



2023 Annual Report

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
PROFESSIONAL PEACE
OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

Established 1951
Proudly Representing 8,400 Members



MISSION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONALS REPRESENTING PROFESSIONALS

The Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association is committed to continuing a "Tradition of Success" in serving a satisfied membership through an effective and expanding professional association. We are a proactive and imaginative organization working in union with employers and other professional groups for necessary changes in policies, laws and legislation that are conducive to the well-being of our members. We will promote the professional interests of our members and the law enforcement community by protecting and enhancing their individual and collective rights.

The 2023 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.

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kevin Ahsmuhs (joining Board in December 2023)
Walter Arcos (joining Board in December 2023)
Juan Carlos Calderon (departing Board in December 2023)
Jay Chapman
Tony Coleman
Nancy Escobedo (departing Board in December 2023)
Gerry Garcia (departing Board in December 2023)
Roel Garcia
Steve Johnson (joining Board in December 2023)
Joyce Kato
Christopher Lee
Luis Orozco (joining Board in December 2023)
Jose Rios (departing Board in December 2023)
Jose Salgado
Jim Schallert
Joe Walker

Editor's note: As this Annual Report went to print in early December 2023, PPOA was preparing for the final Board of Directors meeting of the year (scheduled for December 13). This meeting includes the oath of office ceremony for four new directors: Sergeant Kevin Ahsmuhs, Sergeant Walter Arcos, Lieutenant Steve Johnson and Sheriff's Security Officer Luis Orozco. The December Board meeting is also when directors select a new Executive Board (president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary and treasurer) for the coming year. The new Executive Board will be updated at PPOA.com following the December Board meeting and reflected in the January 2024 issue of *Star & Shield* magazine. The above list includes the PPOA directors in place at the time this report went to print, as well as those scheduled to be sworn in at the December Board meeting.

PPOA STAFF MEMBERS

Wayne Quint Jr., Executive Director
Richard Escalante, Field Representative
Clare Franco, Administrative Assistant
Dave Ladjevic, Labor Representative
Violet P. Moreno, Administrative Assistant
Teresa M. O'Neil, Labor Representative (retired in May 2023)
Art Reddy, Legislative Consultant
Mark Sanchez, Labor Representative
Shannon Schreck, Administrative Assistant
Kevin F. Thompson, Intake Representative
Greg Torres, Public Relations Coordinator
Maricela Villegas, Executive Administrative Assistant
Venise Wallace, Sr. Labor Representative (retired in October 2023)

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Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz meeting with the original PPOA Board in the early 1950s

Shortly before PPOA was established as a union in 1951, a notice was typewritten and distributed among L.A. County law enforcement employees. It referenced two worrisome problems: threats to public employee retirement systems and the less-than-desirable handling of promotional exams by the Sheriff's Department. Those challenges likely sound familiar, whether you're a young, active member of this Association or a well-seasoned retiree who left your career behind decades ago. Issues like these resurface with regularity for each generation of PPOA members.

In the early 1950s, increased responsibilities and threats to rights and benefits (familiar, again!) also played a role in prompting a handful of employees from the Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office and Marshal's Office to gather late one evening in 1951 at the Hall of Records. At the end of the night, they shook hands and

agreed to form the Los Angeles County Peace Officers Protective Association (POPA).

Monthly dues were \$1 per month and collected in person by Board members. The average monthly paycheck for a deputy sheriff in 1951 was \$355.

POPA's initial priorities centered on defending employee rights, convincing the County to issue a pay increase and defending pensions. In this sense, POPA's most important responsibilities have remained unchanged over the last seven decades. However, the union's perseverance has resulted in a much-expanded role. PPOA (the official name and acronym were altered slightly in 1978, but the original pronunciation has stuck) is now one of the largest, most influential law enforcement associations in California and nationwide. Few single-employer unions have had as much impact as PPOA. The list of accomplishments for PPOA is far too lengthy to publish here, but a few highlights are listed on the opposite page.



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 cofounded the Peace Officers Relief Fund (PORF), which provides 100% employer-paid, long-term disability income, as well as life insurance coverage for active, sworn officers.

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), as all became standard issue by Los Angeles County.

Medical Presumptions

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

POPA Federal Credit Union

PPOA members established their own credit union in 1978. The full-service, nonprofit, member-owned institution now offers four full-service locations in Los Angeles County for all PPOA members.

