



STAR & SHIELD



HONORING OUR FALLEN

**PPOA Pays Tribute to Fallen Heroes
at the Local, State and National Levels**

SEE PAGE 12

★
2024
**SCHOLARSHIP
AWARDS**

SEE PAGE 26



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Star & Shield is the 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 opinions of the entire Board.

The Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of each month in the PPOA offices at 9 a.m.

Star & Shield subscription: \$12

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Contents **STAR & SHIELD**

JULY 2024



Leadership

4 The Pendulum Swings
Toward Public Safety
| **Steve Johnson**

6 L.A. Metro to Create Its
Own Police Force
| **Wayne Quint Jr.**

7 Raise the Bar
| **Jay Chapman**

8 Possible LASD Sales Pitch:
This Job Provides for My
Family, But I Never See Them
| **Rosario "Tony" Coleman**

9 Beware of the Scam That
Siphoned \$4 Billion From the
Middle Class Last Year
| **Jim Schallert**

10 Monterey Park Mass
Shooting: Acknowledging the
Outstanding Dedication of
Two Crime Analysts
| **Joe Walker**

Also Inside

12 Thousands Gather in
Washington, D.C., for National
Police Week

16 California Peace Officers'
Memorial Ceremony

17 55th Annual Los Angeles
County Peace Officers'
Memorial Ceremony

18 Remembering Detective
Alexander Miller and Deputy
Yuna Shi

19 End of Watch

20 Honoring Fallen Heroes
at PPOA's 16th Annual
Peace Officer Memorial Golf
Tournament

22 Welcoming New PPOA
Members

23 Honored to Support South
Los Angeles Station

24 Discussing Union and
Workplace Issues With PPOA
Delegates

25 Calendar of Events

26 13th Annual PPOA College
Scholarship Awards Ceremony

28 November Ballot Initiative

30 Be Safe While Shopping
Online

31 Classifieds

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The Pendulum Swings Toward Public Safety

We are an association of members who perform honorably with professionalism and endurance within Los Angeles County against the ominous effects of such things as consent decrees, settlement proposals, reformist legislation, new policies based on progressive reform, rising crime, rising assaults on our personnel, massive overtime, mental health challenges, suicide and the rising cost of living. Yet, we still produce quality results within the Sheriff's Department, the Medical Examiner's Office and the District Attorney's Office, Bureau of Investigation.

Let us also not forget pending challenges such as the World Cup in 2026 and the Olympics in 2028. This is on top of the fact that recruitment and retention of personnel are at historic all-time lows. As we move into our contract negotiations, the County *must* comprehend this harsh landscape and accommodate these constraints with appropriate pay, incentives and working conditions.

This year's upcoming general election cycle has brought to the surface unique candidates and significant legislative proposals; PPOA is and will be strongly engaged to protect your rights and livelihood. Key races this November (such as the district attorney's position) may have an outcome that is heavily influenced by other candidates and initiatives that appear on the ballot from the local to the national level.



The L.A. County District Attorney's race sees Nathan Hochman challenge George Gascón.

In collaboration with our affiliated unions and through our lobbying efforts, we are strategically fighting within the political realm to ensure you remain viable, healthy and safe.

In response to this upcoming campaign cycle, elected officials from both sides of the aisle (even ultra-progressives) vying to remain in office while appeasing their constituents have made the prevention of serialized retail theft and other related crimes



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a priority. This forecast is an indicator of the pendulum swinging back in favor of public safety. We do not know the degree to which it will swing back but we need to remain flexible, patient and vigilant.

PPOA remains at the forefront of opposing laws that would negatively impact our profession. Throughout the past six months, our Legislative Committee, in concert with our lobbying firm, has met extensively to monitor and review over 100 bills developing within both houses of the California State Legislature.

This month, Assembly Bill 28 takes effect as law and requires an 11% excise tax on the sale of many firearms and ammunition. However, we are proud to report that Assembly Bill 28 exempts active/retired police officers, and law enforcement agencies will not face the new tax, per 36021(a) PC.

Regarding proposed and amended Department policies, since January 1, 2024, PPOA has engaged in more than 25 *meet-and-confer* sessions with the Department for a combined total of more than 50 hours. These topics, which affect all PPOA members, include body-worn cameras, use of force, vacation selection, deputy cliques, schedule changes and grooming standards, to name a few.

This past May, PPOA was honored to participate in the California Peace Officers' Memorial in Sacramento, honoring Deputy Clinkunbroomer and his family. We assisted with the movement of PPOA and ALADS members cycling along the Unity Tour from Somerset, New Jersey, to D.C. and participated in the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial also honored Deputy Clinkunbroomer, as well as our deceased PPOA member, Sergeant Frank Murillo. We had the honor of personally escorting



First Vice President Jay Chapman and President Steve Johnson stand with the family of fallen PPOA member, Sergeant Frank Murillo



the Murillo family to Washington, D.C., and they were beyond appreciative of the love and support from the PPOA family.

I know I am not alone when I say it is difficult to put into words the moment you see one of our member's names inscribed on a memorial wall. However, we are proud to support this tradition and shall always remember the legacies of our fallen.

At one of the memorials, I overheard a family member of a fallen officer express her deep-seated fear that her fallen loved one would be forgotten. We promised to never let that happen! One of the ways we do this is through our annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament.

It was with tremendous honor that on June 24, we hosted our 16th Annual Golf Tournament at Friendly Hills Golf Course in Whittier. As you may well be aware, PPOA, via our Star & Shield Foundation, is committed to supporting the families of fallen officers. The proceeds from the tournament assist family members with unexpected financial burdens, including funeral costs and travel expenses for family members attending peace officer memorial ceremonies in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

This golf tournament represents our Foundation's primary vehicle to raise the critical funds needed to support the survivors of fallen officers. We are extremely grateful to our tournament sponsors. Their commitment is sincerely appreciated by the men and women in law enforcement and confirms that our trusted supporters recognize the sacrifices made by fallen officers.

