NEW PPOA LEADERSHIP

Directors Elected, President Selected

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A YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY
SEE PAGE 4

PPOA DELEGATES HONORED
SEE PAGE 10

100-PLUS RETIREES REUNITE AT PPOA LUNCHEON
SEE PAGE 20
We have devoted ourselves and our staff to providing the highest level of personal services to our clients.

Workers’ Compensation
Employment Litigation
Personal Injury
LACERA Retirements

*Making a false or fraudulent workers’ compensation claim is a felony subject to up to five years in prison or a fine up to $50,000 or double the value of the fraud, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and fine.*
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I want to express my appreciation and gratitude upon being recently elected as president of PPOA. I am honored to represent you! I thank and acknowledge outgoing President Nancy Escobedo for her years of dedicated service to PPOA and its membership. Following in the footsteps of my predecessor will be a huge order, and I aim to expand upon the vision and servant leadership she provided. Our members are the true leaders of PPOA. The PPOA team and I have the privilege of serving and protecting your interests to the utmost of our ability. Specifically, with negotiations on the horizon, I promise you nothing less than our best.

Theodore Roosevelt, whose leadership I have long admired, once stated, “It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly.” This quote, in my opinion, applies to our PPOA members because we are an association of men and women who, on a daily basis, strive in the arena of Los Angeles County against dire situations while producing quality results within the Sheriff’s Department, the District Attorney’s Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Medical Examiner. We do our duties with dignity and pride despite unimaginable odds. This is why I feel so privileged to protect and support this Association.

For our retiree members, we truly look forward to supporting you and the legacy you provided that encouraged so many of us to pursue our chosen professions. We continue to see increases in both the population of our retired base and the activities in which they engage. We anticipate a 2024 Roundup in Laughlin this April that expands the value of the contributions of our retired members. To those of you with retirement on the horizon or who have recently retired, I wish you continued success in all your new endeavors.

This year’s upcoming public election cycle will bring to the surface various candidates, issues and legislation in which PPOA will be strongly engaged to protect the rights and livelihood of our members. In collaboration with our affiliated unions, we will strategically fight to ensure we remain viable, healthy and safe. If change is a constant, we must adapt in a form and manner that reaches the best outcome with the highest result.

Regarding our physical and mental well-being, let us do our utmost to guard against those stress inhibitors that often go unchecked and can lead to further complications. Unlike any other time in our profession, we are met with challenges in the virtual realm such as unbridled cellular phone usage, social media dissention and internet/data security constraints. These can be likened to digital obstacles, which are easily amplified. Let us be mindful of the impact these platforms can have on our time and energy.

Congratulations are in order for Custody Assistant Class #109 and Security Officer Class #59. Collectively, these two Academy classes graduated 34 fine individuals in November. PPOA representatives were honored to attend both ceremonies (see photos on pages 22–23) to cheer on the graduates and acknowledge their accomplishment.

I also want to recognize the 15 recruits from Custody Assistant Class #110 who began their careers on December 4. PPOA proudly welcomed these newly hired women and men during their first day of orientation, and we look forward to their graduation next month.

In December, I also had the privilege of attending the annual PPOA delegates' holiday luncheon held in Glendale. The turnout was outstanding, and it was amazing to see our Association’s bargaining unit members represented in full force.

As we progress through 2024, let us continue our “Tradition of Success.” This year holds immense opportunity for our membership. Let us make it a momentous year!
Happy new year! As we begin 2024, PPOA’s most important resolution is to prepare for and begin negotiations in good faith with the County of Los Angeles for successor Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to PPOA’s existing 2022–2025 MOUs. PPOA is the exclusive bargaining unit (B/U) for thousands of employees of the Sheriff’s Department, District Attorney’s Office and Coroner’s Office (Department of Medical Examiner). PPOA is the only union that can negotiate for their wages, hours and working conditions, and only PPOA members have the right to ratify a potential contract. PPOA negotiates under the mandate of the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act and receives its exclusive representation status from that state law and the Los Angeles County Employee Relations Commission (ERCOM).

