



BEAT

Introducing the new LAPD monthly newsletter

and the “BEAT” goes on....

The Los Angeles Police Department played a major role in developing modern enforcement concepts and procedures establishing the LAPD as a premier law enforcement agency. Open and free communication of ideas, knowledge, and experience among law enforcement personnel is essential to the continued vitality of the LAPD and the law enforcement community in general. Such communication promotes innovation, professionalism, and responsiveness to the communities we serve.

In the spirit of furthering productive communication and restoring an LAPD tradition, I am pleased to announce the reintroduction of the Los Angeles Police Beat, previously published from November 1947 through December 1973. In addition to promoting professionalism in the law enforcement community at large, this publication can make an important contribution to the employees of our Department.

An organization the size of the LAPD, with its many specialized skills, knowledge, and complex structure, cannot function in the same manner as a small agency. However, the informal relationships that make for mutual understanding and close-knit harmony within the Department are the foundation of the overall sense of family and esprit de corps which is an essential element of the operational efficiency of this organization.

The “BEAT” is a newsletter for the employees of the LAPD and their colleagues in the law enforcement community.

BERNARD C. PARKS
Chief of Police

Why Hasn't The P-III Exam Been Given?

The League's refusal to acknowledge the eligibility of approximately 70 Transit Police Officers is preventing the administration of the P-III examination to over 800 officers. I do not pretend to understand the position of the Los Angeles Police Protective League (League) on this matter, but I have only one position: *There will be no second-class employees on the Los Angeles Police Department.*

The Department has been unable to reach agreement with the League concerning the eligibility of Transit Police Officers to take the P-III examination. Following negotiations, the

impasse process has taken several months and has not yet concluded, effectively preventing the Department from administering the 1998 P-III examination prior to the expiration of the 1996-1998 pool. The League has taken the position that Transit Police Officers are not eligible to take the P-III examination because they are on probation. I believe the League focused on a technicality (probation) and missed the critical points of the merger of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) police officers with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

As originally proposed, it was intended that the MTA police officers would be incorporated into the LAPD under City Charter Section 122, which provides for the consolidation or annexation of outside agencies and their employees by the City of Los Angeles. However, Charter Section 122 (written in 1927 when Venice was annexed into the City) would have deemed all MTA police officers to be qualified to be

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1998
 CITYWIDE PART 1 CRIME SUMMARY
 January 1- June 20, 1998

Types Of Crime	Crimes Reported Year-to-Date 1998	Crimes Reported Year-to-Date 1997	Percent Change
Homicide	180	271	-.33
Forcible Rape	625	604	.03
Robbery	7,315	9,770	-.25
Aggravated Assault	7,629	8,990	-.14
Burglary	12,633	14,473	-.12
Larceny	36,197	39,309	-.08
Vehicle Theft	14,693	18,316	-.19
Total	79,272	91,643	-.13

Source: Information and Communications Services Bureau, Crime Analysis Section



P-III Examination

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Los Angeles police officers and required that they be accepted into the Department, without exception and whether or not they met the current requirements for a Los Angeles police officer. This clearly would have been contrary to our high employment standards and was unacceptable to both the Department and the City.

Because of the unacceptable requirements of Charter Section 122, new civil service classes were created for Transit police officers of all ranks and testing and background investigations were completed. Only those MTA police officers who met these strict employment criteria were accepted into the Department in the series of classes as Transit police officers. Unlike Charter Section 122, civil service hiring procedures require the imposition of a probationary period.

In addition to meeting the usual police officer hiring standards, the new Transit officers were, by contractual agreement, restricted to Transit Services Division for a period of one year for several reasons. First, to ensure that the Department effectively assumed its new transit policing duties and to provide an adequate period of time for lateral training of all Transit police officers without depleting the deployment of Transit Group. It was never intended that their probationary status should restrict their ability to compete for advanced paygrade positions within their field of expertise at Transit Group. Additionally, they are not precluded from participating in any civil service promotional examination as long as all requirements are met. Lastly, it was to ensure timely safety training (forty hours) of all LAPD officers who transferred to assignments within Transit Group.

With the exception of Chief Sharon Papa, the Transit officers retained the rank they formerly held with MTA. This was unprecedented in the history of our Department. It reflects the unique nature of the merger and the officers who brought special skills and knowledge to this Department. Their expertise is indispensable to the effective assumption of our new responsibility to provide all police services for transit systems within this City.

I will not allow the exclusion of qualified Transit officers from taking the P-III examination and, for those who pass, from competing for P-III positions within the Transit Group— their area of expertise—simply because the method by which they were assimilated required a period of probation. More importantly, I would not exclude them from this opportunity and then *require* them to provide safety training to the officers filling the very transit Police Officer III positions for which these officers currently possess the most expertise. I don't think that would be fair and I don't think you, once you know the facts, will support the position your union has taken on this issue.

BERNARD C. PARKS

Chief of Police

Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation

The Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation provides grants when unforeseen, catastrophic death, injury, or illness occurs relating to the employee, their spouse, or dependent(s). Those eligible to receive grants are all sworn personnel and career civilian employees who have completed seven years of service with the Department. Educational grants are provided for the children of officers killed in the line of duty.

Grants are based on financial need and must be applied for, with the exception of those killed in the line-of-duty, and funeral grants. For the first six months in 1998, grants totaled more than \$237,098.00.

The Los Angeles Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament is a very integral part of the Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation. The Foundation depends solely on the generous financial support of the community. We would like to thank everyone for their participation in this year's event.

The Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation is located at Parker Center, 150 North Los Angeles Street, Room 731. If you are experiencing financial difficulty due to death, injury, or illness, please contact Officer Ramona Beaty at (213) 485-3281.

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The NEW LAPD

Reorganization

Shortly after assuming command in August, Chief Parks initiated a major Department reorganization designed to institutionalize Community Policing in Los Angeles by placing authority and commensurate responsibility as close as possible to the communities we serve. Under the reorganization, the Assistant Chief level of management was completely eliminated leaving only two levels of command between the Chief and field officers. Additionally, the reorganization placed all specialized detective support functions under a single command and consolidated many other management support functions. The consolidation will

improve communication and coordination throughout the Department and eliminate duplication of effort.

This “flattened” organizational structure places the Chief of Police much closer to the 18 geographic Area commanding officers who are responsible for the primary service delivery systems: the patrol and investigative functions. In other words, the reorganization ties the entire Department to patrol and detective services, making everyone in the organization accountable for the success or failure of primary service delivery systems.

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