We were extremely thankful for the volunteers and staff members who worked tirelessly to make this event memorable for all in attendance. If you participated, I hope you thoroughly enjoyed the tournament, contests and fellowship with friends and law enforcement family members. If not, I hope to see you

at our next tournament, which will also be held at Friendly Hills Golf Course on June 2, 2025.

Last month, PPOA was once again proud to gather and announce the winners of our 2024 college scholarship awards. These scholarships will help further the education of PPOA members and their children. Since the inception of this scholarship program, PPOA has been honored to contribute nearly \$150,000 to help students achieve educational goals.

I would like to thank Undersheriff April Tardy, who attended the ceremony on behalf of the Sheriff's Department, and Chief Robert Arcos, who attended on behalf of the District Attorney's Office, Bureau of Investigation. We had a record number of applicants this year, and the competition was stiff. Nonetheless, it was PPOA's privilege to participate in the transformational experience that comes with the pursuit of academic excellence.

I had the honor of attending the 108th birthday of Sergeant Joe Harris in Compton on June 29. Sergeant Harris is the father of one of our PPOA members, Law Enforcement Technician Tanya Pittman. Sergeant Harris is living history and the embodiment of courage, leadership and service. As a paratrooper during World War II, he served under the elite 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, the first airborne unit of its kind in the U.S. Army (prior to integration).



During the event, I had the honor of formally recognizing his service both as a veteran and retired law enforcement officer. During my military service in the Air Force, I performed and supported a similar mission as Sergeant Harris; this was an especially unique and moving event for me. This year will mark 80 years since Operation Firefly started the legacy of the group, eventually named the Triple Nickles. Compton Station personnel were in attendance, along with family, friends, neighbors and civic leaders throughout Sergeant Harris' community.

Lastly, and most importantly, regarding our well-being, let us do our utmost to guard against those pressures that often go unchecked and can lead to further issues. Unlike any other time in our profession, we are met with a multitude of challenges, which are easily amplified. Let us be mindful of their impact, and let us continue to look out for one another. So please — stay well and be safe. I look forward to sharing PPOA's progress throughout the second half of 2024. Thank you. 🇺🇸



Celebrating the 108th birthday of WWII veteran Joe Harris, the father of PPOA member Tanya Pittman

L.A. Metro to Create Its Own Police Force

On June 27, the executive board of directors who oversee the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) voted unanimously (10–0) to create its own police agency. The vote came after appearances by Long Beach Police Department Chief Wally Hebeish, LAPD Interim Chief Dominic Choi and LASD Sheriff Robert Luna. The Metro transit system is currently policed under contract arrangements with these three agencies.

The LASD's Transit Services Bureau (TSB) is comprised of 330 sworn and professional staff members who are specifically trained to provide community safety services to 95 cities and four counties throughout the Metro service area. This includes all buses, trains and Metro property outside of the City of Los Angeles and covers 978 square miles of Metro's 1,447 square miles of bus service, 90 miles of rail and 60 Metro stations.

Due to the geographical size of the county and locations that TSB already covers, LASD is more than capable of continuing to serve in its existing capacity as well as increasing service as Metro continues to expand its operations.

Three years ago, in the July 2021 *Star & Shield* magazine, I wrote in my message that in October 2020, the Metro established a 15-member Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). In February 2021, the selection of PSAC members was finalized. I was shocked but not surprised that the “reimagine” criminal justice system progressives who were calling for defunding of the police had zero law enforcement or public safety experience.

Through a motion by the Metro board, the PSAC was given the responsibility to review the current and future Metro law enforcement contracts. The then-five-year, three-agency \$768 million system safety security and law enforcement contract was due to expire in June 2022. PPOA requested that the membership contact all five board of supervisors, who were also Metro board members, and communicate their opposition to any defunding of law enforcement at Metro. The Metro board did, in fact, increase funding to address unprecedented challenges, including “evolving safety and security requirements in L.A. County.” In the same vote, however, the board called on Metro to invest at least \$40 million in next year's budget for public safety and homelessness initiatives that are not tied to armed police enforcement.

In March 2023, the Metro board rejected the contract proposals that were presented by the three law enforcement



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agencies and agreed to explore creating their own police force. The board, however, approved extending the current policing contract with the Long Beach Police Department, LAPD and the LASD for another year, as the contract was set to expire on June 30. There was also a contractual clause allowing the contract to be renewed annually until 2026. In June 2023, an In-House Public Safety Department Feasibility Study final report was presented to the Metro board, addressing the pivotal question: Can Metro establish an in-house public safety department that will result in enhanced police services to Metro riders and employees at a reduced cost?

On October 17, 2023, Sheriff Luna sent a nine-page letter to Metro board Chair Karen Bass to address the feasibility study. The Sheriff pushed back on the new concept, citing concerns over higher startup costs, recruiting qualified officers and decreasing law enforcement services on the Metro system. The Sheriff wrote that the new proposed department detailed in the study would result in a reduction of 85 daily deployed law enforcement officers from current levels, resulting in a 32% drop.

The issues raised in Sheriff Luna's letter were discussed on November 13 at a meeting of Metro's PSAC. The committee established ad-hoc committees to address the Sheriff's concerns, and the Metro CEO would utilize an independent consultant in preparation for a presentation to the Metro board in January 2024.

On June 21, six days before the Metro board of directors' regular board meeting, CEO Stephanie Wiggins responded in writing to Sheriff Luna, advising that many of his concerns about the feasibility study had been addressed in the “recently completed” Transit Community Public Safety Department (TCPSD) Implementation Plan.

At the June 27 Metro board meeting, Agenda Item #40: Transit Community Public Safety Implementation Plan *approved* the establishment of an in-house TCPSD over a five-year phased transition, utilizing the enhanced public safety service model. It was unanimously passed. Before the item passed, Sheriff Luna advised the Metro board that Los Angeles expects influxes of visitors with the World Cup in 2026, Super Bowl in 2027 and Summer Olympics in 2028, and stated the obvious by saying, “This is not a time to experiment with new projects; public safety is too critical to do that.” ♥

Raise the Bar

The Pygmalion effect refers to situations where high expectations lead to improved performance and low expectations lead to worsened performance. It is critical to establish goals and expectations in every area of our life. Have you set expectations for yourself, your team, our Department and our union?

