



Los Angeles County Professional
Peace Officers Association

Volume 51
Issue 7

September
2024

STAR & SHIELD

2024 RETIREE REPORT



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PPOA RETIREE
LUNCHEON!**
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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.

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Three Tips to Thrive in Your Retirement: A New Chapter Begins

On behalf of PPOA, I had the honor of attending the annual LASD Retiree Roundup in Laughlin, Nevada, this past April. With a retired membership of 3,382 individuals, PPOA is a proud sponsor of this event! This was my first time attending and it far exceeded my expectations. The camaraderie was awe-inspiring. It was great to know that, in addition to the regular luncheons and local gatherings our retirees attend, there exists this large-scale “Roundup” space each year for us to maintain and renew the decades-long connections we have established within our LASD family.

In 1997, retired Sergeant William “Moon” Mullen, who had since moved to Arizona, saw the need for connecting retired LASD members, many of whom felt far removed from the Department as the years passed. It was apparent to Moon that the answer existed in compiling an LASD retired email list. He started with 40 names, and it has now grown to nearly 4,000 members.

Originally, Moon sent out messages to all members of the list, including Department bulletins, bereavement notices, sick notices, retirement notices, job opportunities, requests for assistance, personal messages from retired members, techniques for connecting with long-lost partners and other items of interest. It was not long before his efforts grew into what we now know today as the annual LASD Retiree Roundup in Laughlin. As word travels about this fantastic event, attendance has grown steadily year to year.

When I attended this past Roundup, I was pleasantly surprised to see many retirees whom I had worked with in the past, as well as an ample number of active members who attended in support of their retired spouses and friends. There was plenty of time built into the event to visit with other attendees and even build new friendships.



Steve Johnson
PPOA President
Lieutenant, LASD
sjohnson@ppoa.com

I especially enjoyed the many tidbits of wisdom and experience passed on to me at the Roundup as keys to a successful retirement. There were many commonalities I gathered as I talked with our retirees about ways to create a thriving retirement. While the formula for a successful retirement is unique to each person, three tips stood out to me:

- **Health is wealth:** As law enforcement personnel, the nature of our profession often positions us to retire well before other career paths. This is due to the toll the job has on our minds and bodies. Exiting this career path with suitable medical and disability coverage is paramount. We need to be able to sustain our health long-term in order to get the return on investment (ROI) for our years of service. In addition to the 25-year full coverage threshold, we must start the process of gauging our medical needs at least three years prior to our retirement date. Post-retirement is usually not the time to assess those needs, and options become more complex.
- **Finance the future:** Pension structures throughout the state and nation are constantly enduring the threat of being dismantled. We are fortunate to have one of the last remaining systems of pension funding that acknowledges our contributions to Los Angeles County. Based on our years of service and age, how much do we really need to sustain a comfortable retirement lifestyle? According to financial planners, about 75% of our gross annual income is needed post-retirement. But recognize that this is the national average. Living on 65% may be suitable for those considering retiring in Katie, Texas, where the cost of living is far below that of California. If you want to travel the world for six months of the year, perhaps 90% may be more suitable. The choice is yours, and it involves setting realistic expectations about exactly how and where you want to retire.
- **Get a job:** Before sulking at this suggestion, please understand we are not referencing a “job” in the traditional sense of the word. It is important to have a mindful intent during your retirement. Upon retirement, whether your “job” is professional grandkids transporter, amateur chef, Little League coach, deep sea fishing trip organizer or book club facilitator, have a purpose-driven lifestyle that engages you socially on some level. Many of us have spent more than three





decades with our lives encompassed by a career we have treasured. When that career ends, we can be left with anxiety, frustration and loneliness. In her book, *Surviving Retirement*, Dr. Medina Baumgart (a board-certified police and public safety psychologist) candidly details the mental challenges her husband faced when he retired from an illustrious law enforcement career. The lesson: Find a purpose in your retirement.



Dr. Medina Baumgart

At PPOA, we pride ourselves on preparing our members for retirement. Several times throughout the year, we bring together a panel of experts at our union office in San Dimas. The seminar usually fills up quickly and works on a first-come, first-served basis. PPOA members interested in setting themselves up for a well-earned retirement file into our union conference center. Speakers on hand deliver relevant advice on a wide range of topics.

LACERA and Fraternal Order of the Police staff and workers' compensation/disability attorneys are on hand to provide valuable insight about properly preparing for a life after a career of public service. The next PPOA Retirement Workshop is scheduled for October 12. Details of that event can be found on page 9.

Stay safe, look out for one another and we will see you very soon. 🇺🇸

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Retirement in California: Should You Stay or Should You Go?

As we learn more about the “state” of California, or the *state* this *state* is in, it is clearer and clearer that many policies and laws passed in the past 10 years don’t work as intended. There is finally a good chance that Proposition 36 may pass. I encourage you all to read it and support it. It addresses some, but not all, of the failings of Proposition 47, which everyone reading this knew would not work out. Please read that and tell your family and friends to vote for it. This November, it’s *yes* on Prop 36 and *no* on another DA Gascón term!