PPOA’s first negotiations process in 2024 will be for B/U 612 (LASD/LADA: Sergeants and Lieutenants). The current 612 MOU expires January 31, 2025. All B/U 612 employees will receive the third and final salary adjustment (3.25%) of the current MOU effective July 1, 2024. Well before this date, the PPOA 612 Negotiating Team for a successor MOU will be in place, as negotiations are set to begin no later than October 15, 2024.

Like the previous MOU negotiations, B/U 621 (LASD: Civilian Investigator, Court Services Specialist, Crime Analyst, Custody Assistant, Law Enforcement Technician, Public Response Dispatcher I, Public Response Dispatcher II, Public Response Dispatcher Specialist, Supervising Public Response Dispatcher, Security Assistant and Security Officer) will start after B/U 612 is at the bargaining table, thus becoming PPOA’s second negotiations process in 2024. The current 621 MOU expires March 31, 2025. All B/U 621 employees will receive the third and final salary adjustment (3.25%) of the current MOU effective October 1, 2024. Well before this date, the PPOA 621 Negotiating Team for a successor MOU will be in place, as negotiations are set to begin no later than January 15, 2025.

PPOA’s B/U 614 (Coroner and LASD: Criminalist, Criminalist Lab Technician, Forensic ID Specialist I, Forensic ID Specialist II and Senior Criminalist) will begin their negotiations process later in 2024. The current 614 MOU expires September 30, 2025. All B/U 614 employees will receive the third and final salary adjustment (3.25%) of the current MOU effective October 1, 2024. B/U 614 will begin negotiations no later than June 14, 2025.

PPOA’s B/U 631 (Coroner: Coroner Investigator and Trainee Coroner Investigator) and B/U 632 (Coroner: Supervising Coroner’s Investigator I and Supervising Coroner’s Investigator II) will begin their negotiations process later in 2024. The current 631/632 MOU expires September 30, 2025. All B/U 631/632 employees will receive the third and final salary adjustment (3.25%) of the current MOU effective October 1, 2024. B/U 631/632 will begin negotiations no later than June 1, 2025.

Each of the four PPOA MOUs are available for members to view at PPOA.com. All active PPOA 612, 621, 614 and 631/632 members are strongly encouraged to make sure that PPOA has your personal, non-Department (LASD, LADA or DME) email address in order to receive negotiation updates and contract communications. If you are presently not receiving the Saturday morning Week in Review email, then PPOA probably does not have your personal email address on file. Please send it to info@ppoa.com.

In addition to the above salary bargaining tables, 2024 will also include fringe benefits negotiations between the Coalition of County Unions (CCU), which includes PPOA, ALADS and 13 other unions (coalitionofcountyunions.com), and the County of Los Angeles. The current 2022–2025 Fringe Benefits MOU (available to view at PPOA.com) expires March 31, 2025, with negotiations set to begin no later than December 31, 2024.

It is once again imperative that the Board of Supervisors recognizes and addresses one of its most urgent fiscal priorities: the superior economic and fringe benefits successor MOUs for its represented workforce who will be at the bargaining table with the County of Los Angeles in 2024.

May the coming year bring our active and retired PPOA members God’s blessings, good health and the fulfillment of your dreams. 😊
Happy new year to you all. A new year, new leadership, yet the work continues, especially with the challenges facing the Department that affect us all.

The past year saw unprecedented amounts of overtime and drafting. CARP is entering year four, and the applications are not what they once were as the Department struggles to get applicants who pass backgrounds and make an academy. We’re also dealing with the harsh reality of law enforcement employment not being as desirable as it once was.

With that said, I questioned what determines a Custody Assistant academy class and what is the minimum amount of recruits to run one. Waiting for a class of 25 to 30 was being hampered by a decrease of interest in law enforcement and the length of the backgrounds process and individuals passing backgrounds. This is also compounded by the fact that the Deputy position is fishing in the same pond, meaning we’re going after the same applicants.

There is a benefit to consistently running smaller classes more frequently. The numbers in terms of class size may be less than what we’re accustomed to; however, at this point every bit helps. Four to five classes over a year is potentially 60 to 75 new bodies.

Custody Assistant Class #110 began its academy on December 4. They began as a class of 15, and hopefully they will all make it to graduation. One is a current Department employee, meaning the others have faith in themselves and the Department as they accept the challenges ahead.