What are your expectations for yourself? Maybe it's physical expectation, a mental mindset, a financial goal or a combination of all three. Whatever expectations we set for ourselves are ones we continue to strive for and work toward every day. It's time to establish personal goals, raise the bar and elevate your expectations. The easiest way is to simplify your goals or plans and work to achieve them.

What are the expectations you have for your team? I am not talking about performance evaluations, although that might be some consideration. What do you want from your team, what reputation does your team want to have, and what are the goals for your team? Remember, these are collaborative expectations that you have for the team as well as the expectations they have for themselves. We need to work to mutually support each other while simultaneously working to accomplish the team's goals and mission.



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the changes and set expectations.

What are your expectations of our union? Representation, higher salaries, better benefits, etc. We each have our own expectations, but does your representative at PPOA know your expectations? If we do not know your expectations, we will always fall short. However, if we set our expectations and let others know about the expectations, we can develop plans and strategies to meet those expectations. The members of our union should understand our mission and the "why" behind it so everyone knows the expectations and goals for all of our members of PPOA.

Set higher expectations today, own the opportunity to lead others and raise the bar for yourself, your team, our Department and our union. 🇺🇸

WE NEED TO WORK TO MUTUALLY SUPPORT EACH OTHER WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY WORKING TO ACCOMPLISH THE TEAM'S GOALS AND MISSION.

What are your expectations of our Department? Some might say none; however, some may have expectations of the Department. What do you want your workplace to look like? What do you want to see from the Department? How hard are you willing to work to help the Department meet your expectations? Do not try to solve problems simultaneously. Prioritize the most important tasks, then work to solve them. Own the opportunity as leaders in the Department to make

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Possible LASD Sales Pitch: This Job Provides for My Family, But I Never See Them

Let's get right into it. Custody Assistant Academy Class #112 is in progress. This class began with 24 recruits — the most of any class in recent years. They are scheduled to graduate on July 18, and we wish them the best, as every new body helps in the war of attrition.

The Department's on-duty wellness program is meant to ease some of the mental and physical strain of excessive overtime and time drafting. It will allow you to work out on duty, run or meditate.

There are parameters. Familiarize yourself with the policy and use it wisely. The one hour on duty *is not* in addition to your break, as outlined in our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). You cannot "double dip." Be a good partner and respect the time so others may also participate.

Unit orders and duty statements govern and outline what you are supposed to do. When those are not accessible, and something happens, how can you be accountable? "Site your reference."

THE DEPARTMENT'S ON-DUTY WELLNESS PROGRAM IS MEANT TO EASE SOME OF THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL STRAIN OF EXCESSIVE OVERTIME AND TIME DRAFTING.

There is a difference between being a team player and then having that thoughtfulness taken for granted and now assumed as your duty. That has happened to Custody Assistants in many areas, and that has led to some, if not most, of the "gray areas" in which we operate. Language in the unit orders, Department policy and the MOU can clarify most disputes and help expose and close any loophole that may exist.

There is nothing to report on negotiations. We are still a few months away from a schedule of meetings. Salary is huge for basically everyone. However, there are other aspects that are big for C/As. Salary structure is an issue, the pay gap is



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an issue and recruitment and retention are issues — so much so that another agency has a billboard with a recruitment pitch just outside of Twin Towers. I haven't seen too many LASD billboards, and I'm on the road ... *a lot*.

What is LASD's "sales pitch"? It used to rely heavily on employees bringing in friends and family. Yet, with things in their current state, employees are not as willing to promote our agency and subject loved ones to the fire.

"This job is the best and worst thing that's happened to me. It provides for my family, but I never see them." That is the gut-wrenching quote from a partner about just how much time we spend at work, on the road back and forth to work or sleeping

at work (some in their vehicles to maximize your "eight hours" between shifts, aka "the short turnaround").

In closing, how can your union represent you, defend you or resolve a questionable situation or circumstance if they don't know about it?

Numerous times I have been informed of something after the fact, even weeks or months later. I often ask these questions: Did you call the union? Did you get counseled on the matter before you signed any statement or memo? Even if you know you may have a part in something, it may be the difference between how any potential discipline is administered or losing your job altogether.

You will be represented throughout the entire process, including before the Employee Relations Commission (ERCOM), to get your job back if need be. That is something no competing union can offer.

Put your union to work. PPOA Labor Reps Mark and Dave are ready to dig in. Legal is on deck if the matter calls. The staff is attentive, and they make sure I'm aware of issues involving C/As if you make them aware. You can always contact me directly as well. Send your email to tcoleman@ppoa.com. Take care. Be safe. Stay cool. 🇺🇸

Beware of the Scam That Siphoned \$4 Billion From the Middle Class Last Year

It's called "pig butchering," and all retirees need to be aware of this scam that could cost you your life savings.

A mass transfer of wealth from middle-class America to criminal gangs in Southeast Asia and other areas is currently taking place. This scam took \$4 billion last year, up over 50% from the year before. All of you need to be aware of it and tell your friends.

The scam starts innocently with what appears to be an accidental text or Facebook message ... "Hi, how are you?" or "Hi, is this Bill?" The victim responds to what appears to be an innocent mistake, usually saying it's the wrong number, etc. But then the scammer continues with what appears to be an innocent conversation for months. They may send a harmless picture or Facebook message without anything from the victim, only casual friendship.

The scammer eventually presents the idea of investments. Maybe crypto. They often will use the victim's loneliness as a weapon. The victim will eventually invest in what appears to be a legitimate investment, with an online app and everything. It will go well for months, maybe showing modest returns on the "app," which usually makes the victim invest even more. Eventually, of course, the rug is pulled, the scammer disappears, and the app turns out to be fake, with the victim being drained of their life savings.



