

# 2015

## ANNUAL REPORT

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROFESSIONAL  
PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1951 | PROUDLY REPRESENTING 8,700 MEMBERS



# Professionals Representing Professionals

## Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association

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The 2015 Annual Report is an official publication of the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association (PPOA). Opinions expressed by individual Board members or contributing authors in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire Board.

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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



BRIAN MORIGUCHI

**F**or PPOA and its members, 2015 proved to be a historic year. Jim McDonnell completed his first year as Sheriff, having arrived as an outsider to take the helm of the largest and most complex police agency in the world. With that came growing pains, harsher punishments and new policies that required some adjustment and battles fought by PPOA and our members. Several

disgruntled custody assistants attempted, unsuccessfully, to decertify PPOA, causing divisiveness among Unit 621 members. This was a battle that PPOA refused to concede, as it would have negatively impacted thousands of 621 members. PPOA was victorious, but it came at a cost, when money could have been spent more appropriately fighting pension attacks or other issues. PPOA also successfully negotiated five separate salary contracts for our members, and they proved to be some of the best contract terms and conditions in years. It was a difficult year, but I am very proud of our successes.

On the legislative front, we saw many attacks against public safety. Two failed politicians, Reed and DeMaio, were unsuccessful at getting an anti-pension ballot initiative to qualify for the 2016 election, but they submitted two more in hopes of getting a more favorable title and summary. Protecting our pensions will once again be our primary focus this election year. We also saw body-camera legislation that some politicians attempted to quickly force through the process without concern for POBRA, officers' rights or privacy rights of citizens. Undoubtedly, we will see this again in 2016. PPOA will

continue to work with our lobbyist to ensure that our voices are heard in Sacramento, to protect public safety and those who serve.

Last year, I incorporated a year-end report card of the Sheriff's Department to express the successes and failures of the Sheriff and his management team from the perspective of PPOA and the employees. The ratings and comments are not meant to "out" poor conduct, but rather to provide information that the Department can use to determine its effectiveness from the employees' perspective. The employees are the most important asset of the Department and should be valued by management. It is our hope that Sheriff McDonnell and his executives will take the information we provide and use it to improve the quality of leadership and the overall management of the Department.

## LASD Report Card

Jim McDonnell was elected Sheriff approximately 12 months ago. As an outsider, it was expected that he would need time to develop an understanding of the complexities of the Department and make decisions about ways to improve it. This was no easy task — let's face it, we were pretty dysfunctional from an operational standpoint. Corruption, unethical behavior and favoritism were commonplace for many years, often at the highest levels of management. One of McDonnell's biggest hurdles was determining whom to rely upon to help him change the culture of the LASD. Could he depend on those who were part of the culture, or should he go outside the Department to seek advice from those who are untainted by our culture? Sheriff McDonnell did both. He brought in a few people from the outside, but also relied upon some internal folks who had intimate knowledge of the problems of the Department. In the ratings below, you will see that this decision played an integral part in our assessment of his effectiveness.

## Setting the Tone

**A** When Sheriff McDonnell took office, he immediately set the tone for his expectations: Ethics and integrity will be expected at all levels. Hard work will be rewarded. Judgment will be based on work performance, not affiliations, friendships or cliques. Setting the tone was easy; getting people to buy into it was another story.

## Organizational Changes

**B** Some argue that Sheriff McDonnell took too long before making organizational changes that were necessary. There were no changes to his executive level, with the exception of bringing back retired Chief Tom Angel as

the Sheriff's chief of staff. Although Angel was retired from the Sheriff's Department, he was not a party to the shenanigans that went on for many years. In his role as chief of staff, he could advise Sheriff McDonnell, having knowledge of the history and the "players" on the Department.

Sheriff McDonnell did bring in several people from outside the Department to assist him. He brought advisors and constitutional attorneys to advise him on legal matters, especially the operation of the County jail system. He also brought in a communications expert to help with branding and image restoration. Nine months after taking office, the Sheriff announced his first significant organizational change. Most notably, he moved several units to report directly to the Sheriff,

including the Audit and Accountability Command Unit. The Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB) was moved under the Professional Standards Division, which also oversees IAB. Most of the moves were relatively minor, and we expect more changes in the future.

Sheriff McDonnell has made gradual changes to the Department and its leadership. Some argue that the changes have come too slowly. At a time when sweeping changes appeared to be warranted, McDonnell took his time to ensure that his decisions were the right ones. Unfortunately, that also means the same shenanigans continue, as many of those who were a problem in the past continue to be problematic. We recommend that he make personnel changes necessary to get the

Department moving in the right direction. Old and ineffective leaders need to be replaced with new, strong, ethical leaders to move the organization forward instead of prolonging the status quo.

## Promotions

**C** In the past, promotions were often given based on cheating, campaign contributions or simply being “in the car.” Favoritism was the criterion used, not experience and capabilities. Sheriff McDonnell did not know Sheriff’s Department personnel when he was elected, so he had to rely upon the Department executives to advise him about whom to promote. Unfortunately, many of these Department executives were part of the problem in the past or were compensating for being “out of the car” with the former regime. At first, we saw many promotions based on favoritism and obvious links to certain executives. I question whether these individuals were the “best of the best,” since many had significant discipline, ties to cliques and other malfeasance in their past. Without passing judgment on them, as many of them may be outstanding people, it seemed a bit awkward to promote these individuals over those who also had outstanding credentials and no questionable background. With each promotion announcement, PPOA received many complaints about whether Sheriff McDonnell was being “fooled” and whether he had knowledge of the past misdeeds of those he was promoting. I don’t believe Sheriff McDonnell knew. As time went on and he learned about our personnel, the promotions got better. We made a recommendation to Sheriff McDonnell to require that all information, good and bad, be presented to him about any individual being recommended for promotion by Department executives. By doing this, McDonnell will truly be responsible for all promotions if he has full knowledge, or he can hold those executives accountable for failing to provide him with all the information about any candidate.

