## LOS ANGELES POLICE





OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

VOLUME LII NO. 4

WWW.LAPDONLINE.ORG®

**APRIL 2006** 

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WILLIAM J. BRATTON CHIEF OF POLICE

# CHIEF'S MESSAGE Let's Put It Into Perspective

n an effort to conduct Los Angeles Police Department business in the most transparent way we can, the Department routinely releases information to the public and to media outlets. This is especially important when the information released is required under the conditions of the Consent Decree. Although our intent is to be as open as possible, sometimes in a rush to interpret the information, the media offers comparative analysis that is

Continued on page 2

# National Dispatchers' Week

he Los Angeles Police Department Communications Division will celebrate National Dispatchers' Week April 9-15. The annual event, established in 1992 by President George H. Bush, honors police dispatchers nationwide for providing vital emergency services in their respective communities.

LAPD dispatchers, known as Police Service Representatives (PSRs), are an integral part of the public safety net in Los Angeles. They fulfill dual roles as police dispatchers and 911 operators. In 2005, PSRs provided all dispatching services for LAPD officers and answered 3.5 million calls for police service from the public. As part of the week's activities, the LAPD's two state-of-the-art dispatch centers will offer guided open-house tours for officers, city employees, members of the media, and the general public. Tours will take place all day on Wednesday, April 12, at Metropolitan Communications Dispatch Center, 100 N. Los Angeles St., in Los Angeles; and all day on Thursday, April 13, at Valley Communications Dispatch Center, 23001 Roscoe Blvd., in West Hills.

Tour reservation requests and/or questions may be directed to PSR Marco Mendoza, Community Relations Unit, at (213) 978-6511 or (213) 978-6510. □





# William J. Bratton Chief of Police

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# Chief's Message Continued from page 1

neither sound nor logical. Such is the case in the release of the Department's 2005 Annual Complaint Report.

The Annual Complaint Report is a summary of internal and external complaints. It is one of several auditing tools and resources we use to monitor employees and ensure quality police service. Such practices speak to our commitment to fostering public trust through transparency. The report complements existing Department safeguards including Training Evaluation and Management System (TEAMS); civilian oversight by the Police Commission and its investigative arm, the Inspector General's office, and audit operations by Internal Affairs.

When the Annual Complaint Report was released last month and presented to the Police Commission, the news media emphasized discrepancies in numbers between 2005 and the previous year. Headlines read "Complaints Up, Discipline Down," and media analysis of the report created the perception that complaints had risen and disciplinary action declined because we are unwilling to "police the police."

So let me try and put this into some kind of context for everyone, a difficult thing when we are dealing with lots of numbers over lots of years and with a lot

of variables.

Here is a table that shows the number of complaints that came in, the number of complaints that were sustained,

**LAPD COMPLAINTS - 2005** TOTAL SUSTAINED COMPLAINTS **YEAR COMPLAINTS COMPLAINTS CLOSED** 2003 5,276 1,324 5,175 2004 6,471 1,630 6,252 2005 6,520 1,176 4,110

and the number that were closed.

When you compare 2005, with an intake of 6,520 complaints, to the 6,471 in 2004, there is an increase: 49 complaints. In my opinion, hardly headline material. In fact, when you look just at public complaints, our overall number dropped by 34. When you factor in the number of police/public contacts, which number in the millions, 6,520 filed complaints barely registers as one percent. If you look at the resolution of those complaints after they are investigated, roughly 20 to 25 percent of the total are sustained or proven to be true. From my perspective, and as most cops understand, the more we engage with the public—the more arrests we make, the more FIs and traffic citations we write the more opportunities there are for conflict, dissatisfaction and public complaints. We may strive to make our contacts positive and helpful, but aggressive, self-initiated policing that drives down crime in this City to historic lows can in itself create a rise in complaints.

Comparing fewer disciplinary actions from one year to the next is also a problem when complaints received in one calendar year may not close in that same year. Occasionally, they may take up to two years to clear. Cases can be

delayed for a number of reasons including pending Board of Rights findings,



## Cops Ride for Those Who Died

n May, the Police Unity Tour, Southern California Chapter, will honor officers killed in the line of duty with a four-day, 300-mile excursion.