For station jailers, the Department’s proposed budget includes a three-year plan to increase station jailer items. Station jailer staffing has been a longstanding issue. As jailers become injured or relieved of duty, the remaining jailers are left to take up the hours. Some stations are down two or three bodies, leaving only two active jailers to carry the load.

As I go through the proposal, I will report on any additional information related to our classification.

If you call the office inquiring about a possible grievance, have questions about the process, have a complaint or feel corrective action is needed, please contact me for clarification. Department-wide emails are against policy. Do not compound your need by opening yourself up to potential discipline.

When the office receives calls, certain information is required to aid in the filing process, such as specific dates, shifts, the cause and documentation. There is also interpretation of Department policy or the MOU.

The union is there for you. It is a partnership to work for the best achievable outcome for its members, including honest conversations in the event that a grievance is warranted.

Lastly, I’d like to acknowledge outgoing PPOA President Nancy Escobedo. We had hard conversations regarding Custody Assistants while challenging the Department on issues including Title 15 walks, vacancies, station jailers and how the position is being utilized. She took over in the midst of Measure R and tattoo inquiries and on the heels of a pandemic, unreasonable policies being implemented and numerous legal filings on behalf of membership to protect rights. During it all, no member was written up, disciplined or terminated behind vaccine mandates. That is the goal and purpose of the union.

To incoming President Steve Johnson: Congratulations! The efforts we proudly and humbly make to support and protect our membership are extremely rewarding.

To my peers, take care. Be safe.
Hello, partners. I would like to start by thanking every Sheriff’s Security Assistant and Sheriff’s Security Officer in our Department, not only for their support during the recent PPOA Board election, but also for the hard work they put in every day to keep our communities safe.

During my time in the Department, I have witnessed my partners perform incredible achievements — acts of courage like Parks Bureau SSO Fonth and his actions responding to a deadly school shooting, Court Services SSO Fabian’s heroic intervention to save a woman’s life from a violent attack, and College Bureau SSOs Lewis-Williams and Lopez’s unwavering efforts to provide lifesaving aid to a man experiencing a heart attack.

These are just a few examples of when our partners have faced challenging tasks and responded selflessly and without hesitation. I can personally attest to the pride and devotion my partners have every time they go 10-8. Now, it is time for the County and the Department to recognize us also.

During my campaign, I visited several assignments and heard about the issues impacting personnel at each of them. Some of the matters brought up were inadequate salary for our classifications, lack of Labor Code 4850 coverage and denial of potentially lifesaving duty equipment. Know that I will fight to ensure equal recognition and ensure that the County, the Department and PPOA uniquely value our contributions.

As one of the newest Board members, I will make it my mission to ensure that our concerns are heard. To my fellow Board members, it is up to us to prove that PPOA does care and we will work hard to address issues and help mend the relationship between all groups.

These will not be easy tasks, but it is our responsibility to address the problems and accomplish goals that will benefit all PPOA members. I promise to work for our classifications with the interests of our members in mind and will drive for us to have a living wage, adequate injury protection and equipment to perform our duties.

UPCOMING CHANGES TO YOUR HEALTH CARE COSTS

Starting in January, you might notice a decrease in your paycheck; this is because health care premium rates are projected to increase, thus lowering the take-home amount you are used to seeing. Unfortunately, this is statewide and out of our control, so prepare for this change.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

These next few months will be critical in building our case for better salary, coverage, equipment and recognition. With contract negotiations quickly approaching, I would like members to please send in stories on the positive impacts SSAs and SSOs have had. We all know the great work we do every day, and now we need to present it and become undeniable to those who have devalued us for so long.

- Email: lorozco@ppoa.com
- Office: (323) 261-3010
- Mobile: (323) 400-9590

Please text me your name and UOA to save your contact info.

On that subject, I should remind everyone in the event that you need to report an incident or file a grievance, please follow PPOA protocol and contact the office directly at (323) 261-3010. This will help preserve the integrity of the investigation and give you the best results.

Lastly, we have begun the first steps for an employee survey for SSOs and SSAs. It will take some time to complete, but once it’s ready I will inform everyone. Please fill it out when you receive it. The more responses we have, the more it will show the importance of our concerns and demonstrate our united strength.