## Accountability, Transparency and Oversight

**A** The greatest pressure Sheriff McDonnell faced from the citizenry was regarding accountability, transparency and oversight of the Sheriff’s Department. The people of Los Angeles County wanted a Sheriff to “reform” the Department. One area of reform included the creation

of a civilian oversight commission that County supervisors prematurely voted to create without identifying its access, authority, accountability, staffing, funding and many other aspects. McDonnell addressed this issue immediately, and took the position that this commission should not have subpoena powers and should have limited authority. This was the right position to take, since the Sheriff is responsible to the voters and should not abdicate any decisions or authority to a commission. The Sheriff has a constitutional responsibility to the voters who elected him. However, in order to ensure that the Department was being transparent and responsible, Sheriff McDonnell did give the Office of Inspector General access to information and processes that are important for oversight and accountability. We applaud the Sheriff for not succumbing to political pressure and, instead, creating a system that generates better accountability and transparency while still maintaining the ultimate responsibility of the Sheriff’s Office to run the Department.

## Discipline, Investigations and Relieved of Duty Status

**D** Since becoming Sheriff, McDonnell has set the right tone and expectations that we act ethically and do our jobs honorably and appropriately. However, this edict did not translate well to his subordinate executives. Throughout the Department, we have noticed increased discipline for even the most minor of offenses, the blame for many of which lies mostly with the Department for failure to properly train employees. These minor offenses were not malicious or done with wanton disregard for policies and law. They were errors resulting from a lack of knowledge and training, or from following status quo procedures that are now deemed violations of policy. Most egregious is the abusive use of relieved of duty (ROD) by Department executives, especially in Custody Division. Being relieved of duty is a major event in the career of an employee, and should only be used in the most serious of violations or when it is necessary to remove an employee from his or her work environment. The response from an executive, “It’s no big deal; they are relieved but still getting paid,” is indicative of a manager who has little compassion for employees and little knowledge of true leadership. It’s a bit ironic that we treat criminals with more compassion, opting

for rehabilitation and education to prevent future criminal conduct, but we opt for harsh discipline for our own employees as the first course of action (even before they are found guilty of anything). This rating would be an “F” if it weren’t for the belief that Sheriff McDonnell is not driving this effort. I believe that some Department executives are taking these harsh actions because *they believe* it is what Sheriff McDonnell wants, and they are trying very hard to impress the Sheriff. PPOA will vigorously defend the rights of the employees against abusive managers and executives, and attempt to bring stability and fairness back to the process of alleged employee misconduct.

## Morale

**C** Although the excessive discipline is largely driving a decline in morale, it goes much deeper than that. Employees can accept harsh punishment if it applies to everyone and is administered fairly. But we still see a double standard between line-level personnel and executives. An employee can be fired for lying, while an executive can lie to an employee at will, or fabricate a case against an employee to prevent their promotion or get them to “voluntarily” transfer out of their command.

Depending on who you ask, morale is higher or lower than the past, which is the reason for the “C” rating for this category. Some see positive changes and are happy to see things changing, while others believe that nothing has changed and the same favoritism, unfairness and nepotism still exist. This rating can get better with just a little effort in showing respect toward the employees and improving working conditions through reasonable disciplinary actions, training and a fair promotional process.

Overall, I am very pleased with the direction of the Sheriff’s Department under the leadership of Jim McDonnell. I have had the opportunity to talk to him on many occasions, and I feel strongly that he is a man of character who can improve this Department immensely. He will need to learn who he can trust and who he cannot trust, and who shares his mission and goals and who is scamming him. That will come with time and experience. To date, there have been many bumps in the road and many employees have been harmed unjustly, but I still have hopes that Sheriff McDonnell will fix what needs fixing and move this Department in the right direction.

# THE PPOA STORY

America had plenty to worry about in 1951, as postwar tensions were escalating into the Cold War. All eyes were on two men named Truman and Stalin. Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, deputy sheriffs, deputy marshals and district attorney investigators were growing concerned about their pensions. It wasn't so much about pension reform as it was the threats to abolish their retirement system altogether! The concern became so serious that a group of them gathered at the Hall of Records for a serious discussion. They shared ideas about how best to protect their general welfare as peace officers, and decided the most important first step was to work as a team. It was at that meeting that this fledgling group of L.A. County employees shook hands and agreed to form the Los Angeles County Peace Officers Protective Association (POPA).

Monthly dues were \$1 per month back then and they were initially collected in person by members of the Board. Board members often had the lone staff member (a female secretary) tag along while collecting dues in order to apply a little social pressure to the men who hesitated to part with a buck. The average monthly paycheck for a deputy sheriff in 1951 was \$355, so standards were naturally different. In fact, according to recruitment literature used by the Sheriff's Department at the time, deputy sheriff applicants were required to possess "no less than 16 natural teeth."

Before long, POPA's first office opened in Chinatown. The Board retained an attorney and provided each union member with false-arrest insurance. POPA's initial efforts centered on defending members' rights, convincing the County to issue a pay increase and fighting the 1952 proposal to abolish all public employee retirement systems. In this sense, POPA's most important responsibilities have remained unchanged over the last 60 years. The union's perseverance has resulted in a much-expanded role: PPOA (the acronym was altered slightly from "POPA" in 1978, but the original pronunciation has stuck) is now one of the most influential law enforcement associations in the nation. Few single-employer unions have as much impact locally and statewide as this one. In six decades of service, PPOA has accomplished much more than could be listed in this column. A few highlights include:

## 4850 Time

PPOA sponsored legislation in the 1960s to establish a key benefit for

peace officers: paid time off for line-of-duty injuries. Additional legal action in the early 1990s secured 4850 time for custody assistants.