The LASD is in a real employment mess. The profession has lost the attraction of our youth these days, and other agencies are offering tens of thousands of dollars in signing bonuses. One Southern California agency is dangling a \$100,000 bonus. We are already well behind other agencies like LAPD, when you consider they have the DROP program and their pension system is not subject to the Public Employee Pension Reform restrictions like LACERA. It will be very hard for our new members to retire at the same ages we did — 65 will be the new 55. Sheriff Luna has a huge mountain to climb if he wants to fix the staffing issues. Academy classes used to be 75 to 100, and now they are happy if they get 40.

Many people have left California immediately upon retirement, and I am not sure if taxes or politics play into that



Jim Schallert
PPOA Retiree Liaison
LASD retired
jschallert@ppoa.com

decision. It’s for sure *not* the weather. My Idaho friends can brag all they want, but come on, the Beach Boys didn’t sing about Idaho weather! With that said, I would appreciate an email from retired PPOA members who moved out of state telling me why they left. I’m guessing the top reasons may include any of these:

- A. Political/crime trends
- B. Income tax
- C. Other (you tell me, and I will write about it in an upcoming issue)

Please send me an email at jschallert@ppoa.com with your answers to that question. I would love to hear about it and share the feedback in *Star & Shield*.

The Blue Cross cap is still considered one of the largest concerns of retirees until they are able to enroll in Medicare. I am hopeful but not

encouraged this will be addressed by the County and the Coalition of County Unions in the next round of contract negotiations.

As the summer comes to a close, I hope that many of you were able to travel and enjoy your retirement to the fullest. Don’t put off until later what you can still do today.

It’s also time for a reminder to:

1. Schedule that overdue colonoscopy
2. Get your skin checked for cancer
3. Oh, and walk 45 minutes a day!

Thank you all for the emails; I appreciate the feedback and suggestions. 🍀



DMV CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST

The DMV Confidentiality of Home Address covers LASD retired peace officers holding a valid California driver’s license. The Request for Confidentiality of Home Address (INV 32) forms are not available at local DMVs. They are available only through qualifying agencies.

LASD retired peace officers can request the INV 32 form by contacting:

LASD Personnel Administration — PPC Unit

211 West Temple Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn: DMV Confidentiality Coordinator

For more info, please contact Jean Marie Lewis

(DMV Confidentiality Coordinator) at (213) 229-1731.

Acknowledging the Legacy of a Supervisor Who Stood Above the Rest

With this issue being dedicated to retirees, this is a great time to share a story about a recent retiree who made a huge impact on me, everyone he worked with, the entire Department and the citizens he spent his life protecting.

One of the many great things about working for this Department is the quality of leaders we encounter. While we all have had bosses or supervisors who we cannot believe have any authority at all, it's still rare. Because of the changing attitudes of workplace behavior and a younger mindset that relies more on technology to communicate than anything else, the days of big retirement parties and off-training parties seem to have faded drastically, leaving us with nowhere to really honor those people who made an impact on us.

We all have had that one supervisor who just stands above the rest — the kind who works twice as hard as the team they supervise, who isn't afraid of mentoring and leading, but also will fight harder than ever to support and protect the people the Department trusted them to watch over. Anyone who worked Pico Station in the late 1990s and early 2000s is probably thinking of the same name I am. For me, the man who rises as the best Sergeant, best Lieutenant and best overall Deputy Sheriff who I ever encountered was a man who passed away in July. Sadly, he only enjoyed six years of retirement before cancer cruelly cut his life short, but I considered it an absolute honor to work with the late Kevin C. Lloyd during his career as a public servant.

Kevin was one of a kind.



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

He expected the best work from the people he supervised, and while they may not have always appreciated his hard-driving style, he got things done.

In the early '90s, there was a high-profile incident in Pico's area involving a well-organized attack by a local gang on the home of a Pico deputy. This not only was outrageous by societal standards, but also so offended Kevin that he organized a task force to crack down on the attackers (even though the deputy was not physically harmed), and he selected an elite crew to show the community that this outrageous attack would be avenged.

I was assigned to Norwalk at the time, and since the two stations were somewhat merged in those days, I got asked to help organize some of the information into computer databases. Spending time with Kevin's crew was intense and amazing. He led them with such ease and



I CONSIDERED IT AN ABSOLUTE HONOR TO WORK WITH THE LATE KEVIN C. LLOYD DURING HIS CAREER AS A PUBLIC SERVANT.

passion. It was a sight to see. When some dumb rivalry issues led to the Norwalk resources being ordered to stop going to Pico, I was put into one of those "moral quandaries." Do I disobey a direct order and risk discipline, or do I continue to assist Kevin in ways that the Norwalk brass would not notice? It worked. Also, seeing at how Kevin went to bat for his guys, I knew he had my back. Eighteen months later, when a Crime Analyst spot opened, I felt proud to be working for Kevin Lloyd again, this time "on the books."