Thank you all again for your trust, and I hope to hear from members soon.
New Directors Sworn In; New President Selected to Take the Helm

During the PPOA Board of Directors meeting in December, the following recently elected union directors were sworn in:

- Sergeant Kevin Ahsmuhs
- Sergeant Walter Arcos
- Security Officer Luis Orozco
- Lieutenant Steve Johnson

The PPOA Board also chose the following four directors to continue serving in their Executive Board positions:

- First Vice President Jay Chapman
- Second Vice President Tony Coleman
- Secretary Christopher Lee
- Treasurer Joyce Kato

Following the oath of office for all members above, the Board of Directors selected Lieutenant Steve Johnson to serve as PPOA president. He was most recently assigned to East L.A. Station, with past assignments in specialized units such as Internal Affairs and within the Bureau of Labor Relations and Compliance. President Johnson is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. He proudly served on active duty in the Air Force for eight years, achieving the rank of captain. He also attained his master’s degree in business from USC.

PPOA gratefully acknowledges our outgoing Board members, Juan Carlos Calderon, Nancy Escobedo, Gerry Garcia and Jose Rios, for their service and commitment to this Association.
Gratitude for Dedicated PPOA Committee Members

For the last seven decades, PPOA has benefited from active members who answered the call to get involved and help the union move forward. A prime example is committee work.

In November, six members volunteered to serve on an Election Committee and monitor the ballot count that resulted in the election of four new Board members (see page 8). We are grateful to the following members who stepped forward to be a part of that committee:

- Investigator Anthony Lopez
- Retired Member Abel Moreno
- Commander Tania Plunkett
- Custody Assistant Christine Rosborough
- Custody Assistant Eddie Smith
- Custody Assistant Sue Tupper

In December, five members gathered in the PPOA boardroom to serve on the Audit Committee. Per the PPOA Bylaws, an outside accounting firm conducts an extensive audit at PPOA annually to help the staff and Board determine the most efficient course for day-to-day operations of your union. PPOA members are asked to serve on the Audit Committee, which confers with the auditor to review the findings and confirm the information is accurate. It is an integral part of being transparent as an association and ensures that members play an active role in that process. We want to thank the following members for volunteering with the Audit Committee:

- Senior Criminalist Ryan (Gregory) Forte
- Civilian Investigator Ben Garcia
- Lieutenant (DA) Yvette Hartwell
- Retired member Dan Machian
- Medical Examiner Investigator Melissa Muñoz

Are you ready to make a difference? We regularly seek new committee members. If you're interested in serving on an upcoming committee, please email info@ppoa.com with your full name, employee number and phone number.
Showing Support

Festive Appreciation for PPOA Delegates

POA was honored to acknowledge our most dedicated delegates at a luncheon last month. These are your fellow union members who volunteer their time to attend meetings throughout the year and help foster communication with the membership. Per tradition, this appreciation luncheon includes drawings for gifts provided by our law firms and business partners who are proud to support and represent PPOA members. We are thankful for their generosity and the outstanding commitment of our delegates.

Special thanks to the many delegates who helped usher in the holiday spirit with extra festive Christmas sweaters!
Honored to Welcome New PPOA Members

POA representatives met with 15 newly hired Custody Assistants at Biscailuz Center during their first day of orientation in December. PPOA Second Vice President/Custody Assistant Tony Coleman was joined by Board and staff members to answer questions, discuss benefits and welcome members of C/A Class #110 to this Association. 🙌
We are proud to see PPOA members and their partners being acknowledged for their dedication to the communities they serve.

Images courtesy of social media.

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**American Legion Star Post #309**

**Compton Sheriff’s Station**

**LASD Transit Services Bureau**

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**cenlasd**

Century Sheriff’s Station

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cenlasd Please join us in congratulating LET Eleanor Pluma on her retirement after 33 years of service. While we will miss her dearly, we are excited for her next adventure.