Fraternal Order of Police

In 2005, PPOA affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) — the world's largest organization of law enforcement officers (now more than 373,000 strong). The FOP provides 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

In 2006, a lawsuit filed by PPOA successfully increased pension benefits for future retirees and added \$200 million in benefits for those already retired.

Scholarships

Every year, PPOA offers 12 scholarships worth \$13,500 to help further education for PPOA members and their dependents.

PPOA Online Uniform Store

PPOA members can purchase uniform apparel and accessories at discounts up to 35% off retail prices. The store is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Star & Shield Charitable Foundation

PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation provides financial support to families of fallen officers, members in need and worthy causes.

New Members

PPOA has proudly welcomed 246 new members in 2023, bringing total membership to 8,405 as of December 4. The state of your union is strong, and we remain committed to our role as a collaborative leader among the nation's most effective law enforcement organizations.



The size and influence of PPOA has enabled staff and Board members to secure an array of membership benefits unavailable to nonrepresented employees and members of most other associations. These benefits are designed to help members and their families save money and gain peace of mind. From PPOA's exclusive online uniform store to our annual college scholarships, your membership provides value. We encourage PPOA members to take advantage of the following benefits:

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 active, full PPOA member.

Free Insurance Coverage

All active, full-time PPOA members are provided a \$2,000 accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance policy and \$2,000 life insurance policy (both carried by Voya Insurance) at no cost.

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 administers this free long-term disability coverage and \$125,000 life insurance policy for active, sworn members.

Star & Shield Magazine and Contest Rewards

A complimentary subscription to PPOA's official magazine is given to

all members, who have won thousands of dollars in prizes by entering contests posted in each issue.

Star & Shield Foundation Uniform Store

PPOA members save up to 35% off retail prices for LASD uniforms purchased through *PPOA.com*.

Mobile App

The PPOA mobile app allows members to reach a union rep 24/7, access member resources and more. The app is available in the Google Play and Apple App stores.

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

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





Pre-Labor Day Barbecue

Every year, hundreds of members join the PPOA Board, staff and vendors 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 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.

PPOA Conference Center

A modern, multiuse conference center is available to members for work-related meetings 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.

Annual Retiree Luncheon

For 18 years running, PPOA has hosted a free lunch reunion at the Sheraton Fairplex for its retired members and guests.

PPOA Mobile Barbecue

In 2016, PPOA purchased a barbecue trailer as a means to help the Board and staff meet with members at assignments throughout the county while providing freshly grilled meals.

PPOA Annual College Scholarships

Every year, PPOA awards no less than 12 college scholarships to members and their dependents.

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, Coalition of Los Angeles County Unions, Fraternal Order of Police, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation and more.





The founding members of PPOA had a clear-cut mission in mind when they established the union in 1951: safeguard the rights and benefits of every member. That mission has remained the same for 72 years. PPOA labor representatives work around the clock (they are available for emergent matters 24 hours a day) to make sure all members of this union receive the legal protections and professional respect to which they are entitled. Every active PPOA member has a right to perform their duties safely and effectively. Members also have a right to enlist the services of experienced, proven union representatives. In fact, each member of the PPOA labor representation team has more than 25 years of invaluable experience with Los Angeles County law enforcement.

The numbers speak for themselves: Since January 2023, the PPOA staff has received thousands of calls from members dealing with various issues. Hundreds of those calls

were forwarded to the PPOA labor representation team. Nearly half of those forwarded calls became cases handled by labor representatives and/or PPOA attorneys. The remaining issues were resolved informally via telephone, meetings, conflict resolution or other correspondence.

Of the cases handled by the PPOA labor representation team, to date, in 2023:

- ★ 141 were internal affairs investigations
- ★ 14 were internal criminal investigations
- ★ 46 were grievances
- ★ 2 were civil service appeals
- ★ 2 were demotion/termination cases

PPOA labor representatives and attorneys (no fewer 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 your union to provide skilled representation in every

aspect of labor, including but not limited to:

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

If you are not a dues-paying PPOA member, we encourage you to join the union and protect your career. If you are a member, we thank you for helping your union move forward and remind you to call PPOA as soon as you believe anything may go awry at work. We can help. It's what we do for PPOA members every day.