Rest in peace, Kevin Lloyd. All of us are better for knowing you. 🙏

LEOSA: Retiree Testing Procedures

The purpose of this article is to inform retired LASD sworn personnel of the current Department procedures to certify them under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 (LEOSA), commonly referred to as HR 218. This federal law allows honorably retired law enforcement officers to carry a concealed firearm nationwide but requires annual proficiency certification. The LASD Weapons Training Unit has developed a firearms test for those retired members who wish to take advantage of the privileges afforded to them under the law.

ANNUAL TESTING

LEOSA requires the testing to be conducted by a certified firearms instructor qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active-duty officers within the state in which the retiree resides or by the agency they retired from. Retirees not obtaining LEOSA testing from LASD should use caution and ensure that they are meeting legal requirements.

The Department's firearms proficiency test for retirees assesses general firearms safety and proficiency in handling and firing weapons. It is available to any retired LASD deputy who retired in good standing. California residency is not required,

but the retiree must possess an unexpired LASD Retired identification card.

The Biscailuz Center Armory no longer conducts LEOSA testing. Testing is conducted at the Rio Hondo Community College on the Police Academy Range by Sheriff's Department personnel. This testing is conducted as funding permits. LEOSA testing is also conducted at the LASD Weapons Training Center at the Pitchess Detention Center. LASD Weapons Training Unit staff may not have a current list of available range dates. For a current list of available range dates and times, visit lasdretired.org/calendar.

LEOSA testing is also conducted by LASD Weapons Training Unit staff during the annual Retiree Roundup in Laughlin, Nevada; however, the Department will not provide ammunition for testing in Nevada.

Retired personnel who successfully complete the firearms proficiency test will immediately be issued a certification card, which is valid for one year from the date of certification. Retirees must carry this card with their Department identification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- As a retiree, be familiar with LEOSA and review the law in its entirety at 18 U.S.C. §§, 926C.
- The Sheriff has directed that the firearms proficiency test and annual certification be provided at no cost to LASD retirees. You will need to bring your own ammunition. Due to changes in California law, the Department is no longer allowed to sell ammunition.
- Retirees who do not wish to carry a concealed firearm outside of California do not have to qualify under the federal law. However, if they wish to continue carrying in California only, they must renew their LASD Retired identification card with CCW endorsement through Personnel Administration as currently required every five years. The Weapons Training Unit has nothing to do with that process.
- Only LASD retirees can be LEOSA-certified by the LASD Weapons Training Unit. No retirees from other agencies will be certified.
- LEOSA allows LASD retirees living in other states to be tested and issued a certificate by that state if the state offers such a test. Retirees living out of state may contact their local law enforcement agency to determine if such a test is available. Be sure their qualification meets LEOSA requirements.
- *LEOSA testing may be limited due to public health orders and/or funding.*

Any questions regarding the contents of this article may be directed to the Biscailuz Center Armory at (323) 267-2730. ♥

WHOM TO CALL WHEN A SPOUSE DIES

When a spouse dies, the last thing you need is confusion about whom to contact. Filing this checklist may help keep a sorrowful event from becoming even more painful. The order in which you place the calls is not important.

- | | |
|--|---|
| → PPOA: (800) 747-7762 | → Doctor of deceased |
| → Sheriffs' Relief: (800) 544-4772 | → Insurance companies |
| → LACERA: (800) 786-6464 | → Three major credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) |
| → Social Security Administration: (800) 772-1213 | → Auto registration and insurance |
| → Department of Veterans Affairs: (800) 827-1000 | → Utility bills |
| → POPA Federal Credit Union: (800) 369-7672 | → Credit cards and loan companies |
| → Banks and credit unions | → Church |
| | → Employer of deceased (if he/she was employed) |
| | → Mortgage company |

Don't forget to call extended and distant family members and friends as well. If you are simply too overwhelmed, you can avoid hurting others' feelings by asking someone to do this for you.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR RETIREES

Fraternal Order of Police

www.fop.net
(615) 399-0900

L.A. County District Attorney's Office

<http://da.lacounty.gov>
(213) 974-3512

L.A. County Employees Retirement Association

www.lacera.com
(800) 786-6464

L.A. County Department of Medical Examiner

<https://mec.lacounty.gov>
(323) 343-0512

L.A. County Professional Peace Officers Association

www.ppoa.com
(800) 747-PPOA

L.A. County Sheriff's Department

www.lasd.org
General info: (213) 229-1700
CCW renewal: (323) 526-5500
Annual qualification:
(323) 267-2730

POPA Federal Credit Union

www.popafcu.org
(800) 369-7672

Retired Employees of L.A. County

www.relac.org
(626) 308-0532

Retired LASD Deputies

www.lasdretired.org

Sheriffs' Relief Association

www.sheriffsrelief.org
(800) 544-4772

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

www.va.gov
(800) 827-1000

U.S. Government Resources

www.usa.gov

Retirement Planning Workshop

for PPOA Members

Saturday, October 12, 2024

8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

PPOA Conference Center, San Dimas

Free for active PPOA members

Get valuable information re:

- LACERA
- Workers' compensation
- Estate planning
- Horizons/Empower
- Mental health
- Fraternal Order of Police

This event is exclusively for active, full-dues paying PPOA members and seating is limited. RSVP with full name, employee number and phone number to sschreck@ppoa.com or (323) 261-3010.