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Lasd family

Yesterday, Transit Services Bureau (TSB) staff attended the graduation of Thomas Harvey III from the Sheriff’s Security Officer Academy held at the STARS Center in Whittier. Prior to his graduation from the academy, Thomas (pictured here in the white shirt) was an RMI security guard who was assigned to the Los Angeles Fire Operations Center in Lynwood. While working the guard shift for the past few years, Thomas and our TSB personnel built a long-term friendship. We’re proud of Thomas — whose father was a retired Los Angeles Firestone deputy — and wish him the best in his first assignment at County Services Bureau. Congratulations, Thomas, and welcome to the LASD family! **Lasd family**

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Everyone meet Melinda, she was shopping at the Gateway Towne Center for Christmas this past weekend with her mom, and wanted to thank deputies who patrol the City of Compton. Sergeant Stroh and deputies of PPOA Paramedics provided Melinda as a Junior Deputy on the spot. Melinda says she has always wanted to serve her community as a future Deputy. We look forward to her continued good grades in school and her future application.

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**PPOA Members Spotted on the Socials**
SKATEBOARD DECK ONLY $200
COMPLETE SKATEBOARD $250
Venmo or PayPal accepted
Please include the following in the memo/notes:
Skateboard, Name, Email Address, and Contact Number
You will be contacted when the skateboard is ready for pickup.

The SYF is consistently creating opportunities to raise funds in support of youth programs, so that we can continue to do outreach and effect a positive outcome for youth in the communities we serve.

Our newest fundraiser features a custom-built skateboard designed to look like an LA County Sheriff's patrol car. It is a one-of-a-kind design with all the logos and stickers that are on a black and white patrol car, along with red and blue wheels simulating the patrol car's lights.

Please support the Sheriff's Youth Foundation by making your tax deductible purchase. For more information go to our website at www.sheriffyouthfoundation.org

OWN A PIECE OF LASD HISTORY
Sheriff Signature Series
LIMITED EDITION NUMBERED AND SIGNED BY ALL 5 LIVING SHERIFFS.

$1000
* Tax deductible

Sheriff's Youth Foundation
SKATEBOARD FUNDRAISER
IN SUPPORT OF THE YOUTH ACTIVITIES LEAGUE PROGRAMS

On-demand designer kitchens and baths*

Take $5,000 off kitchen and $2,500 off of bathroom renovations!

We are running a special discount for our LASD friends and family for a limited time!

Welcome to your new kitchen and bath, completed in a fraction of the time with upfront, transparent pricing, guaranteed.

We handle everything from design, material procurement, project management, and construction for a stress-free and enjoyable experience.

Transform your home in weeks! With bathroom remodels completed in under 4 weeks and gorgeous kitchens in as little as 3 weeks. Customized to your style and expertly designed for you!

Reach out to us today for a free design consultation and proposal!

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310.494.6852
See our work @welcomerenovation

Greg Takeshira, Founder (Active WHD Reserve Deputy)
POA delivered a treadmill to Compton Station last month for use in the staff gym. In a continuing effort to support members, PPOA’s Star & Shield Foundation teams up with a local exercise equipment retailer each year to secure a limited number of treadmills and ellipticals for employee gyms at facilities throughout the county. The machines are purchased by the Star & Shield Foundation at discounted pricing and delivered by PPOA to units with an expressed need for new exercise equipment.

**Las Vegas ROMEOs Luncheon**
January 20
TGI Fridays at Aliante Casino and Hotel
RSVP: bobbycanfield@gmail.com

**HR-218 Qualification**
January 21 and January 27
PDC (Wayside) Range
8 a.m.–12 p.m.
Info: pabner54@gmail.com

**Lakewood Annual Retiree Luncheon**
January 24
Chili’s, Lakewood
11 a.m.
RSVP/Info: kamohagen@aol.com

**LASD Retiree Roundup**
April 7–10
Riverside Resort and Casino, Laughlin

**Retired Guys & Gals Breakfast Club**
Every Wednesday at 9 a.m.
Mr. D’s Diner, Placentia
Info: kamohagen@aol.com

**Desert Heat Retirees Luncheon**
First Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m.
Elks Lodge, Lake Havasu
Info: Lnx1993@yahoo.com