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work 16-hour days looking for victims. They use fake platforms that mimic legitimate cryptocurrency sites.

The scammers are usually drawn into the work by applying for IT jobs only to find out too late that they are kept hostage in these "camps." This is a huge problem for both Americans and those victims abroad who are forced into the situation. But my mission is to educate retirees about the scam and how to avoid it.

Never answer unknown texts or messages on WhatsApp, Facebook, LinkedIn or even dating sites — basically *any* online platform. Block and report them, especially if they are from out of the country.

Do not invest in what you cannot confirm is a legitimate investment opportunity with someone you have never met in person.

Assume the online person you are talking to is not real. They may seem very nice and interested, but it is likely a scam.

If you do decide to actually send anyone your money on any app — (again, *don't!*) — but if you do, call a trusted friend or relative and run it by them. Hopefully, they can convince you not to do it.

I am passionate about this because my father fell for a scam many years ago based in Nigeria (stop laughing; it's true, and was very sad). I called him one day, and he said that I will have no more worries because my siblings and I were going to be rich! I was at his house in 10 minutes, asking him, "What did you do?!" I was able to extract him from the scam before his losses were extreme, but it still hurt. The Feds got involved and said the scam was based in the UK and Nigeria. There was no getting his money back. Many victims never even report the loss because of embarrassment. There is nothing to be embarrassed about! If you feel you are a victim, say something. If you want to know more about it, conduct an internet search on "pig butchering." There have even been victims who have committed suicide after losing everything. It is so sad and so preventable.

In closing, please be careful. Many of you worked very hard for too many years to fall victim to this. They call it pig butchering because it's a very slow fattening process until, finally, the pig is ready to be butchered.

Please keep the emails coming. ♥

NEVER ANSWER UNKNOWN TEXTS OR MESSAGES ON WHATSAPP, FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN OR EVEN DATING SITES — BASICALLY ANY ONLINE PLATFORM.

If you think this is going away or that you can get your money back, think again. According to online news sources, there are city-sized compounds in Southeast Asia where hundreds of scammers are forced into it. There are stories of forced labor and torture throughout. They are forced to

Monterey Park Mass Shooting: Acknowledging the Outstanding Dedication of Two Crime Analysts

C rime Analyst **Danielle Ponce De Leon** was exhausted. She had spent most of her Saturday RDO assisting her Homicide team on a murder in Norwalk.

Danielle was jarred awake by her phone ringing. She saw the name of her partner, Crime Analyst Luz Luna, and she was relieved that it wasn't a spam call. Still, she also knew that since she and Luz's Homicide team were on call that weekend, it meant that she was going to need to quickly shift from drifting off to a peaceful slumber to full-on Crime Analyst, firing up her laptop and getting every detail over whatever case Luz was calling about.

An unthinkable act of horror had just been perpetuated at a dance hall in Monterey Park. At least 20 people had been shot, and the suspect was on the run.

Danielle reached out to the handling detectives, who confirmed that it was their case and proceeded to provide her with the little information they had. The most important information was that it was a mass casualty event and that the suspect was unknown and still outstanding.

When they were both at the office, they were provided photos of the suspect and the suspect's vehicle. During this time, a lot of information was coming to them about possible involved vehicles, and they needed to vet out what was good information and what was not. They had to work up leads or tips they were receiving on the incident and make sure that information got relayed to detectives on scene. This required a tremendous effort, but Danielle and Luz were the perfect Crime Analysts to sift through the tons of data coming their way.

They used all their tools to attempt to identify the suspect, but eventually, license plate reader cameras saved the day. As Luz and Danielle were looking at all the white Chevy vans scanned in the area of both shooting locations, they quickly discovered that a lot of white Chevy vans frequented that area. So, they needed to make sure they were looking at the correct vehicle and the correct suspect.

At 3 a.m., just a few hours after they arrived at the office, they located a white Chevy van with a registered owner who looked very similar to the suspect in the surveillance footage. They sent that off to detectives, who agreed that the suspect looked very similar. Then, the usual was done on the suspect: work-ups, six packs, cell phone pings, bulletins, etc. Luz and Danielle worked tirelessly through the night to provide information on the suspect and as much



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of a background as they could find to the handling detectives. They also assisted with any requests from detectives at the scene, trying to identify victims and their next of kin, providing information to surveillance teams attempting to locate the possible suspect, and creating timelines for the handling detectives.

They noticed there was a license plate scan in the City of Torrance shortly after the mass shooting, so detectives notified police officers in the City of Torrance of the suspect's vehicle information. After hours of combing through phone records and looking into the background of this suspect to provide detectives with areas to look for the suspect, they were notified that Torrance police officers were detaining a white Chevy van whose license plates were cold-plated. Quick

thinking by the Torrance officers to run the plate through their license plate reader system helped them realize that the vehicle was not the same vehicle that was in front of them. They knew that was suspicious, so they ended up detaining the vehicle.

THIS REQUIRED A TREMENDOUS EFFORT, BUT DANIELLE AND LUZ WERE THE PERFECT CRIME ANALYSTS TO SIFT THROUGH THE TONS OF DATA COMING THEIR WAY.

Upon the traffic stop, the driver pulled into a parking lot and committed suicide inside the van.

