



46th Annual Awards Ceremony
LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

JUNE 5, 2014



Congratulations to the 2014 Long Beach Police Award Recipients

The patients, families, physicians and staff of
Long Beach Memorial,
Miller Children's Hospital Long Beach and
Community Hospital Long Beach would like to thank the
Long Beach Police Department
for their continued support and bravery
throughout the years.



MAYOR BOB FOSTER **CITY OF LONG BEACH**

May 16, 2014

Greetings Employees, Friends, and Family of the Long Beach Police Department:

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all in attendance at 46th Annual Police Awards Ceremony. With more than four decades of dedicated recognition, I am proud to congratulate the Long Beach Police officers, civilian employees, police volunteers, and community members on celebrating 46 years of heroism and dedication to the City of Long Beach. Today we are proud to honor the remarkable staff and volunteers for their hard work, and I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of today's award recipients.

We are recognizing today's recipients to honor their outstanding commitment to supporting public safety within our community. Their exceptional achievements demonstrate their dedication and perseverance to maintaining a high standard of public safety.



This year's award recipients represent the finest of our great City, and I want to sincerely thank each of you for representing yourselves and the City of Long Beach with distinction. Your achievements and unselfish performance have garnered you these prestigious awards, and your accomplishments will have a far-reaching impact toward your future triumphs.

Congratulations again on your achievements, and best of luck on your future successes. Each of you are true representatives of the vast array of dedicated leaders emerging from the Long Beach community.

Warmest Regards,

Mayor Bob Foster
City of Long Beach

333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th Floor/ Long Beach, CA 90802
Tel. (562) 570-6801/ Fax (562) 570-6538

Long Beach Police Foundation & Long Beach Police Department

We are pleased to announce the 46th Annual Police Awards Ceremony to recognize Long Beach police officers, civilian employees, police volunteers and community members for their heroism and dedication throughout the past year. This is the fifth year in which the Long Beach Police Foundation has collaborated with the Long Beach Police Department to share this event with the community. The Police Foundation is a private, 501(c)(3), non-profit organization dedicated to fostering visible and direct community support to promote public safety and enhance the programs and services of the Long Beach Police Department.

Hard work and personal sacrifice are needed to ensure safety and quality of life throughout the city. The awards presented today recognize only a small portion of the many significant actions that were taken in 2013. There is no doubt that successful collaborations between the community and the Police Department are critical to identifying and addressing the public safety challenges confronting our city. The Awards Ceremony celebrates this teamwork and inspires us to sustain and improve partnerships in the future.

To learn more about how you can partner with the Long Beach Police Foundation, please visit www.lbpolicefoundation.org.

Sincerely,



Bruce D.D. MacRae
President, Long Beach Police Foundation
VP, Government Relations, UPS



Jim McDonnell
Chief of Police
Long Beach Police Department



Program

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Long Beach Police Department Color Guard

Pledge of Allegiance

Explorer Sergeant J. Rudy Esparza

National Anthem

Detective Armando Yearwood

Invocation

VIP Introductions

Mayor's Remarks

The Honorable Bob Foster, Mayor

Long Beach Police Foundation Message & Sponsor Recognition

Board President Bruce D.D. MacRae, VP, Government Relations, UPS

Chief's Remarks

Chief Jim McDonnell, Long Beach Police Department

American Red Cross CPR/First Aid Responder Award

John P. Keisler, Chief Financial Officer, Long Beach Police Department

Daryle Black Memorial Essay Contest Winners

Dennis Hathaway, LBPF Board Member, VP, Securitas Security

Award Presentations

Community Service

Volunteer Service

Unit Citation

Chief's Citation

Community Policing Award

Distinguished Service Award

Meritorious Award for Heroism

Excellence in Leadership

Employee of the Year

Closing Remarks

Chief Jim McDonnell



Partnerships for a Safer Community

ABOUT US

Originally established as the Long Beach Police Chief's Foundation in 1988 by Chief of Police Robert M. Luman, the Foundation was created to simplify directed donations to the Long Beach Police Department (LBPd). The organization transitioned to a community-based Board of Directors in 2007 and renamed the Long Beach Police Foundation.

We are the only charitable organization that provides private, direct funding for LBPd. We are a registered 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization and actively seek donations from private businesses and individuals, and facilitate direct, designated donations that support our community safety mission.

OUR MISSION

To foster visible and direct community support for the LBPd by enhancing the programs and services of the Department in the areas of Training, Technology, Equipment and Community Outreach.

PROGRAMS WE SUPPORT

- Annual Police Awards Ceremony
- Police Explorers
- Quality of Life
- Shop with a Cop
- Toy Patrol
- Youth Leadership Academy

GRANTS RECENTLY FUNDED

- Leadership Training
- Metal Detectors for Search & Rescue
- Narcotics Detection K9
- Recognition Certificates
- Halloween Safety Trick-or-Treat Bags

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Refer potential sponsor/donor information to LBPF
- Become a member of LBPF
- Encourage others to become members of LBPF
- Get involved! Volunteer to assist with LBPF events and programs

FOR MORE INFORMATION

LBPF Office
562.343.5111
www.lbpolicefoundation.org

LBPD LIAISONS

Administrator Karen Owens
562.570-7098
Bureau Chief Braden Phillips
562.570.5830

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Department Liaison

Karen Owens,
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Chief Jim McDonnell
Ex-Officio Member

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Michael Murray
Verizon

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Eric Witten
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BUSINESS MEMBERS

Polly's Gourmet Coffee
Papalucci's Restaurant
Stewart's Insurance

**YES! I Want to Become a Member! Here's how to join. Go online
at www.lbpolicyfoundation.org or call us at 562.343.5111**

Names and information are current as of the printing of this material, June 2014

The Long Beach Police Foundation
and the Long Beach Police Department thank the following
Sponsors for their generous support in honoring the

2013 HEROES OF OUR COMMUNITY

GOLD (\$15,000)

Farmers & Merchants Bank
Memorial Care Health System

SILVER (\$5,000)

LB Area Coalition for the Homeless
Motorola Solutions, Inc.
Signal Hill Petroleum
Supervisor Don Knabe
Union Pacific
UPS

FOUNDATION PARTNER (\$2,500)

City of Long Beach
Katherine Marshall
Port of Long Beach
Securitas Security Services USA, Inc.
SOCALCA - Southern California Cigar Alliance

COMMUNITY PARTNER (\$1,000)

Antioch Church of Long Beach
Art Levine
Becky Blair - Coldwell Banker Commercial
Blake Christian
Bob & Nancy Foster
Daniel Walker
Diane Martin - St. Mary Medical Center
DLBA
Mike and Arline Walter
Eric Adler, Magee & Adler
Galls
Gary & Dawna DeLong
Glowaki Pure Performance Inc.
Hank & Joyce Feldman
Joe Baxter - Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.
John Greenwell
LB Community Foundation
Long Beach State Athletics
Piazza Donnelly Marlette, LLP
Securitas Security Services USA, Inc.

SUPPORTING PARTNER (\$500)

Long Beach City Employees Federal Credit Union
Magee & Adler
Platinum Advisors
Stearns Liquor
St. Supery Vineyards and Winery



OUTSIDE AGENCY AWARDS

LBPD EMPLOYEE RECIPIENTS OF OUTSIDE AGENCY AWARDS – 2013

- Officer Don Radcliff received the "Richard A. Rose Career Achievement Award" from the Honorary Members of the Long Beach Police Officers Association.
- Sergeant Erik Herzog received the Michael A. Sergi Memorial Award for "Career Law Enforcement Excellence."
- Sergeant Chad Ellis received the California Police Officers' Association (CPOA) "Award for Distinction" for the Maritime Coordination Center (MCC).
- Officer Juan Carlos Reyes was a finalist for the Southern California Chapter of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) "Homer L. Garrott Community Service Award" for his exemplary service to the community.
- The Vice Detail received an IMPACT Award from the Office of the City Prosecutor for their success in investigating cases of human trafficking and assisting victims.
- Officers David Corcoran, Jeannie Villanueva, Gabriel Carrillo, Carlos Del Real and Pedro Valenzuela received the IMPACT Award from the Office of the City Prosecutor for the successful arrest and prosecution of a gang related hate crimes.
- IMPACT, a partnership between the Long Beach Police Department and the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office, was a recipient of the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) Joseph Sherwood Prize for Combating Hate.
- The Vice Detail received the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County (POALAC) 2014 Centurion Award for "Excellence in Investigations."
- Detective Chris Rose received the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County (POALAC) 2014 Centurion Award for "Excellence in Community Policing" for his participation in Operation Sudden Impact.
- Explorer Paige White received the "Top Recruit" Award from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Explorer Academy.
- Detective Sondra Benskin received the "Outstanding Explorer Advisor" Award from the Orange County Law Enforcement Explorers Association.
- Explorer Lieutenant Alan Feldman received the "Golden Award: Explorer of the Year," from the Orange County Law Enforcement Explorers Association.
- Detective Chris Rose received the "Mike Houllihan Career Achievement Award" from the Biker Investigators Association of Northern California (BIANCA).
- Officers Tyrone Anderson, Binh Duong, John Garry, Danny Hernandez and Richard Wharton were recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their work in removing impaired drivers from our roadways.



American Red Cross
Greater Long Beach Chapter

2014 RED CROSS CPR/FIRST AID CERTIFICATES (FOR ACTIONS PERFORMED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2013)

Victor Ortiz
Sean Deaton
Brian Ekrem
William Foster
Jonathan Lucero

Richard Wharton
Suradech Sriwanthana
David Corcoran
Jason Mifflin
Jeremy Boschnak

Leonel Valdez
Robert Guerrero
George Ayala
Bradford Stein

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. Since 1917, the Greater Long Beach Chapter has served the communities of Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Paramount, Signal Hill and Catalina Island with disaster relief and response, disaster preparedness training, CPR and first aid training, water safety programs, service to military families, international tracing, youth programs and more.

All disaster relief is free thanks to the generosity of the American people and disaster volunteers who respond 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to local disasters such as single family fires and other emergencies.



2014 ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



DARYLE BLACK MEMORIAL 2014 ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



The Daryle Black Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the Long Beach Police Foundation offers scholarships for members of the Long Beach Police Explorer Post #295. The scholarship is in memory of fallen Long Beach Police Officer Daryle Black, who was killed in the line of duty in April of 2000.

The 2014 competition was based on essays written about "The Value of Giving Back to the Community through Volunteerism." After learning more about Officer Daryle Black, those Post members in good academic standing wrote what traits they have that are similar to Officer Black's. We want to thank the judges who reviewed the essays: John Dixon, Helen Najar, Brittney Schultz and BJ Thompson.



Fernando Maldonado
Explorer
1st place \$500



Alma Davila
Explorer Lieutenant
2nd place \$300



Kenia L. Duarte
Explorer Lieutenant
3rd place \$200



COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

KARLA STEIN

On December 4, 2013, at approximately 2:00 pm, Karla Stein was driving north on Clark Avenue and had stopped for a red light at Spring Street. As she was waiting for the light, she noticed a truck coasting through the intersection with the driver slumped over to his right side. Karla sprang into action and immediately turned onto Spring Street stopping her vehicle in the number three lane of traffic. She got out of her car and ran up to the passenger door of the truck. The door was locked, so she ran around to the driver's side and jumped inside the truck, while the truck was still in motion. She was able to turn off the engine and put the truck into park.

Officer Brian Ekrem, who was driving back from training, saw the incident unfolding and stopped to assist. Officer Ekrem assessed the driver's condition and requested the assistance of the Fire Department and additional police resources.