## Retirement Credit

PPOA's efforts in 1972 resulted in a military buy-back program for L.A. County in which peace officers can make a retirement contribution for years in the military and get additional credited service for retirement.

## Disability Coverage

In 1990, PPOA co-founded the Peace Officers Relief Fund (PORF), which provides 100 percent employer-paid, long-term disability income, as well as life insurance coverage.

## Safety Equipment

Thanks to PPOA's efforts over the years, peace officers no longer have to purchase their own firearms and safety equipment (e.g., vests); that all became standard issue by Los Angeles County.

## Medical Presumptions

PPOA's full-time legislative efforts have paid off handsomely over the last three decades, resulting in presumptions for cancer, blood-borne pathogens, heart disease, lower-back (duty belt) injuries, staph infections and more.

## Fraternal Order of Police

In 2005, PPOA affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) — the world's largest organization of law enforcement officers (325,000 strong). The FOP affords PPOA members with a national voice on legislation and a crucial legal defense plan. The FOP was also the driving force behind HR 218 (enacted in 2004), which allows active and retired officers to carry a concealed firearm in any jurisdiction in the United States, regardless of state or local laws.

## Ventura II Lawsuit 2006

A lawsuit filed by PPOA successfully increased pension benefits for future retirees and added \$200 million in benefits for those already retired.

## New Members

PPOA proudly enrolled 369 new members in 2015 (as of November 10), bringing total membership to 8,726. The state of your union is strong, and we are fully committed to forging ahead in 2016 as a leader among the nation's most effective law enforcement associations.



# LABOR REPRESENTATION

**F**or a law enforcement union, no responsibility is more crucial than providing job protection. Increased scrutiny and anti-police tension requires constant vigilance from PPOA. When situations arise, PPOA members wisely seek assistance from their labor representatives. Since January 2015, the PPOA staff has received thousands of calls from members for various reasons. More than 800 of those calls were forwarded to PPOA's labor representation team. In the end, nearly 300 became cases handled by our in-house labor representatives and/or attorneys — the rest were resolved informally via telephone, meetings, conflict resolution or correspondence.

Of the cases handled by the PPOA labor representation team:

- » 164 were internal investigations
- » 89 were grievances that either started out as such or became such as a result of the investigation
- » 25 were civil service appeals
- » 21 were internal criminal investigations

PPOA labor representatives and attorneys (no less than half a dozen specialized firms) are uniquely experienced and familiar with local,

county, state and federal administrative agencies and the laws that govern all aspects of the workplace. This allows PPOA to provide skilled representation in every area of labor, including but not limited to:

- » Arbitration
- » Contract enforcement
- » IAB investigations
- » ICIB investigations
- » Grievances
- » Unit-level investigations
- » Unfair labor practices
- » Workplace issues

If you are not a full dues-paying PPOA member, we ask you to consider joining. If you are a member, we thank you for helping your union move forward and remind you to call PPOA as soon as you suspect anything may go awry at work. We can help. It's what we do for members every day. Our representatives are available to speak with you 24 hours a day.



# PPOA INSURANCE AGENCY

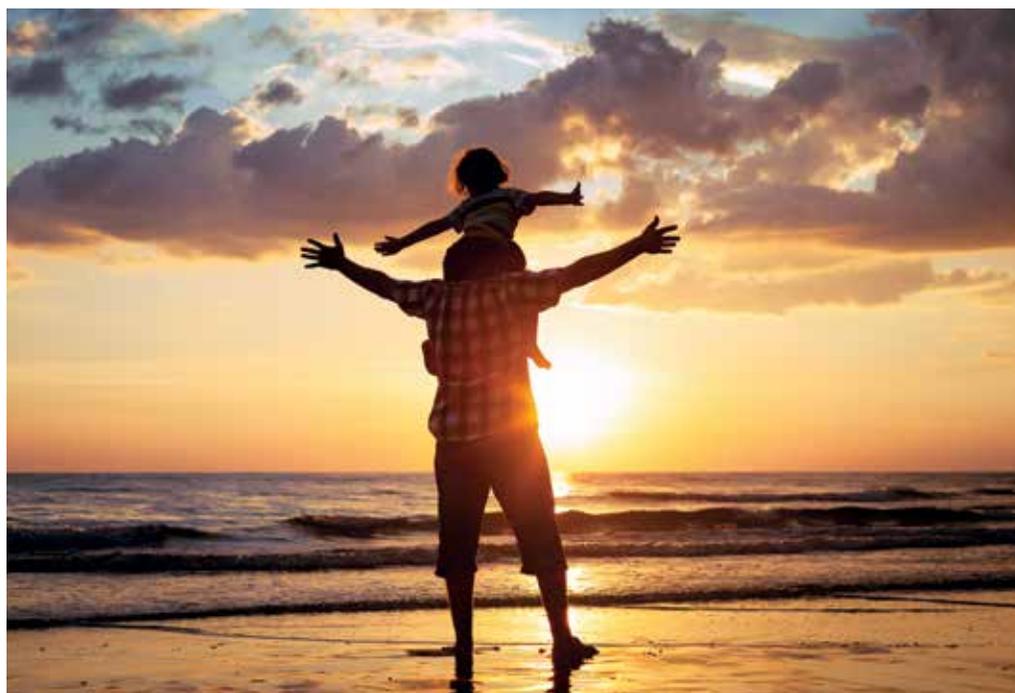
**M**ost PPOA members are aware that your union established its own insurance agency a few years ago. The motive behind this was straightforward: We wanted to help our members navigate an overwhelming array of providers and products marketed to County employees. As our in-house insurance agency was taking shape, we assembled a team of experienced, trustworthy representatives to work specifically with PPOA members and ensure that the membership has access to the supplemental insurance policies they need — with no heavy-handed salesmanship, no upselling, and no exorbitant fees or commissions. The PPOA Insurance Agency is designed to help our members save money and time while securing appropriate insurance protection.

