



2024 Annual Report

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROFESSIONAL PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Established 1951 | Proudly Representing More Than 8,000 Members



MISSION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONALS REPRESENTING PROFESSIONALS

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

The 2024 Annual Report is an official publication of the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association (PPOA). Opinions expressed by individual Board members or contributing authors in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire Board.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Steve Johnson**, President
- Jay Chapman**, First Vice President
- Joe Walker**, Second Vice President
- Christopher Lee**, Secretary
- Joyce Kato**, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

- Kevin Ahsmuhs**
- Walter Arcos**
- Tony Coleman**
(departing Board in December 2024)
- Roel Garcia**
- Luis Orozco**
- Jim Schallert**
- Robert Weber**
(joining Board in January 2025)

PPOA STAFF MEMBERS

- Wayne Quint Jr.**, Executive Director
- Richard Escalante**, Field Representative
- Clare Franco**, Administrative Assistant
- Dave Ladjevic**, Labor Representative
- Violet P. Moreno**, Administrative Assistant
- 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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Steve Johnson
PPOA President

Another Successful Year of Protecting Your Rights

I am tremendously proud of the efforts of our members and our Association throughout all of 2024. At PPOA, it is my honor and privilege to be engaged in the battle to protect your rights. 2025 will be unique in that the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) for all of our units will expire; hence, contract negotiations are upon us once again! With several international events on the horizon and severe staffing challenges, the temperament in which we negotiate the next series of contracts will be drastically different than prior years.

As previously shared, the tide of public sentiment is markedly turning toward support of public safety. At a time when our morale is increasingly

impacted by massive overtime, consent decrees and civilian oversight, this pendulum shift is long overdue.

Through the professional network of our Association and our bargaining efforts, this year PPOA has been able to aggressively work with County employers and other professional groups to fight for policies and laws that support our mission and protect our personnel.

Among the impactful organizations with whom we align, PPOA is proud to be a member of the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA), the California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations (CCLEA) and the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP Lodge #1). Like PPOA, these entities have championed innovation based on

the principle that strength exists among collective entities.

With the recent passage of U.S. House Resolution 82 (H.R. 82), the Social Security Fairness Act, remarkable progress has been made. If written into law, it will have a net positive impact on our retirement income. Mostly due to the FOP's state and national influence, H.R. 82 has advanced through both houses of Congress.

On the state level, it has been an uphill battle, since several new laws now dictate procedures for various aspects of policing. Nonetheless, the County is under a legal obligation to “*meet and confer*” with PPOA when new policies and laws are implemented that alter or impact working conditions. The Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (MMBA)

governs employee matters between the County and PPOA. It provides that a recognized employee organization “shall have the right to represent its members in their employment relations with public agencies” (Gov. Code § 3503).

PPOA is currently involved in several legal filings against the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for their failure to meet and confer over significant aspects of how they involve our members in their investigations, as well as the protection of personal information. In 2020, the residents of Los Angeles County voted in favor of a ballot initiative that substantially increases the oversight of the Sheriff’s Department via the OIG and the Civilian Oversight Commission.

On the political front, I can wholeheartedly attest to PPOA’s growth as a potent force regarding supportive legislation and aligned candidates. Our independent efforts and our participation in a committee to elect Nathan Hochman were key to his successful campaign for Los Angeles County district attorney.

Because their platforms aligned with our values, the majority of candidates PPOA endorsed at the state and local

level during this last election cycle were victorious. Our strong lobbying efforts in Sacramento led to a nearly 90% success rate of bills we supported, including the successful passing of Proposition 36 (felony charges and increased sentences for certain drug and theft crimes).

This year, PPOA had the privilege of co-sponsoring the annual Police Unity Tour, the Baker to Vegas Barbecue, the Fun in the Sun Chili Cookoff and a host of other events. Congratulations to all who participated in these events, including runners, cyclists, cooks, drivers, alternates, support staff and volunteers. It was our honor to participate in these phenomenal gatherings attended by hundreds of our members and their families.