Corporal William Foster heard the request for assistance and immediately responded to the scene. As they pulled the driver out of his vehicle, Officer Ekrem determined the man was not breathing and had no pulse. Corporal Foster immediately stated chest compressions. Officer Ekrem had Karla retrieve a medical bag from inside his police car so he could use a mask for rescue breathing.

Additional officers began arriving and started to control vehicle traffic, which allowed Corporal Foster and Officer Ekrem to concentrate solely on rendering medical aid to the driver. Fire Department personnel arrived within a few minutes and took over CPR.

Prior to the Fire Department's arrival, Karla was able to locate the driver's cell phone and called his family to notify them of the medical emergency. She also located his wallet, and it was at this point the officers discovered the person they were rendering aid to was a retired Long Beach Police Sergeant.

Additional officers assisted the Fire Department by blocking intersections along the route to Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, which saved valuable time and ultimately contributed to saving the driver's life. Karla Stein's actions went above and beyond what many citizens would do in a similar situation and she is to be recognized for her heroic efforts with a Community Service Award. In addition, Corporal William Foster and Officer Brian Ekrem are recognized with the Red Cross First Responder Award for their life saving efforts in administering CPR and rescue breathing to the incapacitated motorist.

DR. RICHARD C. ZIGRANG

The playing of bagpipes at American police funerals has been a tradition dating back to the 1800's. In 1996, when Officer Karl Simmons was killed in an on-duty accident the search went out for a local piper. Dr. Richard Zigrang, the father of Long Beach Police Officer Dennis Zigrang, stepped in and volunteered his services. His skillful playing was a fitting tribute to the fallen officer. He soon became the unofficial piper of the Long Beach Police Department for the next ten years, playing at the funerals of both active and retired officers, and even at the memorial service for the fallen K9 "Ranger." Whenever Dr. Zigrang was unavailable to play, he assisted the Police Department in obtaining the services of a qualified piper to take his place. When asked how much he charged for his services he simply responded, "I don't charge family members, and the LBPD is family."

Dr. Zigrang no longer performs publicly, but the Police Department will be forever grateful for his years of service and his dedication to honoring those who have been lost.

DANIEL HINOJOSA

On August 29, 2013, Daniel Hinojosa observed a teenaged boy using a cigarette lighter to light a nylon mesh fence covering on fire. The fence covering was wrapped around a chain link fence that surrounded a construction site. As the mesh ignited, Daniel ran over and began yelling at the suspect, who then ran from the scene. Without regard to his own safety, Daniel began using his foot to extinguish the fire. Daniel's quick response saved the mesh fence from burning and prevented any further damage to the construction site. Daniel also assisted police by identifying the juvenile which is a valuable component to filing charges. Daniel Hinojosa is to be recognized for his willingness to stop an attempted arson suspect and unselfishly risk bodily harm by extinguishing the fire.



COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

DANIEL FELDMAN

On April 3, 2013, Daniel Feldman was jogging along the bike path near the waterfront when he observed two male juveniles approaching a woman who was walking on the bike path. Suddenly, one of the juveniles wrestled the cell phone out of the woman's hand and both boys fled on foot with the stolen cell phone. Daniel instinctively gave chase and was able to catch one of the juveniles and successfully detain him until authorities arrived on scene.

The detained juvenile gave responding officers the location of the second juvenile involved and when they followed up with their investigation, the second juvenile was identified, arrested, and the cell phone recovered.

Thanks to Daniel Feldman's quick and decisive actions, two suspects were arrested and the phone stolen in the robbery was returned to the victim.

MIGUEL GARCIA

On June 10, 2013, Miguel Garcia witnessed a strong-armed robbery of an 85 year old woman. The suspect had forcefully pushed the victim and she fell down next to her walker, breaking her hip. After she fell to the ground, the suspect took her purse off her arm and started to run off with it. When the suspect realized the victim was still on the ground, he ran back to the victim and yanked two gold chains from her neck and then began running away towards Miguel. As he ran by, Miguel used his skateboard to strike the suspect, causing him to fall to the ground. The suspect scrambled to his feet and ran off down an alley. Although he fled with the purse and jewelry, the suspect had dropped his cell phone when he had fallen, making it easy for officers to identify him. For his courageous actions to try and stop a violent criminal, Miguel Garcia is presented with a Certificate of Community Service

PEDRO DAVALOS AND NICHOLAS FEIL

On Monday, December 30, 2013 at approximately 6:00 pm officers responded to a strong-arm robbery that just occurred. A woman was walking her dog when she was approached from behind by a teenage female suspect. The suspect removed the victim's iPhone from her rear pocket and took off running. The victim began chasing the suspect and yelling at her to give the phone back.

Pedro Davalos was inside of his house when he heard a loud female voice saying, "Who got my phone!" Seconds later, Pedro heard a loud commotion outside and people yelling. Pedro went outside and when he peeked down the driveway, he could see a young woman running back and forth dodging people as if she was attempting to get away. As the woman started to run towards Pedro, he heard someone yell, "Grab her!", so he grabbed the suspect and detained her. Another young female arrived at the location and began pulling the suspect away from Pedro.

Nicholas Feil was inside of his apartment and he heard his neighbors screaming and when he went outside he observed his neighbors with the two teenaged suspects and the robbery victim. All the females had a grip on a cell phone and the victim was yelling at them to give her phone back. He saw the second suspect attempting to pull the first suspect down the sidewalk, but the first girl fell down and the second girl ran off when someone stated that the police were called. Nicholas picked up the first girl, twisted her arm behind her back, and detained her until the police arrived.

Pedro Davalos and Nicholas Feil are to be recognized for their willingness to step forward to stop a crime in progress. Thanks to their efforts, the robbery suspect was arrested and the stolen iPhone was safely returned to the victim.

VERONICA STRAWTER

In October 2012, the Long Beach Police Department's Identity Theft Detail received a call from Veronica Strawter, who had been the victim of identity theft. This matter was initially filed with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, however, Veronica's personal information was also used at a retail location in Long Beach and the case was assigned to Identity Theft Detective Andre Sanchez. A few days later, Veronica contacted Detective Sanchez again and informed him that her information had been fraudulently used in Las Vegas, Nevada, and provided him with contact information for a Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Investigator, who was handling that case. The Las Vegas investigator had possible suspect information related to the Long Beach case. As the investigation continued, Veronica provided Detective Sanchez with the account information she received from the store and receipts related



COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

to the fraudulent transactions. The receipt led to another victim who was listed on the same account as an authorized user. It was determined that the suspect who used Veronica's information was responsible for 35-45 fraudulent accounts and was also on probation for burglary. The information Veronica provided led to a fraud ring which involved the information of approximately 35-45 victims and over \$100,000 in fraudulent charges.

The information also led detectives to a second suspect who had been involved in the fraud ring since 2009 but had never been identified. The second suspect was on parole for unauthorized access to computers, computer systems, and computer data. Both suspects were later arrested and have since pled guilty and are serving 9 years in prison.

After being the victim of identity theft, Veronica Strawter refused to sit idly by and allow the suspects to continue to victimize others. By providing investigators with timely communication and essential information as she received it, she was able to help unravel a large scale fraud ring that had been operating for over five years.

DANIEL GREEN

Long Beach Transit (LBT) Coach Operator Daniel Green was servicing route #121, on May 15, 2013. He later learned that a woman left her laptop computer on his coach and the laptop was stolen. Operator Green recalled seeing a man seated near the area where the laptop was taken from.

On May 18, 2013, Operator Green observed the same man board his bus again. Operator Green advised LBT Control and Long Beach Police Transit Enforcement Detail Officer Adam Rim responded to the bus and contacted the possible suspect who initially provided a false name to the officer. Officer Rim diligently worked through the false information and the denial of involvement from the suspect.

As Officer Rim continued his investigation, he learned the suspect's true identity and the suspect later confessed to the crime. The laptop computer was located and the suspect was arrested for grand theft and providing false identification information to a police officer.

Long Beach Transit Coach Operator Daniel Green is to be commended for his attention to detail and the assistance he provided to the Transit Enforcement Officer Rim. His efforts resulted in the return of valuable property to the victim and the arrest of the suspect responsible for the theft.

RICARDO VERGARA AND SIXTO MACIAS

On Monday, October 21, 2013, Long Beach Police Transit Enforcement Detail Officer Scott Nishitani relayed information to Long Beach Transit Bus Company (LBT) regarding a missing man with dementia who was unable to care for himself. LBT Communications Supervisor Sixto Macias immediately relayed the missing person's description to all coach operators and field supervisors. Long Beach Transit Coach Operator Ricardo Vergara received the description of the missing man and began scanning the passengers on his bus. When he located a man matching the description, Operator Vergara notified LBT Communications that he possibly had the missing subject on his bus. Officer Nishitani responded to their location and determined that the passenger was the missing man.

Long Beach Transit and the Transit Enforcement Detail frequently locate missing persons by working together, sharing information and observing customers. Supervisor Sixto Macias and Operator Ricardo Vergara are to be commended for their attention to detail and teamwork. Their collective actions allowed the missing man to be quickly located and safely reunited with his family.



VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

The Long Beach Police Department is extremely grateful for the hundreds of dedicated Police Volunteers who generously donate their time and their talents to benefit the Police Department and the community. Last year, volunteers contributed over 48,000 hours of service with a value of over \$1.4 million. The Volunteer Service Award recognizes those Police Volunteers who have selflessly given over 500 hours of service during 2013.



Michael Brown
Volunteer
1,911 Hours



Mike Yoachum
Senior Police Partner
1,622 Hours



Jose M Flores
Volunteer
1,036.5 Hours



Isidro Lopez
Senior Police Partner
976 Hours



Frank Kuehn
Reserve Sergeant, Search & Rescue
819 Hours



Alexis Miranda
Explorer
818 Hours



Larry Seielstad
Volunteer
702.0 Hours



Ed Guerry
Senior Police Partner
679 Hours



Paige White
Explorer Sergeant
665 Hours



Linda Penrod
Senior Police Partner
621 Hours



Rudy Esparza
Explorer Sergeant
602 Hours



David Madigan
Reserve Lieutenant
558 Hours



Daniel Olea
Explorer
547 Hours



Antonio Maciel
Explorer
546 Hours



Alan Feldman
Explorer Commander
540 Hours



Rodolfo Davila
Explorer Commander
539 Hours



Stewart Brown
Reserve Officer
521 Hours



Erasmo Lopez
Explorer Lieutenant
507 Hours



David Reece
Reserve Officer, Search & Rescue Advisor
505.5 Hours



UNIT CITATION

MOBILE COM

Officers Jeff Harris, Eduardo Reyes, and System Technician II Tarek Israwi have been significantly involved in assisting with the configuration of the Tiburon MobileCOM software. In addition, they were involved in all of the updates that were needed to meet the patrol officer's needs, the set-up of MobileCOM, and the training of all end users.

They had the monumental task of configuring all Police Department vehicle computers to work with the Citrix virtual environment. This task involved dedication and hard work in order to re-image every Panasonic Tough book computer and place them into the patrol cars. They created a standard image and configured all of the Police Department's Automated License Plate Reader vehicles. These tasks took countless hours and despite limited resources, were successfully completed before the Tiburon "Go Live" date of January 21, 2014. During this time, they continued research for a replacement product for the vehicle computers and also continued the search for a product to assist the Property Section with mobile computing for inventory management.

The group also worked on the expansion of LBCOP – Long Beach Common Operating Picture, which connects the Police Department to private and public video surveillance systems. Expansion efforts included adding cameras in several City parks, the Long Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and Downtown Long Beach camera projects, the Rainbow Harbor camera project and the Buffer Zone Protection Program. The team also continued site surveys for businesses and citizens' camera installation which included the 2nd Street Business Association, the Peninsula Community Association, and many other neighborhood and business associations.