Backed by the slogan "We Ride for Those Who Died," Police Unity Tour cyclists begin their endurance event at Ground Zero, the World Trade Center site, in New York on May 9. The trip concludes at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) in Washington, D.C.

To participate, Police Unity
Tour cyclists must raise a minimum of
\$1,500 for the National Law
Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.
Police Unity Tour, Southern California
Chapter, President Craig White said
this year's fundraising goal is \$1 million.
Officer White is a Senior Lead Officer
in Pacific Area.

"When the Police Unity Tour started in 1997, there were 18 officers from New Jersey who raised \$18,000," said Officer White. "Since that time, the Police Unity Tour has raised \$2 million for the NLEOM and has been its largest single contributor to date."

Funds are used to research deaths and to commemorate line-of-duty fatalities. Additionally, monies raised will help fund the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Museum to be built adjacent to the Memorial in 2009.

The National Memorial, erected in 1991, features the inscribed names of some 16,000 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers slain in the United States since 1794, including LAPD officers. While the memorial is

not among the better-known monuments in Washington, D.C., Officer White hopes to raise its visibility through the Police Unity Tour.

2005 Police Unity Tour participants representing the LAPD



## LAPD CREW BIKES TO NY

n April 15, 2006, nine cyclists will embark on a cross-country ride from Los Angeles to Florham Park, New Jersey. The journey, which spans more than 3,000 miles, is a first-time challenge. The cyclists, who will meet up with Police Unity Tour bikers in New York, have each committed to raising a minimum of \$3,500.

The LAPD officers participating in the cross-country relay are: Officer Tasha Karandy and Sergeant Rosemary Piazza, both of Risk Management Group; Officer Shane Bua, Rampart Area; Sergeant Steven Gottschalk, Van Nuys Area; Sergeant Tim O'Gorman, 77th Street Area; and Officer Craig White, Pacific Area. Also participating are husband and wife team Officer Bruce Christensen and Reserve Officer Nancy Christensen, both of Special Operations Support Division. Retired Sergeant Fred Fogarty will also be among the cyclists.

"The memorial is extremely important," he said. "People need to know about it and pay their respects when visiting our nation's capital.

Many of us have ridden in the Police Unity Tour for a number of years. It has been a powerful experience for all of us and has given us the opportunity to honor our brothers and sisters who have made the ultimate sacrifice."

LAPD officers riding from Ground Zero to the NLEOM are: Officer Joseph Avila, Officer Michael Barz, Sergeant Sandra

Carlsen, Sergeant Gil Curtis, and Officer Patrick Rudolf, all from Newton Area; Sergeant Teresa Akune, Officer Blake Budai, and Officer Teresa Skinner, all from Pacific Area; Officer Laura Gerritsen and Officer Sean Murtha, both from Hollywood Area; Officer Humberto Franco and Detective Max Philips, both from North Hollywood Area; Sergeant David Bluestein, Professional Standards Bureau: Detective Yvette Moreno, Commercial Crimes Division; Detective Tere Roble, Foothill Area; Officer Thomas Willers, 77th Street Area; and retired Detective Arthur Pelt and Captain Don Vincent.

The officers listed above will be joined in New York by a group of nine other LAPD cyclists riding cross-country from Los Angeles (See article, LAPD Crew Bikes to NY). The two groups will ride to the NLEOM together.

To learn more about the Police Unity Tour or to make a donation, contact Senior Lead Officer Craig White, Pacific Area, at (818) 522-0744, or Officer Tasha Karandy, Risk Management Group, at (213) 473-4210. □

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# Protecting the Protectors partition dividing the front & back seat saves officer's life

to Hollenbeck Area were targeted, in an apparent ambush, when driving out of a housing development.

Although the officers were not injured, a partition between the front and rear seats of the patrol car deflected a bullet that would otherwise have struck an officer in the head. No arrests have been made in connection with this

shooting.

n January, two officer assigned

Late in the morning of February
9, Police Officer Bobbie Norman,
Valley Traffic Division, pulled over a
white Toyota Camry for speeding in
the San Fernando Valley. As Officer
Norman approached the older-model
vehicle from behind, one of the
passengers drew a gun, firing several
rounds. While Officer Norman was
not injured in the shooting, the suspects
fled, unidentified, and remain at large.

