



Los Angeles County Professional
Peace Officers Association

Volume 51
Issue 6

August
2024

STAR & SHIELD

Join Us for Food and Fun!

★ **23RD ANNUAL PPOA** ★
PRE-LABOR DAY
BBOQ
& **GENERAL**
MEMBERSHIP MEETING



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

SEE PAGE 9

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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.

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Nationwide Increase in Sworn Staffing; In LASD, Not So Much

We hold a unique position as the nation's largest sheriff's department and third-largest policing agency.

We endured the immense impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the death of George Floyd. In Los Angeles County, these monumental events disproportionately ushered in a series of criminal justice reform efforts favored by voters. These reforms have elevated certain crimes to historic levels while emboldening criminal behavior far beyond what we could have envisioned.

The adoption of Measure J now mandates the diversion of funding away from public safety toward social services. Similarly, Measure H calls for the hiring and funding of more homeless outreach workers. Unfortunately, throughout these subsequent years, we have witnessed the mismanagement of homeless and social outreach resources, budgeted at more than one billion dollars annually.



Steve Johnson
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officers throughout the United States. The research indicated that, as a whole, police agencies have had a discernible improvement with regard to personnel challenges. Over the past several years following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, law enforcement agencies nationwide reported a “year-over-year increase” in total sworn staffing.

The survey consisted of agencies nationwide that employed a total of 151,335 police officers. Larger departments were overrepresented in this survey, and it was no surprise that agencies on the West Coast (which offer six-figure salaries) have some of the most difficult hiring challenges.

The study stated that the agencies that participated in the survey reported hiring more police officers in 2023 than in any of the previous four years. Agencies had fewer resignations (and/or laterals) in 2023 than they did in the previous two-year period.

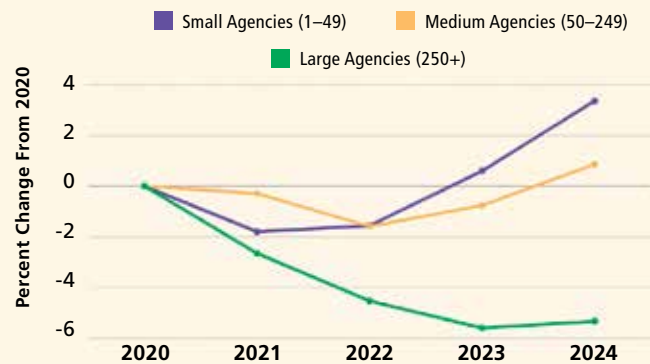


Poor accountability and the obvious turnover rate of executives within the relevant authorities, such as the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), have resulted in staggered progress with these societal challenges. Is more money needed for LAHSA and the community-based organizations with which it aligns? Bold, creative leadership within the county is the better option.

The effectiveness of our Department's specialized crime, homeless outreach and mental health teams goes unnoticed while the County seeks to divert money into nonprofit organizations. Yet I have optimism that the tide is shifting back toward support for public safety, evidenced by new research and potential ballot initiatives.

This past April, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) in Washington, D.C., published results of an extensive survey regarding the recruitment and retention of police

PERCENT CHANGE IN STAFFING



Source: PERF Survey

It went on to report that “Retirements dropped back down to roughly where they were in 2019 after being elevated for the previous three years. Small and medium agencies now have more sworn officers than they had in January 2020. In large agencies, sworn staffing slightly increased during 2023, but it is still more than 5% below where it was in January 2020.”

Within Los Angeles County, several agencies, out of desperation, are offering lucrative hiring and lateral bonuses.

Torrance Police Department, for example, is currently offering a pilot program with unique incentives. These enticements include bonuses of up to \$100,000 for lateral police officers, \$40,000 for new police officers, \$40,000 for lateral public safety dispatchers and \$10,000 for new public safety dispatchers.

Additionally, the program has annual retention bonuses for five years, up to \$15,000 for sworn staff and \$10,000 for professional staff. Other departments have been so bold as to recruit our personnel by advertising in strategic locations adjacent to County property. In an interview with the Associated Press, PERF Director Chuck Wexler commented that in addition to higher salaries, “I think it’s about the way people perceive their job and feel they are going to be supported.”