To support the needs of the Department's fleet services, the group conducted research and product review of the current and replacement black and whites, as well as the supervisor vehicle redesign project and product development and current maintenance of all undercover cars.

Despite the variety and complexity of their assignments, this team worked diligently to research and complete these important mobile computing and camera related projects. For their collective efforts to advance the use of technology within the Police Department, Officers Jeff Harris and Eduardo Reyes, and System Technician II Tarek Israwi are recognized with a Unit Citation.

Officer Jeff Harris #5797

Officer Eduardo Reyes #5780

System Technician II Tarek Israwi #10309

POLICE ACADEMY RECERTIFICATION TEAM

In 2013, the Police Department began the process to recertify our first police academy in five years. Sergeant Gail Dennison and Administrative Analyst Donna Hatch began meeting to identify the various phases and steps of the hiring process, including the academy phase, and the field training program phase. They broke down each phase to determine the total estimated cost for the hiring process.

At the same time, Sergeant Dennison, Sergeant Steve Dougan, and Academy Director Paula Crewse were meeting and putting together a comprehensive hiring timeline. Given the projected start date, they put together the most aggressive hiring timeline ever conducted by the Police Department.

Using the detailed analysis and cost estimates provided by Sergeant Dennison and Donna Hatch, the Police Department received approval from the City to start the hiring process for Academy Class 86. Once the approval was granted, Sergeant Dougan and Paula Crewse began the challenging job of making everything work that we proposed. Paula was managing all the facility repairs, some of which required the academy to be closed for several days at a time. Sergeant Dougan started restructuring the Background Investigation Unit that had only been running on an intermittent basis since approximately 2008. Using only the internet, local news media, and social media, the City's recruitment efforts brought in over 3,000 applications for Class 86.

Several months into the process, Paula Crewse and Administrative Analyst Rodney Rupe began to track the numbers and determine what our actual costs were for Academy Class 86. They spent many hours going over each phase of the process and ensuring that the work was properly charged to the correct paycode. Their analysis also ensured that,



UNIT CITATION

even with numerous changes during the start-up process, all of the steps in each phase were properly documented and tracked. This complex analysis contained 32 individual line-item/categories of expense. In spite of all the changes, the many City Departments and outside agencies involved, and a time commitment spanning two fiscal years, the actual expenditures for the recruitment, hiring, selection, and academy phases came in approximately eight percent under budget.

In recognition of their excellent teamwork, exceptional attention to detail, and dedication to the success of this critical project, the Academy Recertification Project Team is recognized with a Unit Citation.

Sergeant Gail Dennison #5389

Sergeant Steve Dougan #5427

Academy Director Paula Crewse #8225

Administrative Analyst III Donna Hatch #8276

Administrative Analyst III Rodney Rupe #8264

POLICE ACADEMY RECRUIT TRAINING OFFICER STAFF

In May of 2013, the Long Beach Police Department hired 50 new recruits for Academy Class 86, which was the Department's first Academy class since 2009. The Academy needed to be recertified by P.O.S.T., which required a check of all curriculums, instructor certifications, academy specific policies and security regulations. Part of the recertification process included representatives from P.O.S.T. spending three days at the LBPD Academy going over every aspect of the proposed academy from paperwork to the training facilities. The training staff worked diligently in preparation of this P.O.S.T. inspection.

The Recruit Training Officer (RTO) staff also worked on many facility improvement projects in order to prepare the Academy for the new recruits. These included the refurbishment and purchase of the modular buildings, the planning and organizing of a new deck for the modular buildings, and painting and repair of the permanent buildings.

Academy Class 86 started on May 30, 2013, with 52 recruits (50 from LBPD and two from Modesto PD). Over the next 27 weeks, the RTO staff trained, mentored, supervised and guided the recruits through the academy experience. The RTO staff was expected to lead by example and they did so with great pride. Each RTO not only supervised during physical training and arrest and control technique training sessions, but also participated in many of the sessions. This demonstrated for the recruits the commitment to staying physically fit and being prepared for the rigors of police work even after leaving the academy. That philosophy was reinforced as the entire TAC staff led Class 86 on the 7-mile "Run to the Sea" – which is a great LBPD Police Academy tradition.

On December 5, 2013, Class 86 graduated with 40 LBPD Officers and two Modesto PD Officers. The hard work and dedication of the RTO staff was evident as the class took the stage during the graduation ceremony. The class looked sharp and was confident yet humble. Thanks to the continuous efforts of the RTO staff, the graduates were motivated and prepared as they entered the next phase of their training - the Field Training Program.

The RTO staff received countless positive comments from all ranks and positions within the Department, outside agencies, P.O.S.T. representatives, and many others on how professional, passionate, and prepared the recruits were during the entire academy process. This dedicated RTO team is recognized for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments in completing the first police academy for LBPD in almost five years.

Academy Class 86 RTO Staff:

Academy Director Paula Crewse #8225

Academy Sergeant Greg Schirmer #5776

RTO Bill Jarman #5601

RTO Roger Trias #6112

RTO Jennifer Riordan #6119

RTO Elizabeth Barba #10006



UNIT CITATION

NORTH DIVISION DIRECTED ENFORCEMENT TEAM

The North Division Directed Enforcement Team has displayed exemplary performance and has made significant contributions to their Division, as well as the Department. The North Division Directed Enforcement Team (DET) is comprised of 6 officers and one Sergeant and their primary focus is to impact crime and improve the quality of life for residents in the North Division. The team utilized elements of "Community Policing" and "Directed Enforcement" to positively impact the areas most affected by gangs and violent crime.

The team was tasked with monitoring and supervising all parolees and probationers in their Division, after the implementation of AB109. They worked with Parole and Probation to improve their knowledge and expertise, which led to many significant arrests being made throughout the year.

In October 2013, the team responded to a homicide that had just occurred, and they immediately began assisting with the investigation. The officers learned that the victim was possibly involved in an earlier altercation with local gang members. The team obtained information regarding the suspect/s and the suspect vehicle that was used during the shooting.

The team began searching known gang areas in North Long Beach. They checked several locations and stopped multiple vehicles and subjects that matched the suspect/s description. Utilizing their resources from Parole and Probation, coupled with the knowledge they developed throughout the year, the team located the possible suspect/s and suspect vehicle at a known gang area. They recognized the driver of the vehicle as a local gang member that allegedly had an argument with the victim. DET officers were familiar with the suspect from prior contacts and were aware that he was on parole. The suspect and passengers of the vehicles were interviewed, and officers subsequently arrested the suspect and impounded the vehicle. The next day the team was advised that the suspect had made statements implicating him self in the crime. They later served a search warrant at the suspect's apartment, and found evidence that was used during the commission of the crime. The suspect is in custody and is awaiting trial.

The DET Team was also instrumental in assisting with the resolution of an ongoing neighborhood nuisance location. The occupants of the problem location used social media to invite thousands of individuals to attend illegal house parties. The team worked with the Long Beach City Attorney, neighborhood activists, and specialized units within the City of Long Beach, to assist whenever illegal activities were scheduled to take place at the problem location.

The team was flexible and adaptable, adjusting their schedules to meet the needs of the Division and help ensure that appropriate resources were available to solve the problem. With the continued assistance of the DET Team, the Division was able to work with the City Prosecutors office and successfully remove the illegal occupants from the property.

During the year of 2013, the Team made 298 arrests and seized 10 firearms. Of those 298 arrests, approximately 80 percent were for felony crimes, and approximately 64 percent of those arrestees were local street gang members. The team also conducted over 100 parole and probation compliance checks, and served 53 search warrants for crimes ranging from robbery to narcotics sales.

The dedication and work ethic displayed by the North Division Directed Enforcement Team has undoubtedly had a positive impact on the quality of life for the residents of North Long Beach. The team has displayed the professionalism and dedication that we encourage from employees of the Long Beach Police Department. They are truly an asset to the Long Beach Police Department and the City of Long Beach, and should be commended for their efforts.

Sergeant Paul Esko #5530

Officer Joshua Brearley #62 26

Officer Jeffery Deneen #6187

Officer Andrew Fox #5660

Officer Adrian Hunt #10011

Officer Lawrence Mulock #10060

Officer Justin Rivett #10315



UNIT CITATION

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

Throughout 2013, the Drug Investigations Section (DIS) has done an outstanding job in combating narcotics related offenses within the City of Long Beach and the surrounding region. The philosophy of the DIS is to vigorously enforce narcotics laws and to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Long Beach. The Drug Investigations Section directly addresses narcotics problems by dealing firmly with the violators and making narcotics issues the highest enforcement priority. The DIS not only works narcotics issues, but on several occasions they were called upon by details within the Police Department to combat other crimes ranging from theft to murder.

The Drug Investigations Section prides itself in the valuable partnerships that they foster year after year. The private, municipal, State, and Federal partnerships that are developed and maintained throughout the year prove time and time again to be priceless assets for the successful enforcement of narcotics laws in and around the City of Long Beach.

Through the end of 2013, the Drug Investigation Section has been responsible for the following statistics:

- 896 Arrests (167 of them being documented gang members)
- 431 Citizen complaints worked
- 182 Search warrants served
- Approximately 2 million dollars of narcotics trafficking related currency seized
- 181 Guns seized
- Approximate narcotics seizures:
 - 48 pounds of cocaine
 - 420 pounds of methamphetamine
 - 20 pounds of heroin
 - 1741 pounds of marijuana
 - 300 gallons of PCP

*Approximate street value of all the narcotics seized: \$49,000,000

Without the commitment, dedication and work ethic of all the members of the Drug Investigation section none of these accomplishments would have been possible. For their hard work and relentless pursuit of narcotics enforcement that the members of the Drug Investigations Section should be commended and recognized with a Unit Citation.

CT IV Melissa Khensouvan #7006

Sergeant Jerry Gibbs #5425

Sergeant Timothy Long #5630

Sergeant Lee Debrabander #5537

Detective Christopher Bolt #5088

Detective Scott DeStefano #5688

Detective Gabriel Garrido #6118

Detective Fernando Jimenez #5738

Detective William Johnston #5672

Detective Dylan Lobascio #6150

Detective Shea Robertson #6103

Detective Luis Rodriguez #6318

Detective Manny Serenil #5641

Detective Mark Sisneros #5514

Detective David Strohman #5543

Detective Christopher Thue #5701

Detective Jason Ur #5732

Detective David Urbina #5713

Detective Christopher Valdez #6229

Officer Andrew Calderon #6307

Officer Aldo DeCarvalho #5364

Officer Bernardo Barajas #6234

Officer Jason Kirk #6051



UNIT CITATION

MISSING PERSONS DETAIL

Detectives Satwan Johnson and Kenneth Turner of the Missing Persons Detail of the Juvenile Investigations Section have been at the forefront of human trafficking investigations for the Long Beach Police Department. Their dedication to helping juvenile victims of human sex trafficking have been relentless, and their willingness to train additional police detectives in other details of the Long Beach Police Department have been instrumental in the successful prosecution of numerous suspects involved in the illicit sex trade industry.

In past years, these detectives noted an increase in juvenile female prostitution arrests. Some of these females were reported as missing juveniles and runaways. Due to their developed expertise in human trafficking, Detectives Johnson and Turner began looking at female juveniles as victims, rather than suspects, involved in the illicit sex trade industry. They began to gather information, and develop intelligence, as it relates to how female juveniles were being indoctrinated into prostitution and ultimately becoming victims of human sex trafficking.