Luz and Danielle worked tirelessly throughout that day, assisting with anything that needed to be done. Just because the suspect was presumably deceased, their jobs did not end there. They finally left the office around 9 p.m. that night. They made a great team and assisted each other seamlessly throughout the entire incident. A lot was happening within a quick period of time, but they worked together and got the job done. They are truly the personification of 621 Strong. 🇺🇸

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Thousands Gather in Washington, D.C., for National Police Week

→ Law enforcement personnel, dignitaries and supporters gathered by the thousands in Washington, D.C., during National Police Week (May 12–18) to honor the service and sacrifice of officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

This year, the names of two fallen Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department members were added to the Memorial wall: Sergeant Frank Murillo (EOW: 2/8/22) and Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer (EOW: 9/16/23). PPOA representatives were honored to support the Murillo family and help them navigate the pressing schedule of National Police Week-related events. These impactful and emotional events included:

POLICE UNITY TOUR

PPOA members and fellow Police Unity Tour participants experienced a full range of emotions as they were greeted by thousands of friends and supporters in the nation’s capital on the final afternoon of the annual three-day event during National Police Week. Cyclists began the ride in New Jersey on a rainy Friday morning and spent the next two days pedaling through Philadelphia, Delaware and Maryland with a primary mission to acknowledge





WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY AND LUNCHEON

LASD and LAPD personnel, along with the families of Deputy Clinkunbroomer and Sergeant Murillo, attended a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The poignant ceremony, followed by a luncheon co-hosted by PPOA, ALADS and the L.A. Police Protective League, has become a collaborative tradition for the two agencies during National Police Week.

officers who died in the line of duty and raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

PPOA and ALADS proudly sponsored approximately 100 members participating in the 2024 Police Unity Tour. Support team representatives from both unions were embedded with the riders to ensure the event moved forward as safely and smoothly as possible for all involved.

→ continued on page 14



→ continued from page 13



36TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Each year, the names of officers killed in the line of duty are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. These names were read aloud during the Candlelight Vigil to memorialize those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



43RD ANNUAL NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

Family members of fallen officers gathered with law enforcement personnel from across the country






for a ceremony hosted on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. This event is sponsored annually by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), and this year's guest speakers included President Joe Biden and FOP President Patrick Yoes. The 2024 Memorial Service was the largest-scale ceremony in its 43-year history.

Visit [Facebook.com/lappoa](https://www.facebook.com/lappoa) to view more photos from National Police Week. ❤️



California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

→ The family members of eight peace officers killed in the line of duty, including LASD Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer (EOW: 9/16/23), were joined by hundreds of law enforcement personnel and supporters in May for the 46th annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony at the State Capitol. PPOA was honored to provide support for this solemn event. President Steve Johnson and Executive Director Wayne Quint Jr. were honored to attend the ceremony on behalf of PPOA.

Active PPOA members who attended the California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony were eligible for a travel expense reimbursement up to \$200. We encourage all active and retired members to experience this memorial ceremony in person to truly grasp the significance of our collective responsibility to honor the fallen. 





55th Annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

→ Families of fallen officers gathered with law enforcement personnel on May 22 for the 55th annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial ceremony. The service and sacrifice of LASD Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer (EOW: 9/16/23) and Manhattan Beach P.D. Officer Chad Swanson (EOW: 10/4/23) were honored during the ceremony at the Biscailuz Center and engraved plaques with their names were added to the Memorial wall. ♥



Detective Alexander Miller

EOW: May 1, 2024


→ Detective Alexander Miller passed on May 1, 2024, due to an unexpected illness. He was assigned to the SEB Arson Explosives Detail and is survived by his wife, son and daughter.



Deputy Yuna Shi

EOW: May 23, 2024

→ Deputy Yuna Shi began her career with the Sheriff's Department as a Custody Assistant in 2013 and passed away on her 43rd birthday following a two-year battle with cancer. She was assigned to the Transportation Services Bureau. ❤️




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END OF WATCH

PPOA extends our sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following PPOA members who passed away in April:

Retired Commander

Arthur Herrera

EOW: April 3, 2024

LASD 1965-2001

Academy Class #110

Last assignment:

Detective Division

Retired Deputy

Richard Ruwe

EOW: April 26, 2024

LASD 1965-1979

Academy Class #74



*Retired Lieutenant
Calvin Shows
(EOW: 4/10/24)*

Retired Sheriff Security Officer

Luis Pingarron

EOW: April 6, 2024

LASD 1995-2022

Former PPOA delegate



*Retired Commander
Arthur Herrera
(EOW: 4/3/24)*

Retired Lieutenant

Calvin Shows

EOW: April 10, 2024

Los Angeles County

Police ret. 2005

U.S. Army veteran



*Retired Sergeant
Charles McGraw
(EOW: 4/11/24)*

Retired Sergeant

Charles McGraw

EOW: April 11, 2024

LASD 1963-1989

Academy Class #101

Last assignment:

Criminal Courts Building

U.S. Marine Corps veteran



*Retired Sheriff Security Officer
Luis Pingarron
(EOW: 4/6/24)*

Retired Captain

Robert Mirabella

EOW: April 20, 2024

LASD 1970-1997

Academy Class #138

Last assignment: Contract

Law Enforcement Bureau

Honoring Fallen Heroes at PPOA's 16th Annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament

PPOA was honored to bring together nearly 200 law enforcement personnel, supporters, volunteers and sponsors for the 16th annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament on June 24. The event was hosted at the Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier. Each year, the tournament serves as the primary vehicle for PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation, helping raise the critical funds needed to support the families of fallen officers.

We want to thank our main tournament sponsor, the Law Offices of James J. Cunningham, and the extensive, impressive list of generous sponsors who step forward year after year to help us honor fallen heroes. 🇺🇸





Welcoming New PPOA Members

PPOA representatives were proud to meet with new union members from multiple classifications in May and June, including 24 newly-hired Custody Assistants (Class #112), 15 newly-hired Sheriff Security Officers (Class #60) and 25 recently-promoted Sergeants attending Supervisory School. 🛡️



MEMBERS CAN WIN!



IT PAYS TO READ

STAR & SHIELD

THREE \$100 PRIZES

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 July 31, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. PT.

This month's hidden word is:

Personification

An attribution of personal qualities

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



Honored to Support South Los Angeles Station

PPOA was proud to deliver a treadmill to South Los Angeles Station in May for use in the staff gym. In a continuing effort to support health and fitness for members and Department personnel, PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation teams up with Discount Fitness in Bellflower to secure a limited number of treadmills and ellipticals for employee gyms at facilities throughout the county. The refurbished, high-end commercial machines are purchased by the Foundation at discounted pricing and delivered by PPOA to select units where union members have an expressed need for exercise equipment.