Our current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Unit 612 expires January 31, 2025. This classification will be the first to go to the negotiating table with the County. Last month, members of this classification participated in a survey to gauge priorities, goals and interests. Thank you to all who took time to complete the survey. I am very proud to report that participation increased by 41% since the last survey in 2021. The landscape in which we negotiate the next contracts for *all classifications* will be drastically different from previous years. Please know that PPOA will fight tooth and nail to ensure your voice is heard and that you get the best results possible. Until next time, be safe and please look out for one another. We hope to see you at our upcoming Pre-Labor Day BBQ and general membership meeting on August 28 at the Biscailuz Training Center. 🇺🇸

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AMU is a trusted partner of law enforcement nationwide. PPOA members are eligible for AMU education benefits through LASD University, and we take pride in removing barriers that can stand between you and your future. Benefits extend to professional and sworn staff, as well as their family members.

**Serving the Brave:
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Labor Day: A Reminder That Union Membership Matters

On **Wednesday, August 28**, PPOA will host our 23rd annual Pre-Labor Day BBQ for all PPOA members and their significant others. This much-anticipated *free* event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Biscailuz Training Center “grinder” area. A tastefully grilled lunch with all the fixings will be served under the big top and at no cost to PPOA members. PPOA’s annual general membership meeting will be held at approximately 11:30 a.m. Please come out to not only enjoy a delicious meal but also giveaways and hourly drawing prizes, as well as an opportunity to visit the many PPOA vendors who will have plenty of their own freebies and prizes. I hope you will bring co-workers, as together we start our early celebration marking the upcoming *Labor Day* holiday on Monday, September 2.

PPOA’s Pre-Labor Day BBQ, held annually on the last Wednesday before Labor Day, is a critically important reminder that since 1894, the nationwide holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September is Labor Day. The holiday is a yearly tribute to the invaluable contributions that *workers* across the United States, California and Los Angeles have made to



Wayne Quint Jr.
PPOA Executive Director
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To our incredible PPOA membership, Labor Day belongs to you and your families as you continue the noble goal of working hard to attain the American dream — the cornerstone of the labor movement — and keep it alive. Today, with dramatic increases in the cost of living, medical insurance premiums and housing costs devouring previously negotiated raises, PPOA members will definitely be reminded that union membership matters as contract negotiations for new salary memorandum of understandings (MOU) will begin as the existing three-year MOUs (2022–2025) expire.

The contract bargaining tables for salaries impacting all PPOA classifications are exclusively negotiated by only one union — PPOA. Our bargaining unit (B/U) negotiation teams collectively bargain with the County of Los

Angeles for wages, hours and working conditions that are codified in MOUs for PPOA Bargaining Units **612** (LASD/LADA Sergeants and Lieutenants), **614** (LASD Criminalists/Forensic Identification Specialists, as well as DME), **621** (LASD Crime Analyst, Civilian Investigator/Public Response Dispatcher/Court Services Specialist/Law Enforcement Technician/Custody Assistant/Security Assistant and Security Officer) and **631/632** (DME Investigators and DME Supervising Investigators). All PPOA members have access to their respective MOUs on the PPOA website. Every PPOA member should take the time to familiarize themselves with their classification’s MOU. It is the most important contract a union possesses and the most important reason for union membership.

Additionally, the Fringe Benefit table that directly impacts PPOA is exclusively negotiated by the Coalition of County Unions (CCU), which bargains with the County of Los Angeles for benefits that include the County’s financial contribution to the Choices plans (medical, dental, etc.), the County’s match to the Horizons plan, paid time off, vacation pay, retirement and other negotiated fringe benefits. PPOA is one of the 15 labor unions certified to represent employees of the County, affiliated with the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, and signatories to the Fringe Benefit MOU between the CCU and the County of Los Angeles. Another poignant reminder of why union membership matters: The CCU will also begin coalition bargaining as the existing three-year MOU (2022–2025) expires. PPOA members can also access the Fringe Benefit contract on the PPOA website.

On Monday, September 2, as we celebrate America’s 130th Labor Day, please remember that your union membership ensures that PPOA continues its 73-year dedicated commitment to the labor movement as we continue our “Tradition of Success” in fighting for your pay, benefits, safety, representation and working conditions. Happy Labor Day! 🇺🇸

TO OUR INCREDIBLE PPOA MEMBERSHIP, LABOR DAY BELONGS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES AS YOU CONTINUE THE NOBLE GOAL OF WORKING HARD TO ATTAIN THE AMERICAN DREAM AND KEEP IT ALIVE.

win better wages, benefits and a voice on the job. Here are some landmark reminders of what working people standing together have won for our great country: Family and Medical Leave Act, pregnancy and parental leave, all breaks at work (including lunch breaks), weekends and paid vacation, sick leave, minimum wage, Social Security, overtime and holiday pay, child labor laws, civil rights, 40-hour work week, military leave, workers’ compensation, Americans With Disabilities Act, employer dental, life and vision insurance, and the Equal Pay Acts of 1963 and 2011!