Detectives Johnson and Turner have undergone extensive training related to the crimes of human trafficking, primarily in the commercial sex trade industry. The detectives were involved in the Los Angeles and Orange County Regional Task Force on Human Trafficking. They have had access to a broad network of law enforcement, social service, and non-governmental professionals who are dedicated to bringing an end to human sex trafficking. Furthermore, the detectives have regularly developed teaching curriculum on the illicit sex trade industry, and have coordinated guest speakers, for law enforcement agencies, non-governmental organizations, and various social services.

Over the years, Detectives Johnson and Turner have also been the lead investigators, and participants, in countless human trafficking investigations directly resulting in the arrests and convictions of many suspects involved in the illicit sex trade industry. The quality and depth of their intricate and time consuming criminal investigations cannot be overstated, and have resulted in lengthy prison sentences for suspects involved in this illegal activity.

During one criminal investigation in February 2013, Detectives Johnson and Turner began investigating a human sex trafficking case involving a pimp, who used the moniker of "bash millions." Four juvenile females, ages fourteen to seventeen years old, had reported that this suspect used violence and fear to force them into prostitution in the City of Long Beach, as well as in the City of Compton. Detectives conducted several follow up investigations, and subsequently located the suspect at his residence in Compton and arrested him without incident. During this particular investigation, detectives had already begun working with the District Attorney's Office in developing this criminal case. As a result, the District Attorney's office was able to file multiple counts of human trafficking on the suspect.

Detectives Satwan Johnson and Kenneth Turner's efforts to combat the illicit sex trade industry have been relentless for many years. Their diligence and investigative expertise has resulted in the rescue of many young girls from a life of forced prostitution and the prosecution of the suspects who victimized them.

Detective Satwan Johnson #5846

Detective Kenneth Turner #5148



UNIT CITATION

VICE INVESTIGATIONS FIELD TEAM

Human trafficking is the second largest international crime industry behind illegal drugs and reportedly generates a profit of \$32 billion every year. In 2013, the Long Beach Police Department's Vice Investigations Section recognized the impact of new legislation as an opportunity to incarcerate human traffickers with increased prison sentences and provide assistance to victims forced in to a life of prostitution. In 2013, they rescued 19 juvenile victims and arrested 15 traffickers.

Many of the victims endured mental and physical abuse that amounted to torture, several were branded with a tattoo of the traffickers street name, most were moved away and isolated from their families, and all of them had their lives controlled by their trafficker. The victims, some barely teenagers, were deprived of food and sleep and were forced to commit countless acts of prostitution for the sole financial gain of the trafficker. Detectives quickly recognized the importance of working with an experienced victim advocacy group.

For over 15 years, CAST LA has provided trafficking survivors with a continuum of life-transforming services: a 24-hour emergency response system; legal and social services; and a world-renowned survivor leadership program. Detectives have called upon CAST LA countless times to aid victims of human trafficking. These calls have often been on weekends or in the middle of the night. Without hesitation, CAST LA has responded and provided victims with immediate assistance and long-term services. CAST LA has also taken part in the Vice Investigation Section's proactive enforcement. They work together with detectives while they perform field operations attempting to locate victims. When a victim is identified, CAST LA starts the process of determining the victim's immediate needs and the best course of action for their long-term success. They have been a very valuable resource for the Vice detectives.

Another significant partnership is the one held with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). In early 2013, the Vice Investigations Section partnered with HSI and quickly began working cases together. The HSI detectives are experienced, passionate, and self motivated. Regardless of the time of day, they have responded to assist on cases with a federal nexus. The collaboration has led to successful joint investigations across state lines, the assignment of a part time task force officer, and the building of a truly symbiotic relationship. Regardless of where the cases originated, the two agencies worked together to rescue the victims and arrest the suspects. Several of the joint investigations have resulted in significant prison time for the suspects, up to and including life sentences.

The Long Beach Police Department's Vice Investigations Section has set the bar for human trafficking investigations in Los Angeles County by filing more human trafficking cases in 2013 than any other agency in Los Angeles County. For their leadership and outstanding investigative efforts, the Vice Investigations Field Team is recognized with a Unit Citation. The Department would also like to recognize Homeland Security Investigations and CAST LA for their invaluable and ongoing partnerships.

Sergeant Eric Hooker #5529

Detective Toby Benskin #6053

Detective Ed De La Torre #5896

Detective Johnny Gomez #5916

Detective Kevin Ong #6018

CHIEF'S CITATIONS

CAST LA

Homeland Security Investigations



CHIEF'S COMMUNITY POLICING AWARD

**OFFICER CLAUDIA LOPEZ,
OFFICER JUAN CARLOS REYES
OFFICER ERIC FERNANDEZ
OFFICER JOSE FLORES
OFFICER KENNETH GREEN**

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES SPECIALISTS JOSE VAZQUEZ AND ERIKA MORENO

The Patrol Resource Officer Program is a critical part of the Long Beach Police Department's commitment to the community policing philosophy. In 2013, this program has achieved remarkable results and set new standards for coordinating resources to bring about long-term solutions to quality of life issues in our neighborhoods.

In North Division, Officer Juan Carlos Reyes and Neighborhood Services Specialist Erika Moreno coordinated Community Watch groups, attended over 100 community meetings, worked with the division crime analyst and patrol officers, as well as department detectives, to educate and empower local neighborhoods to collaborate to resolve long standing concerns. Their tireless work ethic and dedication brought stakeholders from all over the city together to identify and implement sustainable solutions to historically chronic problem locations.

In East Division, Officer Claudia Lopez facilitated seven Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) surveys of locations to assist property owners with minimizing vulnerabilities to crime. She also provided presentations at local schools to discuss police and youth interactions and issues. She worked tirelessly with homeless advocates, the Health Department and other stakeholders to reduce the impact of the homeless on both public and private properties. She has also established relationships with the Spanish-speaking community and the faith-based community within the Division, providing education, outreach and recruitment for the Police Department.

In West Division, Officers Eric Fernandez, Jose Flores, and Kenneth Green, along with Neighborhood Services Specialist Jose Vazquez, not only use traditional community policing strategies, but they have optimized the fusion of resources from within the City, Department, and community to create long-term success stories in the Division. They saw particular success in coordinating with property owners, county officials, and city resources, such as Code Enforcement and Nuisance Abatement, to deal with problem locations that result from absentee landlords or irresponsible tenants.

All of these employees have expanded the model of community policing and their creativity, dedication, and perseverance have had significant positive impacts on the neighborhoods they serve. For their collective efforts to build lasting and effective partnerships throughout the community, Officers Claudia Lopez, Juan Carlos Reyes, Eric Fernandez, Jose Flores, Kenneth Green and Neighborhood Services Specialists Jose Vazquez and Erika Moreno are awarded the 2013 Chief's Community Policing Award.



Claudia Lopez
Officer



Juan Carlos Reyes
Officer



Eric Fernandez
Officer



Jose Flores
Officer



Kenneth Green
Officer



Jose Vazquez
Neighborhood Services Specialist



Erika Moreno
Neighborhood Services Specialist



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

CLERK TYPIST III DIANE SCARRITT

Clerk Typist Diane Scarritt was assigned to the Jail Division throughout 2013. There are currently 64 full time employees within the Division and as the Divisional Secretary, Diane is responsible for coordinating and tracking all of the administrative tasks related to these employees and the daily operations of the Jail Division. Her position requires that she maintain files, keep detailed records, coordinate numerous construction projects, compose correspondence, and provide administrative support to the Division's Administrator. In addition, she coordinates training and travel arrangements for division employees, and schedules Jail tours as needed.

During this last year, Diane created a medical billing process for the Police Department and this has saved the City of Long Beach and the Police Department hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Diane also worked with Jail Division Administrative Sergeant Julie Anderson on re-writing and updating the Jail Division Standard Operating Procedures.

In addition to her daily responsibilities, Diane fills in for the Bureau Secretary when necessary. Diane also serves as one of the Department liaisons on the Latino Advisory Group. In this role, she provides administrative support and Division's participation in the Chaplains Advisory Group, coordinating personnel and the administrative paperwork between the group and the Division.

Clerk Typist Diane Scarritt's "can-do" attitude and outstanding performance are of the highest tradition of the Long Beach Police Department. She is an exemplary employee and is to be commended for her administrative excellence, teamwork, and unwavering commitment and support for the Jail Division operations.



Diane Scarritt
Clerk Typist III

DETENTION SUPERVISOR WALTER WILLIAMS

Detention Supervisor Walter Williams began his career with the Long Beach Police Department in 1986 and was assigned to the Jail Division. In 1998, he was promoted to SSO IV and worked as a Detention Supervisor the Jail and also supervised the Prisoner Transport Team. In 2010, he was assigned to supervise the Public Safety Building Business Desk.

The Business Desk is a highly demanding, fast-paced work environment that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. On average, the Business Desk employees handle more than 700 crime reports, 10,000 phone calls, 2,500 walk-in customers, and over 150 bail transactions each month. Supervisor Williams is the only supervisor assigned to the desk and must ensure that the day-to-day operations run smoothly on all three shifts.

When severe staffing reductions were imposed, Supervisor Williams worked extra hours to help manage the heavy workload. He handles the scheduling for all three shifts, resolves customer service issues, and ensures that cross-training is provided to the many employees from other divisions that are helping to temporarily staff the desk. Despite the staffing challenges, Supervisor Williams has continued to provide excellent customer service to both community members and department employees who seek information and assistance from the Business Desk.

In addition to his primary responsibilities, Supervisor Williams also supervises the LiveScan digital fingerprinting unit, the internal video surveillance camera system, the access control and identification card system, and building security in the lobby area.

Detention Supervisor Walter Williams serves as the cornerstone for the Business Desk operations. His strong work ethic, commitment to customer service, and leadership serve as an inspiration to others and he is to be commended for his exceptional performance throughout the past year.



Walter Williams
Detention Supervisor

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



SERGEANT JULIE ANDERSON

Sergeant Julie Anderson was assigned to the Jail Division in January 2012. As the Administrative Sergeant, she is responsible for the overall day-to-day operations of the Jail Division. These responsibilities include supervising training required by the California Standards and Training for Corrections, divisional staffing, annual appraisals, facility inspections and maintenance, medical billing and ensuring that all laws, court rulings and Long Beach Police Department policies and procedures are being followed.

Additionally, she is responsible for the administrative operations of the Men's and Women's Jails, Jail Medical Staff, Court Affairs Office, Court Bailiffs, Booking, and City Hall Security. In addition, she was also responsible for the Business Desk and Live Scan operations until they were moved to another division during a recent departmental reorganization.

Some of the projects that Sergeant Anderson has completed over the last year include the re-alignment of the Civic Center Security, changes to the bailiff operating procedures (due to the construction of the new court house), and the rewriting of the Jail Division's Standard of Operational Procedures. She also developed the Jail Field Training Officer Program, made modifications to the nursing staff's daily procedures, and coordinated additional training for Special Services Officers assigned to the division.

Sergeant Julie Anderson is to be commended for her exemplary performance in 2013. The significant changes implemented by Sergeant Anderson have streamlined divisional processes and enhanced the effectiveness of the Jail Division operations.

OFFICER BRANDON MITCHELL

Over the past year, Officer Brandon Mitchell has been an integral part of the Long Beach Police Explorer Program. Even though he is assigned to the Patrol Bureau, he provides support to this award-winning program by volunteering countless hours as an advisor to the Police Explorers.

Officer Mitchell began his career as a Long Beach Police Officer in 2002. Prior to that he served in the United States Marine Corps, and he calls upon that experience to educate the Explorers in teamwork, dedication, and physical fitness. He also works with the Explorers on their marching, which has earned them awards for drill at competitions.