**Rogue Valley Retiree Lunch**
Last Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m.
Grants Pass Golf Club,
Grants Pass, OR
Info: michaelbuschke@charter.net
These events and more can be found on PPOA’s online calendar at [PPOA.com](http://PPOA.com). Do you know of a Department-related event we can help promote? Email details to [info@PPOA.com](mailto:info@PPOA.com).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| **January 15** | **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
The PPOA office will be closed in honor of the County holiday. |
| **February 14** | **PPOA Board of Directors Meeting**  
San Dimas  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Members: RSVP to (323) 261-3010 |
| **February 19** | **Presidents Day**  
The PPOA office will be closed in honor of the County holiday. |
| **February 27** | **PPOA Delegates Meeting**  
Location TBA |
| **March 13** | **PPOA Board of Directors Meeting**  
San Dimas  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Members: RSVP to (323) 261-3010 |
| **March 25** | **Cesar Chavez Day**  
The PPOA office will be closed in honor of the County holiday. |

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### STAR & SHIELD

Congratulations to the following PPOA members for winning the “Find the Hidden Word” contest in Star & Shield. If your name is listed, that means your entry was drawn as one of the winners for that month’s issue. Please call Greg Torres at (323) 261-3010 to claim your $100 check.

**CONTEST WINNERS**

- **$100 PRIZE WINNERS**  
  (November issue — the hidden word appeared on page 4)
  - Seth Johnson, Sergeant  
  - Patricia Massey, Retired Member  
  - Cecilia Onofre, Custody Assistant

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### Special Funeral Savings

**ACT NOW: THIS OFFER EXPIRES MAR. 31, 2024**

**Save up to $1,895**

*Based on the purchase of a complete funeral Tribute plan for $12,450 with package savings of $650 plus an additional 10% discount for a total savings of $1,895. Offer expires March 31, 2024 and is subject to change without notice. Additional restrictions apply. Contact your Rose Hills advisor for more details.*

Call 888-818-8644 for a no-obligation tour or appointment with Mark Ortega.

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Whittier | COA 610 | FD 970 | CA INS LIC 0D04129
Help PPOA’s Star & Shield Foundation support families of fallen officers and those truly in need. Donate online today at starandshieldfoundation.org/donate. If you would like to contribute by phone, please call (323) 261-3010.

Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. The Star & Shield Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Tax ID #95-4752410.

Significant Discounts for PPOA Members

PPOA members have access to exclusive group discounts on tickets for a number of venues, including:

- AMC Theatres
- Huntington Library
- Knott’s Berry Farm
- Legoland
- Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific
- Regal/Edwards Theatres
- San Diego Zoo
- Six Flags Magic Mountain

Visit PPOA.com for details!
Every issue of Star & Shield will feature a different hidden word. The word will be used only once in the entire magazine — your challenge is to find it! Members who find the hidden word and register through our website (PPOA.com) by the end of this month will be entered into a drawing for one of three $100 prizes. Contest ends January 31, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. PT.

This month’s hidden word is:

Mend
Repair (something that is broken or damaged).

Online registration only. Please do not call the PPOA office to register for contest.

The first PPOA member to correctly identify where the PPOA van was parked for this photo will win a PPOA prize pack. Email your guess to info@ppoa.com. One attempt per member, please.
Important Note Regarding FOP Membership for Retired PPOA Members

PPOA members have long benefited from our longtime affiliation with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the world’s largest organization of law enforcement officers, with more than 367,000 members in more than 2,200 lodges nationwide. All active PPOA members are part of California FOP Lodge #1.

An important note regarding FOP membership for retired PPOA members: Once a sworn PPOA member retires, and he/she wishes to reactivate their FOP membership/benefits, the following steps must be taken:

To reactivate your membership as a retired peace officer, you will need to pay FOP annual dues of $40 for 2023. To do so, please send an email to the FOP Lodge #1 secretary at wmwestermann@sbcglobal.net. Be sure to include your full name and advise that you are a retired PPOA member requesting membership with FOP.

2024 College Scholarship Program

We are proud to announce that 12 scholarships worth $13,500 total will be available to help further education for PPOA members and their dependents.