We believe that the best way to help you obtain the right coverage — at the best possible price — is to help you understand what you need to know about insurance.

Have you ever wondered what kind of damage is covered by a basic homeowners policy? Or what types of coverage are generally included in a standard personal auto policy?

Want to find out about a disability income policy? Have you ever wondered how much of your paycheck you can protect and how much it would cost?

Are you curious about when the time is right to apply for long-term care? Want to know whether an HMO or PPO is best for you and your family?



What's the difference between a disability income policy and a long-term care policy?

We want your insurance to work hard for you and your family. Let us help you find the right protection while giving you the peace of mind that comes with knowing you are covered.

The PPOA Insurance Agency is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and professionalism in our relationship with you, our client. We endeavor to know and understand your financial situation and provide you with only the highest-quality information, services and products to help you reach your goals.

## Disability Income Protection

Provides income to those who are injured on the job, are sick or can't work. Does not require you to use or exhaust sick time or vacation time but does allow you to replace up to 40 percent of your income (in addition to state disability income).

## Critical Illness

Relieves financial pressure caused by health issues like heart attacks, strokes or cancer. It provides a lump-sum benefit for covered illnesses. Ideal for those who don't have funds to cover at least six months of expenses saved in the bank.

## Accident Expense

Pays benefit amount based on covered injury. Preferred by people who engage in, or have children engaged in, sports or recreational activities.

## Life Insurance

Term policy with death benefit up to \$350,000. Does not require a physical or blood/urine tests.

## Homeowners, Auto, Boat Insurance and Much More!

Discounted rates extended to all PPOA members.

PPOA Insurance Agency representatives visit L.A. County work sites regularly to visit with our members and discuss insurance-related issues. If you'd like them to visit your work location, please contact PPOIA at (909) 599-8627.

PPOA Insurance Agency  
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# MEMBER BENEFITS

**F**or the past six decades, PPOA has proudly offered an impressive array of benefits to our membership. The list below is assurance that PPOA's Board and staff strive to secure new, valuable benefits year after year.

Here is a brief summary of the many benefits, perks and privileges available to PPOA members:

## **POPA Federal Credit Union**

POPA Federal Credit Union is full-service, nonprofit and member-owned, with more than \$170 million in assets and four full-service locations in Los Angeles County.

## **Free Non-Job-Related Legal Advice**

One free consultation with an attorney is available each year for every PPOA member.

## **Free Insurance Coverage**

PPOA members (active and retired) are given a \$4,000 accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance policy at no cost. Plus, active PPOA members receive an additional \$4,000 in AD&D and life insurance policies.

## **Legal Defense Plan**

Active PPOA members are provided with defense coverage for civil and criminal actions arising in the scope of duties.

## **Peace Officers Relief Fund (PORF)**

PPOA administrates this free, long-term disability coverage and \$100,000 life insurance policy for active, sworn members.

## **PPOA Insurance Agency**

PPOA members have access to an array of plans designed to complement County-provided benefits, including disability income protection, critical illness, accident expense, homeowners, auto, boat, motorcycle and more.

## **Star & Shield Magazine**

A complimentary subscription to PPOA's official magazine is given to all members.

## **Annual Calendar & Benefits Booklet**

Members receive a pocket-sized resource listing PPOA benefits and the Smart Saver Blue Pages — a directory of local businesses offering special discounts to PPOA members.

## **Group Discounts**

Members enjoy exclusive deals for amusement parks, movie theaters, cellphone service and more.

## **Free Notary Service**

There is an experienced notary public on staff available to PPOA members at no charge.

## **Pre-Labor Day BBQ**

Hundreds of members and 30-plus vendors gather annually for free food, prizes and fun.

## **Annual PPOA Fishing Trip**

A private boat for PPOA members is chartered every summer for a day of angling near Catalina Island.

## **Purchasing Power**

Members who enjoy online shopping can now do so with convenient payroll deduction plans.

## **LEO Web Protect**

PPOA members can protect personal privacy by having their information removed from the Web.

## **Healthview Body Scan**

Active members carrying ALADS Blue Cross insurance are eligible for a free, noninvasive scan and consultation.

## **Red Book Auto Fleet Discount**

Members save both time and money when purchasing a new vehicle via the Red Book.

## **PPOA Conference Center**

A modern, multiuse conference center is available to members at no charge.

## **Estate Planning**

United Estate Planning offers peace of mind and exclusive discounts to PPOA members.

## **Rose Hills Memorial Park**

Members are entitled to exclusive discounts and convenient payment plans.

## **Home Mortgage Consultation**

PPOA members seeking mortgage advice have access to our trusted and seasoned expert, Adriana Rodriguez-Liberato.

## **Financial Planning**

PPOA's financial planning team is available to assist members through education, analysis and personal program planning.

## **Annual Retiree Luncheon**

For 12 years running, PPOA has hosted a free lunch reunion at the Sheraton Fairplex for its retired members and guests.

## **Affiliations**

PPOA members benefit from affiliations with a number of significant associations, including Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement, California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations, Fraternal Order of Police, Public Employees Staff Organization, California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation and more.

# LEGISLATIVE SUCCESSES IN 2015

**S**trategic, well-planned lobbying is a crucial role for all impactful law enforcement associations. This fact is the reason why PPOA's vigilance in the halls of the California State Capitol dates back more than three decades.

