



LAPD PARTNERSHIP WITH NIXLE

On February 17, 2010, the Los Angeles Police Department along with representatives from Nixle held a press conference to introduce the system to the City.

Nixle is the first professional-grade mass communications platform which allows the Police Department to communicate directly with a geographically specific portion of the community in real time and at any time. Nixle is a service that is free to the community.

With Nixle, the Police Department can establish "short codes," to communicate with specific groups. These "short code" protocols have been tested in both First Amendment Protests and Search and Rescue situations. A group of protesters

or a group of volunteer searchers can text a specially created short code for their event and instantaneously they are all connected to the Incident Command Post. Messages from the Command Post can be used to debunk rumors or to keep everyone informed on public safety issues.

In late 2009, in a public and private partnership, communities from across the City enrolled in this free public-safety communications platform. The communities served by Topanga, Wilshire and West Valley Areas recorded more Nixle subscribers than any of the other areas Citywide.

Nixle awarded grant monies to the top three communities

(Topanga Area- \$5000, Wilshire Area - \$3000 and West Valley Areas \$2000). Nixle's goal in awarding these grants is to help increase the user base and hereby help increase the likelihood that Nixle can actually help solve a crime or find a missing child. The only stipulation on the use of the money is that it is to be used to further excellence in policing, including employee wellness.

In accepting the funds, the Department is under no obligation of any kind to Nixle. Chief Beck said, "Employee wellness is on my list of goals for 2010, and especially in these uncertain budgetary times, I am sure that the Nixle awards will be put to good use."



Chief's Message...Charlie Beck, Chief of Police



Year End Crime Stats

As we begin a new decade we can be proud of our past. Thanks to the hard work of all of you, sworn and civilian, we have set a historic and unprecedented standard of eight years of crime decline. As the country and the City of Los Angeles is faced with a difficult economic recovery and the many challenges and tough choices in balancing the City budget, we have been able to drive crime down, particularly gang crime.

The result of your strategic work is reflected in the 2009 year end crime numbers. Again last year, you made a difference and saved lives. There were 314 homicides, an 18.01% decrease from the 2008 total of 383. Last year, violent crime was down 10.8%, property crimes decreased 8.0% and Part I Crimes fell 8.6%. That's 10,864

fewer victims of crime. In addition, there were 323 fewer shooting victims this year in comparison to the same time period a year ago.

Many scholars, industry experts and critics would try to attribute the decline to several factors other than cops. But the cause and reason for the decline in crime is clear, it is you and your commitment and dedication to the people of all the communities we protect and serve. This successful result is undeniable proof that LAPD personnel, both sworn and civilian, do not have a lack of strength, a lack of talent or a lack of will.

Again, particularly impressive is your success in battling gangs in their attempts to dominate community life in Los Angeles. You have been able to stop the motives and mode of operation of street gangs in nearly every category, reducing gang homicides by 15.6%, aggravated assaults by 9.5%, shooting victims by 15.1%, and decrease gang crime overall by 11.2% since 2008.

Reorganization

As your Chief, I have begun the process of strategically reorganizing the Department. One of my goals is to streamline internal and external communications. I have reduced the number of

direct reports to the Office of the Chief of Police from 8 to 6 and will focus on consolidating entities that perform like functions, which include the Office of Operations, the Office of Special Operations, the Office of Administrative Services, Professional Standards Bureau, Special Assistant for Constitutional Policing and the Chief of Staff. This allows the Department to be more efficient and coordinated and will allow for more fiscal responsibility.

I have begun to fulfill my promise of returning people to the field from specialized units. I started in my own office by taking a Captain and Lieutenant position and returning them to field assignments. This was followed by the dismantling of the Crime Reduction and Enforcement of Warrants or "CREW" Task Force which Allowed 144 officers to be assigned to patrol.