What's in a Name?

What's in a name? In the case of Custody Assistant — what can they do or what can they not do? It depends on whom you ask, when you ask and what you ask.

Many will tell you, “We do not assist!” That is a fact. The position is direct contact and hands-on when needed, with the expectation to respond, react and report, and is subject to discipline if there is a failure to take action in any of the aforementioned scenarios.

I was once asked by an attorney if we were disciplined differently than deputies. I replied no, and explained that depending on the findings in the matter, the discipline could be more. He seemed surprised.

The bottom line is, we have far surpassed any initial concept of the position. The Department changed the policy on C/As and inmate contact in 2002. I had been on for four years at that point, hearing the echoing statement, “We’re not supposed to have inmate contact.”

Was there ever a meet and confer on the matter? Did the Department approach PPOA? It was a change in our working conditions, which is part of our MOU. The same can be said for equipping the position with handcuffs and OC spray. That was before my time as a delegate or Board member; however, the questions can be asked: Why was it necessary, and who made that decision? And now how relevant is the title “Custody Assistant”?

We are sworn in as Correctional Officers. Our certificates state Correctional Officers. Even the term “jailer” is more



Rosario “Tony” Coleman
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definitive and universally recognized, not just a “nickname” as one Captain referred to it during a recent presentation. It is time to address this and have an honest discussion about C/As overall.

Jumping to body-worn cameras; this is another item likely being added within Custody. With the advent of more work, more responsibility and more data collection, this tool may present more problems than solutions.

PPOA has had two meetings with the Department regarding body-worn cameras within Custody. We will continue to meet and confer on this topic and will continue to fight against any of its adverse impacts to your working conditions.

Thankfully, a positive note to report:

Academy Class #112 graduated on July 18 with 24 recruits, the most in recent classes. Hopefully the size of the class is not a blip but an upward trend. We need the bodies.

Class #112 was also the final class of Drill Instructor Sharon Garay. In her tenure, she has had a hand in the leadership and development of over 1,000 C/As across more than 34 classes. Her care, tutelage and dedication over the years, not to mention her personality and being one of the “good ones,” will be missed. You do not replace individuals like that; you lean on their legacy and try to maintain the standard they set.

Thank you, Officer Garay, for your service. It is immensely appreciated. 🇺🇸



Drill Instructor Sharon Garay was acknowledged for her leadership during her 34th and final Academy class.

It Is Up to All of Us to Keep an Eye on Each Other

The month of July was full of beyond-sweltering days, during which most of us hid in our air-conditioned cars and offices. I made a trip to Palmdale to see one of Unit 621's best, Crime Analyst and former Mayor of Palmdale Laura Bettencourt, and the thermometer on my car read 119 degrees. Incredible.

As a person is sliding into the last year of their service to LASD, they often reflect on the highs and lows and the many people they encountered on the Department. I can easily say that over 90% of the deputies and professional staff I encountered were stand-up people who really made being on the Department so much more enjoyable. Recently, I saw that East L.A. Deputy Dave Vega was being promoted to Sergeant. I had the extreme pleasure of working with Vega when he was on loan to DB, and he impressed me daily with his incredible drive to work his cases, prosecute criminals and make the citizens of our community safer.



Joe Walker
PPOA Board Member
Crime Analyst, LASD
jwalker@ppoa.com

painful, even 30 years later, that I decided to talk about one long-forgotten tragedy that still stands as one of our Department's saddest tragedies.

On the day I wrote this article, another long-forgotten Department suicide came to mind. In 1940, Temple Station had only been open for a dozen years or so. Their 44-year-old Captain, Bertram Amstein, was super stressed by financial and health issues. The heat had let up, and I drove to San Gabriel Cemetery and visited the grave of this Sheriff's Department Captain who killed himself after leaving the station in the middle of the day. Arcadia police found his car alongside the San Gabriel River.

On Amstein's marker was a truly sweet poem that I believe his wife wrote. It expressed the depth of her love in beautiful

words, which I will share here:

*Another sweetheart as precious as you?
Why, bless you, dear there couldn't be two!
There might be another almost as fine, but
Never as sweet and precious as mine.*

ONE THING I WISH I HAD DONE DIFFERENTLY WAS TO BE MORE MINDFUL OF MY CO-WORKERS WHO WERE IN CRISIS.