PPOA Board meeting minutes contain well-documented accounts of this Association stepping up to provide assistance to members in need since its establishment in 1951. It was a priority for the founding members of the union, and that mission remains unchanged today. In fact, it inspired a group of PPOA members to create a nonprofit charitable organization in 1999 in order to raise the critical funds necessary to support the families of fallen officers and worthy causes. Their will to make a difference resulted in the establishment of PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation.

The 501(c)(3) organization made an immediate impact. Between fundraising events and the generosity of PPOA members and supporters, the Star & Shield Foundation has successfully raised hundreds of thousands of dollars earmarked for families of the fallen. The challenges — emotional, financial and otherwise — facing family members



of a peace officer killed in the line of duty can be completely overwhelming. In addition to delivering immediate funds to the survivors, the Star & Shield Foundation regularly helps family members navigate the pressing schedule of memorial events held to honor fallen officers.

The Foundation's most significant fundraiser is our annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament held each June. The first 15 annual tournaments have brought in more than \$700,000 for families of fallen officers.

All Foundation proceeds stem directly from fundraising, merchandise sales and the generosity of donors. Support provided by the Foundation would not be possible without the generosity of countless PPOA members and the extended law enforcement community. Please consider a one-time tax-deductible donation or a monthly payroll deduction to help the Star & Shield Foundation continue its noble mission. Call (800) 747-PPOA or email info@ppoa.com for more information.

The worthy recipients and causes supported by PPOA and the Star & Shield Foundation in 2023 include the following:

- Family of fallen Riverside County Deputy Isaiah Cordero
- Family of fallen Riverside County Deputy Darrell Calhoun
- Family of fallen Selma P.D. Officer Gonzalo Carrasco
- Fundraisers for family of fallen Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer
- Fundraiser for family of Forensics ID Specialist Ralph Chapman
- Fundraiser for Crime Analyst in need
- Donation to Custody Assistant in need
- Donation to Law Enforcement Technician in need
- Fundraisers for LASD Recruit Class #464
- Special Olympics of Southern California
- Los Angeles County Peace Officers Memorial Fund
- Police Unity Tour — LASD participants
- PPOA College Scholarship recipients
- Officer Anthony Thompson Scholarship Fund
- Children's Advocacy Center
- STAR 6 Foundation
- Star Post 309
- LAC Military and Veterans Affairs
- ALADS Cares
- Crime Survivors
- Sheriffs' Relief Association
- LASD Spouses Supporting Spouses
- L.A. District Attorney Investigators Association Peer Support Training
- California Community Foundation Victim Assistance Fund
- Veterans and First Responders LLC



Key Events From the Year

January



80 New Members Welcomed to PPOA

PPOA welcomed approximately 80 new members to this Association in January. Union representatives met with more than 40 newly promoted Sergeants as they reported to the Sherman Block Building to pick up their new badges. PPOA reps also spent time that same week with 35 Custody Assistants (Class #108) during their first day of orientation at Biscailuz Center.



Forensic Identification Specialist II Ralph Chapman EOW: 1/17/23



The well-respected 22-year law enforcement veteran began his career with the Pasadena Police Department before joining the LASD Scientific Services Bureau in 2021. He is survived by his wife, 18-year-old son and 15-year-old daughter.



Acknowledging the Dedication of Medical Examiner Personnel



PPOA was honored to bring the union barbecue trailer to the L.A. County Department of Medical Examiner headquarters to provide a grilled lunch in acknowledgement of the diligent work of our members at that Department.

February

PPOA Board and Staff Transitions

PPOA Board Member Joel Barnett submitted his resignation as a PPOA director at the February Board meeting. This Association is grateful for the leadership and insight he provided during his two-year tenure on the Board.



Joel Barnett

PPOA was proud to introduce Dave Ladjevic as our newest labor representative. The 33-year LASD veteran retired as a Lieutenant in 2019, and his Department experience (including his assignment to Internal Affairs Bureau) enabled him to hit the ground running in his new crucial role representing PPOA members.



Dave Ladjevic

Delegates Gather for First Meeting of 2023

PPOA delegates met with union board members and staff in Monterey Park. Topics of discussion at the quarterly meeting included contracts, benefits, Senate Bill 2 and more. Sheriff Luna also stopped by the meeting to speak with the union delegates.