Regarding the care and support of our members, PPOA had the honor of escorting the family of deceased Sergeant Frank Murillo to Washington, D.C., for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony. This was done through our Star & Shield Foundation. We were also able to provide financial support to the three young daughters of District Attorney’s Office Bureau of

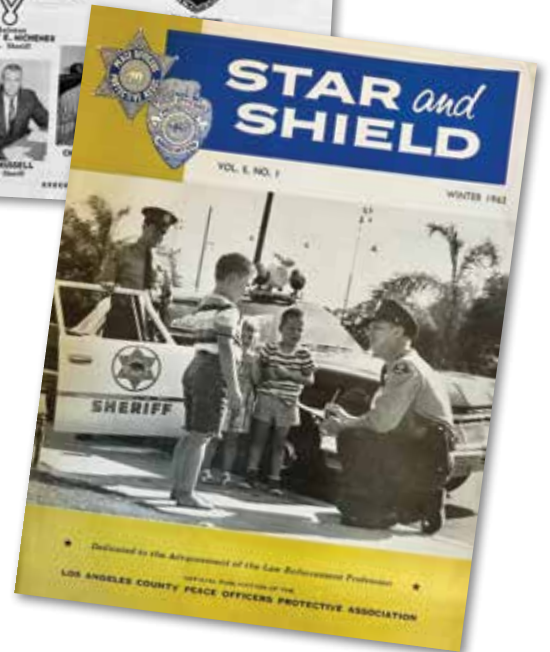
Investigation Sergeant Emilio Guerrero, who, along with his wife, was tragically killed in a traffic collision in 2023.

These families continually express to PPOA their immense gratitude for the support they have received from our Foundation in their most severe time of need. Presiding over the Star & Shield Foundation to help our families is one of the most rewarding aspects of my duties here at PPOA.

Our Star & Shield Foundation’s 16th annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament, held at Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier, was a tremendous success. This first-class tournament is our primary fundraiser and wholeheartedly supports our mission to provide crucial resources for our families. It is heralded as a premier event with top-notch sponsors, and we will continue to raise the bar on its exclusivity.

As we close out the year and enter 2025, we will continue to defend, promote and protect the professional interests of our members and their collective rights. We are beyond dedicated to fighting for you, and we are grateful for all that you do. Please stay well, stay safe and we will see you very soon.

“PPOA has been able to aggressively work with County employers and other professional groups to fight for policies and laws that support our mission and protect our personnel.”



As PPOA's founding members began to lay the foundation for a much-needed labor union 74 years ago, a typewritten notice had been circulating among L.A. County law enforcement employees. It referenced two troubling issues: threats to public employee retirement systems and the less-than-desirable handling of promotional exams by the Sheriff's Department. Those challenges likely sound familiar, whether you're a young, active member of this Association or a well-seasoned retiree who left your career behind decades ago. In fact, these issues resurface regularly for each generation of PPOA members.

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

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

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

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



1970 P.P.O.A. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Camie L. Jarvis, Board Chairman (seated) is shown with other 1970 Board Members. From left to right: Don Plum, Gustav Carlton, Luther Russell, John Fleming, Vice-Chairman, Fred Simpson, Roy Beattie Jr., George Ferrari, Carlos Valdez, Jim Hough, Arthur B. Chance and Frank Zellin, Treasurer. (Dick Winter and Jim Walker were not present at time of photo).



4850 Time

PPOA sponsored legislation in the 1960s to establish a key benefit for peace officers: paid time off for line-of-duty injuries. Additional legal action in the early 1990s secured 4850 time for Custody Assistants.

Retirement Credit

PPOA's efforts in 1972 resulted in a military buy-back program for L.A. County in which peace officers can make a retirement contribution for years in the military and get additional credited service for retirement.

Disability Coverage

In 1990, PPOA co-founded the Peace Officers Relief Fund (PORF), which provides 100% employer-paid, long-term disability income, as well as life insurance coverage for active, sworn peace officers.

Safety Equipment

Thanks to PPOA's efforts over the years, peace officers no longer have to purchase their own firearms and safety equipment (e.g., vests), as all became standard issue by Los Angeles County.

Medical Presumptions

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

POPA Federal Credit Union

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

Fraternal Order of Police

In 2005, PPOA affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) — the world's largest organization of law enforcement officers (now more than 377,000 strong). The FOP provides PPOA members with a national voice on legislation and a crucial legal defense plan. The FOP was also the driving force behind H.R. 218 (enacted in 2004), which allows active and retired officers to carry a concealed firearm in any jurisdiction in the United States, regardless of state or local laws.

Ventura II Lawsuit

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

Scholarships

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

PPOA Online Uniform Store

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

Star & Shield Charitable Foundation

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

New Members

PPOA proudly welcomed 234 new members in the first 11 months of 2024, bringing total membership to 8,254 as of December 4. The state of your union is strong, and we remain committed to our role as a collaborative leader among the nation's most effective law enforcement organizations.



Over the last 70-plus years, PPOA Board and staff members have secured an array of membership benefits unavailable to nonrepresented employees and members of most other associations. These benefits are designed to help members and their families save money and gain peace of mind. From PPOA's exclusive online uniform store to our annual college scholarships, your membership provides value. We encourage PPOA members to take advantage of the following benefits:

POPA Federal Credit Union

POPA Federal Credit Union is full-service, nonprofit and member-owned, with more than \$367 million in assets and four full-service locations in Los Angeles County.