Not only was he smart as heck, but he was also one of the most naturally funny guys I have ever worked with. Congratulations, Dave — our Department got it right this time and so many other times.

I have been super lucky over these many years, and there is hardly anything I would have done differently. One thing I wish I had done differently was to be more mindful of my co-workers who were in crisis and took their own lives. I often think that maybe I could have done something to help.

I have never known a Department member who was killed in the line of duty, but I have personally known four members who exercised the ultimate act of self-harm. I was going to share some of these stories, but some of them are so



Folks, we are all precious to someone, and it is up to all of us to keep an eye on each other.

How many of these suicides could have been prevented if someone had just taken the other person's hand, looked them in the eye and told them that they are loved and asked them to please not do anything to hurt themselves or others?

Take care of yourself and each other. 🇺🇸

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Audit Committee Ensures Transparency and Efficiency

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 are pleased to report the audit on July 9 confirmed that PPOA continues to be in an excellent financial position.

We are grateful to the following PPOA members who volunteered to serve on the 2024 Audit Committee:

- Jim Cronin, Retired Member
- Ryan Forte, Senior Criminalist
- David Hernandez, Sergeant
- Cynthia Murphy, Custody Assistant
- Jose Rios, Sergeant
- Michael Salazar, Public Response Dispatcher II



Support Your Foundation!

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.



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.



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

(July issue — the hidden word appeared on page 13)

Gladys Maddin, Retired Member

Paul Romeo, Security Officer

Mark Slater, Retired Member

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PPOA Board Discusses Membership Benefits With Contract Cities Association Executives

California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) President Jennifer Perez and Executive Director Marcel Rodarte visited the PPOA Board of Directors meeting in July to discuss the significant benefits of CCCA membership for PPOA, ALADS and other organizations. The CCCA represents 80 cities in and around Los Angeles County. Currently, 42 cities contract with LASD, which brings \$315 million in annual revenue to the Department. ♡



PPOA BOARD NOMINATING PETITION 2024



The following seats on the PPOA Board of Directors are up for election:

- **One Unit 612 Representative (LASD)** Incumbent: Vacant seat
- **One Unit 615 Representative (LASD/LADA)** Incumbent: Roel Garcia
- **Two Unit 621 Representatives (LASD)** Incumbents: Joe Walker*, Tony Coleman**
- **One Retiree Representative** Incumbent: Jim Schallert

* Unit 621 seat held by Walker is open only to Civilian Investigators, Court Services Specialists, Crime Analysts, Law Enforcement Technicians, and Public Response Dispatchers.

** Unit 621 seat held by Coleman is open only to Custody Assistants.

THIS PETITION IS PROVIDED FOR PPOA MEMBERS WHO WISH TO DECLARE THEIR INTENTION TO RUN FOR A BOARD SEAT:

I am a PPOA member in good standing and request that my name be placed on the ballot:

(name) _____ (classification) _____ (employee #) _____

(department) _____ (assignment) _____

(phone) _____ (personal email address) _____

We, the undersigned, are PPOA members in good standing and hereby nominate:

(name) _____ (classification) _____

for the board of directors of the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association.

1. (print name) _____ (signature) _____

(employee #) _____ (classification) _____ (assignment) _____

2. (print name) _____ (signature) _____

(employee #) _____ (classification) _____ (assignment) _____

3. (print name) _____ (signature) _____

(employee #) _____ (classification) _____ (assignment) _____

*This nominating petition (original with ink signatures), along with candidate statement (500 word max.) & photo, **must be received at the PPOA office** between September 1st and close of business on September 16th. Elections will be held in October. Term of office: two years.*

DELIVER/MAIL COMPLETED PETITIONS TO: PPOA BOARD ELECTION / 188 E. ARROW HWY / SAN DIMAS 91773

PPOA BY-LAWS, ARTICLE VI, ELECTION OF DIRECTORS, SECTION 1: Candidates for election to the Board of Directors shall be nominated as follows: A petition shall be filed with the Association between September 1 and the close of business on September 15, or the first Monday after September 15 when it falls on a weekend, setting forth the names of the candidates, their rank, department or group he or she represents, and the office for which they seek nomination. Such petition may be filed with respect to any position on the Board of Directors which expires in such year. The petition shall be signed by not less than three Association members of the grade or groups of grades and of the department or group for which the candidate seeks election and the petition must be signed by the candidate.