With similar incidents occurring across the county and state, Chief



Bratton drew attention to the recent wave of shootings against police officers and petitioned the public to assist with the identification of persons involved in police gunfire assaults. The petition—announced at a press conference at the Police Academy—was made in collaboration with law enforcement leaders from the

California Highway Patrol and the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association.

Between January and February 2006, suspects shot at LAPD officers five times, including the Hollenbeck incident and the incident involving Officer Norman. Arrests have been made in three other occurrences.

#### CRIME WATCH CITYWIDE YEAR TO DATE - 4/1/06

Homicide	- 24.2%	
Rape	- 5.5%	
Robbery	3.5%	
Aggravated Assault	-14.8%	
Total Violent Crime	- 6.7%	
Burglary	- 10.0%	
Burglary/Theft from Vehicle	- 15.2%	Ť
Personal/OtherTheft	- 18.4%	Ť
AutoTheft	- 11.2%	Ť
Total Property Crimes	- 14.2%	
Total Part I Crimes	- 12.6%	

Source ITD, LAPD

# Chew and Chat

In early March, Chief Bratton hosted a civilian luncheon called *Chew and Chat*. The midday event teamed the Chief with a cross-section of civilian personnel, including representatives from Communications Division, Motor Transport Division, Personnel Records, and Records and Identification.

The luncheon offered employees a chance to get acquainted with the Chief and openly discuss work-related concerns. *Chew and Chat* participants, about 15 in all, learned about the future of the LAPD and had an opportunity to express opinions and make suggestions about things such as morale, intradepartmental communication and promotional opportunities.

Civilian staff members are vital to the Department and must receive fitting representation, according to the Chief. As a result, he plans to host additional *Chew and Chat* events to ensure that all employees—sworn and civilian—have an opportunity to communicate directly with him.  $\square$ 

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# Tip A Cop to Benefit Special Olympics



n Thursday, April 27, LAPD officers will swap their uniforms for aprons on behalf of Special Olympics. The fundraiser, called *Tip A Cop*, will take place at the Northridge Claim Jumper restaurant. From 5-10 p.m., officers will greet diners, fill glasses, and perform other hands-on duties. A second event will take place on Thursday, May 25, from 5-10 p.m. at Outback Steakhouse also in Northridge.

Participating officers will partner with restaurant staff to carry out tasks. Diners will be able to give a taxdeductible "tip" to the officer who waits on their table, in addition to a

conventional tip for restaurant staff.
Tips received by officers benefit local Special Olympics programs.

Annually, *TipA Cop*—part of the national *Law Enforcement* 

Torch Run campaign—generates funds and community support for the courageous athletes who compete in Special Olympics. The Law Enforcement Torch Run is a collaborative effort among

# 35th Annual Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament

elebrate National Police Week in May when the Police Memorial Foundation hosts the 35th Annual Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament at Rancho Park Golf Course in West Los Angeles. The

fundraising event on Saturday, May 20, will feature celebrity host Mark Wahlberg, from the 2005 featured film "Four Brothers."

The tournament, which teams corporate sponsors with celebrities and officers, promises to be a fun-filled day on the course for golf enthusiasts and celebrity watchers.
Festivities include

activities for children, Department displays, and food vendors. Between

5,000 to 8,000 spectators are expected to attend the function showcasing celebrities from the sports, television, and movie industries.

Among those confirmed are Jack McGee, from the Oscar-award-

winning film "Crash;" Tommy Lee, former Motley Crew drummer; and 1978 Olympic Winner Bruce Jenner, recently featured on Skating with the Stars.