By Greg Torres, PPOA

Where Will Retirement Take You?

The day has finally come. Your well-deserved retirement is at hand after decades of dedicated public service. As you point your car home at the end of your final shift and immediately get snarled in traffic on the eastbound 10 or northbound 5 or southbound 605, you inevitably begin to mutter the million-dollar question about California: “Should I stay or should I go now?” You know the rest: if you stay, there will be trouble (cost of everything, you have to fly out of LAX, neighbors up in your business). If you

go, there will be double (no more sunset drives along PCH, you have to fly *into* LAX, *new* neighbors up in your business).

Today, roughly one out of every five retired PPOA members has transplanted beyond the confines of California. In fact, members of this union can be found living the good life in 43 states. Per tradition, we compared today’s state-by-state numbers with those from 10 years ago in order to confirm this startling fact: PPOA members are all over the place because the grass is always greener where they water it. 🇺🇸

| State* | Retired Members in 2014 | Retired Members in 2024 |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alabama | 5 | 6 |
| Arizona | 104 | 157 |
| Arkansas | 5 | 8 |
| California | 2,041 | 2,620 |
| Colorado | 18 | 27 |
| Delaware | 0 | 1 |
| D.C. | 1 | 1 |
| Florida | 14 | 24 |
| Georgia | 8 | 16 |
| Hawaii | 1 | 5 |
| Idaho | 40 | 96 |
| Indiana | 2 | 1 |
| Iowa | 0 | 3 |
| Kansas | 2 | 4 |
| Kentucky | 3 | 4 |
| Louisiana | 1 | 3 |
| Maine | 2 | 2 |
| Maryland | 2 | 1 |
| Massachusetts | 3 | 1 |
| Michigan | 1 | 2 |
| Minnesota | 1 | 1 |
| Mississippi | 1 | 1 |

| State* | Retired Members in 2014 | Retired Members in 2024 |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Missouri | 12 | 13 |
| Montana | 9 | 22 |
| Nevada | 76 | 92 |
| New Hampshire | 1 | 2 |
| New Mexico | 10 | 11 |
| New York | 1 | 1 |
| North Carolina | 2 | 9 |
| Ohio | 2 | 2 |
| Oklahoma | 8 | 3 |
| Oregon | 47 | 33 |
| Pennsylvania | 4 | 3 |
| South Carolina | 4 | 7 |
| South Dakota | 0 | 2 |
| Tennessee | 3 | 25 |
| Texas | 34 | 63 |
| Utah | 10 | 20 |
| Virginia | 1 | 4 |
| Washington | 47 | 42 |
| West Virginia | 0 | 1 |
| Wisconsin | 2 | 1 |
| Wyoming | 1 | 8 |

*States not listed had no retired PPOA members in either year.

Join Us

20TH ANNUAL PPOA RETIREE LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Sheraton Fairplex, Pomona



***Free for retired PPOA members
+1 guest each!***

RSVP by October 13

to sschreck@ppoa.com or (323) 261-3010.

Please include your first name, last name
and whether you will bring a guest.



Sergeant Jason Viger

EOW: August 1, 2024

→ Sergeant Jason Viger was killed in an off-duty traffic collision on August 1. He was a 16-year Department veteran who was assigned to Homicide Bureau.




Law Enforcement Technician Rafael Ortiz

EOW: August 5, 2024

→ Law Enforcement Technician Rafael Ortiz passed away on August 5. He was a U.S. Army veteran with 34 years of public service who began his law enforcement career with the L.A. County Police. He was assigned to County Services Bureau at the time of his passing.

Deputy Gonzalo Galvez

EOW: August 6, 2024

→ Deputy Gonzalo Galvez passed away on August 6 following a battle with cancer. He was a 24-year Department veteran and was assigned to Special Enforcement Bureau. 



END OF WATCH

PPOA extends our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the following members who passed away in July 2024:

Retired Sergeant

Judith Jackson

EOW: July 14, 2024

LASD 1965-1995

Academy Class #107

Last assignment: Lakewood Station

Retired Lieutenant

Robert L. Harris

EOW: July 19, 2024

LASD 1973-1995

Last assignment: Carson Station

U.S. Marine Corps veteran

Retired Detective

Fred Owens

EOW: July 19, 2024

LASD 1960-1989

Academy Class #84

Last assignment: Lennox Station

U.S. Marine Corps veteran

Retired Lieutenant

Kevin Lloyd

EOW: July 20, 2024

LASD 1981-2018

Rio Hondo Academy Class #48

Last assignment: Carson Station

Retired Deputy III

Ira Williams

EOW: July 22, 2024

LASD 1969-1978

Last assignment: Norwalk Station

U.S. Air Force veteran

Retired Sergeant

Raymond Palomino

EOW: July 24, 2024

LASD 1964-1994

Last assignment:

Huntington Park Court

U.S. Coast Guard veteran

Retired Deputy

Douglas Robertson

EOW: July 25, 2024

LASD 1952-1982

Last assignment:

Lennox Station

Spouse of retired

Deputy Jeanne Robertson

U.S. Coast Guard veteran

Retired Sergeant

Kennedy Westfall

EOW: July 28, 2024

LASD 1966-1999

Academy Class #114

Last assignment:

Lancaster Station

Condolences may be

emailed to the family:

kgmongo@yahoo.com

Retired Deputy

Rosemary Brenner

EOW: July 31, 2024

LASD 1971-1988

Academy Class #147

Last assignment:

Sybil Brand Institute



Retired Lieutenant Robert L. Harris (EOW: 7/19/24)



Retired Lieutenant Kevin Lloyd (EOW: 7/20/24)



Retired Deputy Douglas Robertson (EOW: 7/25/24)

Congratulations to More Than 40 New LASD Sergeants!

PPOA representatives proudly welcomed more than 40 newly promoted LASD Sergeants to this Association in July. The Department's newest supervisors reported to the Sherman Block Building in Monterey Park to pick up their new badges and were joined by PPOA President Steve Johnson and staff members in order to answer questions and ensure they would be protected by union representation. 🇺🇸





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.



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

(August issue — the hidden word appeared on page 4)

Briseyda Arellano, Law Enforcement Technician

James Cracchiolo, Retired Member

Krystal Murray, Court Services Specialist



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310.494.6852

@welcomerenovation



Greg Takeshita, Founder (Active WHD Reserve Deputy)

By Chuck (LASD ret. 2004) and
Patty (LASD ret. 2005) Norris

PPOA Is Proud to Support LASD Teens in Leadership Program at Camp Pendleton

Approximately 300 teenagers from California, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah graduated from the Devil Pups Youth Leadership Program at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in July. The Sheriff's Department sent 20 young men and eight young women, for a total of 28.

This year was very special, as it was a celebration of the program being in existence for 70 years. Since 1954, the Devil Pups Program has helped teenagers gain self-confidence and leadership skills through mental and physical challenges, teamwork, discipline and education.

Each year, the Department tests teenagers ages 14 to 17 on the last Sunday in April at Biscailuz Center. The program continues to be free to boys and girls who are sponsored by Department members, sworn, civilian, active or retired. We can sponsor and send exemplary teenagers to this 10-day citizenship program because of generous support from:

- PPOA
- ALADS
- Sheriffs' Relief Association
- POPA Federal Credit Union

Devil Pups learn to overcome their fears and self-doubt by working together to tackle challenges and leave ready to take on life's many challenges. Camp participants complete 10 days full of tasks, like working up from a 1-mile run to a 5.5-mile beach run, 15- and 25-foot tower jumps into a swimming pool, and the legendary hike up "Old Smokey," a mountain overlooking Camp Pendleton and the Pacific Ocean.



All those who successfully graduate from the Devil Pups Youth Leadership Program are winners. We sent 28 great Pups. Of special note, Calista Lopez received 3rd Platoon Honor Pup and Ruby Rodriguez (Industry Explorer) won the Persistence Award. Ashar Baker (CV Explorer) earned the highest physical fitness score of all our Department's 28 Devil Pups, receiving 375 points out of 400.

The program was created as a better way for teens to spend part of their summer in a military environment. U.S. Marines were referred to as "Devil Dogs" in World War I by enemy troops for their battlefield accomplishments and their "never give up" spirit. The Devil Pups name is descended from the rich Marine Corps heritage.

The program's goal remains the same as it was in 1954: To develop better citizens, based on their philosophy of "Growth Through Challenge."

Next year's orientation and tryouts for LASD teens will take place on April 27, 2025, at Biscailuz Center. If interested, encourage your future Devil Pup to start preparing and working out *now*. Please direct any questions about the program to Patty and Chuck Norris at (818) 381-7698 or (818) 381-7649. 🇺🇸





LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S STAR POST 309

Law Enforcement Military Ball

FORMAL ATTIRE

GUEST SPEAKERS • CEREMONY • DRINKS • MUSIC • CIGARS

NOVEMBER 1, 2024

6:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.