Helping PPOA Members Prepare for Life After a Career of Public Service

Per tradition, PPOA proudly assembled a panel of experts last month for a retirement planning workshop in the union conference center. Guest speakers offered insight and answered questions on a wide range of topics from PPOA members. We are grateful to LACERA, the Fraternal Order of Police, Empower/Horizons, United Estate Planning and the firm of Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin and Lee, LLP, for ensuring that all members in attendance gained valuable advice about properly preparing for life after a career of public service. 🛡️



**ATTENTION
PPOA
MEMBERS**

We need your personal (non-Department) email address! If you have not received an email blast from PPOA in the last 30 days (we send at least one per week), that means:

- 1** Your email address is not on file with PPOA, or
- 2** We have only your County email address (PPOA sends membership-wide email blasts to personal addresses only).

Either way, we need your personal (non-Department) email address so that we can disseminate important news to you as quickly as possible. Please email your address to info@PPOA.com and reference “email updates” in the subject line.

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 21

Norwalk-Pico Summer Luncheon

Maggie's Pub, Santa Fe Springs

11:30 a.m.

Open to all law enforcement, civilians, friends and family

Info: (562) 947-4840 or

shar104123@aol.com

August 28

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

Biscailuz Training Center – see page 9



September 7

L.A. Sheriff's Athletic Association Shotgun Tournament

LA Clays, 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

See page 13

September 19

PPOA Delegates Meeting

Location TBA

September 27–29

LASD Law Enforcement Retreat

Serra Retreat House, Malibu

Open to all members: sworn, professional staff, active, retired and spouses

Info: (818) 381-7698



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Greg Takeshita, Founder (Active WHD Reserve Deputy)

PPOA Members Among Thousands of Competitors at U.S. Police and Fire Championships

Active and retired first responders from agencies all over the nation amassed in San Diego in June for the U.S. Police and Fire Championships. We want to acknowledge the many PPOA members (including a few in these photos) who competed for glory ... and medals, of course! 🏆



Retired PPOA member Rudy Schaap earned a gold medal with a bench press of 382 pounds.



lasdhq 🌟 This week, the United States Police & Fire Championships were held in San Diego. This Olympic-style competition featured athletes representing law enforcement, firefighters, and officers from corrections, probation, border protection, immigration, and customs across the country. Athletes competed in 50 different sports in 35 venues throughout San Diego. A big thank you to all the athletes who participated and represented LASD in the United States Police & Fire Games.

Deputies competed in various sports such as cornhole, running, pole vault, soccer, and relay races. The @uspcf promotes physical fitness and camaraderie for first responders through sports.

Congratulations to all the winners!



Retired PPOA member Mary Michel teamed up with fellow LASD retiree Vic Allen for the golf competition at Torrey Pines.

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PPOA Members Spotted on the Socials

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.*



lasdmet Today, MET RAMP Sergeant Barnes retired after 33 years of selfless service. Congratulations on your much-deserved retirement! You will be deeply missed! Your MET family wishes you only the best!!

lasaa_lasd

 <p>JIM KING PRESIDENT</p>	 <p>DAVID MIKLOS VICE PRESIDENT</p>
 <p>JONNA WILTSHIRE SECRETARY</p>	 <p>KEN DARNELL TREASURER</p>

lasaa_lasd California Police Athletic Federation announces new officers, including two retired LASD; David Miklos and Jonna Wiltshire. The CPAF oversees the United States Police and Fire Championships (USPFC) and World Police and Fire Games (WPFPG).

Melissa Ramos, City of Artesia Councilmember is at Official City of Artesia, California
 June 1 · Artesia · 📍

At our annual City of Artesia Public Safety Expo, we honored our Sergeant of the Year and forever, Sgt. Ramos and Firefighter of the Year Firefighter Heidi Hostlet. Thank you to LASD Lakewood Sheriff's Station, LA County Fire Department, California Highway Patrol and all our partner agencies for being part of our day! Special kudos to our Code Enforcement and Parking staff too! Thank you again to the Parks team for making a memorable fun day for all!



Lancaster Sheriff's Station
 May 2 · 📍

Good Afternoon Antelope Valley!
 Today, Sergeant Leon was recognized for 30 years of service! Thank you for your service and keep up the good work!



Cerritos Sheriff's Station
 3 days ago · 📍

Spotlight on LASD Security Officer Alex Ortiz.
 Alex, while attending Cerritos College, joined the Cerritos Sheriff's Station Explorer Program in 2016. On his application, he stated "I've always wanted to become a police officer, I know it's something every little boy wants to do". He ascended to the rank of Explorer Captain through his focus and dedication towards his dream. Alex aged out of the Explorer Program in 2019. In 2020 he joined the LASD Volunteers on Patrol. Today, Alex is a LASD Security Officer with County Services Bureau. We wish him all the best in his endeavors. Congratulations Officer Ortiz.