Without lobbying, the many interests of PPOA members as law enforcement employees would be lost in the process of lawmaking. Every hot-button issue for law enforcement (pension reform, body cameras, use of force, etc.) is directly affected by legislative strategies — both from those who support you and those who do not.

In his many veto messages this year, the governor indicated that he is reluctant to enact new sentence enhancements or create additional crimes that could increase the county jail or state prison populations. Although numerous significant public safety improvement bills were vetoed, many others that PPOA supported were signed into law. Additionally, we were able to prevent many of the dangerous bills from becoming law.

The following is a partial list of bills introduced in the 2015–2016 legislative session that PPOA actively supported, opposed and closely monitored:

## Supported Bills Enacted (Now Law)

**AB 160 (Dababneh):** Closes numerous loopholes in current law that prevent the state from collecting restitution for tax evasion by criminal enterprises.

**AB 195 (Chau):** Creates a misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months, for any person to solicit another to join in the commission of specified crimes relating to unauthorized access of computer systems.

**AB 346 (Wilk):** Requires that an arrested person be taken immediately before a magistrate if he or she fails to present both his or her driver's license or other evidence of identity and an unobstructed view of his or her full face for examination.

**AB 539 (Levine):** Specifically authorizes search warrants for blood draw from a suspect accused of boating under the influence. Conforms boating law to current vehicle law.

**AB 835 (Gipson):** Extends the statute of limitations up to six years in certain cases of vehicular homicide. This is a very personal bill for Mr. Gipson; his 3-year-old son was killed in front of his wife, and the driver was never identified.

**AB 896 (Wagner):** Allows counties to seek some reimbursement from residents age 16 or older for search or rescue costs incurred as a result of either wanton and reckless misconduct or criminal acts by the persons who required search/rescue services.

**AB 929 (Chau):** Allows law enforcement officers to continue to utilize a pen register or a trap-and-trace device to protect public safety during emergencies and other limited situations.

**AB 1407 (Atkins):** Allows a court in a domestic violence proceeding to direct a wireless telephone service provider to transfer wireless phone numbers and devices in an effort to keep victims of domestic violence safe from their abusers.

**AB 1475 (Cooper):** Authorizes each county to establish and implement an interagency sexual assault response team (SART) program to address the problem of sexual assault and to add representatives of university and college Title IX coordinators, and university and college police departments, depending on local needs and goals.

**SB 212 (Mendoza):** Authorizes the court to apply a specified factor in aggravation in cases when sentencing a defendant for manufacturing methamphetamine or concentrated cannabis based on the distance from the scene of the offense to an occupied residence or any structure in which persons are present at the time of the offense. The applicable distance is 200 feet in methamphetamine cases and 300 feet in concentrated cannabis cases.

**SB 307 (Pavley):** Expressly provides that post-conviction restraining orders may be issued by the court in domestic violence or sex crimes when a defendant's sentence includes a period of mandatory supervision.

**SB 352 (Block):** Requires the court to consider issuing a restraining order for up to 10 years when a defendant is convicted for an offense involving abuse of an elder or a dependent adult, regardless of the sentence imposed.

**SB 507 (Pavley):** Provides prosecutors with access to certain reports in preparation for civil commitment hearings regarding sexually violent predators.

**SB 621 (Hertzberg):** Authorizes Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Program funds to be used for diversion programs that offer appropriate mental health and treatment services for designated offenders.

**SB 676 (Cannella):** Authorizes pre-conviction forfeiture of images that were distributed in the commission of what is commonly called cyberporn revenge and a number of other invasion-of-privacy crimes that are typically sexually motivated. Also allows for the forfeiture, under certain circumstances, of the equipment used to create and/or store the images.

### Bad Bills Stopped (Failed to Pass)

**AB 66 (Weber):** Imposes significant body-worn camera mandates and prohibitions, including a ban on allowing officers to view footage prior to making an official statement or report involving serious use of force. AB 66 remains held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**AB 86 (McCarty):** Requires the state attorney general to create a special prosecutor for investigations into police uses of force resulting in death or significant injury. The bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**AB 324 (Jones-Sawyer):** Allows felons to serve on civil and criminal juries. This bill seeks to facilitate the reintegration of felons back into their communities, a goal that most agree is helpful in breaking the cycle of recidivism. Although we generally support evidenced-based efforts proven to improve public safety and reduce recidivism, we strongly opposed this bill due to significant concerns over officer and juror safety. This bill remains in the Assembly Judiciary Committee, where it has not yet had a hearing.

**AB 619 (Weber):** Originally, this bill required the attorney general to create a report summarizing all of the death-in-custody reports from local law enforcement for a year. The amended version of AB 619 would have required local law enforcement to report all use-of-force (as defined by the bill) incidents to the attorney general. The bill is held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**SB 443 (Mitchell):** Essentially prevents law enforcement from participating in revenue sharing with federal agencies as part of a joint task force. The bill remains on the Assembly floor after it failed repeated attempts to secure the required number of votes last summer.

**SB 608 (Liu):** Prohibits cities and counties from enforcing local laws against camping on sidewalks, in parks, in and on the grounds of public buildings, and in vehicles parked on public streets. Subjects law enforcement officers to civil and criminal liability for enforcing such laws. The bill remains with the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee, where it failed to gain sufficient support for passage.



# 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW



## LASD Retiree Roundup

Gary Olson, Larry Anderson and former PPOA Board Member Ray Leyva were among 800-plus attendees at the LASD Retiree Roundup in Laughlin.



## Delegates Acknowledged for Commitment

PPOA Delegates Chairman Jim Blankenship (left) awarded service pins to seven delegates to acknowledge five years of commitment from each of them.