The Memorial
Foundation gifts more
than \$600,000
annually to sworn and
civilian employees
experiencing
catastrophic
circumstances,
including injury,
illness, or death. For
more information,



Actor Joe Mantegna at the 2005 Golf Tournament

please visit www.lapmf.org or call (213) 847-4239.  $\square$ 

#### WHAT MAKES SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPECIAL?

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely-related developmental disabilities. Serving more than 1.7 million persons in about 150 countries, Special Olympics helps participants develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence, and a more positive self-image. There are an estimated 170 million people with intellectual disabilities worldwide, seven million of whom live in the U.S. For more information about Special Olympics, please visit www.specialolympics.org. □

communities, law enforcement agencies, and Special Olympics. This year's regional fundraising goal for Special Olympics is \$750,000.

The 2006 Southern California Law Enforcement Torch Run will involve more that 3,500 officers who will proudly carry the Special Olympics Torch, referred to as the Flame of Hope, over 1,500 miles and through more than 200 communities. The run is a prelude to the Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games.



# Chief's Message Continued from page 2

criminal filing decisions by the District Attorney's Office or pending civil litigation. That said, the information in the Annual Complaint Report does not represent patterns of misconduct over a specific reporting year. One of the reasons that the 2004 figures on discipline are high, which make the 2005 figures look low, is the fact that a concerted effort was made in 2004 to clear a backlog of complaints from the previous year. The media analysis, which never mentioned that they were comparing different totals, was that the Department is reluctant to punish officers found guilty of misconduct and so discipline is down.

Although lower disciplinary figures from one year to the next can appear troubling if the public perceives heavy-handed and unfair enforcement, fewer disciplinary actions is my goal. From my perspective, it shows that cops are doing their jobs well: compassionately, consistently, and constitutionally. Cops who are doing their jobs as they are trained to do require little corrective action and receive fewer penalties.

We are doing the right thing in regard to discipline through a multipronged approach. No good cop wants to work with a bad cop. No good cop wants a bad cop in their Department and especially not our beloved LAPD. So we want to focus our internal affairs efforts against that small group of officers who do engage in misconduct.

How do we do that? First, we want every complaint. You must take every complaint and we, as a Department, must document every complaint. To my knowledge we are the only police department in the

United States that "tests" whether we are in fact taking complaints. But taking complaints and documenting them just leads us to the second prong of our system.

With the Police Commission, we created a non-disciplinary catalog of result. If after taking the complaint and investigating it, we determine that it is not valid or not misconduct, we can close it as non-disciplinary in nature. Currently, we close almost 40% of our complaints as non-disciplinary. But remember, even non-disciplinary does not automatically mean that we were pleased with an officer's actions. What it means is that the officer's conduct did not warrant a disciplinary investigation and sanction. When we find that an officer's conduct is lacking but not misconduct, we are taking remedial actions. We then have the ability to focus our investigative efforts on the matters that are more likely to bring us to problem officers, the ones who we do not want in our Department.

Thirdly, we have dramatically reduced the number of Boards of Rights (BOR) that we direct officers to by clarifying our approach to discipline. The intent of discipline is to change behavior. I have adopted the approach that if a 22-day suspension (the maximum I can impose without a BOR) will not modify your behavior, then you probably should not be a member of the LAPD. Our directed BORs have gone from 121 in 2002, to 68 in 2003, to 29 in 2004, and 53 in 2005. These are historical lows.

The results are also historic: if found guilty, the penalty is much more likely to be a removal. So everyone should know that if you are directed to a BOR, it can be, and oftentimes is, a true effort to remove an officer from the Department. We are focusing our efforts on those few among us who should not have the right to wear our badge and uniform. The table on page 7 represents the number of BORs held in each year that were directed by the

Continued on page 7

# Tip A Cop to Benefit Special Olympics

Continued from page 5

this year taking place on June 16-18, at Cal State Long Beach.

Last year, the campaign raised \$20 million internationally—more than \$595,000 of that total was raised by Southern California law enforcement. The event serves as a vehicle to raise public awareness about law enforcement's commitment to Special Olympics programming worldwide. Monies raised are directed into program support and development. Funds also cover expenses for athlete

participation in local, regional, state, and international competitions, as well as training workshops and conferences.

The Claim Jumper restaurant hosting *Tip A Cop* is located at 9429 Tampa Ave. and the Outback Steakhouse is located at 18711 Devonshire St., both are in Northridge. To learn more about the *Southern California Law Enforcement Torch Run*, please call (213) 485-4101 or visit www.sosc.org/torchrun/.

cases over the past three years has had

a positive impact for both the involved

officers and the Department. It allows

their actions and allows the Department

an officer to accept responsibility for

to document corrective measures.