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

This month's hidden word is:
Enticements
Something that persuades one to perform an action for pleasure or gain

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

Congratulations to Custody Assistant Class #112 and Sheriff Security Officer Class #60

P POA representatives were honored to attend graduation ceremonies for Custody Assistant (C/A) Class #112 and Sheriff Security Officer (SSO) Class #60 on consecutive days last month. Family members and friends of the recruits showed in force at Biscailuz Training Center (C/A) and STARS Center (SSO) to cheer on the dedicated new Sheriff's Department personnel. We wish the graduates from both academies the best of luck as they begin their promising new careers. 🍀



CUSTODY ASSISTANT CLASS #112





**SHERIFF
SECURITY
OFFICER
CLASS #60**



Members Brave the High Seas for 24th Annual PPOA Fishing Trip

Before the sun ascended and temperatures began to soar on a warmer than usual day in July, a boatload of PPOA members and their guests escaped the mainland heat for a full day of fishing along the Southern California coast. PPOA has chartered boats out of Long Beach for 24 consecutive years, and we're thankful to all members who have joined us in pursuit of fish and memorable moments at sea. 🍷



END OF WATCH

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

Retired Lieutenant
Ronald Shreves
EOW: May 11, 2024
LASD 1970-2003
Academy Class #143
Last assignment: Lancaster Station
Condolences may be emailed to
the family: im4joy4joy@gmail.com

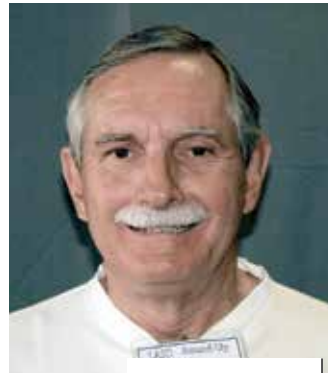
Retired Lieutenant
John Matarrazo
EOW: May 19, 2024
L.A. County Marshal's
Department 1957-1986
Last assignment: Criminal
Courts Building
U.S. Army Air Corps veteran



Retired Lieutenant
Ronald Shreves
(EOW: 5/11/24)

Retired Sergeant
James Townsend
EOW: May 26, 2024
LASD 1965-1999
Last assignment: Temple Station
U.S. Army veteran

Retired Custody Assistant
Terrell Boykin
EOW: June 2, 2024
Formerly with L.A. County Police
LASD ret. 2010
Last assignment:
Men's Central Jail
U.S. Army veteran



Retired Sergeant
James Townsend
(EOW: 5/26/24)

Retired Deputy
Claude Waddle
EOW: June 2, 2024
LASD 1961-1993
Academy Class #89
Last assignment: Norwalk Station

Retired Sergeant
Jack Palmer
EOW: June 16, 2024
LASD 1959-1987
Last assignment:
Criminal Courts Building
U.S. Marine Corps veteran
Condolences may be emailed to
the family: dpboucher@gmail.com

Retired Sergeant
James Corrigan
EOW: June 18, 2024
LASD 1959-1991
Academy Class #76
Last assignment: Hall of Justice Jail
Condolences may be emailed to
the family: ninareeree@aol.com



Retired Custody Assistant
Terrell Boykin
(EOW: 6/2/24)



Retired Sergeant
Jack Palmer
(EOW: 6/16/24)



Retired Sergeant
James Corrigan
(EOW: 6/18/24)

November Ballot Measure Roundup

Prior to departing for its month-long summer recess (July 4 through August 5) and after much wrangling, the Legislature completed its work related to the November 2024 general election. Specifically, the Legislature put forward two general obligation bonds (schools and climate) for the electorate's consideration and moved ACA 13 (the Majority Vote Protection Act) from the 2024 to 2026 ballot. In all, voters will be presented with 10 propositions — five of which were legislatively qualified (including the previously mentioned bonds) and five by initiative (see the table below for the full list of measures and a short summary of each).

Of specific interest to PPOA and its members was the significant legislative activity and controversy around Proposition 47 (Criminal Sentencing; 2014) reform and the extent to which the Legislature would attempt to intervene in an initiative supported by district attorneys and law enforcement — Proposition 36 — which seeks to rollback certain provisions of Prop 47. A major revelation occurred in early July when the governor announced that he'd abandoned SB 1381 (Wahab), which was a legislative alternative to Prop 36 and a more conservative approach to tackling retail theft, the fentanyl crisis and crime in general.