Officer Mitchell inspires and mentors the Explorers in a variety of ways including:

- Regularly attending the weekly meetings, teaching and training the Explorers in basic police functions.
- Takes the Explorers on ride-alongs with him
- Prepares the Explorers for their tactical competitions
- Helps them with their homework
- Offers sound advice to Explorers that are having life challenges

Officer Mitchell is an excellent role model for our youth. He leads by example and proves to each of our Explorers that he cares about them. Even though they all will not become police officers, he is imparting to them the life skills necessary to be successful in whatever they choose to do.

The Long Beach Police Explorer Program is an exceptional program that is leading our youth to a bright future. Officer Brandon Mitchell is a large part of this success story and is commended for his work ethic, commitment, and willingness to help develop the future leaders in our community.



Julie Anderson
Sergeant



Brandon Mitchell
Officer



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

CLERK TYPIST III SILVIA MEDINA

Silvia Medina joined the Gangs and Violent Crimes Division in April of 2013 as the Clerk Typist for the Gang Enforcement Section. Prior to Silvia being selected for this position, she was assigned to the Police academy and was instrumental in back grounding and selecting recruit class 86.

Silvia came to the Gang Enforcement Section at a time when the Clerk Typist position had been vacant for approximately six months. Needless to say, she was backlogged with work before she even arrived. This was a challenge that Silvia took on without hesitation. Silvia had the section reorganized and cleaned up in a very short period of time.

What sets Silvia apart from her peers is the dynamic position that she is in. The Gang Unit is constantly changing direction and priorities. Silvia does not miss a beat under pressure and has never presented anything less than an "I will do whatever I can" attitude. There are times that she has been asked to assist the detail with search warrants, which makes it necessary for Silvia to adjust her schedule and come in to work at 3 a.m. Silvia has never complained and is always ready to help with anything that is needed.

Silvia took it upon herself to organize the filing system in the Gang Unit, which has made accessing the information that the Detective need for court and case filing tremendously more efficient. Silvia continues to find more efficient methods that make the detail function smoother.

Silvia is also responsible for obtaining and maintaining the maintenance log and schedule for the vehicles in the Gang Unit. In a Unit that has numerous vehicles and detectives that work varying shifts, this is not an easy task. She has been able to ensure that the Gang Unit continues to have the necessary vehicle information kept up to date and accurate.

Along with all of the above-mentioned duties, Silvia also reviews and logs all of the in-custody cases for the filing Detectives in the Gang Unit. This includes submitting lab requests so that the results needed for filing are obtained in a timely manner. Due to the volume of in-custodies, this task ensures that cases are filed on time so that defendants do not get released.

While maintaining the high level of work required to ensure the Gang Unit operates efficiently, Silvia is often tasked by the division Commander to create forms, templates, and databases to document or track crime. Having worked at the Police Academy prior to her current assignment, Silvia also assists the Academy when needed during the extensive police recruit background process.

Even though Silvia was not in her position for the entire year of 2013, the amount of work she has completed and the reorganization that she has put in place has made the Gang Unit more efficient and productive. Silvia is very well respected in the division by her peers and despite the short time she has been in this assignment, she is looked upon as a leader. For her outstanding work ethic, positive attitude and willingness to make the Gang Unit a better place, Clerk Typist Silvia Medina is presented with the Distinguished Service Award.



Silvia Medina
Clerk Typist III

SERGEANT OMAR MARTINEZ

Sergeant Omar Martinez is a California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Master Instructor. This prestigious distinction is granted after a yearlong training program and allows Sergeant Martinez to provide high quality instructor development training to arrest and control instructors in the area of curriculum development, adult learning, group facilitation, and presentation skills. Additionally, Sergeant Martinez has shared his expertise as a 3rd degree black belt in the Japanese martial art of Aikido and his experience in Judo to develop a highly skilled cadre of instructors. He has been recognized as a subject matter expert in the area of arrest and control tactics and has provided input and expertise into the development of the basic academy arrest and control curriculum. This curriculum is taught at every POST law enforcement academy in California.



Omar Martinez
Sergeant

Sergeant Martinez has demonstrated exemplary leadership qualities, professional excellence, and perseverance towards mastery in his area of expertise. His mentorship and personal commitment towards the improvement of officer safety make him a deserving candidate for the 2013 Distinguished Service Award.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

DETECTIVE JOSE YARRUHS

Prior to his retirement in 2013, Detective Jose Yarruhs had been assigned to the burglary detail since 2000 and had investigated hundreds, if not thousands of cases. He was instrumental in the success of the detail and the deployment of Decentralized Detectives when that plan was implemented.

During his career in the Burglary Detail, he demonstrated a keen but oftentimes underutilized skill of interrogation. Detectives throughout the Investigations Bureau knew of Detective Yarruhs' ability to gain confessions from even the most hardened criminal and had asked for his assistance on their cases. The following case is just one example of how beneficial his skills and abilities were to the Detective Division.

In 2011, this region of California was seeing a new crime trend where suspects were burglarizing houses that were being fumigated and under a fumigation tent. Patrol officers conducted a traffic stop and received information related back to a major case being worked by the Burglary Detail at the time. When they searched the motel room of the suspects, they found evidence from a high profile case that had occurred in Belmont Shore while the house was being fumigated. Detective Yarruhs responded to the location to interview the female suspect. During the interview, he was able to get her to admit to knowledge of other burglaries and who was involved. This information led to the arrest of two other suspects for a cell phone store burglary in this city. She also admitted that it was her boyfriend in the video that detectives had of the Belmont Shore burglary.

With this information in hand, Detective Yarruhs conducted an interview of the male suspect. The beginning stages of the interview did not go very well and the suspect was not admitting to any involvement in the crime. Detective Yarruhs assured the suspect he did not need, nor did he want him to confess to anything because he had enough solid evidence without a confession. He also told the suspect that the victim didn't even want any of her loss back because she would have to repay the insurance company \$250,000.

Detective Yarruhs told the suspect the only reason he was talking to him was the hope that he would give him information about just one piece of property that was invaluable and irreplaceable. Detective Yarruhs told the suspect there was a jewelry box shaped urn that contained the ashes of the victim's mother and this is the only item she wanted back. This was a ruse to tug at the heartstrings of the suspect and it worked perfectly. The suspect admitted to the burglary and apologized for not knowing where the urn was but he could not remember stealing that. He went so far as to tell Detective Yarruhs the victim was lying to the insurance company because he did not steal that much stuff. He also admitted to the female's culpability in the crimes they committed, as she was the scout looking for "Circus Tents" (houses under fumigation tents) in which to burglarize.

Detective Jose Yarruhs should be commended for his long and distinguished career in the law enforcement, and for all of the excellent investigative work he has contributed throughout the years. He has always been committed to our common goals of finding the criminal, conducting a thorough investigation and sending the suspects to jail for as long as the system will allow.



Jose Yarruhs
Detective



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

OFFICER PAUL TOVAR OFFICER DANIEL MELENDEZ

Long Beach patrol officers are trained to be proactive, and are encouraged to practice a philosophy of "relentless follow up." During the 2013 calendar year, Officers Paul Tovar and Daniel Melendez provided the City of Long Beach and its citizens with exceptional proactive police work.

Officers Tovar and Melendez work as a two-officer unit and consistently displayed outstanding initiative, intuition, and investigative skills. They have developed an extraordinary ability to conduct normal patrol functions, such as a traffic stop, and then rely on their investigative, interpersonal, and communication skills to uncover far more serious crimes.

Their combined activities resulted in the recovery of illegal firearms, significant amounts of illegal drugs, stolen property, and wanted fugitives. In 2013, they made over 70 felony arrests that resulted in numerous commendations for exceptional police work. Some examples include:

- A vandalism report that led to the arrest of two auto burglary suspects.
- A sexual predator was identified, arrested, and prosecuted after they detained him for suspicious activity around several parked cars.
- Two ex-felons were arrested along with a third subject for possession of an illegal rifle, illegal prescription drugs, and numerous other felony charges after the officers investigated a report of suspicious persons knocking on neighborhood doors late at night
- A gang member arrested for attempted murder almost one month after the officers had taken the original crime report. The subject was a passenger in a vehicle the officers stopped for a simple traffic violation.
- An attempted murder suspect they arrested without incident at his place of employment after they learned of his identity through a department Crime Information Bulletin. They conducted numerous follow up interviews and with family and friends and were able to obtain the address where the suspect worked.

These examples are typical of the types of investigative actions and proactive results that these officers routinely produced over the last year. Officers Paul Tovar and Daniel Melendez are to be commended for their exemplary performance, initiative, and outstanding investigative skills and recognized with the Distinguished Service Award.

OFFICER JASON KIRK

Officer Jason Kirk is assigned to the East Division Directed Enforcement Team. During 2013, he demonstrated a high level of productivity and diligence in combating crime in the division. He is highly motivated, maintains a positive attitude and takes an incredibly proactive approach to police work.

At the beginning of the year, the Directed Enforcement Team was charged with reducing violent crime in the division. This required the team to serve dozens of search warrants and complete long term, complex investigations. Officer Kirk routinely took the lead on these investigations, resulting in dozens of felony arrests and the recovery of firearms and illegal narcotics. As a result of the Directed Enforcement Team's efforts, the violent crime in the division during the summer was significantly reduced to only one shooting, which fortunately was a "no hit" incident.



Paul Tovar
Officer



Daniel Melendez
Officer



Jason Kirk
Officer



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

During August and September of 2013, Officer Kirk turned his attention primarily to narcotics enforcement at Bixby Park, one of the premiere parks in East Division. Complaints from the community about drug dealing in the park led to numerous undercover operations and search warrants served. Consequently, five drug dealers were arrested and illegal drug activity was reduced significantly.

From September to November, Officer Kirk assisted burglary detectives and was instrumental in identifying, investigating, and breaking up several prolific burglary rings in the city. Again he wrote search warrants and conducted surveillance. The investigations led not only to arrests, but the recovery of significant property taken in the burglaries.

In December, Officer Kirk learned of a drug dealer in the East Division who was operating out of a daycare facility. Using his extensive investigative skills, Officer Kirk spent countless hours conducting surveillance leading to the execution of a search warrant at the location. During the search officers recovered various drugs and the suspect was later arrested in a case that brought wide spread media attention.

Officer Kirk is also a valued member of the department's SWAT team, where he serves many roles, one of them being a certified emergency medical technician.

Officer Jason Kirk is commended for his dedication, perseverance, and hard work and recognized for his many contributions to ensure the safety of the citizens of Long Beach.

OFFICER JOSE ORANTES

On July 9, 2013, approximately 150 juveniles converged on the downtown area of Long Beach for an event promoted through social media called "The Pike Turnout." The event's promoters encouraged participants to "Bash and Run, Mob, or Smash." These activities involve a large number of people entering a store where they wait until a leader yells out "Bash!" Once the signal is given, the participants quickly steal items from the store in mass, vandalize, and flee without paying.

The large group of "Bash and Run" participants on July 9 generated numerous police calls for service for crimes that included trespassing, vandalism, fighting in public, and petty theft. One of the final criminal acts of this group was to steal approximately \$1,000 worth of merchandise from a local sporting goods store before fleeing in all directions.

During the investigation into the sporting goods store incident, Officer Orantes developed information that could possibly lead to the identification of some of the participants. Officer Orantes showed tremendous initiative and creativity in figuring out how he could begin to monitor the future activities of this group.

Once he learned the group was planning a similar event at the Lakewood Mall, Officer Orantes, communicating through his established chain of command, was able to alert the Lakewood Sheriff's Station of the pending event. They acted on his tip, and were able to put resources in place to prevent any incident from occurring - even after close to 200 juveniles showed up at the mall for the "Bash and Run". Throughout this incident Officer Orantes developed a great relationship with the Lakewood Sheriff's and represented the Long Beach Police Department with professionalism and skill.