March

Former PPOA President Announces Retirement

During the Board of Directors meeting in March, Lieutenant Tab Rhodes announced his retirement after 35 years of County service and submitted his resignation as a PPOA director. PPOA is extremely grateful for his 11 years of dedication on the Board, including three years of invaluable leadership as PPOA president.



County Supervisor Visits PPOA Board of Directors

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger visited during the March Board of Directors meeting to thank PPOA for endorsing her re-election campaign and to discuss a number of topics relevant to this Association and our membership. Supervisor Barger represents the Fifth District, is married to a retired LASD Deputy and is a longtime, ardent supporter of public safety.

PPOA representatives also held meetings with Sheriff Luna and L.A. County Supervisor Lindsay Horvath in March to discuss issues impacting PPOA members.

Custody Assistant Class #108 Graduation

PPOA representatives were proud to attend the graduation for Custody Assistant Class #108 at STARS Center.



April

PPOA and ALADS Partner With LASD Homicide for B2V Barbecue

PPOA members were among thousands of peace officers running 120 miles through the Mojave Desert. The Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay brought together 236 teams from agencies across the nation and a few from around the globe. We were honored to team up with ALADS and LASD Homicide Bureau as co-hosts of the post-race barbecue.



Support for Members at the LASD Retiree Roundup

PPOA was proud to host its fourth annual Cigar Night during the LASD Retiree Roundup in Laughlin. We enjoyed another fantastic turnout on the patio overlooking the Colorado River and, as always, we're grateful to Moon Mullen and his crew for coordinating a memorable Roundup for 850 friends in attendance.



Honoring the Public Response Dispatcher of the Year

PPOA representatives were proud to attend a ceremony honoring Briana Davila as Public Response Dispatcher (PRD) of the Year. The ceremony included a presentation from Sheriff Luna and was held in conjunction with National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. PPOA proudly acknowledges the many dedicated PRDs and Law Enforcement Technicians behind the radio who represent the "calm in the chaos." Thank you for your tireless efforts to ensure the safety of our communities and first responders.



Graduation for Sheriff's Security Officer Class #57

PPOA representatives were proud to attend the graduation for Sheriff's Security Officer Class #57 at STARS Center.

May



Honoring the Service and Sacrifice of Fallen Officers

PPOA representatives joined family members, colleagues and friends of fallen officers at county, state and national memorial ceremonies.

- ★ The 45th Annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony was hosted in Sacramento, and PPOA continued its tradition of offering travel reimbursements to members who attended the event.
- ★ The 42nd Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service was staged on the West



Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. The ceremony honored the memory of America's fallen heroes, including 10 members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department whose names were added to the national memorial this year.

- ★ The 54th Annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial ceremony was hosted at Biscailuz Center. Newly engraved plaques with the names of 10 fallen officers who served at L.A. County agencies were added to the memorial wall.



Support for the Police Unity Tour

In a joint effort to support LASD personnel, PPOA and ALADS sponsored more than 40 Police Unity Tour participants from the Sheriff's Department who cycled from New Jersey to Washington, D.C., in honor of their fallen brethren. Those riders were warmly received as they arrived at their destination during National Police Week events after dedicating the 2023 Police Unity Tour in loving memory of LASD Sergeant Christopher Bracks.



Paying Tribute to the Legacies of Two Dedicated Veterans

PPOA representatives attended a tree-planting ceremony to honor the lives and service of two late PPOA members who served this nation in the armed forces:

- ★ Retired Commander Walt Allsop, EOW 8/2/20
- ★ Sergeant Christopher Bracks, EOW 5/10/22

The event at Pitchess Detention Center was hosted by the LASD Military and Veterans Affairs Unit and American Legion LASD Star Post 309. PPOA staff members were proud to set up the union barbecue trailer to provide lunch for all in attendance.



PPOA Delegates Gather for Quarterly Meeting

PPOA delegates met with union board members and staff for the second quarterly meeting of the year. Discussion topics included PPOA's support for peace officer memorial events, the Office of Inspector General, the Public Records Act Request, bargaining unit contracts and more.



June

15th Annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament

PPOA was honored to bring together nearly 200 law enforcement personnel, supporters, volunteers and sponsors for our Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament at Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier. This annual event is the primary vehicle for PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation to raise the critical funds needed to support the families of fallen officers.