SB 1381, introduced as a gut-and-amend bill on Sunday evening (June 30), was slated for a vote on Wednesday evening (July 3) before the Legislature adjourned. If approved, it would have appeared on the November ballot alongside Prop 36. However, the governor and Legislature's attempt to undermine the measure supported by district attorneys and law enforcement faced strong backlash both in the media and within legislative discussions. The alternative measure ultimately failed due to its lukewarm reception: progressive members opposed revisions to Prop 47, while moderate Democrats felt it didn't go far enough. Despite procedural efforts to bypass a two-thirds vote requirement, the necessary votes for passage were lacking. A vigorous "no" campaign against Prop 36 is expected in the coming months, including the governor's active opposition to the measure.

KEY PROVISIONS OF PROP 36

Prop 36 introduces several key changes aimed at enhancing penalties and addressing recidivism for certain crimes.

- **Felony charges for drug possession and theft:** Prop 36 allows for felony charges to be brought against individuals for possessing certain drugs, including fentanyl, and for thefts under \$950 if the individual has two prior convictions

2024 California Ballot Measures

Proposition 2: Education Facilities Bond

Seeks \$10 billion in bond financing for public school construction and repairs, with \$8.5 billion allocated for K–12 schools and \$1.5 billion for community colleges

Proposition 3: Marriage Equality

Proposes to remove the 2008 constitutional ban on same-sex marriage, updating the language to affirm the right to marry as a fundamental right

Proposition 4: Climate Bond

Requests \$10 billion for various climate-related projects, including safe drinking water, wildfire resilience and combating sea level rise

Proposition 5: Lower Vote Threshold for Local Government Funding

Aims to reduce the required voter approval threshold for local special taxes for housing and infrastructure from two-thirds to 55%

Proposition 6: Ban on Forced Labor

Seeks to amend the state constitution to ban all forms of forced labor, removing the current exception for criminal punishment

Proposition 32: Increase Minimum Wage

Proposes to gradually increase the state minimum wage to \$18 per hour

Proposition 33: Rent Control

Would repeal the Costa–Hawkins Rental Housing Act, allowing local governments to impose rent control on properties built after 1995

Proposition 34: Prescription Drug Payments

Aims to permanently allow Medicaid to pay pharmacies directly for prescription drugs and requires some health care providers to spend more on direct patient care

Proposition 35: Increase Doctor Pay for Medicaid

Proposes to increase payments to doctors treating Medicaid patients, ensuring better compensation for these services

Proposition 36: Felony Charges for Certain Crimes

Allows felony charges for possessing certain drugs and for thefts under \$950 if the person has prior convictions, and increases sentences for specified drug and theft crimes

for the same type of crime. Currently, these offenses are chargeable only as misdemeanors. Defendants who plead guilty to felony drug possession charges may have their charges dismissed upon successful completion of a treatment program.

- **Increased sentences:** Prop 36 proposes increased sentences for specified drug and theft crimes intended to serve as a deterrent and to incapacitate repeat offenders who are considered a significant threat to public safety.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROP 36

The fiscal impact of Prop 36 is multifaceted, with significant potential costs and some offsetting savings. The Legislative Analyst’s Office estimates that Prop 36 could result in increased state criminal justice costs, potentially in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually. This increase is primarily due to a projected rise in the state prison population, as more individuals are sentenced for felonies instead of misdemeanors. Similarly, local governments could face increased costs, potentially in the tens of millions of dollars annually. These costs would stem from higher court-related workloads and an increase in the number of individuals held in county jails and supervised in the community. Moreover, the increased prison sentences may reduce the savings currently allocated to mental health and drug treatment programs, K–12 schools and crime victims. However, any remaining savings could be redirected to fund new felony treatment programs mandated by Prop 36.

IMPLICATIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Prop 36 has several direct implications for law enforcement agencies across California.

- **Enhanced enforcement and prosecution:** Law enforcement agencies would need to adapt their enforcement strategies to align with the new felony charges for drug possession and theft. This may involve additional training for officers and adjustments to current policing practices to ensure compliance with the new legal standards.
- **Resource allocation:** The increased focus on felony charges and longer sentences will likely require a reallocation of resources within law enforcement agencies. This includes potential increases in patrols, investigations and collaborations with district attorneys’ offices to prosecute these cases effectively.
- **Collaboration with treatment programs:** Given that defendants can have their felony drug possession charges dismissed upon completing treatment, law enforcement agencies may need to strengthen their partnerships with treatment providers. Ensuring that offenders have access to and complete these programs will be crucial for the success of Prop 36’s rehabilitative goals.