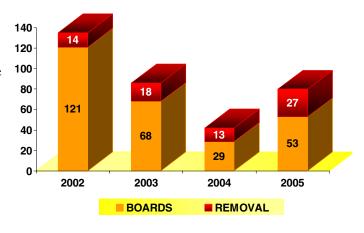


# Chief's Message Continued from page 6

Chief of Police and Removals resulting from them.

Finally, playing a small but critical role in the multi-pronged approach to discipline, and in reducing BOR cases, is the concept of settling cases. In

2003, we adopted a practice followed by virtually every single department in this state: we allow for the settlement of some—let me stress that, some—discipline cases. Since 2003, out of almost 20,000 complaints, we have settled less than 280 cases. What is



significant about this is that a number of them, if not settled, would have ended up in officers opting for BORs. It is a very small number and we only do it after a great deal of review, discussion, and agreement. This small number of while getting the officer back to work quickly.

As this organization continues to change and improve, representative data and official reports will often reflect anomalies and inconsistencies. I

expect that. "Business as usual" is no more, and trends will shift dramatically as this organization continues to redefine itself. We have seen the notable downward shift in our crime numbers. We are now witnessing shifts in other areas as well.

In closing let me be very clear: I have no tolerance for intentional misconduct and will deal with it very harshly. I have proven that over the past three years. However, I understand that sometimes policing isn't pretty and there is little if any time for reflection and discussion before action. Lunderstand that wellintentioned police officers can and will make mistakes and I will give them the benefit of the doubt. We will continue to move forward, we will continue to treat and prevent misconduct by providing training, good supervision, and great leadership. And when we find misconduct, we will deal with it swiftly, forcefully, and aggressively.

# Homeland Security Advisors Announced, Chief Among Them

o circumvent foreseeable homeland security and disaster preparedness issues, the Mayor has assembled an expert committee of diverse civic leaders, Chief Bratton is among them.

The committee has been tasked with developing strategies and advocating for homeland security funding. Recognizing the ever-present threat of natural disasters—such as wild fires, landslides, and earthquakes—advisors will also work to improve disaster preparedness training and response capabilities.

"Terrorism is a fact of life and we need to get serious about it," said Chief Bratton. "This committee offers experts to prevent terrorism and to address it if it occurs."

The Mayor publicly introduced the group of homeland security advisors—more than 40 individuals at present—at a press conference in February.

Advisors will identify and address concerns relating to counter-terrorism, including researching methods employed by cities worldwide to prevent and respond to a terrorist event. The team will also improve evacuation plans and emergency preparedness, ensuring that Los Angeles' first responders have access to cutting-edge technology for prevention, response, and recovery.

 $Additionally, the advisory team will \\ develop private sector and$ 

governmental outreach and involvement opportunities. The committee hopes to partner with businesses, trade associations, faith-based groups, and charitable organizations to secure shelter, disaster relief supplies, and evacuation aid during a disaster. Homeland Security Advisors will also strengthen ties with other municipalities, state and federal bodies, to prompt free-flowing communication and coordination across agencies.

"It's important to understand that, whether we experience a terrorist event or a natural disaster, we may not get help from the federal government for the first few days, so leadership must come from the City level," added Chief Bratton.



# Shocking New Program Sure to Make Hearts Race

triking more than 340,000 victims annually—or nearly 1,000 people a day—sudden

cardiac arrest remains among the leading causes of death in the United States. Despite efforts to expedite the response time of Emergency Medical Services personnel, help may not arrive in time to save a life.

Recognizing this dire reality, the City of Los Angeles kicked off the Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program in February. The public safety campaign aims to save lives via use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED). An AED is a device that delivers an electric shock through the chest to the heart, jolting the organ out of a fatal rhythm and allowing a normal, healthy heartbeat to resume.