Criteria and applications will be posted by March 1 on PPOA.com.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 19.
Any member who does not wish to contribute to LAPPOA’s PAC, Independent Expenditure Committee or Issues Committee may so designate by checking the statement below and mailing this statement to LAPPOA at:
188 E. Arrow Hwy.,
San Dimas, CA 91773

“I, ________________________________
(member name, employee number),
do not want any of my LAPPOA membership
dues used for political purposes. Note:
Membership dues will not be reduced for any
member who does not want their membership
dues used for political purposes.”

Do You Know What Your Union Is Working on Each Week?

Every Saturday morning, PPOA members receive an email documenting union accomplishments, ongoing projects, challenges facing the membership and more. Reading the PPOA Week in Review will help you stay connected and up to date on a range of important issues. If you are a PPOA member and have not received the Week in Review, please send your name, employee number and personal email address to info@PPOA.com.

MISSION STATEMENT

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.
Proud to Reunite More Than 100 Friends for PPOA Retiree Luncheon

POA was proud to host our 19th annual Retiree Luncheon in November at the Sheraton Fairplex. Board Member Jim Schallert (LASD ret. 2019) served as master of ceremonies, and we were pleased to offer special acknowledgment to the military veterans in attendance. PPOA is grateful to the more than 100 friends who joined us for a memorable afternoon.
In addition to breaking news and announcements, the “LAPPOA” Facebook page features more than 2,000 photos and videos from events, graduations, memorials, dedications, ceremonies and other noteworthy occasions. We’re honored to document the diligent work of PPOA members and meaningful moments for our law enforcement family.

www.facebook.com/LAPPOA

SAVE THE DATE!

PPOA
16TH ANNUAL
Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament

Monday, June 24, 2024
FRIENDLY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB, WHITTIER

Visit PPOA.com for details and registration.
POA representatives were honored to attend graduation ceremonies in November for C/A Class #109 at Biscailuz Center and SSO Class #59 at STARS Center. We extend congratulations to all of the graduates for their teamwork and dedication. Photos by Greg Torres/PPOA.
PPOA extends our sincere condolences to the loved ones of the following members who passed away in October and November:

Sheriff's Security Officer
**Branden Colbert**
EOW: October 7, 2023
Began career with LASD in 2007
Assigned to Parks Bureau at time of passing

Sergeant (LADA)
**Emilio Guerrero**
EOW: October 8, 2023
Began career as LASD deputy in 1994 (Class #286)
Joined District Attorney’s Office Bureau of Investigation in 2006

Retired Deputy
**Richard A. Martin**
EOW: October 9, 2023
LASD 1971–2001
Academy Class #151
Last assignment: Major Crimes Bureau
U.S. Army veteran
Condolences may be emailed to his family: richardmartin3957@icloud.com

Retired Deputy
**Deren Brady**
EOW: October 17, 2023
LADA ret. 2020
Began career as LASD deputy in 1995 (Class #290)

Retired Sergeant
**Kenneth Allen**
EOW: November 3, 2023
LASD 1958–1990
Academy Class #74
Last assignment: Narcotics Bureau
Condolences may be emailed to his family: ruschuhmann@gmail.com

Commander
**Darren Harris**
EOW: November 6, 2023
Began career with LASD in 1990
Assigned to Court Services Division at time of passing

Retired Deputy
**Alvin Henley**
EOW: November 8, 2023
LASD 1966–1992
Last assignment: Men’s Central Jail

Retired Deputy
**Thomas Holeman**
EOW: November 9, 2023
LASD 1973–2004
Academy Class #164
Last assignment: Narcotics Bureau
U.S. Air Force veteran

Retired Deputy
**Barry Stauffacher**
EOW: November 10, 2023
LASD 1960–1978
Academy Class #86
Last assignment: East L.A. Station
U.S. Air Force veteran
Condolences may be emailed to his family: debrastauffacher@icloud.com

Retired Deputy Marshal
**Manuel Valle**
EOW: November 12, 2023
Marshal’s Office 1971–1993

Retired Sergeant
**Clifford Morden**
EOW: November 17, 2023
LASD 1962–1993
Academy Class #93
LASD assignment: West Hollywood Station
U.S. Marine Corps veteran
Condolences may be emailed to his family: mordens@charter.net