To date in 2024, we've delivered equipment to five units and four additional units are on the waiting list for treadmills. Fulfilling these remaining requests will max out the budget for this PPOA program for the year, but please know that we've arranged for Discount Fitness to extend special

pricing to PPOA members interested in purchasing fitness equipment for staff gyms or personal use. For more info, call Discount Fitness at (562) 531-7767 and tell them you're a member of the Professional Peace Officers Association. 🇺🇸



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Greg Takeshita, Founder (Active WHD Reserve Deputy)

Discussing Union and Workplace Issues With PPOA Delegates

PPOA delegates met with union Board members and staff last month in Monterey Park. Topics of discussion at the quarterly meeting included bargaining unit contracts, legal updates, labor representation, legislation and more. We were also honored to present a retirement plaque to Custody Assistant Brice Zipser, who is wrapping up his career after 26 years of dedicated service. 🇺🇸



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

(May/June issue — the hidden word appeared on page 4)

- Yvonne Holden**, Custody Assistant
- Raymond Rust**, Retired Member
- Norma Solorio**, Custody Assistant



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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

These events and more can be found on PPOA's online calendar at PPOA.com. Do you know of a Department-related event we can help promote? Email details to info@PPOA.com.

August 14

PPOA Board of Directors Meeting

San Dimas

9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Members: RSVP to (323) 261-3010

August 28

23rd Annual PPOA Pre-Labor Day BBQ and General Membership Meeting

Biscailuz Center

See below for details

September 7

Shotgun Tournament

Hosted by L.A. Sheriff's Athletic Association

LA Clays, 831 N. Rosemead Blvd., South El Monte

Open to all LASD members and guests

Info: (323) 260-8559 or

mjmunoz@lasd.org

September 11

PPOA Board of Directors Meeting

San Dimas

9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Members: RSVP to (323) 261-3010

September 16

Final Day to Submit PPOA Board Nominating Petitions

Petitions and details will be published in the August 2024 issue of *Star & Shield*

SAVE THE DATE | **WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28**

BISCAILUZ CENTER
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

23RD ANNUAL PPOA PRE-LABOR DAY BBQ

& GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

13th Annual PPOA College Scholarship Awards Ceremony

PPOA proudly issued our annual college scholarship awards to a group of very dedicated and deserving students in June. 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 2024 recipients included a Law Enforcement Technician and 12 students who are children of PPOA members.

We wish the best to each student and are grateful to their

family members who joined us for the ceremony at the PPOA Conference Center. Special thanks to LASD Undersheriff April Tardy and LADA Bureau of Investigations Chief Robert Arcos for their participation and support. We are also extremely grateful to the following law firms for their commitment as corporate sponsors of PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation and two of the scholarships awarded:

- Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin & Lee
- Straussner, Sherman, Lonné, Treger & Helquist





November Ballot Initiative

In recent weeks, news emerged from the State Capitol that legislative leaders, working in coordination with the governor, are planning to insert a controversial amendment to the bipartisan public safety package to confuse the dynamic around a Prop 47 reform measure that has officially qualified for the November 2024 ballot. Recall, the Homelessness, Drug Addiction and Theft Reduction Act, which is supported by a coalition of public safety organizations, business interests, merchants, taxpayer groups, victims' advocates and others, would increase penalties for some drug and theft crimes and provide mental health, drug treatment services and other services for people who are homeless and suffering from mental illness or struggling with substance abuse.

The legislative package aims to tackle organized retail theft, expand access to substance use disorder treatment, improve fentanyl education and awareness, and provide enhanced tools to law enforcement but without modifications to Prop 47.

Specifically, the proposed amendment — an interoperability clause — would provide that should the ballot measure pass in November, all bills in the Legislature's public safety package (which are being fast-tracked through the legislative process) would be repealed. This strategic move could have two potential objectives: to create a rift among supporters by forcing them to choose between the bill package or to alter the ballot measure's title and summary language in a way that might confuse voters and reduce support by suggesting the amendment is lenient on crime.

Governor Newsom and legislative leaders have stated their opposition to changing Proposition 47, asserting that the current legislative package is strong enough to address concerns about crime. However, proponents of the ballot measure argue that Prop 47 needs to be revisited to effectively address the fentanyl crisis, organized retail theft and homelessness among individuals with substance use disorders.

Following the June 27 deadline to withdraw a measure from the ballot and ongoing resistance from the initiative's supporters to compromise, the Legislature is under pressure to find a new strategy to counter the November ballot proposal. The bipartisan public safety package includes the following measures.

Measures addressing fentanyl include:

- **SB 1319 (Wahab):** Expedites approval of projects that expand the continuum of substance use disorder rehab facilities.
- **SB 1320 (Wahab):** Requires health plans to develop a mechanism to reimburse providers who provide primary care and behavioral health integrated services.
- **SB 1385 (Roth):** Supports navigators in hospital emergency departments and in the criminal justice system to ensure patients and justice-involved individuals are connected to evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder and to ongoing treatment services.