AED instruction for LAPD personnel will take place Tuesday, April 4, at Devonshire Community Police Station; Thursday, April 6, at North Hollywood Community Police

Station; and Tuesday and Wednesday, April 11 and 12, at Parker Center. The four-hour classes will be held from

8 a.m.-noon. and from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

More than 600 AEDs have been distributed
Citywide, with one device available at each LAPD
Community Police Station and Communications facility, and 12 devices available at Parker Center. In the next six months, each location will receive additional AEDs, as the industry standard mandates that device accessibility be no more than three minutes away from the furthest point of the building.

Some 900 City employees have already received instruction in AED use and funds for 250 additional devices have been allocated in the City budget. The primary goal is to position AEDs in public areas in order to make

them as commonplace and accessible as fire extinguishers. Other City entities

being provided the devices are the airports, the convention center, and the zoo.

With the likelihood of successful resuscitation decreasing about 10 percent with every passing minute, some 40,000 additional lives could be saved with more widespread use of these devices, according to the American Heart Association.

Lightweight and portable, AEDs require no training or CPR knowledge. They are designed to be safely and effectively used on patients of any age and by most anyone. The device provides clear, easy-to-follow voice instructions and a simple user interface

an emergency. Additionally, it provides a reminder to call Emergency Medical Services.

For AED instruction, please consult with training personnel in your division.
To learn more about the PAD program, please visit

www.lafd.org/aed.htm.

#### H E A R T S M A R T S

udden cardiac arrest typically strikes without warning. Each year, more people die from sudden cardiac arrest than from breast and prostate cancer, house fires, traffic and handgun accidents, or AIDS, combined. In an effort to safeguard the lives of its employees and residents, the City is at the forefront of medical emergency preparedness with the new Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program. Emergency Medical Services personnel advocate the following to increase a person's chance of survival.

- 1. Access emergency care early by calling 9-1-1.
- 2. Immediately start CPR and continue until EMS arrives.
- 3. Use an Automated External Defibrillator as quickly as possible and continue using the device until EMS arrives.
- 4. Secure early advance care from EMS personnel who will administer clinical aid as needed.





#### THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL WERE COMMENDED BY THE COMMUNITY IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2006

#### **POLICE OFFICER I**

Jorge Carballo Scott Coffee Christopher Gomez Mehra Newby

#### **POLICE OFFICER II**

Jason Ahn Tracy Allen Robert Andreno Jacob Avalos Robert Berumen David Bowen Angela Buck Alonzo Calderon Jesse Cardenas Carlos Carias Joel Cerda Joe Charbonneau Joe Cid Marquis Clark Kenneth Colby Glorycella De La Sierra George Diego Salvador Flores

Steven Franssen Pavel Gomez Dana Grant Adam Greenberg Michael Gutilla Nathan Hernandez Nua Malagi William McDonald Michael Miller Salvador Ogaz Jeremy Olson Clinton Popham Chad Reuser **Daniel Rios** Leslee Rogers Tiffany Royce Melissa Sanchez Gabriel Suarez Meredith Swisher Hanu Tarjamo Joaquin Trimino **EdTrujillo** Hiroshi Uehara Julio Umana Gregory Wilson Wendy Wollin

# POLICE OFFICER III Teresa Alonzo

Jessee Audello

Cesar Corona Jhoel De Jesus Newlin Driller Werner Flores Carlos Garcia Mauricio Garcia Oscar Garza Laura Gerritsen Bradley Hearn Sean Kim **Orlando Levingston** Nubia Matassa Katharina Mcanay Randall McCain Daniel McCool Kristi Nielson Julie Nony Domingo Sanchez David Siurek Jose Vasquez Abraham Vidriezca Christopher Wilbourn Jennie Wong

#### **DETECTIVE I**

Juan Camacho
Raymundo Covarrubias
Steven Eguchi
Barett Halcromb
Joseph Hopkins
Ryuichi Ishitani
Maria Palmer

#### **DETECTIVE II**

Russell Butz John Rodriguez Mark Wright

#### SERGEANTI

Martin Baggesgard Andrew Barboza Roberto Calderon Martin Fentress Frank Kryshak Michael Rimkunas Loren Tiano