Retired Deputy
**Kenneth Duffey**
EOW: November 19, 2023
LASD 1967–1996
Academy Class #131
Last assignment: Special Investigations Bureau
U.S. Army veteran
Condolences may be emailed to his family: duffey1616@yahoo.com

Retired Deputy
**Larry Tomes**
EOW: November 28, 2023
LASD 1969–2003
Academy Class #136
Last assignment: Lakewood Station
U.S. Army veteran
Retired LADA Sergeant Deren Brady (EOW: 10/17/23)

Sheriff’s Security Officer Branden Colbert (EOW: 10/7/23)

LADA Sergeant Emilio Guerrero (EOW: 10/8/23)

Retired Deputy Marshal Manuel Valle (EOW: 11/12/23)

Retired Deputy Kenneth Duffey (EOW: 11/19/23)

Retired Deputy Richard A. Martin (EOW: 10/9/23)

Retired Deputy Kenneth Holeman (EOW: 11/9/23)

Retired Sergeant Richard “Duke” Elliott (EOW: 10/29/23)

Commander Darren Harris (EOW: 11/6/23)
The increasing cost of daily necessities — most noticeably groceries — is again closing the gap between income and expenses. With few places to make cuts, many people are resorting to credit cards to make ends meet. According to data from the Federal Reserve, consumers’ total credit card debt reached $1.03 trillion in the second quarter of 2023, the highest amount on record. Though the use of plastic may work in the short term, be cautious about using credit cards as a long-term solution to cash-flow problems. Even if you’re still able to make the monthly payments, relying on credit cards could put you into a danger zone. For example, are you charging more than you used to? Or carrying over part of your debt into the next month when you used to pay off the full balance each month?

If your credit card debt becomes so high that you can’t even make the minimum payment within 30 days of its due date, your credit score could drop by as much as 100 points. That late payment will stay on your credit report for seven years, making it harder to get loans in the future.

**RECESSION-PROOF AND INFLATION-PROOF YOUR FINANCES**

If you’re starting to feel the pinch of higher prices, here are a few ways to protect yourself from serious financial trouble:

- **Figure out how much you’re spending on gas, groceries and other necessities every month compared with a year ago.** You may not even realize you’re spending more, because you haven’t changed your lifestyle.
- **Look for reductions in income.** For example, retired consumers may find they have to tap into their principal to achieve the same annual income they used to get from the return on their investments.
- **Revise an outdated budget using the information you gather.** Identify where you can make cuts. Start with any remaining luxuries, but be prepared to economize on necessities.
- **Plan for further price increases.** Looking at your new budget, ask yourself how you would make ends meet if gas went up another dollar or groceries cost you an additional $75 per month. Recession- and inflation-proofing your finances is all about planning, as opposed to reacting. If you’re already watching your debt climb and you can’t see any alternative to using credit cards, you may want to talk to a credit counselor or financial advisor. They can show you how to reduce expenses or increase income. They are also familiar with all sorts of free or low-cost assistance programs. You can find a list of agencies at the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, nfcc.org.

Use this time to be proactive. One of the best things you can do is to start or increase an emergency fund. Then tap it, rather than credit cards, when you need help making ends meet. And remember, POPA Federal Credit Union is here to help. Give us a call at (800) 369-7672 anytime Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or contact us via email at feedback@popafcu.org. Don’t wait until you’re in deep trouble to ask for a financial checkup. The earlier you ask for a review, the better the outcome.
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New submissions are added on a first-come, first-served basis each issue. Please send within first week of each month to ensure timely inclusion. Sellers are encouraged to list price of each item listed. No work numbers or County email addresses may be used in ads. Submissions must be made in writing, not over the phone. Ads run for three months. PPOA is not responsible for any claims made in a classified ad.
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We have a pension department that specializes in this area and have successfully obtained disability pensions for thousands of safety personnel under PERS, County 1937 Retirement Act and other county and city systems.

PERSONAL INJURY

Our personal injury department has successfully litigated or tried over 5000 claims for automobile injuries, products liability, medical malpractice and other negligence areas.

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Making a false or fraudulent workers’ compensation claim is a felony subject to up to five years in prison or a fine up to $50,000.00 or double the value of the fraud, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and fine.