Overall, Prop 36 represents a significant shift in California’s approach to drug possession and theft crimes and should result in enhanced public safety and reduced recidivism. As voters prepare to decide on this proposition, it is essential for law enforcement leaders to consider how these changes will impact their departments and the broader criminal justice system. Effective planning and adaptation will be key to successfully implementing the new provisions if Prop 36 is approved. 🛡️



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> Chairman Lee

621 Negotiations

> Chairman Coleman

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> Chairman Coleman

Legislative

> Chairman Reddy

631 Negotiations

> Chairwoman Kato

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> Chairman Chapman

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> Chairman Arcos

632 Negotiations

> Chairwoman Kato

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> Chairman Schallert

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> Chairwoman Kato

614 Negotiations

> Chairman Lee

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LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

Lang, Hansen, Giroux & Kidane

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

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Seven Questions About Traveling Abroad

Traveling to another country can be one of life's great highlights. It does, however, require a little more preparation than traveling across the U.S. If you plan to venture out of the country for the first time, here are answers to a few common questions.

1. How do I get a passport and visa?

Before you travel internationally, check the government site of the country you're visiting to see if you need a visa in addition to a passport. What's a visa? It's an endorsement stamp issued by a country that allows you to visit for a specific length of time. Apply for a passport at passport agencies throughout the U.S. The first-time cost is \$130 if you're age 16 or older, and \$100 for travelers younger than age 16. Renewals cost \$130, with additional charges for fast processing. Before you leave home, make two copies of your passport so it's easier to replace them if they are lost or stolen. Leave one copy with someone you trust and take the other copy with you. To avoid theft, always carry your passport with you. If you do leave it, place it in your hotel room safe. Never leave it out in the open or in your suitcase.

2. Should I bring cash, credit cards or both?

Using a credit card for your spending needs is the simplest option. Alternatively, you can obtain currency in advance so you have some when you arrive. *Important note:* Don't forget to reach out to POPA FCU to set your travel notifications for your upcoming trip. You can also set up your travel notifications using the POPA mobile app.

3. What should I know about travel advisories?

Before planning your itinerary, particularly right now where there is unrest in a lot of different countries, check out the U.S. State Department's list of countries that present travel safety concerns for Americans (tinyurl.com/travel-advisories).

4. Should I buy trip cancellation or medical insurance?

If you plan to travel overseas, travel insurance is recommended. If you're unable to take the trip, trip cancellation coverage will reimburse you for prepaid or nonrefundable costs. If your current medical insurance does not include emergency medical coverage outside the U.S., then you may also want travel medical coverage.

5. What shots do I need?

This depends on your itinerary. See your physician



several weeks in advance of travel because some vaccinations need to be administered well before your departure date. Check the CDC site for travel health notices (wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices).

6. How can I avoid jet lag?

If you travel over more than three time zones, your body's circadian rhythm can be disrupted. When you reach your destination, sleep may be difficult for a few nights — you may wake up several times because your internal clock thinks it's daytime. But you can help trick your body into adjusting to different time zones.

If you're traveling east to west, a few days before departure, start going to bed an hour or two earlier each night. West-to-east travelers should stay awake an hour later each night.

After you board your plane, set your watch to your destination's time, then eat and sleep as if it's that time of day.

Even though you may be exhausted when you arrive, don't go to bed right away. Get outside and take a walk. Absorbing natural daylight helps reset your internal clock. Then, eat your meals and go to bed according to local time.

7. How can I best fit in when I travel overseas?

Take time to learn about the country you're visiting and learn a few phrases of its language. That effort will be very appreciated by the local citizens.

The travel.state.gov site is a great resource for any other questions you may have about traveling internationally. 🇺🇸



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 holster and 4 mags: \$450. Sig: CA model w/ Kydex holster and 3 mags: \$850. (323) 597-6059. (0724)

ROSE HILLS PLOT FOR SALE

Rose Hills (Whittier) cemetery plot located in the Garden of Prayers near the main entrance. \$15,000 or OBO. Call (909) 243-3002 or email rjramirez0618@gmail.com. (0824)

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)

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)

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)

16" SCROLL SAW FOR SALE

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)

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)

2001 HARLEY ELECTRA GLIDE CLASSIC

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



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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