Goals

An effective leader will tell you that in order to reach a goal you must have a plan, otherwise you just have a thought. As individuals our quality is reflected in the standards we set for ourselves. While I have established specific goals for 2010, much of what I expect of you is best practices in policing that we have worked

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CRIME WATCH CITYWIDE (YEAR TO DATE – 2/27/10)

Homicide	-34.0%	Burglary	-12.2%
Rape	-16.9%	BTFV	-5.2%
Robbery	-10.5%	Personal/ other theft	-14.4%
Aggravated Assault	-15.1%	Auto Theft	-5.3%
Total Violent Crimes	-13.0%	Total Property Crimes	-9.3%
		Total Part I Crimes	-10.0%

Chief's Message... Continued from page 2

hard to ingrain in the culture of our organization over the past several years. The goals and objectives by which I will hold you and myself accountable are; Constitutional Policing; Crime Reduction; Prevention of Terrorist Incidents; Maintaining the Personnel Strength of the Department; and Employee Wellness.

Constitutional Policing – Even though we have been released from judicial oversight of the Federal Consent Decree we are still responsible to police in a constitutional manner. We must never break the law in order to enforce the law. To do so brings shame on our profession and alienates the people we serve, the community on whose cooperation we depend if we are to be effective. No officer is justified in breaking the law on the grounds of expediency.

Crime Reduction – This is the true measure of our strategic hard work; keeping the people of Los Angeles safe and helping to provide quality of life. Our crime reduction initiatives have been tested and proven to be successful. We will continue our success as it is our new standard.

Prevention of Terrorist Incidents – The Los Angeles Police Department is at the forefront of a nationwide effort to evolve local police counter-terrorism strategies and capabilities and protect the City of Los Angeles from acts of terrorism. The mission is to prevent terrorism by effectively sharing information aimed at disrupting terrorist's operational capability and addressing the underlying causes associated with the motivational component; to protect the public and critical infrastructure by leveraging private sector resources and hardening targets; to pursue terrorists and those criminal enterprises that support them; and to prepare the citizenry and the city government for consequences associated with terrorists operations against the City.

Maintaining the Personnel Strength of the Department – We are all being asked to do more with less work time, fewer resources and a reduced workforce. We are going through tough economic times and I know your workload, especially for those in our civilian workforce, has increased. My goal is to do all

I can to work with our city leaders to maintain the strength of the Department. I encourage each and every one of you to make it your priority to maintain a quality work ethic. We are all very busy and I want to make sure we are all accomplishing our goals.

Employee Wellness – To get our work done everyone has to show up to roll call and to their desks in good health. Not taking care of your physical and mental well being will show, and it will carry into our work productivity. It is highly important that investigative, administrative and other sworn officers maintain a continuous physical regimen to ensure occupational requirements.

Process over results

Policing is the only important profession in which process is always more important than results. No one cares how a surgeon saves a life as long as the operation is a success. In policing we must zealously guard the way we complete our tasks in order to maintain the most important asset of the organization, our credibility.

HISTORY OF LAPD BICYCLE COORDINATION UNIT

By Officer William Fernandez

Photographs by Alyson Cohen



The Los Angeles Police Department has a rich and diverse history, both in its personnel and in its operations. Through the years many units have come along which help to serve a greater purpose. One of those units is the Bicycle Coordination Unit (BCU).

The first official Los Angeles Police Department bike detail began in the summer of 1973 in Pacific Division on the Venice Beach Boardwalk. Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Craig White believed the most effective way of patrolling the busy strip was the utilization of bicycles.

The Pacific Beach Detail (PBD) was a summer only assignment. In 1979, the detail proved to be extremely effective and became a year round detail. The PBD initially utilized road bikes. Several years later, the PBD switched to beach cruisers. In 1985, mountain bikes were determined to be overall more appropriate. SLO White's idea of a bike detail was exponentially effective, and in 1988 the first inner-city detail was deployed by Central Division.

The (BCU) was created in 1988 with loaned officers. Two years later the bike detail uniform was standardized and the first bicycle patrol school was started in Pacific Division as a 3-day course.