Officer Orantes continued to monitor the group and on more than one occasion, was able to accurately predict when they had planned events in the area. Each time, whether in Long Beach or Lakewood, the information he provided allowed police resources to be strategically deployed to minimize criminal activity and property damage.

Officer Jose Orantes is recognized and commended for his ingenuity, dedication, and perseverance in tracking down this destructive group of vandals and for keeping the citizens and businesses of both Long Beach and Lakewood safe and prosperous.



Jose Orantes
Officer



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

SERGEANT AARON EATON

Sergeant Aaron Eaton was assigned to lead the Media Relations Detail from June 2012 to December 2013. This is a fast paced, high profile, and intensely demanding job assignment, requiring 24-hour, seven-day accessibility. Sergeant Eaton distinguished himself by his tenacity, dedication, and genuine interest in promoting the efforts of the Police Department. He demonstrated courageous leadership and a willingness to take on challenges. One of the true challenges of law enforcement media relations is the need to maintain balance between sharing information and protecting the integrity of criminal investigations. Sergeant Eaton interacted closely with command staff on a regular basis to ensure that Department priorities were met and routinely studied law enforcement information sharing best practices.



Aaron Eaton
Sergeant

Sergeant Eaton made many changes to enhance the Media Relations Detail's accessibility to employees. He augmented his small staff by beginning the implementation of a PIO Cadre, comprised of employees who would be trained to serve as PIOs as needed. He also sought assistance from volunteers and temporarily assigned employees as a force multiplier.

Sergeant Eaton was innovative, actively looking for ways to better use technology. He implemented the use of iPads by the Media Relations Detail, becoming one of the first City teams to be issued these devices. He had a television installed in the Police Department lobby to display community safety messages for the public and he increased the Department's use of social media with both Twitter and YouTube.

He first explored the use of YouTube during the investigation of a felonious assault where the victim was set on fire with a burning liquid. There were few clues to the suspect's identity, however, a business surveillance camera captured footage of the crime. Sergeant Eaton worked tirelessly for several hours to edit and post the video online for the public and media to view. His efforts were rewarded when a tipster called with information about the suspect after watching the video. The suspect was arrested as a result of the tip.

Sergeant Eaton made it a priority to develop a solid rapport with local media and to be readily available for their requests. He also worked to enhance communication with the public by having monthly crime statistics posted on the website and promoted LA Crimestoppers for making anonymous tips. In addition, he assisted the Records Division with the development of the Police Department mobile application, which featured many outreach capabilities.

In this assignment Sergeant Eaton demonstrated an eagerness to learn, technical competence, and forward thinking. He is responsible for enhancing the capabilities of the Media Relations Detail and improving communication with the public. As a result of his effort and dedication, the Long Beach Police Department made significant strides in its ability to inform, educate, and engage the community.

OFFICER GABRIEL BETANZOS

In 2013 Officer Gabriel Betanzos was primarily assigned to the West Division afternoon shift, historically one of the busiest shifts in the city. Officer Betanzos has always been a proactive, highly productive officer and in 2013 he went above and beyond in the service of our community.

During the course of the year, he made nearly 300 felony and misdemeanor arrests, wrote over 100 misdemeanor and traffic citations, and filed nearly 800 crime reports. These raw numbers are impressive, but what is even more impressive is the quality and scope of his work product.

In addition to maintaining his responsibility to his beat and other patrol duties, Officer Betanzos conducted numerous follow up investigations, wrote and served search warrants, created and showed photographic lineups, and served and enforced the gang injunction in his area.



Gabriel Betanzos
Officer

One example of Officer Betanzos dedication was his response to a citizen complaint about illegal drug activity at a



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

particular problem location. Over the next three months, Officer Betanzos did focused patrols at the location resulting in eleven felony arrests. His enforcement action had a significant impact on the quality of life for the community in that area.

Officer Betanzos also worked with department gang experts to enforce an injunction against a notorious criminal street gang. This collaborative effort resulted in identifying and serving dozens of additional gang members, and numerous arrests for violating conditions of the injunction.

Officer Betanzos received five commendations for his outstanding police work this year, one of them being from a citizen who had the opportunity to ride with Officer Betanzos on a civilian ride-a-long. The citizen wrote a letter commending Officer Betanzos for, "demonstrating a genuine care and concern for the community in which he serves."

His character is also displayed in his personal life, as he volunteers his time with various charities and community activities including the Lupus Race for Life, sponsored by Lupus International. He is an assistant band director at Santa Fe High School and helps with fundraising for the band program.

For his extraordinary productivity, commitment to the community, and professional representation of our profession and department, Officer Gabriel Betanzos is recognized and commended with the Distinguished Service Award.

LIEUTENANT DAVID POSS

Lieutenant Dave Poss has served on the Long Beach Police Department Honor Guard for over 14 years and has been very active in attending funerals and special events. He quickly moved into a position of leadership, taking command of the 21-Gun Salute Detail for many years. Approximately five years ago, Lieutenant Poss assumed command of the Honor Guard, taking responsibility for all of the detail's functions.

Under his leadership, the Honor Guard Detail grew to over 40 members. The team developed a new uniform design and a special Honor Guard badge. Lieutenant Poss takes great pride in the appearance of the team and recognizes they are representing our whole department when they conduct Honor Guard duties at events.

During his tenure on the Honor Guard, the team has received two Unit Citations and countless commendations. Lieutenant Poss also received two Unit Citations from the Fire Department for his part in planning two large funeral services.

Lieutenant Poss, along with the members of the Honor Guard Detail, work tirelessly to represent the Long Beach Police Department in a professional and polished manner. In addition to the many law enforcement events and funerals they have participated in, the Detail has also been asked to provide a Color Guard at numerous City and community events. Over the years, Lieutenant Poss and his team have achieved a number of notable accomplishments, which include:

- Working with families to coordinate Honor Guard participation in the funeral services for line of duty, active duty, and retiree deaths,
- Providing honors for the funeral of fallen LBPD Officer Daryle Black, which included an escort to the burial site in Michigan,
- Updating the Honor Guard Funeral Protocol Matrix
- Hosting multi-agency Honor Guard training days in 2011
- Providing the 21 gun salute at the California Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

Lieutenant David Poss is commended for his many years of dedicated and selfless service to the Long Beach Police Department, the law enforcement profession, and to our many beloved police family members that have passed away, and to the City of Long Beach. He has spent the last 14 years honoring others with his service, and now it is the Department's privilege to honor him.



David Poss
Lieutenant



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

OFFICER JEREMY BOSHACK OFFICER LEONEL VALDEZ OFFICER ROBERT GUERRERO

On March 29, 2013, Sergeants Paul Munson and Robert Bernsen were inside the North Division Police Station when they were alerted by someone knocking frantically on the front doors. The sergeants responded to the front and learned a family was in desperate need of assistance...their ten year old son had been hit by gunfire.

The family had been at a nearby gas station refueling their vehicle when a gunfight erupted between opposing members of local gangs. During the gunfight, a round entered the family's car, striking the ten year old boy as he sat in the back seat. Once he realized his son had been wounded, the father rushed the family to the police station to summon help.

Sergeant Munson aired the information and requested that the Fire Department respond to the station. Officers Leonel Valdez, Jeremy Boshack, Robert Guerrero, and Ryan Riordan arrived at the station first. Officer Valdez immediately began searching the boy's body for the gunshot wound, locating it on his back. Officer Valdez began applying direct pressure to the wound to minimize further blood loss.

The child was crying and saying, "I just want to go to sleep" repeatedly. The father was understandably emotionally upset. Officer Boshack then observed the child's eyes roll back and his body go limp. The officers recognized the child was in need of immediate medical attention that could only be provided at a hospital.

Officer Valdez suggested the officers conduct a "scoop and run" with the child. This tactic is reserved for the direst of circumstances and involves the officers loading the victim into a police car and transporting them directly to the hospital in lieu of waiting for the Fire Department to respond from their station.

Sergeant Bernsen agreed this emergency life-saving measure was appropriate and instructed the officers to transport the child to the hospital. Officers Valdez and Riordan carried the child to Officer Boshack's police car. Officer Guerrero rode with the child in the backseat, holding the child's head and continuing to apply direct pressure to his gunshot wound.

Sergeant Bernsen asked police dispatch to notify the hospital the officers were coming with a child gunshot victim. Officer Boshack drove with lights and siren from the police station to the hospital. Officer Valdez coordinated with other area units to block off intersections to facilitate the safe transport of the victim. He then calmed the boy's father and drove him to the hospital to be with his son.

Officers Jeremy Boshack, Leonel Valdez, and Robert Guerrero were instrumental in getting this young victim to the emergency medical care he desperately needed to save his life. They are commended for their teamwork, quick thinking, and decisive actions that saved the life of a child.



Jeremy Boshack
Officer



Leonel Valdez
Officer



Robert Guerrero
Officer



MERITORIOUS AWARD FOR HEROISM

MERITORIOUS AWARD FOR HEROISM

Officer Brian Nystedt

Officer Royce Wexler

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Officer Michael Barth

Officer Paul Luyben

Officer Denise Ruiz

On March 18, 2013, officers responded to the Artesia Boulevard Bridge over the Los Angeles River to check the well being of a subject who had climbed over the railing and was standing on the ledge.

Officer Michael Barth was first on scene and learned the man wanted to jump off the bridge to end his life. Officer Paul Luyben arrived and saw the man produce a knife and place it to his own throat. Officer Luyben engaged the subject in conversation, developed a rapport with him, and convinced him to lower the knife away from his throat.

When Hostage Negotiation Team Officers Denise Ruiz and Royce Wexler arrived, they took over communicating with the subject.

For approximately 90 minutes they spoke with the man, who was still armed with the knife, in an attempt to persuade him to move off the ledge and onto the bridge. Eventually, Officer Ruiz convinced the man to drop the knife, but instead of climbing over the ledge to safety, he turned and faced away from the bridge.

The officers noted that the man's breathing changed, as if he was working up the courage to jump. Officers Ruiz and Wexler continued to engage the man in conversation, getting him to open up about his family and recent drug use. The man then began to display symptoms consistent with someone in medical distress. He had difficulty breathing and moved his arms inward to his chest.

Officer Wexler, fearing the man was going to fall off of the bridge due to his distressed condition, began to move toward him. As Officer Wexler approached, Officer Nystedt grabbed a hold of Wexler's duty belt with both hands, while Officer Ruiz continued to try and calm the man through conversation. Officer Wexler grabbed the man, while Officer Barth wrapped both of his arms around the man's waist. Working together, the team of officers was able to secure the man and pull him back over the railing to safety. He was later transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Officers Michael Barth, Paul Luyben and Denise Ruiz are recognized with a Distinguished Service Award for their outstanding communication skills, compassion, and teamwork that saved this man's life.

Officers Brian Nystedt and Royce Wexler are recognized with a Meritorious Award for Heroism for risking their own personal safety to prevent this suicidal man from harming himself.



Brian Nystedt
Officer



Royce Wexler
Officer



Michael Barth
Officer



Paul Luyben
Officer



Denise Ruiz
Officer



MERITORIOUS AWARD FOR HEROISM

OFFICER GEORGE AYALA OFFICER BRADFORD STEIN

On July 22, 2013, Officers George Ayala and Bradford Stein responded to a multi-unit apartment building to assist a fellow officer who had just been involved in a shooting with an armed suspect. The scene had not yet been secured and it was uncertain if any additional armed suspects were in the building.