Unit 615 Members Elect Captain Garcia to Serve on PPOA Board

An official ballot count confirmed that PPOA members in Unit 615 elected Captain Roel D. Garcia to fill the remainder of the term left vacant by the resignation of Commander Joel Barnett in February.



Court Services Specialist Eric Taylor EOW: 6/17/23

The 13-year LASD veteran and dedicated PPOA delegate was assigned to the Stanley Mosk Courthouse at the time of his unexpected passing. He is the brother of Custody Assistant Ben Taylor and retired Sergeant Rex Taylor.



July

Custody Assistant Arthur Luna EOW: 7/1/23

The 23-year LASD veteran was assigned to Men's Central jail at the time of his passing.



PPOA Scholarships Awarded

PPOA proudly issued our annual college scholarship awards to a group of very dedicated and deserving students. Since the inception of this program, this Association has been honored to contribute more than \$150,000 toward the educational goals of our members and their children. The 2023 recipients included students enrolled at colleges across the nation and pursuing degrees in architecture, criminal justice, biology and more. We were particularly honored to award the Lars Burkhardt Memorial Scholarship to an active PPOA member who is working toward his degree while fulfilling his commitment as a Sheriff's Security Officer.

Members Hit the High Seas for 23rd Annual PPOA Fishing Trip

PPOA members and their guests enjoyed a full day of fishing along the Southern California coast.



PPOA Welcomes Seasoned Labor Representative

PPOA announced the addition of an accomplished law enforcement labor veteran to our staff. Following a 28-year career with the Bell Police Department, including service as president of the Bell Police Officers Association, Mark Sanchez spent five years as a defense representative for ALADS.



August

PPOA Welcomes New Sergeants

PPOA representatives proudly welcomed newly promoted LASD Sergeants to this Association. The Department's newest supervisors reported to the Sherman Block Building to pick up their new badges and were joined by PPOA Board and staff members in order to ensure the Sergeants would be protected by union representation. Later in the month, PPOA representatives met with 28 of the new Sergeants during their first day of Supervisory School at STARS Center to answer questions and discuss their crucial roles on the Department.



Support for PPOA Member in Need

PPOA was honored to help the LASD Fraud and Cyber Crimes Bureau (FCCB) raise support for a Crime Analyst who was diagnosed with a serious medical condition. Lunch was grilled on the PPOA barbecue trailer, and proceeds from the event at STARS Center were designated for the 12-year Department veteran.



Sheriff's Security Officer Class #58 Graduation

PPOA representatives were honored to attend the graduation ceremony for Sheriff's Security Officer (SSO) Class #58 at STARS Center.



Hundreds Enjoy Annual PPOA BBQ and General Membership Meeting

PPOA board and staff were proud to host the 22nd annual Pre-Labor Day BBQ and General Membership Meeting at Biscailuz Center. More than 400 PPOA members and guests gathered for an afternoon of food, friends and fun.



September



Ambush Claims Life of Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer

On September 16, the LASD family received the heart-wrenching news that Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer was ambushed and shot while sitting in his patrol car at an intersection near Palmdale Station. The eight-year LASD veteran chose his career to proudly follow in the footsteps of his father (retired LASD lieutenant), grandfather (retired LASD captain) and great-grandfather (retired LASD captain). Deputy Clinkunbroomer was 30 years old and had been assigned to Palmdale Station, where he served as a field training officer for the last year and a half. He was also engaged to be married, having proposed to his fiancée just four days before his death. PPOA was honored to assist with a number of subsequent fundraisers coordinated by LASD personnel in order to provide support to the Clinkunbroomer family.



Meeting With Sheriff Luna

PPOA representatives met with Sheriff Luna at the Hall of Justice to discuss a number of issues affecting PPOA members. Topics included:

- ★ California Public Records Act
- ★ Employee wellness and suicide awareness
- ★ LASD engagement with community-based organizations
- ★ Promotional processes
- ★ Staffing and overtime issues
- ★ Upcoming policy revisions



PPOA Delegates Gather for Quarterly Meeting

PPOA delegates met with union board members and staff in Alhambra for the third quarterly meeting of year. Topics of discussion included health care premiums, union board elections, the Public Records Act, bargaining unit contracts and more.

October

Sheriff's Security Officer Branden Colbert EOW: 10/7/23

The 14-year LASD veteran was assigned to Parks Bureau at the time of his passing.