## MARCH

### APRIL



## Third Annual Heroes Ride

200 riders helped make PPOA's third annual Heroes Ride a success, as we raised funds for the families of fallen officers and wounded veterans.

### MAY



## PPOA Honors Former Sheriff

PPOA honored former L.A. County Sheriff John Scott (currently Orange County undersheriff), thanking him for his leadership and 43 years of PPOA membership. From left: PPOA Executive Director Paul Roller, John Scott, PPOA President Brian Moriguchi and Orange County Sheriff (former LASD Chief) Sandra Hutchens.



### 46th Annual L.A. County Peace Officer Memorial

The families of 18 fallen officers, including PPOA member Pat Libertone, were honored at the final memorial ceremony held at STARS Center in Whittier. Starting in 2016, the event will be relocated to Biscailuz Center in East L.A.

**JUNE**



### Sheriff McDonnell Addresses PPOA Delegates

Sheriff Jim McDonnell joined PPOA delegates at their quarterly meeting, where he discussed a number of topics, including promotions, contract cities, Department standards and more.

**JULY**



### Unit 612 Negotiates New Salary Contract

After more than five months of negotiations, Unit 612 members (sergeants and lieutenants) reached a tentative agreement on a new three-year contract. Unit 612 members overwhelmingly ratified that agreement shortly thereafter.



### Sheriff's Security Officer Graduation

PPOA representatives watched proudly as 21 sheriff's security officers graduated in a ceremony at Biscailuz Center.

# 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW



## Custody Assistant Class #83

PPOA representatives were honored to join family and friends of 28 new custody assistants for their graduation ceremony at Biscailuz Center.



## Bright Minds Awarded PPOA Scholarships

PPOA proudly presented \$13,500 in college scholarships to a dozen young scholars in August. The fourth annual PPOA college scholarship awards were issued to one PPOA member and 11 dependents of PPOA members.

## AUGUST

### SEPTEMBER



## 15th Annual PPOA Pre-Labor Day BBQ

Thanks to support from PPOA members and vendors, our 2015 Pre-Labor Day BBQ set a new attendance record, feeding more than 500 people at Biscailuz Center.



## Unit 621 Reaches Salary Contract Agreement

Following a long summer of negotiations with L.A. County executives, the Unit 621 bargaining team reached agreement on a new three-year salary contract. That agreement was then overwhelmingly ratified by 96 percent of PPOA members in Unit 621.



### District Attorney Speaks With PPOA Delegates

L.A. County District Attorney Jackie Lacey discussed death penalty reform with PPOA delegates at their meeting in October.

## OCTOBER



### 12th Annual Retiree Luncheon

PPOA representatives were pleasantly surprised to learn that no less than 16 current and former Board members were among the 100 attendees at the 12th annual PPOA Retiree Luncheon.



### PPOA Joins Leaders Pushing for Death Penalty Reform

PPOA joined law enforcement leaders (including the L.A. County Sheriff and L.A. County DA) and victims' rights proponents at a press conference in October to announce the kickoff of the Death Penalty Reform and Savings Act of 2016.

# PPOA DELEGATES

PPOA is represented by more than 200 delegates at work locations around the county. The role of the delegate is crucial in facilitating effective communication between the union's Board, staff and membership. Topics ranging from contract negotiations to legislation to lawsuits are discussed at quarterly dinner meetings. These meetings are held midweek at locations throughout L.A. County. The first meeting of 2016 is scheduled for March 8 (location TBA).

In addition to meetings, delegates receive updates (via regular mail or email) from PPOA on issues affecting the membership. Delegates are asked to make this information accessible to their

co-workers. PPOA also calls upon delegates when input is needed on classification-specific topics or when opportunities arise to serve on a committee or attend union-related events.

All active PPOA members are invited to become delegates. Remember that you *are* the union, and progress for your classification is deeply dependent on how active you are as a PPOA member and the steps you are willing to take to move things forward.

If you are interested in being an actively participating delegate, please contact Greg Torres at [gtorres@ppoa.com](mailto:gtorres@ppoa.com).

## Current PPOA Delegates

Sup. P.R.D. Gregory Aguirre	S.O. Raquel Chambers-McKuen	S.O. Erik Flores
C/A Maricela Alarcon	S.O. Bryan Chavez	Sr. Criminalist Gregory Forte
Lt. Richard Aloise	S.O. Eduardo Chavez	Lt. Stefanie Fredericks
S.O. Bryan Alvarenga	Coroner Inv. Vananda Cholakians	Sr. Criminalist Eucen Fu
S.O. Christina Andino	S.O. Waylup Choy	S.O. Mark Fuentes
Court Svcs. Spec. Linda Andrews-Simmons	S.O. Jody Clouch	Civilian Inv. Benjamin Garcia
C/A Angela Anguiano	C/A Rosario Coleman	S.O. Gerardo Garcia
Sgt. Omar Annabi	Sup. Coroner's Inv. I Frederick Corral	C/A Maria Garcia
S.O. Santiago Aoalin	C/A Michael Crook Jr.	Sgt. Joseph Garrido
Lt. David Auner	Civilian Inv. Ronald Curlis	S.A. Nicholas Genovese Jr.
Court Svcs. Spec. Monica Baca	Sgt. Melissa Daly	Sr. Criminalist Stephanie Gipson
Forensic ID Spec. II Susannah Baker	S.O. Archemedes Alej De Jesus	S.O. Martha Godoy
Sgt. Daphne Bates	Sgt. James Dexter	S.O. Lee Goldman
S.O. Angel Becerra	L.E.T. Jill Diaz	L.E.T. Joshua Gomez
C/A Anita Belmont	C/A Mark Dolfi	S.O. Shawn Gordon
S.O. Barbara Benjamin	C/A Karen Dooley	S.O. Jesus Guillen Jr.
Lt. Brian Bennett	Lt. Steven Downey	S.A. Phillip Guillen Jr.
L.E.T. James Blankenship	C/A Jason Eldridge	C/A Scott Gurnett
C/A John Bowman	L.E.T. Rosemarie Elizarraraz	Sr. Criminalist Gregory Hadinoto
Lt. Glenn Brandon	Lt. Raymond Enriquez	S.O. Jeff Haglund
Sgt. Burton Brink	L.E.T. Ricardo Escalante	Forensic ID Spec. II Marisela Hancock
Sgt. Kimberly Brink	S.O. Jose Escobar Jr.	C/A Dineica Hardaway
S.O. James Brown	Sr. Criminalist Vanessa Esparza	Capt. Duane Harris
Capt. William Brown	C/A Mary Eugenio	C/A Betty Hatley
S.O. William Brown Jr.	S.O. Jesus Federico	C/A Danya Hazen
C/A Evelyn Bustos	L.E.T. Maria Fennell	S.O. Julian Hernandez
L.E.T. Ann Margaret Canales-Mayorga	C/A Mary Fierro	S.O. Kimberly Hernandez
C/A Leticia Carlson	S.O. Roberto Figueroa	C/A Richard Hernandez
S.O. Roberto Cerna	S.A. Lissette Finchum	Sgt. Carlos Herrera