QUIET CANNON

**901 VIA SAN CLEMENTE,
MONTEBELLO, CA 90640**

FOR TICKETS: WWW.STARPOST309.COM
OR SCAN QR CODE



THE STAR POST STANDS OUT AMONG AMERICAN LEGION POSTS. IT IS A VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION PRIMARILY COMPOSED OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S EMPLOYEES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC SERVANTS, AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS WHO ARE MILITARY VETERANS. THE MOTTO OF THE STAR POST, "STILL SERVING PROUDLY," EXEMPLIFIES THE SERVICE ITS MEMBERS HAVE PROVIDED TO THEIR NATION AND TO THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Welcoming New PPOA Members

PPOA President Steve Johnson, Executive Director Wayne Quint Jr. and union staff welcomed new members to this Association in August, including 24 newly hired Custody Assistants (Class #113) and 30 recently promoted Sergeants attending Supervisory School. ❤️



PPOA Committees and Staff

2024 STANDING COMMITTEES

Associations

› Chairman Johnson

Bylaws

› Chairman Coleman

Communications

› Chairman Chapman

Delegates

› Chairman Coleman

Finance

› Chairwoman Kato

Insurance

› Chairman Lee

Legislative

› Chairman Reddy

Membership

› Chairman Arcos

612 Negotiations

› Chairman Johnson

614 Negotiations

› Chairman Lee

621 Negotiations

› Chairman Coleman

631 Negotiations

› Chairwoman Kato

632 Negotiations

› Chairwoman Kato

Retiree Liaison

› Chairman Schallert

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

Richard Escalante

Field Representative

Clare Franco

Administrative Assistant

Violet P. Moreno

Administrative Assistant

Dave Ladjevic

Labor Representative

Art Reddy

Legislative Consultant

Mark Sanchez

Labor Representative

Shannon Schreck

Administrative Assistant

Kevin F. Thompson

Intake Representative

Greg Torres

Public Relations Coordinator

Maricela Villegas

Executive Administrative Assistant

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(1-800-438-6388)

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Sheriff Luna Visits PPOA Board Meeting to Discuss Issues Impacting Members

PPOA is thankful to Sheriff Robert Luna and members of his staff for taking the time to stop by our Board of Directors meeting in August to speak with the union leaders about a number of issues impacting PPOA

members. Topics of discussion included recruitment, retention, promotions, salary contracts, Department policies and more. 🇺🇸



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 September 30, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. PT.

This month's hidden word is:

Quandaries

States of perplexity or doubt, especially in situations where one must choose between equally unsatisfactory choices

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

These events and more can be found on PPOA's online calendar at [PPOA.com](https://www.ppoa.com). Do you know of a Department-related event we can help promote? Email details to info@ppoa.com.

September 16

Final Day to Submit PPOA

Board Nominating Petitions

Petition and details available in August 2024 issue of *Star & Shield*

September 19

PPOA Delegates Meeting

Residence Inn Santa Clarita–Valencia
Eligible delegates: RSVP to sschreck@ppoa.com or (323) 261-3010 with full name and employee number

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

October 4

Fight for Life Boxing Event

LASD vs. LAPD vs. LAFD
Biscailuz Training Academy
Benefits City of Hope
Info: 35133@lapd.online

October 9

PPOA Board of Directors Meeting

San Dimas
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
PPOA members: please RSVP to (323) 261-3010

October 12

PPOA Retirement Planning Workshop

San Dimas
8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
PPOA members: please RSVP with full name and employee number to sschreck@ppoa.com

October 14

Indigenous Peoples Day

Please note the PPOA office will be closed in honor of the County holiday



RETIREE EVENTS



HR 218 Qualification at PDC (Wayside) Range

September 15, 21, 28 and 29 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Info: Deputy Phil Abner, pabner@gmail.com

LASD Law Enforcement Retreat

September 27–29
Serra Retreat House, Malibu
Open to all members: sworn, professional staff, active, retired and spouses
Info: (818) 381-7698

HR 218 Qualification at Rio Hondo

September 29 from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

First Responder Vehicle Car Show

October 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Ontario Masonic Lodge
Vintage and current public safety vehicles
Info: (909) 821-7333 or fred@we-reachout.org

Retired Female Deputies Luncheon & Meeting

November 2 at 11 a.m.
Embassy Suites, Arcadia
Friday night (November 1) reception at 5 p.m., same location
Info: Victoria (626) 202-5754 or lifeandtimes734@gmail.com

20th Annual PPOA Retiree Luncheon

November 6
Sheraton Fairplex, Pomona
See page 11 for details

Annual LASD Retiree Roundup

April 6–9, 2025
Riverside Resort & Casino
Laughlin, NV

25th Annual Former L.A. Deputy Sheriffs in Texas Luncheon

May 17, 2025, at 11 a.m.
Kreuz Meat Market in Lockhart, TX

Retired Guys & Gals Breakfast Club

Every Wednesday at 9 a.m.
Mr. D's Diner, Placentia
Info: kamohagen@aol.com

Desert Heat Retirees Luncheon

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

Rogue Valley Retiree Lunch

Last Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m.
Grants Pass Golf Club, Grants Pass, OR
Info: michaelbuschke@charter.net

PPOA Member Honored for Saving Life of Driver in Fiery Crash

On an August evening in 2023, Sergeant Collin Reddy was on patrol in Lancaster when he saw a sudden power outage. He soon came upon the source of the outage: a single vehicle was on fire and overturned on an electrical box. The driver of that vehicle was trapped inside.