LADA Sergeant Emilio Guerrero EOW: 10/8/23

Sergeant Emilio Guerrero spent the first 12 years of his career as a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy (Class #286) before joining the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation in 2006.



Helping PPOA Members Prepare for Retirement

PPOA was proud to bring together a panel of experts for a retirement workshop at the union office in San Dimas. The conference center was filled to capacity with PPOA members interested in setting themselves up for a well-earned retirement, and the speakers on hand delivered relevant advice on a wide range of topics. PPOA Board Member Jim Schallert teamed up with LACERA, the Fraternal Order of Police, Empower, Captain Shawn Kehoe and the firm of Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin and Lee to ensure that everyone in attendance gained invaluable insight about properly preparing for life after a career of public service.



District Attorney Candidates Forum

PPOA, ALADS, the Los Angeles Police Protective League, the Association of Deputy District Attorneys, Long Beach POA and the Peace Officers Research Association of California co-hosted a District Attorney

Candidates Forum at the Pacific Palms Resort in Industry. The informative event brought together nine candidates campaigning to be Los Angeles County District Attorney and provided members with an opportunity to hear firsthand from each candidate about their experience, ideas and values.



November



Retired Members Reunite for Annual PPOA Luncheon

PPOA was proud to host our 19th annual Retiree Luncheon at the Sheraton Fairplex. We paid special tribute to the military veterans in attendance and enjoyed welcoming more than 100 friends for a memorable afternoon.

Graduation Ceremonies for Custody Assistant Class #109 and Sheriff's Security Officer Class #59

PPOA representatives were honored to attend the graduation ceremony for Custody Assistant Class #109 at Biscailuz Center and the graduation ceremony for Sheriff's Security Officer Class #59 at STARS Center.



Sergeant Kevin Ahsmuhs



Sergeant Walter Arcos



Lieutenant Steve Johnson



Security Officer Luis Orozco

Members Elect Four New Directors to Serve on PPOA Board

An official ballot count conducted in November confirmed the following:

- ★ PPOA members who are LASD Sergeants and Lieutenants in Unit 612 have elected Sergeant Kevin Ahsmuhs, Sergeant Walter Arcos and Lieutenant Steve Johnson to serve as directors on the PPOA Board.
- ★ PPOA members who are LASD Security Assistants and Security Officers in Unit 621 have elected Security Officer Luis Orozco to serve as a director on the PPOA Board.

At the time this publication went to print, all four members were scheduled to be sworn in at the December Board meeting.



Each generation of PPOA leadership over the last 73 years has been honored to speak with newly hired personnel and welcome them to this Association. Board and staff members routinely field questions from each group (Custody Assistant orientation, Security Officer orientation, Sergeant Supervisory School and more) and offer advice about working diligently toward the next steps of a career (including pitfalls to avoid) and taking advantage of exclusive member discounts and benefits.





In the tumultuous history of America's labor movement, one lesson learned is clear: unions are only as strong as their most active members. Fortunately, PPOA has benefited from a long list of solid leaders and representatives over the last 73 years, and we want to acknowledge the current members (about 3% of the union's total membership) who contribute time to important roles, including the Board of Directors, negotiating teams, committees, event volunteers and a crucial group known as the PPOA delegates.

Approximately 120 PPOA delegates represent their fellow members at facilities throughout the county. They are committed to the important role of facilitating effective communication between the union's Board, staff and membership.

PPOA also helps delegates equip themselves with information about services provided by the union. In fact, delegates are required to complete online training in order to better understand PPOA's mission and priorities.

PPOA delegates gather for quarterly meetings to discuss union-related topics, including contracts, lawsuits, legislation and more. Delegates are called upon when input is needed on classification-specific topics or opportunities arise to serve on a committee or attend union-related events.

If you are an active, dues-paying PPOA member and want to get more actively involved with the issues your union is tackling, please contact info@ppoa.com.