S.O. Tay Ho  
S.O. Quyen Hoang  
Sr. Criminalist George Hou  
S.O. Joanna Hovsepyan  
C/A Robert Howard  
S.O. Todd Hoyle  
C/A Janelle Jacks  
L.E.T. Deanna James  
S.O. Henry Jimenez  
S.O. Aaron Johnson  
L.E.T. Blossie Johnson  
Lt. Karen Jones  
S.O. Rhonda Jones  
Capt. Patrick Jordan  
Capt. Tori Jordan  
Sr. Criminalist Margaret Kaleuati  
Coroner Inv. Joyce Kato  
Sr. Criminalist Mary Keens  
Lt. Shawn Kehoe  
C/A William Kimble  
Crime Analyst Ansheletta Kirk  
C/A Lydia Knight  
Lt. LaMar LaFave  
S.O. Teresa La Farge  
C/A Scott Lang  
Sr. Criminalist Christopher Lee  
L.E.T. Alfreda Leftwich  
S.A. Michael Loaiza  
Coroner Inv. Anthony Lopez  
C/A Antonio Lopez  
C/A Kristina Lopez  
Court Svcs. Spec. Luz Loy  
L.E.T. John Edward Lozada  
Lt. Terry Lusk  
Coroner Inv. Daniel Machian  
Sgt. Michael Maher  
Lt. Rogelio Maldonado  
C/A Maria Martinez  
Sgt. Robert Maus  
Sr. Criminalist Thomas McCleary  
Sgt. Kelly McMichael  
Lt. Roberto Medrano

S.A. Ramon Mendez  
S.O. Soledad Mendoza  
L.E.T. Victoriano Mendoza  
Lt. Andrew Meyer  
Sgt. Ralph Miller  
L.E.T. Latonya Mills  
L.E.T. Marcena Mitchell  
Coroner Inv. Rudy Molano  
Sr. Criminalist Cristina Montes  
S.O. Jose Montes  
Lt. Frank Montez  
Sgt. Delbert Moore  
C/A Eliseo Morales  
C/A Rosalba Morales  
Sgt. Samuel Morales  
Lt. Brian Moriguchi  
Sr. Criminalist Manuel Munoz  
Lt. William Nash II  
S.A. Sandra Nevares  
Lt. Joseph Nicassio  
S.O. Roy Olivares  
Sr. Criminalist Luis Olmos  
Sgt. Edward O'Neil  
Lt. Albert Ortiz  
P.R.D. II Michael Ortiz  
S.O. Daisy Parga  
Sgt. Pablo Partida  
Lt. Robert Peacock  
Court Svcs. Spec. Jesus Peralta  
C/A Gabriel Perez Jr.  
Sgt. Karen Pewitt  
L.E.T. Nathan Phillips  
S.O. Pedro Pineda  
S.O. Luis Pingarron  
Forensic ID Spec. II Christopher Purcell  
C/A Peter Ramirez  
Lt. Tab Rhodes  
C/A Eliud Rivera  
S.O. Jose Rivera  
S.A. Hector Rodriguez  
S.O. Jose Rojas Jr.  
Sgt. Anthony Romo

C/A Christine Rosborough  
S.O. Arthur Rubenstein  
Sgt. Ralph Ruedas  
Coroner Inv. Mario Sainz  
S.O. Edgar Salazar  
P.R.D. II Michael Salazar  
Lt. John Saleeby  
Sgt. James Schallert  
Sr. Criminalist Tiffany Shew  
C/A Eddie Smith  
C/A Alexander Spieler  
Court Svcs. Spec. Eric Taylor  
C/A Geralyn Thomas  
C/A Makeba Thomas  
S.O. Roger Tompkins Jr.  
C/A Curtis Townsend  
C/A Susan Tupper  
Sr. Criminalist Bryon Turner  
L.E.T. Barbara Vague  
S.O. Humberto Vallejo  
Sgt. Steven Velasquez  
S.O. Stacy Villasenor  
C/A Renee Vital  
Sr. Criminalist Wilson Vong  
C/A Xochitl Walden  
Sgt. Yancy Walden  
Crime Analyst Joseph Walker  
S.O. Lennant Watts  
Sgt. Robert Weber  
S.A. John Wells  
C/A Rebecca West  
L.E.T. Ursula White  
Lt. David Whitham  
Lt. Michael Williams  
C/A Sheila Wilson  
Sr. Criminalist April Wong  
C/A Glen Wood  
Sr. Criminalist Anny Wu  
C/A Brice Zipser

# CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

**T**here are many reasons why law enforcement is often referred to as a family, and chief among them is the fact that we take care of our own. That's exactly why PPOA established the Star & Shield Foundation (originally named the Professional Peace Officers Charitable Foundation) in 2001. Since then, the Foundation has proudly raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support worthy organizations and causes. The most important of our missions is providing assistance to the families of fallen officers.