- **SB 1442 (Ochoa Bogh and Skinner):** Empowers CalRX to supply California providers with vital United States Food and Drug Administration-approved testing and health assessment equipment, which will allow access to affordable rapid response testing strips for diagnostics purposes.
- **SB 1468 (Ochoa Bogh and Roth):** Educates and encourages providers to make use of the new federal Drug Enforcement Agency rule to allow practitioners to dispense a three-day supply of narcotic medication to start detoxification treatment or maintenance treatment for people who use opioids.
- **SB 908 (Cortese):** Requires the California Department of Public Health to spread awareness of the increase in opioid overdoses and develop guidelines to protect and prevent fentanyl-related deaths of children ages 0–5.
- **SB 909 (Umberg):** Addresses physician shortages, including addiction medicine specialists, in underserved areas by eliminating the cap on the Steven M. Thompson loan repayment program for physicians who agree to provide direct patient care in an underserved area for 36 months.
- **SB 910 (Umberg):** Establishes statewide standards used by collaborative courts to improve programming, drug testing and medication-assisted treatment for individuals moving through the criminal justice system.
- **SB 950 (Skinner):** Expands the number of re-entry hubs to provide more warm hand-offs and treatment options to individuals returning home from the criminal justice system. *(Note: This would include corresponding budget action to align state reimbursement models with federal rules to maximize funding potential.)*
- **SB 1502 (Ashby):** Prevents illicit use and trafficking of xylazine (aka “tranq”), an animal tranquilizer with no approved human use that is increasingly being found in the illicit drug supply and has been linked to rising overdose deaths across the country.

Measures addressing retail theft and community-based crimes include:

- **SB 1144 (Skinner):** Disrupts the sale of stolen goods on online marketplaces by requiring third-party sellers to be certified and banning sellers suspected of criminal activity from operating through online marketplace platforms.
- **SB 1416 (Newman):** Increases penalties on professional organized retail theft in particularly significant large-scale resale schemes.
- **SB 905 (Wiener):** Removes the “locked-door” loophole for automotive property thefts.
- **SB 982 (Wahab):** Cements the work California

has done on organized crime by making the law on organized retail theft permanent.

- **SB 1242 (Min):** Requires courts to impose higher penalties on criminals who create fires in order to engage in retail theft. The higher penalties do not impact Proposition 47.

STATE BUDGET UPDATE

On June 13, both houses of the Legislature passed AB 107, the Budget Act of 2024, to satisfy the constitutional deadline of June 15, as well as two associated budget trailer bills (bills that implement aspects of the budget bill). These measures now go to the governor, who has 12 days to act. However, the June 13 action memorialized an agreement between the Senate and Assembly on a 2024 spending plan. The Legislature and governor continue to negotiate on several significant outstanding issues, including transportation programs, funding for climate and health care programs, homelessness funding and reductions to the prison budget. The legislative budget bill, AB 107, may be amended later via a “budget bill junior” to reflect subsequent budget compromises between the Legislature and the governor.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

May 24 was the deadline by which all bills introduced in 2024 had to successfully clear the floor in their house of origin. The Senate and Assembly held marathon sessions the last week of May to consider hundreds of legislative measures to meet this key milestone. Upon return from the Memorial Day weekend, policy committees began anew for those measures that have

successfully completed the first half of the legislative process.

Also in May were the first of two (always much anticipated) suspense hearings in both houses. In these vote-only hearings, the respective committee chair announces which bills with fiscal impacts that exceed a certain cost threshold will live to see another day; decisions on the fate of these bills are made behind closed doors. There are two possible outcomes for each fiscal measure on the suspense file: (1) the bill passes out of the committee — either as-is or with amendments typically to reduce cost implications — and moves to the floor of the House for consideration by the entire body; or (2) the bill is held in committee, meaning it will not move forward to the floor for further consideration (i.e., “dead”). Just over 1,000 bills were considered — 341 in the Senate and 668 in the Assembly. The Senate committee held 87 (25.5%), while the Assembly held 321 (35%), for a total “hold” rate of 31.8%.

The following measures that PPOA had taken an active position on and that are no longer moving due to failure to move to the second house include:

- **Support: AB 1772 (Ramos): Theft**
- **Support: AB 1839 (Alanis): Peace officers:** Education and hiring grants
- **Support: AB 1898 (Flora): Crimes:** Child pornography early release credits
- **Oppose: AB 2280 (Jones-Sawyer): Jails:** Confidential calls
- **Oppose: AB 2625 (Bryan): Courts:** Notification system
- **Support: AB 2814 (Low): Crimes: unlawful entry:** Intent to commit package theft

For a status update on the other legislation PPOA is actively engaged in, you can visit PPOA.com.



PPOA Committees and Staff

2024 STANDING COMMITTEES

Associations

> Chairman Johnson

Insurance

> Chairman Lee

621 Negotiations

> Chairman Coleman

Bylaws

> Chairman Coleman

Legislative

> Chairman Reddy

631 Negotiations

> Chairwoman Kato

Communications

> Chairman Chapman

Membership

> Chairman Arcos

632 Negotiations

> Chairwoman Kato

Delegates

> Chairman Coleman

612 Negotiations

> Chairman Johnson

Retiree Liaison

> Chairman Schallert

Finance

> Chairwoman Kato

614 Negotiations

> Chairman Lee

Scholarship

> Chairwoman Kato

LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

Lang, Hansen, Giroux & Kidane

Visit PPOA.com to read about PPOA's position on legislative bills proposed in the current session.

STAFF MEMBERS

Wayne Quint Jr.

Executive Director

Shannon Schreck

Administrative Assistant

Richard Escalante

Field Representative

Kevin F. Thompson

Intake Representative

Clare Franco

Administrative Assistant

Greg Torres

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Executive Administrative Assistant

Dave Ladjevic

Labor Representative

Art Reddy

Legislative Consultant

Mark Sanchez

Labor Representative

Be Safe While Shopping Online

Online shopping is more prevalent than ever. Make sure to do everything you can to avoid becoming a victim of cybercrime.

1. Secure mobile devices and computers.

Keep the operating system and application software updated/patched on all your computers and mobile devices. Also, be sure to check that any anti-virus/anti-spyware software installed is running and receiving automatic updates.

2. Limit your online shopping to merchants you know and trust.

If you know the store, shopping online is very safe. If you have issues, you can always visit the brick-and-mortar store. But, if you do not know the store, be wary — especially ads for stores that pop up on social media sites. It may be legit but take precautions. Conduct your background check by checking with the *Better Business Bureau*, the *Federal Trade Commission*, or online sites that review e-stores. If the store is not reviewed or does not have good reviews, don't order from their website.

