential tactics.

As Commissioners, our goal is to provide you, the men and women of this Department, with the best possible policies and practices, while also serving the people of Los Angeles. Our promise to you is that we will continue in that spirit and, as always, provide you with our full support for the outstanding work you do everyday. □

As with the public release of Categorical Use of Force information, the Police Commission, the Police Protective League and I all strongly support the use of digital video cameras in patrol vehicles. Both of these measures will help the men and

women of this Department do the job they are hired to do: protect and serve the people of this City in a transparent way, free from pretense or deceit, easily detected and readily understood. □

LAPD Holiday Events Brighten Lives

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OPERATIONS-VALLEY BUREAU

Devonshire, Foothill and Van Nuys Areas handed out toys to more than 400 children in collaboration with the Salvation Army, among other organizations. North Hollywood Area joined Harvard Westlake School to put on a Christmas party for disabled children; Mission Area delivered gift baskets to families and presented the *San Fernando Valley Toy Giveaway* featuring special guest, Ronald McDonald.

OPERATIONS-WEST BUREAU

Wilshire Area passed out toys to children in the community and Pacific Area sponsored toy drives with Oakwood and Mar Vista Gardens recreation centers. Hollywood Area distributed gift baskets to 30 families.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

Metropolitan Division partnered with the California Highway Patrol and U.S. Secret Service to distribute toys to elementary school children at 10th Street Elementary School in Rampart Area and at Boys and Girls Town in Southwest Area. Toys were also given

out at Holy Cross Church in Newton Area, Nativity Catholic School in Southwest Area, and Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital in Central Area. More gifts were handed out at Good Shepherd Women's Shelter.

LOS ANGELES POLICE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation donated 3,000 children's activity books with valuable traffic and safety tips. Activity books featured a contract on the back cover, for parents and children to sign, encouraging public safety and respect for the law.

ANNUAL LAPD CENTURIONS CHRISTMAS TOY GIVEAWAY

LAPD Centurions Baseball Team, in conjunction with Living Hope Community Church and Genesis Entertainment, held a tree lighting ceremony and concert at the *Annual LAPD Christmas Toy Giveaway*. Festivities featured a live performance by recording artist, Jamie Jones, lead singer of the Grammy Award winning group All-4-One. Children enjoyed public safety displays, rock climbing walls and face painting, among other activities. □

THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL WERE COMMENDED BY THE COMMUNITY IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2005

CLERK TYPIST Brenda Benton	Jefferey Kievit Brian Millan Aquiles Morales Timothy Moss Michael O'Connor Gina Onweiler Victor Pacheco	Gerry Smedley Karen Smith Angelo Stewart David Tello Jim Ungari	Rick Jackson Alberto Marengo Blair McCormack Ralph Morten Peggy Moseley James Redman Paul Robi David Torres	DETECTIVE III Emmett Badar Thomas Barnhart James Brown Patricia Hauck Ron Ito Dennis Kilcoyne Richard Munguia Steven Takeshita
SENIOR CLERK TYPIST Rommel Fabella	Christopher Patterson Sonny Patsenhann Paul Razon Peter Sanchez Alex Schlegel Angel Silvestre Kellie Sisserson Juan Soriano Shawna Stevenson Jim Verner Cedric Washington	DETECTIVE I Jamie Bennett Steve Eguchi Ernest Garcia Barrett Halcromb Ryuichi Ishitani Kyle Lewison Gerald McCarty William Robertson Dondee Stout Dolly Swanson	SERGEANT I Teresa Akune Rich Duran	LIEUTENANT II Phillip Fontanetta Brian Pratt
POLICE SURVEILLANCE SPECIALIST I Jim Hoerricks Eric Wahlberg			SERGEANT II Daniel Gonzalez Herman Kaskowitz Harry Markel Ernest Matsumoto Dan Putz Daniel Randolph John Russo	CAPTAIN I William Hayes Michael Moriarty
RESERVE POLICE OFFICER Frank Hicks				CAPTAIN III Bill Williams
POLICE OFFICER I Scott Coffee Michael Flynn Jeannette Lawrence	POLICE OFFICER III Brian Arnett Charles Block Thomas Burke Joe Chacon Greg Chin John Costa Darrell Davis Sherri Egan Joseph Fleming Daniel Garcia Steven Griffith Angel Guerra Patricia Guillen Bradley Hern Michael Johnson Sean Kim Randall McCain Julie Nony Joe Pedroza Andre Rainey Manuel Ramirez Manuel Sanchez Kenneth Sanquist	DETECTIVE II Lorenzo Barbosa Russell Butz		
POLICE OFFICER II Mario Estrada David Bambrick Armando Berumen George Besahi John Bowden Jeffrey Branson Eliseo Brito Todd Carpenter Denis Clifford Edwin Collado Lawrence Concepcion Gloria Covington Andres Cruz Carlos Diaz Marco Duarte Oscar Duenas Robert Duke Darren "Chris" Flores Ben Herrera Alex Izquierdo				

CRIME WATCH CITYWIDE		
YEAR TO DATE - 1/28/06		
Homicide	- 25.6%	▼
Rape	- 29.9%	▼
Robbery	6.2%	▲
Aggravated Assault	- 17.0%	▼
Total Violent Crime	- 7.5%	▼
Burglary	- 14.3%	▼
Burglary/Theft from Vehicle	- 18.7%	▼
Personal/Other Theft	- 24.3%	▼
Auto Theft	- 7.8%	▼
Total Property Crimes	- 16.8%	▼
Total Part I Crimes	- 14.8%	▼

Source ITD, LAPD

LAPD Campaign Benefits Wounded Marines, Sailors and their Families

In December, 75 LAPD officers distributed more than \$25,000 in gifts to injured military personnel. The Departmentwide campaign, called Operation Sleigh Trail, benefited about 100 wounded Marines and Sailors at Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital in Oceanside and Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego.

Gifts included DVD, CD and MP3 players, and hand-held entertainment systems, among other items. Children of injured military personnel received toys.

“This was truly an amazing experience and all LAPD personnel felt honored and humbled to be around such awesome American heroes,” said Officer Kathy McAnany,

Central Area. “The attitudes of the wounded Marines and Sailors were so positive and inspiring; they left many of us dumbstruck.”

Officer McAnany has spearheaded the gift-giveaway since 2004 with Officer Gary Ross, West Traffic



LAPD officers met and visited with ambulatory soldiers at Balboa Naval Medical Center in San Diego. Officers also visited soldiers in their rooms.

ROLL CALL OF EVENTS

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2006

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Division and the event holds special meaning for both. Officer McAnany is Senior Master Sergeant at March Air Force Base and Officer Ross is Senior Master Sergeant at Edwards Air Force Base.

The number of wounded military personnel is staggering, according Officer McAnany. Many of the Marines and Navy personnel convalescing require physical therapy or additional surgeries. As a result, Operation Sleigh Trail will continue indefinitely. □



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