Try for a moment to imagine the challenges (emotional, financial and otherwise) facing family members of a peace officer suddenly killed in the line of duty. In addition to delivering immediate funds to the survivors, the Star & Shield Foundation helps navigate the pressing schedule of state-sponsored ceremonies honoring fallen officers. For years, the PPOA president has served as an escort for family members attending annual memorial ceremonies in Sacramento. Sometimes that means paying for airline tickets. It may also mean literally walking arm in arm with a grieving widow down the steps of the State Capitol building. Our Foundation will do as much as we can to offer support and friendship to those in need.

The Foundation's most significant fundraiser for the past nine years has been our annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament held each June. The first nine tournaments netted more than \$400,000 for families of fallen officers. The upcoming tournament will be held on June 13, 2016, at Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier. If you would like to support our Foundation as a tournament sponsor or volunteer, please call the PPOA office at (800) 747-PPOA.

More information about each of our 2016 events will be available in *Star & Shield* magazine, at [www.ppoa.com](http://www.ppoa.com), on Facebook and via email blasts.

All Foundation proceeds stem directly from fundraising, merchandise sales and the generosity of donors. PPOA merchandise includes an entire line of logo items (shirts, hats, jackets, mugs, etc.) displayed in the office lobby and online at [www.poastore.com](http://www.poastore.com).

The Star & Shield Foundation is governed by the following individuals:

## Star & Shield Foundation Board Members

- » Brian Moriguchi (Sheriff's Department)
- » Jim Schallert (Sheriff's Department)
- » Jim Blankenship (Sheriff's Department)
- » Rogelio Maldonado (District Attorney's Office)
- » Kevin Thompson (PPOA)

## Board of Governors

- » Jackie Lacey (District Attorney), Co-Chair
- » Jim McDonnell (Sheriff), Co-Chair
- » Paul Roller (PPOA)



- » Gold Lee (Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin & Lee)
- » Julie Sherman (Straussner Sherman)
- » Aaron Straussner (Straussner Sherman)
- » Richard Cohn (Landsberg Orora North America)
- » Mark Deitch (911MEDIA)
- » Cary Fletcher (RaSport Inc.)
- » Burton Brink (Sheriff's Department)
- » Suzy Campeau (Lavi Spine and Ortho)

## Partial list of recipients supported by PPOA and the Star & Shield Foundation in 2015:

- » AOCDS Memorial Fund
- » California Community Foundation
- » CFMB Unit Fund
- » CRDF Unit Fund
- » Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Support Group
- » Crime Survivors
- » Deputy Hoschet Donation c/o S. Rocco
- » Devil Pups Inc.
- » Fallen Officer Michael Johnson Donation c/o SJPOA
- » Friends of Lakewood Station Fund
- » Fueled by the Fallen
- » Jerry Ortiz Memorial Boxing and Youth Fitness Gym
- » L.A. District Attorneys Investigators Association
- » L.A. National Cemetery Support Foundation
- » LASD Ladies Night
- » LASD McArthur Reunion
- » LASD Parks Bureau Fund
- » Lomita Station Employee Fund
- » March of Dimes
- » MCJ Unit Fund
- » Palmdale Sheriff's Boosters
- » Police Unity Tour Memorial Ride
- » San Dimas Mountain Rescue Team
- » San Dimas Sheriff's Boosters
- » SAPOA Widows and Orphans Fund
- » Sheriff's Youth Foundation
- » South L.A. 10-33 Benefit Ride
- » Survivors' Memorial Fund
- » United Peace Officers Against Crime
- » With Hope Foundation
- » Wives of Law Enforcement and Firefighters

# PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL

Every year, PPOA steps forward to take on the solemn yet honorable task of assisting family members dealing with the loss of a peace officer killed in the line of duty. This assistance from your union is provided in a number of ways — from straight donations to sponsoring entire families as they attend memorial ceremonies in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation is a prime example of this Association's commitment to raise money and awareness for families

of fallen officers. Our Foundation currently hosts no less than three events annually to raise funds for families in need. These include the Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament, Heroes Ride and Oktoberfest. If you would like to partner with us as a sponsor, participant or volunteer at any of these events, please call the PPOA office at (800) 747-PPOA.

Most importantly, PPOA extends heartfelt condolences to the families of the following peace officers killed in the line of duty in California in 2015 (as of mid-November):

## **Officer Michael Johnson**

San Jose Police Department  
Years on department: 14  
EOW: March 24, 2015  
Cause of death: Gunfire from assault suspect

## **Officer David Nelson**

Bakersfield Police Department  
Years on department: 2  
EOW: June 26, 2015  
Cause of death: Traffic collision while in pursuit

## **Sergeant Scott Lunger**

Hayward Police Department  
Years on department: 15  
EOW: July 22, 2015  
Cause of death: Gunfire from gang member during traffic stop

## **Officer Bryce Hanes**

San Bernardino Police Department  
Years on department: 12  
EOW: November 5, 2015  
Cause of death: Patrol car broadsided by DUI suspect

## **Officer Ricardo Galvez**

Downey Police Department  
Years on department: 5  
EOW: November 18, 2015  
Cause of death: Gunfire from attempted robbery suspects





**Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association**

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*[www.ppoa.com](http://www.ppoa.com)*