#### **SERGEANTII**

Kelly Arnett Gregory Gonzalez Jeff Pailet John Russo

#### **DETECTIVE III**

John Bagnall
Lillie Franklin
Ronald Ito
Richard Munguia
Ronald Vega
Brian Vital
Keith Williams

#### **LIEUTENANTII**

Dennis Shirey Paul Vernon

#### **CAPTAIN I**

Sandy Jo Mac Arthur Joan Wakefield

#### **CAPTAIN III**

Ronald Sanchez Andrew Smith Richard Wemmer



## Recent Actions by the Police Commission

**FEBRUARY 3:** Commissioner Pacheco attended the Recruit Graduation

FEBRUARY 4: Commissioners Mack and Skobin attended the African American Recruitment Expo

**FEBRUARY7:** Re-approved a previous directive to remove the involved officers' names from Chief of Police

transmittals to the Police Commission for Categorical Use of Force Incidents

**FEBRUARY 21:** Approved the donation of \$1.2 million worth of security technology equipment to be used at

the Jordan Downs Housing Complex

Began to review the 2005 Annual Complaint Report

**FEBRUARY 28:** Continued to review 2005 Annual Complaint Report

Received briefing on Police Radio System and need for replacement of hand-held radios

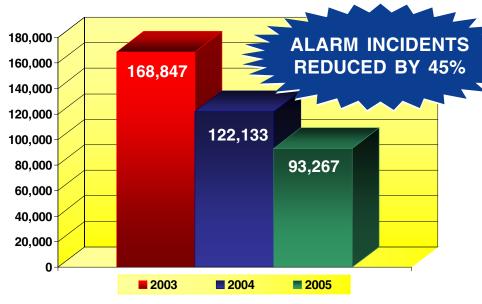
### Alarm Classes Offset False Alarm Fees

Recognizing the demands placed on LAPD officers to respond to burglar alarms and the scarcity of public safety resources, the City of Los Angeles revised its Alarm Ordinance in 2004. Under the revised ordinance, a false alarm occurrence will initiate a City-imposed fee of \$115 for permitted alarm users and a \$215 fee for non-permitted users. Fees will escalate with subsequent false-alarm occurrences. False alarm fees offset costs incurred by the City in equipment, salary, and other administrative expenses.

Also in 2004, the LAPD changed its Burglar Alarm Dispatch Policy.

Section of the Commission Investigative Division. The two-hour False Alarm Reduction Classes are free and take place throughout the City, including downtown. Class content includes information about the City's alarm ordinance and false alarm reduction techniques.

While the false alarm rate has remained at 97 percent, the number of alarm calls for service has been reduced significantly since the new policy and ordinance change went into effect. The number of alarm incidents was at 168,847 in 2003, 122,133 in 2004, and down to 93,267 in 2005. In just two years, the number of alarm



Alarmed locations are now afforded two false alarms—subject to the aforementioned fees—within a 12-month period beginning with the first false alarm occurrence. After two false alarms, verification will be required before a patrol unit is dispatched.

Residents or business owners may have one false alarm fee waived upon completion of a False Alarm Reduction Class offered by the Alarm incidents was reduced by 45 percent. With continued public education, this number should continue to drop, freeing up officers' time for more pressing criminal matters.

For a schedule of upcoming False Alarm Reduction Classes, please call the Alarm Section of the Commission Investigative Division, Monday-Friday, between 8 a.m.-12 p.m., or 1-4 p.m., at (213) 485-2931. □

#### **ROLL CALL OF EVENTS**

#### APRIL 25, 2006 1 PM

#### LAPD RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY

Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena 3939 South Figueroa Street Los Angeles

#### MAY 17, 2006 8 PM

#### **LAPD CANDLELIGHT VIGIL**

Ahmanson Recruit Center 5651 West Manchester Avenue Westchester (213) 485-0703

#### THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006 11 AM

#### LAPD MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Elysian Park Los Angeles Police Academy 1880 North Academy Road Los Angeles (213) 485-0703

#### MAY 20, 2006 10 AM

# 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POLICE-CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Rancho Park Golf Course 10460 West Pico Boulevard West Los Angeles (213) 847-4239 www.lapmf.org