CURRENT PPOA DELEGATES

Lt. Irys Alvarez
SSO Christina Andino
SSO Santiago Aolin
Sgt. Thomas Aragon Jr.
Sgt. Walter Arcos Jr.
Lt. David Auner
Forensic Id. Spec. II Susannah Baker
Sgt. Roger Ballesteros
Cmdr. Joel Barnett

SSO Angel Becerra
C/A Anita Belmont
Forensic Id. Spec. II
Antoinette Bravo
C/A Evelyn Bustos
Sgt. Sylvia Calandrino
Sgt. Juan Calderon
Sgt. Karla Carranza
SSO Roberto Cerna

Sgt. (DA) Jay Chapman
SSO Waylup Choy
C/A Rosario Coleman
LET Diana Collins
Court Svcs. Spec. Athena Colon
Forensic Id. Spec. II Diamond Cook
PRD II Emily Coria
SSO Paulo Cox
SSO Juan Cozzarelli

C/A Michelle Culbreath
Court Svcs. Spec. Jennifer Digioia
C/A Jason Eldridge
LET Richard Engersbach
SSO Jose Escobar Jr.
Lt. Nancy Escobedo
SSO Bernon Fenton
Sr. Criminalist Gregory Forte
LET Janet Fox
Sgt. Harold Frayer
Sr. Criminalist Eucen Fu
Civ. Inv. Benjamin Garcia
SSO Gerardo Garcia
C/A Maria Garcia
SSO Shawn Gordon
ME Inv. Jeffrey Guilmette
Forensic Id. Spec. II Gloria Hanna
Lt. (DA) Yvette Hartwell
C/A Betty Hatley
LET Patricia Helfend
C/A Alfonso Hernandez
Sgt. David Hernandez
Lt. Kellee Hicks
SSO Tay Ho
SSA Stacy Houston
SSO Joanna Hovsepyan
C/A Robert Howard
SSO Justin Jaime
SSO Henry Jimenez
SSA Robert Jimenez
C/A Janelle Johnson
LET Michelle Fabro Johnson
Lt. Steven Johnson
SSO Vardan Kasabyan
ME Inv. Joyce Kato
Capt. Shawn Kehoe
SSO Teresa Lafarge
SSO Tida Lambert
C/A Scott Lang
Sr. Criminalist Christopher Lee
Sr. Criminalist Aaron Lewis
Sgt. Robert Lloyd
Sgt. (DA) Wendy Lofton
ME Inv. Anthony Lopez
C/A Kristina Lopez

C/A Antonio Lopez
Court Svcs. Spec. Luz Loy
Lt. Oscar Martinez
LET Vonetta Mays
Sgt. David McAllister
SSO Thomas McConnell II
SSO Raquel Chambers McKuen
LET Victoriano Mendoza
LET Latonya Mills
Sr. Criminalist Cristina Montes
Sr. Criminalist Manuel Munoz
ME Inv. Melissa Munoz
C/A Cynthia Murphy

C/A Jose Sagastume
PRD II Michael Salazar
Lt. Jose Salgado
Lt. (DA) Jeffrey Savarese
C/A Michelle Shields
C/A Eddie Smith
C/A Alexander Spieler
LET Julia Tafoya
C/A Makeba Thomas
Cmdr. Johann Thrall
Lt. Kevin Tiwari
C/A Susan Tupper
Sr. Criminalist Bryon Turner



LET Tanisha Murry
Sup. PRD Michael Ortiz
Sgt. John Padilla
Sgt. Fidel Parra Jr.
Sgt. Ruben Pastran
LET Monique Peevy
Court Svcs. Spec. Jesus Peralta
LET Nathan Phillips
SSO Pedro Pineda
Cmdr. Tania Plunkett
Forensic Id. Spec. II Nakia Porter
SSO Estefany Quiroga
C/A Jeffrey Ramirez
C/A Peter Ramirez
Sgt. Jose Rios
Lt. Joann Rodriguez
SSO Jose Rojas Jr.
C/A Christine Rosborough

SSO Humberto Vallejo
C/A Luis Vasquez
PRD II Laura Velazquez
Lt. Ryan Vienna
Lt. Larry Villareal Jr.
Sr. Criminalist Wilson Vong
Court Svcs. Spec. Ronnell Wade
Crime Analyst Joseph Walker
LET Kelly Walper
C/A Christopher Watson
Lt. Robert Weber
SSO John Wells
LET Ursula White
Sr. Criminalist April Whitehead
Court Svcs. Spec. Shateka Williams
Sr. Criminalist Gregory Wong
C/A Brice Zipser

Every year, PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation reaffirms its commitment to provide support to families dealing with the unimaginable loss of an officer killed in the line of duty. From straight donations to assisting family members with the logistics of traveling to state and national memorial ceremonies, the

Star & Shield Foundation is a prime example of PPOA's dedication to honoring the legacies of our fallen brothers and sisters.