Sergeant Reddy called for backup and Deputy Jeremiah Nurse arrived swiftly. Aware that every second was crucial, both men leapt into action, despite the intensifying heat and potentially explosive danger. “We knew we had to get him out,” Sergeant Reddy told KABC7. “We just went in.”

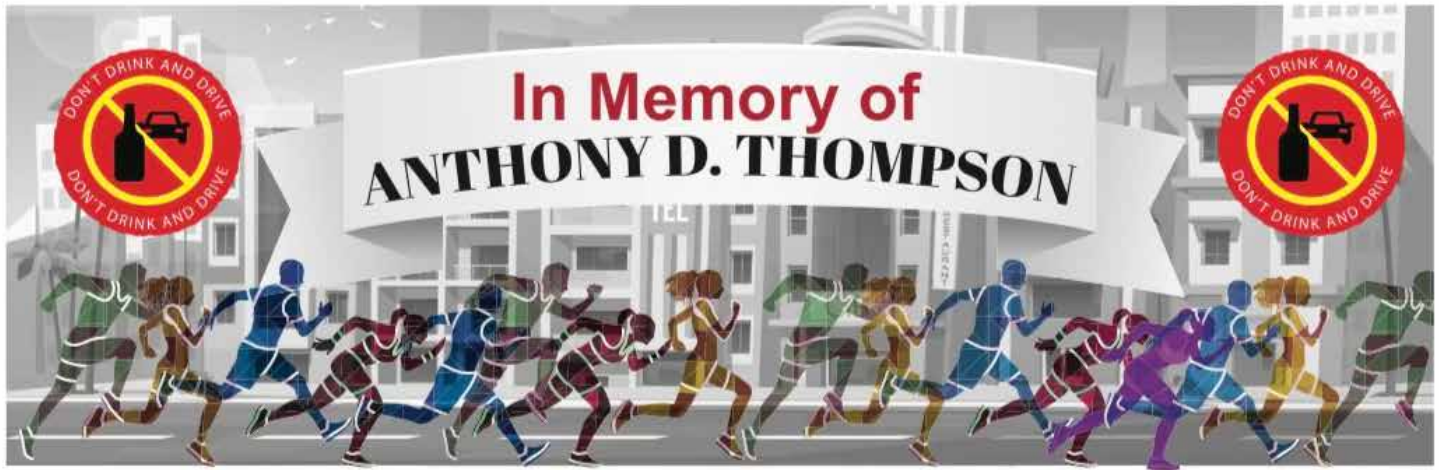
Body-worn camera footage revealed flames consuming the vehicle as the driver began yelling. Sergeant Reddy and Deputy Nurse yanked the man from his car and dragged him a safe distance away from the intense inferno. “We were put there at the right place at the right time,” Sergeant Reddy said.

The valor and courage required to save the life of that citizen were acknowledged last month by Congressman Mike



Garcia during a Community Town Hall meeting. Sergeant Reddy and Deputy Nurse were presented with Community Champion Awards and acknowledged by hundreds in attendance, including PPOA President Steve Johnson. The two men also had the distinction of being the first recipients of this award, which is planned to be bestowed upon first responders on a quarterly basis. 🇺🇸





7th ANNUAL MEMORIAL 5K RUN AND WALK FOR A CAUSE! SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16th, 2024

REGISTRATION: 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM | CEREMONY: 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM | RACE BEGINS AT 9:00 AM
5000 E. OCEAN BLVD, LONG BEACH, CA 90803 (ROSIE DOG BEACH)

Join us as we come together to help support our community's youth by raising funds for academic scholarships, raise awareness, and support for the creation of the Thompson Alert, a vital initiative designed to alert drivers to wrong way drivers on the freeway.

In just a second, a parent can lose their child to a wrong-way driver. Mama Koko's everlasting pain from losing her only son, Anthony, drives our cause. Join us in preventing more tragedies at the hands of drunk and wrong-way drivers.



MEMORIAL 5K RUN AND WALK ONLINE REGISTRATION AT FAWWD.ORG!
\$40.00 ONLINE REGISTRATION REGISTRATION START JULY 1ST-NOV 5TH
EVENT DAY REGISTRATION IS \$50.00
100% PROCEEDS TO OFFICER ANTHONY THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
TAX DEDUCTABLE 501(C)3.

Anthony Thompson Jr.
@FAWWD



Zelle



venmo

FAWWD.ORG **@-FAWWD**

OFFICER ANTHONY THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
GOT QUESTIONS? E-MAIL US AT FAWWD1993@GMAIL.COM



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.*



lasdtransit Transit Services Bureau K9 Sergeant Drysol and his partner enjoying the views at the 2024 Olympics #tsb #deputy #lasd #cop #lawenforcement





LASD Community College Bureau is at Los Angeles Valley College.