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IN MEMORIAM (reported deaths)

John Cottington
Police Officer II
Retired
Serial No. 17501
EOW 01/30/10

Jacqueline Montalvo
Central Division
Serial No. 35357
EOW 02/25/10

HISTORY OF LAPD BICYCLE COORDINATION UNIT... Continued from page 5



In 1992, the bicycle patrol school was P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standards and Training) certified. The Department deployed bike details in all eighteen geographical divisions in 1994. Two years later, BCU was re-established with primary positioned training officers.

BCU is comprised of five officers and a sergeant. Sergeant Matthew Bygum heads the tight-knit unit having more than 20 years on the Department; half of his career has been on bike details. He has an extensive background in off-road mountain bike riding and knowledge of bike repair and maintenance.

Officer James Breslin has close to fourteen years of experience on bike patrol and over ten years as an instructor. He is also well versed in mountain bikes as well as road bikes. James is one of the lead instructors along with being the tactics and firearms instructor from the LETAC Unit.

Officer Peter Paramo has close to 15 years with the Department and 10 years on bike details.

He is a certified Master Bicycle Mechanic through the Barnett Bicycle Institute and is one of the strongest bike riders on the unit. Officer John Twine has 15 years experience as a police officer with a martial arts background. John also has ten years as an Arrest & Control (ArCon), Physical Training and Self-Defense instructor. John is a fitness and nutrition expert. He is a lead instructor in self-defense for BCU.



Officer William Fernandez has more than 10 years on the Department and six years on bike patrol. William has four years teaching bike patrol school and is one of the lead instructors for BCU. He is responsible for coordinating international training schools for the unit and serves as a liaison with outside agencies.

Officer Susan Hsu has been with the unit for more than two years, she is the bicycle school coordinator and has extensive legal knowledge regarding bikes. Officer Hsu is an avid rider both on and off road.

BCU believes it is imperative to attend and at times work special and major events. One of BCU's primary duties is to attend events such as first amendment marches, protests, parades and athletic activities like the Los Angeles Marathon and Triathlon. BCU participates and works in these types of events primarily to develop and to improve the training curriculum in order to meet the demands for better tactics and policing in large crowds. Officer safety is essential and is BCU's goal to train officers with the most up-to-date tactics in practical situations.

The Los Angeles Police Department is dedicated in continuously improving the quality of life for the people of Los Angeles. Community policing is now a common way of operation for law enforcement. BCU is a primary extension of the Department in aiding and implementing community based policing. BCU guides us one step closer towards a "greener" major police Department.



LAPD AND THE LOS ANGELES AREA ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME ASSOCIATION FIRST EVER CONFERENCE

The Los Angeles Police Department Commercial Crimes Division along with the Los Angeles Area Organized Retail Crimes Association joined and hosted the first Organized Retail Crimes Conference. On February 17, 2010, the two organizations discussed the importance of public and private partnership, crime trends and leveraging resources to help identify organized retail crime suspects. The conference was for law enforcement and retailers to share intelligence and examine local trends in organized retail crimes.

More than 600 officers and retailers gathered at the Los

Angeles County Museum of Art for the first ever conference. Chief Beck along with Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley and Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca made opening remarks regarding the conference. Joe LaRocca, senior advisor of the National Retail Federation, was the keynote speaker. He analyzes retail crime trends and crime reduction efforts.

LaRocca commented on how retail groups in Washington, D.C and Southern California are gold mines for gangs of thieves stealing cargo and store merchandise. He also stated the areas offers numerous targets for

thieves. These areas are home to the largest ports in America and have some of the world's best-known luxury shopping areas. They offer easy transport methods to sell goods in Latin America and other parts of the United States. The main theme of the day was ways to battle crimes which use the internet and technology to steal. "We are finding real forward thinking strategies among criminal groups. That is new." La Rocca said.