From a position of cover, the officers ordered subjects to crawl to them so they could be taken into custody safely.

The suspect was in front of the building and was bleeding from gunshot wounds sustained during the confrontation. The suspect began walking towards the officers as he was instructed, in an apparent attempt to surrender, when he collapsed. He was in a semi-conscious condition and unable to get to the officers.

Officers Ayala and Stein recognized that the suspect could potentially succumb to his wounds if he did not receive immediate medical attention. So, with the approval of their field supervisor, they heroically left their position of cover and performed an emergency combat evacuation, carrying the suspect to a safe location where paramedics immediately began advanced life support medical attention.

The officers placed themselves in harm's way to help save the life of the suspect. For their compassionate and heroic actions, they are recognized with the Meritorious Award for Heroism.



George Ayala
Officer



Bradford Stein
Officer

OFFICER SEAN DEATON OFFICER BRIAN EKREM OFFICER ED MOSCOSO OFFICER VICTOR ORTIZ

On April 26, 2013, officers responded to a call of two young boys trapped in a backyard by two large pit bulls. When they arrived, officers were told that a three-year-old boy had been bitten in the face and head, and he and his 13-year-old brother were hiding from the dogs in an enclosed trampoline.

Crime Impact Motor Officers Deaton, Ekrem, and Moscoso, along with K9 Officer Ortiz did not hesitate to scale the cinder block wall leading to the backyard to rescue the boys. As soon as they cleared the wall, both pit bulls charged the officers.

Officers Deaton and Ortiz deployed their electronic control devices into the dogs, driving them away, temporarily. While Officer Ekrem stood by providing lethal cover for Officers Deaton and Ortiz, Officer Moscoso immediately went for the boys in the trampoline.

Officer Moscoso rescued the injured toddler and handed him over the wall to a waiting neighbor. As he went back for the older brother, the dogs re-engaged, charging the officers again. Officer Ortiz used his baton to strike one of the dogs and drive him back. Officer Moscoso kicked the other attacking dog, driving him back.



Sean Deaton
Officer



Brian Ekrem
Officer



Ed Moscoso
Officer



Victor Ortiz
Officer



MERITORIOUS AWARD FOR HEROISM

The officers grabbed the 13-year-old boy and they all safely retreated into the back door of the residence. The toddler was transported to a local hospital and treated for his injuries.

These officers acted quickly, in concert, and placed themselves in harm's way with unwavering dedication to rescuing the boys from a dangerous and potentially deadly situation. They are recognized and commended with the Meritorious Award for Heroism

SERGEANT MEGAN ZABEL
OFFICER ARMAND CASTELLANOS
OFFICER JORGE GRAJEDA
OFFICER HECTOR GOMEZ
OFFICER ISIAH HUGHES
OFFICER LISA MC COURT
OFFICER JORGE SALAZAR
OFFICER ARTURO TRUJILLO
OFFICER JOSEPH VALENZUELA

On July 5, 2012, Officer Armand Castellanos accompanied a Code Enforcement inspector to a John Street residence to serve a warrant to clear the property of trash and debris. After unsuccessfully contacting anyone in the home, the two stood on the sidewalk in front of the residence discussing their next plan of action.

Without warning, Officer Castellanos heard a loud "pop" and immediately noticed the Code Enforcement inspector grab his eye, which had already begun to bleed. Recognizing the inspector had been shot by someone inside the residence, Officer Castellanos verbally directed him to a safe place out of direct gunfire.

Officer Castellanos took cover while keeping watch over the injured city employee. He calmly aired that he and the Code Enforcement employee were under fire, and directed the first responding units to the injured employee's location.

Officer Jorge Grajeda was the first to reach the injured employee, and after making a quick assessment, decided to transport him to the hospital in his police car so life-saving medical attention could be provided.

Officers Arturo Trujillo, Hector Gomez, and Jorge Salazar responded to Officer Castellanos' location and assisted him in trying to locate and engage the suspect, who continued to shoot indiscriminately at anyone in the area. Due to the large amount of trash, debris, and shrubbery on the property, the officers were unable to see the suspect or determine exactly where



Megan Zabel
Sergeant



Armand Castellanos
Officer



Jorge Grajeda
Officer



Hector Gomez
Officer



Isiah Hughes
Officer



Lisa McCourt
Officer



Jorge Salazar
Officer



Arturo Trujillo
Officer



Joseph Valenzuela
Officer



MERITORIOUS AWARD FOR HEROISM

the shots were originating from inside the residence.

Sergeant Megan Zabel responded to the active shooter scene and immediately requested SWAT resources. She and Officer Lisa McCourt came under fire from the suspect and could hear and feel rifle rounds whizzing by their heads. They moved to a tactically safer position and Sergeant Zabel organized an officer rescue team to remove Officers Castellanos, Trujillo, Salazar, and Gomez from their vulnerable positions.

Officer McCourt, Officer Isiah Hughes, and K9 Officer Joseph Valenzuela assembled and deployed a ballistic tactical blanket and affected an emergency evacuation of their fellow officers out of the line of fire. The officers contained the scene until SWAT arrived and the situation was resolved peacefully with the suspect eventually surrendering. Throughout the entire incident, Long Beach Police officers did not fire a shot, demonstrating restraint and professionalism under the most dangerous of circumstances.

For their quick and professional response, courage and discipline while under fire, and heroic actions, Sergeant Zabel, and Officers Castellanos, Grajeda, Trujillo, Gomez, Salazar, Valenzuela, McCourt and Hughes are recognized and commended with the Meritorious Award for Heroism.



EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER JOHN KEISLER

The 2014 Excellence in Leadership Award recognizes members of the Command Staff, who have displayed outstanding and dedicated leadership during the past year. Chief Jim McDonnell has selected Chief Financial Officer John Keisler as the civilian recipient of this prestigious award for his exceptional performance in the areas of budget management, organizational development and strategic planning.

Chief Financial Officer John Keisler joined the Department in May 2013 as the head of the new Financial Bureau. His responsibilities include budget development and execution, management of the procurement and reimbursement processes, grants coordination, contracts management and oversight of all accounting functions for the Department's \$200 million budget.



John Keisler
Chief Financial Officer

Faced with significant personnel turnover and the immediate challenge of implementing a new citywide procurement process, Bureau Chief Keisler immediately took charge and recruited and trained replacement staff; reorganized the workload allocation in his Bureau, developed and implemented a training curriculum for the new Department Purchasing Coordinators; and, fostered an unprecedented level of collaboration with and support to both the Department and City Hall.

Bureau Chief Keisler is a graduate of St. Olaf College in Minneapolis, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Religion. After graduation, he joined Teach for America at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School in Newark, New Jersey. In 2001, he received the Best Practices Award for a first year teacher in the Newark Public School District. He left teaching to pursue a career in local government and worked for the League of California Cities, Orange County Division, while completing his Master of Public Administration degree at the USC School of Policy, Planning and Development.

After graduation, he joined the City of Long Beach in 2005 as a Management Assistant. In 2008, he was assigned as the Manager of the Animal Care Services Bureau, where he spent three years reorganizing and restructuring service delivery. In 2011, he was appointed as the Business Operations Manager for the Parks Recreation and Marine Department, where he was responsible for the management of 1,100 employees and a \$54 million operating budget.

Bureau Chief Keisler has made an impressive impact on the Police Department in his first very busy year. He is an engaged and important contributor to the Chief's Executive Team and has personally led an aggressive and innovative effort to resolve a number of structural challenges in the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Budget. He is also active in a number of national and regional municipal management organizations and engaged in the community.

Bureau Chief Keisler is a devoted husband to Laura and father of two young sons Benjamin and Christopher. The Keislers are proud Long Beach residents.

Bureau Chief John Keisler's exceptional work ethic, boundless enthusiasm, and creative energy make him an invaluable asset to the Police Department and make him a worthy selection as the 2014 recipient of the Excellence in Leadership Award.

EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP



COMMANDER RICHARD ROCCHI

The Excellence in Leadership Award recognizes members of the Command Staff who have displayed outstanding and dedicated leadership during the past year. Commander Richard Rocchi has been selected by Chief McDonnell as the recipient of the 2013 Excellence in Leadership Award.

Commander Rocchi oversees the Police Department's largest division, West Patrol. He manages over 200 employees in our highest service volume area. Commander Rocchi has made this command a well managed, led, focused and partnered division.



Richard Rocchi
Commander

Under the leadership of Commander Rocchi, West Division has seen Part One crime reduced to record low levels, dialogue with residents has expanded, and relationships with the community have flourished. Commander Rocchi has accomplished these and other successes by being visible, accessible and responsive to all the people he serves. He consistently attends community events, encouraging residents and businesses to get involved in protecting our community and this approach has led to unparalleled success.

It is not in Commander Rocchi's character to claim responsibility for the many successes of his division. In fact, he would tell you that the success of the West Division should be attributed to the great people that work for him. While this is true, Commander Rocchi's leadership continues to be the catalyst for the excellent performance of West Division.

Commander Rocchi leads by example and takes the time to ensure that he is performing at top level. He is always displays a high level of integrity, professionalism, and compassion. Furthermore, he can be counted on to confront the tough issues and openly acknowledge if mistakes are made - traits that are essential in a great leader.

In addition to being a strong leader and mentor, Commander Rocchi has empowered everyone that works in West Division by giving them the ability to make changes and the flexibility to lead when needed. He will humbly ask for help and seek the insights of others because he trusts his team and recognizes the value of incorporating multiple perspectives into the decision making process. People are his number one priority, a fact that is demonstrated by the level of compassion and consideration he has for his staff. Commander Rocchi's personal investment in the professional development of his employees will undoubtedly contribute to the quality of the leaders that the Police Department produces in the future.

Commander Rocchi's leadership and commitment is far from one dimensional. He is a loving husband to his wife, Kerry, and father to his three children, Maeve, Aidan, and Tess. He successfully strives to maintain that balance between his work and home life. He is a leader in the community as well, and is involved in his church, his children's sports and school activities. For example, he has taken the time to serve as the President of the Baker to Vegas Committee, Regional Director of the Southern California Special Olympics, and is a member of the COPSWEST Conference Committee.

Commander Richard Rocchi is truly deserving of the recognition being conveyed upon him. For his dedication, innovation and ongoing commitment to his team, the department and the community, he is presented with the 2014 Excellence in Leadership Award.



CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

ACCOUNTING CLERK III GINA LIWANAG

Accounting Clerk III Gina Liwanag was hired by the City of Long Beach in September 2007 and is currently assigned to the Police Department's Financial Bureau. The employees and supervisors that work with her daily are grateful for her hard work, dedication, and productivity, and for her great attitude, which energizes those around her. Her exemplary work ethic is evident as she continuously provided excellent service through some very challenging times for the Financial Bureau.

Over the past few years, Ms. Liwanag has helped to resolve a tremendous backlog due to the vacancy of both the Bureau's Clerk Typist position and at times the Accountant position. When the Accountant left, Ms. Liwanag and the other Accounting Clerk were able to take over all of the duties of the Department Accountant. As a sample of her productivity, during Fiscal Year 2013 she processed the following:

- 337 Travel/training reimbursements equaling \$122,247.26
- 1,299 Uniform order invoices equaling \$487,765.49
- 548 Imprest Cash Reimbursements equaling \$61,065.14

The Police Department relies heavily on training which involves a lot of travel. Ms. Liwanag is very knowledgeable about travel and training rules and regulations, and is very skilled at reviewing requests for reimbursement. She often finds very technical issues with documents that are submitted and keeps the Department in compliance with City and grant-agency rules. Daily, Ms. Liwanag must contact staff to request corrections or backup documentation. She is a good communicator, which minimizes conflict and keeps her supervisors up to date on issues that might become problems for the Department. She demonstrates good judgment which has resulted in trust from Financial Management and the City Manager's Office, allowing the Department's robust travel for training to continue at a level the exceeds any other Department in the City.