July 26 at 11:13 AM · Los Angeles, CA · 🌐

Student Kevin and Officer Cox faced off in a penalty kick challenge at Los Angeles Valley College. Who do you think won? Next time you see Officer Cox, challenge him to a match! #ChallengeOfficerCox



sdmlasd

sdmlasd 35 years of service 🥳 !

Congrats to Officer Mitchell and thank you for your dedication to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. @lasdhq

Liked by **comptonlasd** and **134 others**

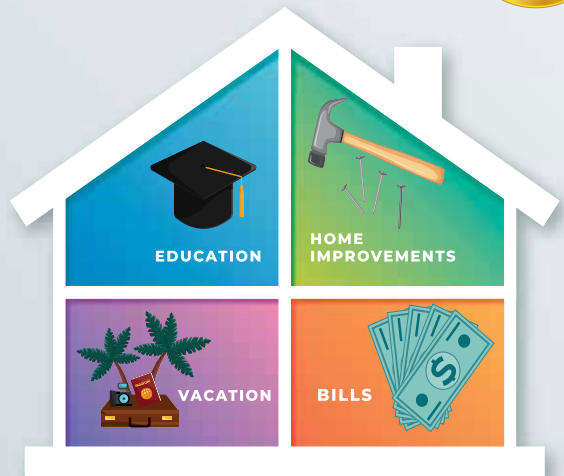
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*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The advertised rate is our lowest rate available, effective as of 9/1/2024. Rates, program terms, and conditions are subject to change without notice. Home Equity Line Of Credit (HELOC) features a variable rate based on the Prime Rate as published in The Wall Street Journal plus a margin. The APR is subject to change and may increase after consummation. The maximum APR is 18%. Minimum credit limit is \$10,000; Maximum credit limit is \$250,000. Maximum combined loan to value (CLTV) of up to 80%. Closing costs range from \$340 to \$1400 to open a HELOC. Call us for details on how POPA FCU can pay all closing costs. Property insurance is required, and flood insurance is required where necessary. Consult a tax advisor regarding the deductibility of interest and charges. Other restrictions and limitations may apply. NMLS # 652741.

Paying for College and Retirement

Most parents want to do what they can to give their kids a great start in life. But is it smart to take on children's educational debt with your own retirement around the corner?

It can be, according to Sue Tirukonda, a certified financial planner with Financial Benefits in Wichita, Kansas. "Where I struggle is when you've got a child that wants to go to a school that is so far out of the parents' affordability range, so they take out massive loans to finance more than 50% of the cost of education," she says.

For example, it would take 10 years and \$846 a month, or 25 years and \$536 a month, to pay off \$70,000 in Parent PLUS direct loans from the federal government.

As a rule, Joe Orsolini cautions parents against PLUS loans. The certified financial planner with College Aid Planners in suburban Chicago explains that the government does not consider a parent's ability to repay the loans, so parents with



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.

modest incomes but good track records could take on more debt than they can afford.


Other parents decide to delay retirement to repay loans, but unforeseen job losses or health issues can undermine those plans. Like other student loans, PLUS loans are not dischargeable in bankruptcy.

While she recognizes the risks, Tirukonda points out that PLUS loans can help with cash flow for people who earn enough to pay out of pocket but not in a lump sum at the start of each semester.

The problem, Orsolini notes, is when parents let children choose their schools and then go about figuring out how to pay for them. Instead, he says, the money discussion should happen long before applications go out.

"Parents need to let their kids know what they can afford to pay for college," Orsolini says, "and they need to let them know early in the process."

If you are trying to figure out how to pay for your child's education, the loan representatives at POPA Federal Credit Union can guide you. You can also schedule an appointment with POPA FCU's financial advisor in partnership with LPL Financial, Pam McKenzie, and inquire about what options are available to help save for your child's college tuition. She can advise what types of loans best suit you and your family.

Feel free to call the Credit Union at (562) 229-9181, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 



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)

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)

BACK HOUSE STUDIO 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 \$1,950, which includes water, gas and trash. Call (323) 236-1739 or email dgathright1984@me.com. (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)

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)

1965 PORSCHE SPEEDSTER FOR SALE

Convertible, replica. 2-door, black with tan interior and tan top. 4-speed manual transmission, 1600cc, build of a Volkswagen Karmann Ghia chassis. Asking price \$25,000. Contact (626) 484-8301 or mianico5@gmail.com. (0924)

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)

2020 FORD RANGER FOR SALE

XLT Super Crew. 37,000 miles. Excellent condition. New tires. \$28,500 obo. Contact: steveday212@yahoo.com. (0924)

1957 CHEVY BEL AIR FOR SALE

Good running condition with original paint. 4-door, new white walls, seat upholstery. Too much to list. Needs someone to finish minor restoration. \$18K. Photos can be emailed. Call/text Sam at (562) 572-2462 and mention *Star & Shield*. (0924)

SLOT MACHINE FOR SALE

Mills "Break the Bank" nickel slot machine. Good working condition with stand. \$1,500. Contact Wayne at (626) 422-0555 or email waw296@gmail.com. (0924)



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

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