This Association extends sincere condolences to the loved ones of the following peace officers who died in the line of duty in California in 2023*:



Deputy Darnell Calhoun

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

EOW: January 13, 2023

Deputy Calhoun was responding to reports of domestic violence involving child custody when he was shot and killed. The 30-year-old deputy had served two years with the San Diego Police Department before transferring to Riverside County in 2022. He is survived by his wife, who was pregnant with their child at the time of Deputy Calhoun's passing.



Officer Gonzalo Carrasco Jr.

SELMA POLICE
DEPARTMENT

EOW: January 31, 2023

Officer Carrasco was shot and killed after responding to reports of a suspicious man on private property. The 24-year-old had been on the department for only two years and is survived by his girlfriend, who, at the time of his passing, was pregnant with their child.



Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: September 16, 2023

Deputy Clinkunbroomer was ambushed and killed while sitting in his patrol vehicle in Palmdale. The eight-year LASD veteran chose his career to proudly follow in the footsteps of his father (retired LASD lieutenant), grandfather (retired LASD captain) and great-grandfather (retired LASD captain). Deputy Clinkunbroomer and his fiancée became engaged just four days prior to his passing.

*As of December 13. List of fallen officers from California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation.

In Their Honor

We will never forget the heroic service of the following PPOA members who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Sergeant

Vernon J. Corbell

EOW: April 15, 1957

Deputy

Harold Stephen Blevins

EOW: October 12, 1957

Deputy

David Alois Horr

EOW: February 9, 1958

Lieutenant

Donald J. Gillis

EOW: September 20, 1958

Deputy

Harold A. Reis Jr.

EOW: September 23, 1958

Reserve Deputy

Lee E. Sawyer

EOW: October 14, 1960

Detective

Timothy J. Harnett

EOW: November 22, 1961

Deputy

William A. White

EOW: March 21, 1964

Sergeant

Willard R. Ballard

EOW: May 26, 1964

Reserve Deputy

Lloyd G. Constantine

EOW: June 24, 1964

Deputy

John M. Slobojan

EOW: November 7, 1964

Deputy

Ronald E. Ludlow

EOW: August 13, 1965

Reserve Deputy

Michael V. Wigderson

EOW: March 20, 1967

Deputy

James W. Waygood

EOW: October 11, 1967

Deputy

Robert K. Schnur

EOW: September 30, 1968

Deputy

Gary E. McCullah

EOW: September 30, 1968

Reserve Sergeant

Charles D. Rea

EOW: January 26, 1969

Reserve Deputy

Lionel W. Dashley

EOW: September 1, 1969

Deputy

Gordon D. Erickson

EOW: April 30, 1970

Deputy

Louis Carl Wallace

EOW: December 8, 1970

Deputy

Gary David Saunders

EOW: May 22, 1971

Deputy

Barry J. Hoffman

EOW: August 30, 1971

Deputy

Charles O. Ley

EOW: May 24, 1972

Deputy

Joseph R. Herrera

EOW: October 3, 1972

Detective

Donald William Schneider

EOW: January 4, 1973

Detective Sergeant

Carl Eugene Wilson

EOW: January 4, 1973

Deputy

James Foote

EOW: October 4, 1974

Deputy

Darden Hollis

EOW: January 1, 1975

Deputy

Didier M. Hurdle

EOW: November 25, 1977

Deputy

Arthur E. Pelino

EOW: March 19, 1978

Deputy

Thomas H. Pohlman

EOW: April 18, 1978

Deputy

Jack Don Williams

EOW: May 29, 1979

Sergeant

Larrell Kent Smith

EOW: April 16, 1983

Deputy

Hagop Jake

Kuredjian

EOW: August 31, 2001

Deputy

David Alan Powell

EOW: November 30, 2002

Captain

Michael Lawrence

Sparkes Sr.

EOW: August 10, 2004

Deputy

Charlene Rottler

EOW: January 3, 2010

Lieutenant

Patrick Libertone

EOW: August 12, 2014

Sergeant

Steven C. Owen

EOW: October 5, 2016

Sergeant

Alfonso Lopez

EOW: October 24, 2016



Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association

188 E. Arrow Highway, San Dimas, CA 91773
(323) 261-3010 or (800) 747-PPOA

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