According to the fifth annual Organized Retail Crime survey released in June 2009, organized retail crime hits almost every retail shop owner.



L-R Chief Charlie Beck and Commercial Crimes Division Captain Williams



Chief Charlie Beck (center) and Members of Target Corporation



**THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL WERE
 COMMENDED BY THE COMMUNITY**

COMMANDER

Richard Webb

LIEUTENANT II

Patrick Shields

LIEUTENANT I

Nicole Alberca

DETECTIVE III

Ho Sook Jo Anderson
 DeWana Hubbard
 Richard Munguia
 James Roberts

DETECTIVE II

Roger Allen
 James Clifford
 Mark Hahn
 Curtiss Heaton
 Ryuichi Ishitani
 Mark Purcel

DETECTIVE I

Darren Dupree
 Barrett Halcromb
 Catherine Leon

Juan Rodriguez

Dondee Stout
 Anton Umansky

SERGEANT II

Bernard Fitchpatrick

SERGEANT I

Sandra Carlsen
 Tomas Melendez
 Joel Miller

POLICE OFFICER III

Jose Camacho
 Robert Cortez
 Juliana Hascher
 Damien Hernandez
 Deon Joseph
 Jose Lopez
 Leonard McKenzie
 Dennis Orris
 Keith Penunuri
 Andre Plummer
 Jesse Sosa
 Pablo Soto
 Ernesto Velazquez

POLICE OFFICER II

Alejandro Abundis
 James Allen
 Nestor Altamirano
 Juan Garcia
 Grant Goosby
 Brad Gorby
 Edwin Guerra
 Timothy Hope
 James Holliman
 Jelani Janisse
 Daniel Jara
 Anthony Kim
 Sharon Kim
 David McCain
 Gabriel Medina
 Jaime Morales
 Carlina Ortiz
 Ronald Roberson
 Matthew Shafer
 John Thompson
 Frank Torrez
 Monique Valenzuela

POLICE OFFICER I

Irma Mota

ROLL CALL OF EVENTS

Workplace Conflict Resolution Workshop

February 10, 2010
 1230-1330 Hours
 Metropolitan Dispatcher Center
 100 North Los Angeles Street
 Los Angeles, California 90012

LAPD Recruitment Seminar and Written Exam

February 27, 2010
 0900-1300 Hours
 Crenshaw Christian Center
 7901 South Vermont Avenue
 Los Angeles, California 90044

RECENT ACTIONS BY THE POLICE COMMISSION

February 2 The Commission honored Executive Assistant II Isabel Rosas upon her retirement for 31 years of service to the City of Los Angeles. Among the members of the Commission and Chief Beck, she was thanked and honored by Council Member Tom LaBonge, and Fire Chief Millage Peaks.

Approved the Foreign Language and Telecommunications Device for the Deaf Inspection, presented by Commander David Doan, Captain Joan Wakefield, and Dr. Luann Pannell. The inspection revealed additional training is needed in terms of the Department's ability to respond to telephonic inquiries in foreign languages. Within a month, these calls will be forwarded to Communications Division where individuals are better prepared to handle these calls.

February 16 All Commissioners congratulated Inspector General André Birotte upon his appointment as the United States Attorney for the Central District of California.

Commission Executive II Angie Roman was named the Police Commission Employee of the Month for January 2010. Mr. Tefank stated Angie is an outstanding employee who is always willing to assist with any project. Angie goes above and beyond her regular duties by serving as a volunteer at the Blind Children's Center and at the Los Angeles Police Historical Society.

Captain Steven Ruiz and Co-Chair Bertha Wooldridge presented the report for Rampart Community Police Advisory Board. Captain Ruiz reported crime statistics in Rampart are declining significantly, he attributed much of this success to a good community relationship. Rampart has been successful with several programs including a Reserved Program, a Chaplains and Clergy Council, a very popular bilingual Community Police Academy, and the Juvenile Impact Program.



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