3. Look for “https” when making an online purchase.

The “s” in “https” stands for “secure” and indicates that communication with the webpage is encrypted. If you submit your credit card information through a website, make sure the site is secure. Look for a padlock or key icon in the browser's status bar, and be sure that “https” appears in the website's address bar before making an online purchase. Also, keep your browser software up to date.

4. Password-protect your mobile device and computer.

It is one of the most important steps to secure your mobile device and computer. When you create an account with the merchant, be sure to use a strong password. Use at least eight characters, including numbers, special characters, and uppercase and lowercase letters.

5. Do not respond to offers that seem too good to be true.

An online store whose prices seem too good to be true or that promises too much at too low a price is suspicious. The online store may not have come by these items legally, or you may never receive them, or you may get a bait-and-switch and end up with something you did not order.

6. Avoid scams and fraud.

Never give your financial information or personal information over email or text. If you receive an email asking for donations, contact the organization directly to verify the request.

7. Do not use public computers or public wireless when



you online shop. Public computers may contain malicious software that steals your credit card information when you shop online. Criminals can also intercept traffic on public wireless networks to steal credit card numbers and other confidential information.

8. Pay by credit card, not debit card.

It is safer to shop on the internet with a credit card rather than a debit card. Credit cards are protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act and may reduce your liability if your information was used improperly.

9. Print your online transactions.

Print or save records of your online transactions, including the product description and price, the online receipt and the emails you send and receive from the seller. Carefully review your credit card statements as soon as you receive them to confirm that all charges are legitimate. Contact your credit card company immediately if you have unauthorized charges on your account.

10. Review privacy policies.

Review the privacy policy for the website/merchant you are visiting. Know what information the merchant is collecting about you, how it will be stored and used, and if it will be shared with others.

Remember, POPA Federal Credit Union (POPA FCU) will never ask for your personal PIN numbers and passwords to online banking, instruct you to conduct cash withdrawals from your POPA FCU account or request remote access to your computer. If you ever question or are unsure of the legitimacy of information from the Credit Union, simply call us directly at (562) 229-9181. 📞



HISTORIC LASD BADGE/BUCKLE (PRICE LOWERED)

Description provided by badge owner (retired LASD Lt.): L.A. County Sheriff's badge, circa 1932, number 12. According to Sheriff's Personnel Bureau, the badge represents the first of the six-pointed star series. The back is stamped Chipron Stamp Co., L.A. The sterling silver buckle, 3 1/4" long and 2 1/4" wide, was made by Edward H. Bohlin, known as the "saddle and buckle maker to the stars" in the early days. The buckle is hand-engraved with rope filigree edging. The front is adorned with an applied LASD star, #12 and initials "H.G." Marked on back: Bohling made — Hollywood, CA — sterling. The badge and buckle are encased in a custom-made gold-colored shadow box with a dark navy-blue background. The badge, buckle and frame are in pristine condition. Price for all: \$3,000. Contact: (702) 227-0345. (1122)



WANTED: VINTAGE STAR WARS AND TRANSFORMERS TOYS

Looking to buy vintage Transformers and Star Wars figures or ships in any condition from the '70s and '80s. Call or text (661) 466-3088. (0124)

SINGLE FAMILY HOME RENTAL IN CHINO HILLS

Seville Knolls community, 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, cul de sac. Avail. from Aug 2024. Email: scottypaik@hotmail.com. G-voice: (213) 267-1525. (0424)

SEEKING ROOMMATE IN ARCADIA

Looking for one roommate in an awesome Arcadia neighborhood. You get two bedrooms, a private bathroom and mudroom in a 4 bed/3 bath home for \$1,600 a month. No cats. I do have a dog. Call for more information: (951) 323-3030. (0124)

S&W SHIELD 9MM/SIG P229 9MM

S&W: CA model w/ Kydex hol & 4 mags: \$450. Sig: CA model w/ Kydex hol & 3 mags: \$850. (323) 597-6059. (0724)

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Central Machinery 16" variable speed scroll saw table tilts 45 degrees for bevel cuts. Table size: 10" x 16" — pre-drilled holes for table mount. Air pump function. \$80. Call Pat: (909) 596-3508. Pictures available upon request. (0524)

2001 HARLEY ELECTRA GLIDE CLASSIC

Only 34,369 miles on it. Asking \$8,000. Call (626) 392-8507. (1023)

ANAHEIM ROOM FOR RENT

A 690-square-foot addition, which features studio living, a bathroom with a shower, walk-in closet, washer/dryer and one driveway parking space. One occupant, and no pets are allowed. Rent is \$1,800, which includes water, gas and trash. Call (323) 236-1739 or email *dgathright1984@me.com*. (0724)

LA HABRA ROOM FOR RENT

For 1 person, \$1,500/month + utilities. Avail. September 2023. Male or female, clean, quiet, responsible, friendly. 2-story home/upstairs room w/ view of Disneyland fireworks. Kitchen access/light cooking. Parking in driveway. Washer/dryer available. Pool access. No overnight guests. No smoking, vaping, drugs. No pets. Month-to-month lease. Call (562) 217-7371. (1023)

GREEN VALLEY LAKE CABIN

Beautiful cabin in the "hidden gem" of the San Bernardino Mountains, Green Valley Lake. 1532-sq.-ft., 3-bdrm, 2 baths, 2 fireplaces, pool table. Short 3-min. walk to the lake. Sleeps 6. \$190 per night + cleaning fee. Call Tom (909) 957-8036. (1023)

WANTED: BERETTA 92FS

I am looking to buy an LASD Beretta 92FS. If you want to sell yours, please email Dominic at *divalenc@yahoo.com*. (0424)



PPOA classified ads are free and available only to PPOA members (one per month, 25 words max). Private party only, no business ads allowed. Send your ad to: *Star & Shield* Editor, 188 E. Arrow Highway, San Dimas, CA 91773 or email to *gtorres@PPOA.com*.

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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RETIREMENT FOR
SAFETY MEMBERS**

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.

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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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