Ms. Liwanag is well like by customers, co-workers and supervisors. She has a very sunny disposition and is always in attendance at weekly staff meetings. She is extremely responsive, very polite, and will often rush requests that are late without asking questions or complaining. When asked, she provides ideas for customer service or process improvement in an effort to eliminate unnecessary work and reduce delays. Ms. Liwanag is good about asking her supervisor for direction on priorities and often makes recommendations on a suggested course of action. She is attentive to the matters that involve the most exposure to customers, such as reimbursements, and consistently processes a high volume of work.

Ms. Liwanag is punctual and reliable. She is always in attendance of weekly staff meetings, tours, and training. Ms. Liwanag follows the rules and regulations of the City, granting agencies, and Department; and, will contact her supervisor if she feels that something is out of compliance. She is responsive to direction and willing to take on new instruction without complaint or resistance. She is flexible and adaptable to change, and enthusiastic about process improvement even if it means extra work in the short term.

Ms. Liwanag is also responsible for a variety of additional duties that are critical to the day-to-day financial operations of the Police Department. Her responsibilities include processing daily cash deposits, including checks for various Department activities and services, and performing monthly audits. She also issues purchase orders, verifies and certifies invoices, processes civil case and NSF billings, and assists in the preparation of grant reimbursement requests. In addition to these many duties, she also serves as the back-up Cash Custodian for several of the funds administered within the Police Department, further demonstrating her reliability and credibility within the organization.

Accounting Clerk Gina Liwanag is an exemplary employee who consistently goes above and beyond expectations to ensure that the financial needs of the Police Department are handled in a professional and efficient manner. Her positive attitude, outstanding customer service skills, and exceptional work product have been critical to the success of the Financial Bureau throughout the past year. She has been described by Chief Financial Officer John Keisler as "an absolute gift" to the Police Department and the Financial Bureau, and is the ideal selection as the 2013 Civilian Employee of the Year.



Gina Liwanag
Accounting Clerk III

SWORN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



DETECTIVE LAURIE BARAJAS

Detective Laurie Barajas was hired in 2004 and has worked as a patrol officer, a West Division Robbery Task Force member, and the South Division Police Resource Officer (PRO). She is currently assigned as the Administrative Detective in the Vice Investigations Section. She is certified in Hostage Negotiation by the FBI, trains monthly with the Hostage Negotiation Team, and back fills when needed on SWAT call-outs. She is a member of the Department's Baker to Vegas Committee and was the Volunteer Coordinator for this year's race, volunteering much of her own time to benefit the team.

As the Vice Administrative Detective, Laurie Barajas is the lead Police Department liaison to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC). She is responsible for preparing ABC Council Letters and numerous additional ABC documents; investigating Entertainment Permits and Occasional Event Permits (OEP) and writing recommendations to the Chief of Police; writing Business License Revocation Memorandums; filing vice administrative cases; and handling vice administrative projects. She conducts a weekly briefing for the Chief of Police and the Chief of Staff on vice related issues affecting the City. When she speaks with the Chief of Police during vice briefings, she is confident and knowledgeable.

Her predecessor had been in the position for over 10 years and was considered the Department expert in every aspect of vice investigations. The bar was set high and she wasted no time in stepping completely into her new role. While learning the procedures used in her new position, she eliminated redundant tasks, asked people involved in the process what they actually needed, and made changes to update the protocol. She also explored how the procedure could be improved through modern technology.

When the idea of a database for ABC licensing and entertainment permit information was proposed, Detective Barajas worked very closely with the Technology Services Department (TSD) to design a comprehensive database. With her input, TSD personnel created the first program in California to access information directly from ABC. The program also pulls information from the City's Business Licensing System. The new database will track the status of ABC applications, allow for input and attachments, and will store all data from various sources. What previously could take hours or days to research will now be accomplished within a few minutes, freeing up countless hours of investigative time.

Detective Barajas conducts thorough investigations and writes detailed reports. Much of her work is reviewed by the Chief of Police, Department Heads, City Manager, and City Council and is often discussed on the council floor in a public forum. In December 2013, she participated in a high-level policy meeting that included the Assistant City Manager, the Chief of Staff, and managers from Financial Management and Development Services. Detective Barajas made a valuable contribution, utilizing her expertise in ABC regulations and protocol to make sound policy recommendations.

She conducts field inspections of businesses that apply for entertainment permits and has developed an excellent rapport with other city departments, business owners, and outside law enforcement agencies like ABC. Detective Barajas has developed strong working relationships with ABC staff. This increased communication has led to a much more fluid application process. She has also developed a training program for City Council Office staff members to educate them on the intricate, and often complicated, procedure of processing ABC applications.

In addition to her administrative responsibilities, Detective Barajas has volunteered to work with the Vice Field Team on various assignments. Throughout these assignments, she has demonstrated excellent computer skills, research ability, and interview techniques. As an undercover detective she also assists the field team with "John" Programs, ABC inspections in establishments, special event ABC inspections, "Shoulder Tap" and "Minor Decoy" operations, and various human trafficking operations. She has an uncanny ability to adapt to the undercover role she is playing. During the human trafficking operations, she was frequently assigned to the command post due to her expertise in one of the Department's computer data bases. As a result of her many efforts, she has become a valuable resource for the field team.

With just 10 years of law enforcement experience, Detective Barajas has distinguished herself as a competent, dedicated and engaged member of the Long Beach Police Department. She clearly has a "big picture view," understanding the role she plays in the Police Department and the City. She recognizes the importance of her decisions, identifies potential problems and solutions, so her opinion and recommendations are well respected by her peers, supervisors and other City partners.

For her outstanding accomplishments and exceptional work performance throughout the last year, the Police Department is proud to recognize Detective Laurie Barajas the 2013 Sworn Officer of the Year.



Laurie Barajas
Detective



NOW HIRING

City of Long Beach Police Recruit



Now Hiring Police Recruit

Starting Salary: \$30.54 per hour while in Academy
(Effective April 1, 2014)

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1969

Officer Wayne Clark
Officer James Fontaine

1970

Officer William Jonkey
Officer Quentin Manes

1971

Lieutenant Raymond Henry

1973

Sergeant Wesley Bertz

1974

Sergeant Robert Bell
Sergeant Joseph Malcolm

1975

Officer Robert R. Birdsall
Officer Franke Lewis
Officer Arnold Schmeling

1977

Officer Steve Housden

1978

Sergeant Lewis Petix

1980

Sergeant Robert Itson
Officer Donald Herrell

1983

Officer Randall Guesno

1991

Sergeant Michael Peters
Sergeant Roy Walker
Officer James Hill
Officer Kevin Peterson

1992

Sergeant Joe Battle

2000

Detective Rick Delfin
Sergeant Ernie T. Kohagura
Sergeant Walt Turley
Detective Christopher D. Bolt

2001

Detective Thomas E. Brown
Corporal Dave Frazier
Officer Marcus D. Hodge
Officer William Jarman
Officer James H. Kloss
Officer Patrick J. O'Dowd
Officer Timothy James O'Hara
Officer Parine Soth
Officer Tim Van Coutren

2002

Officer Ciaran Crawford
Officer William A. Johnston
Officer Bret Thomas Milovich

2003

Officer Larry Bautista
Officer L.V. Powell



PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS



Prior to 1988

Torben Beith
James Bisetti
Ronald P. Burgess Sr.
Tom Clemens
Gary O. Denham
James Dowdell
David Esrey
Virgil J. Fogg
James Fortier
Randell C. Guesno
Daniel Kulusich Jr.
Robert Laine
Lance Livingston
Conrad N. Nutzman
William R. Penhollow
Dennis J. Robbins

1989

L.A. Arwine
Anthony Benedetti
Dennis Bracken
Leslie Soto
Victor Thrash

1993

Abel Dominguez

1998

Brian Watt

1999

Brenda Relph

2001

Rick Delfin

2002

Thomas Brown
Parine Soth
Timothy Van Coutren

2004

Larry Bautista

2005

Dennis Parker

2007

Roy Wade Jr.
Abram Yap

2009

Matthew Kennison

2010

Christopher Bates
Paul Gallo

2011

Gabriel Garrido



MEDAL OF HONOR



Thomas C. Borden 1912
Orlando E. Bridgeman 1923
Major J.R. Wilkinson 1923
Robert H. Halstead 1926
George A. Walls 1928
Ralph W. Morgan 1931
William J. Maclean 1934
Delbert T. Buckman 1940
Engebrit Larson 1942
Sylcia M. Sievers 1943
Harold W. Irwin 1945
Cecil W. Singer 1945
Marlin L. Evans 1949
Jesse M. Ream 1950

Robert H. Morgan 1950
Frederick W. Walsh 1957
Vernon J. Owings 1960
Richard Lefebvre 1965
Robert G. Smith 1965
William L. Isham 1967
Donald V. Knott 1967
Robert R. Birdsall 1975
Franke N. Lewis 1975
Gary O. Elkins 1976
Lloyd M. Lund 1981
Karl D. Simons 1996
Daryle W. Black 2000
Edward R. Davenport 2003

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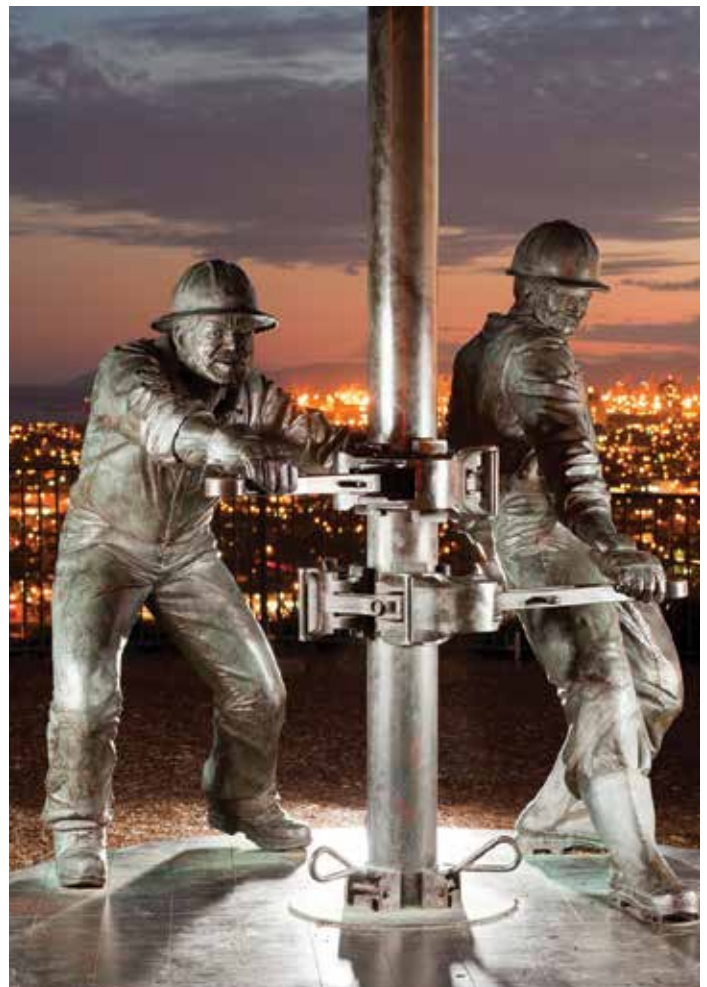
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