Free Non-Job-Related Legal Advice

One free consultation with an attorney is available each year for every active, full PPOA member.

Free Insurance Coverage

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

Legal Defense Plan

Active PPOA members are provided with defense coverage for civil and



criminal actions arising in the scope of duties.

Peace Officers Relief Fund (PORF)

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

Star & Shield Magazine and Contest Rewards

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

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

Star & Shield Foundation Uniform Store

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

Mobile App

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

Annual Calendar & Benefits Booklet

Members receive a pocket-sized resource listing PPOA benefits and the Smart Saver Blue Pages — a directory of local businesses offering special discounts to PPOA members.

Group Discounts

Members enjoy exclusive deals for amusement parks, movie theaters and more.

Free Notary Service

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





Pre-Labor Day Barbecue

Every year, hundreds of members join the PPOA Board, staff and vendors for free food, prizes and fun.

Annual PPOA Fishing Trip

A private boat for PPOA members is chartered every summer for a day of angling near Catalina Island.

Purchasing Power

Members who enjoy online shopping can do so with convenient payroll deduction plans.

LEO Web Protect

PPOA members can protect personal privacy by having their information removed from the web.

HealthView Body Scan

Active members carrying ALADS Blue Cross insurance are eligible for a free, noninvasive scan and consultation.

PPOA Conference Center

A modern, multiuse conference center is available to members for work-related meetings at no charge.

Estate Planning

United Estate Planning offers peace of mind and exclusive discounts to PPOA members.

Rose Hills Memorial Park

Members are entitled to exclusive discounts and convenient payment plans.

Annual Retiree Luncheon

For 20 years running, PPOA has hosted a free lunch reunion at the Sheraton Fairplex for its retired members and guests.

PPOA Mobile Barbecue

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

PPOA Annual College Scholarships

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

Affiliations

PPOA members benefit from affiliations with a number of significant associations, including Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement, California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations, Coalition of Los Angeles County Unions, Fraternal Order of Police, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, California Contract Cities Association, California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation and more.



Priority number one for this union has remained the same since 1951: safeguard the rights and benefits of every member. PPOA labor representatives work around the clock (they are available for emergent matters 24 hours a day) to make sure all members of this union receive the legal protections and professional respect to which they are entitled.

Every active PPOA member has a right to perform their duties safely and effectively. Members also have a right to enlist the services of experienced, proven union representatives. In fact, each member of the PPOA labor representation team has more than 30 years of invaluable experience with Los Angeles County law enforcement.

The numbers speak for themselves: Since January 2024, the PPOA staff has received thousands of calls from members dealing with various issues. Hundreds of those calls were forwarded to the PPOA labor representation team. Nearly half of those forwarded calls became cases handled by labor representatives and/or PPOA attorneys. The remaining issues were resolved informally via telephone, meetings, conflict resolution or other correspondence.

Of the cases handled by the PPOA labor representation team, to date, in 2024:

- ★ 116 were internal affairs investigations
- ★ 13 were internal criminal investigations
- ★ 42 were grievances
- ★ 23 were civil service appeals

PPOA labor representatives and attorneys (no fewer than half a dozen specialized firms) are uniquely experienced and familiar with local, county, state and federal administrative agencies and the laws that govern all aspects of the workplace. This allows your union to provide skilled representation in every aspect of labor, including but not limited to:

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

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



Labor Representative Dave Ladjevic, 35 years of law enforcement/labor experience



Labor Representative Mark Sanchez, 34 years of law enforcement/labor experience



Intake Representative Kevin F. Thompson, 37 years of law enforcement/labor experience

The bookshelves of the hallway leading into the PPOA boardroom are lined with union Board meeting minutes dating back to the establishment of this Association in 1951. Those minutes contain countless, well-documented accounts of PPOA stepping up to provide assistance to members in need over the last 74 years. It was a priority for the founding members of the union, and that mission remains unchanged today. In fact, it inspired a group of PPOA members to create a nonprofit charitable organization in 1999 in order to raise the critical funds necessary to support the families of fallen officers and worthy causes. Their will to make a difference resulted in the establishment of PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation.



The 501(c)(3) organization made an immediate impact. Between fundraising events and the generosity of PPOA members and supporters, the Star & Shield Foundation has successfully raised hundreds of thousands of dollars earmarked for families of the fallen. The challenges — emotional, financial and otherwise — facing family members of a peace officer killed in the line of duty can be completely overwhelming. In addition to delivering immediate funds to the survivors, the Star & Shield Foundation regularly helps family members navigate the pressing schedule of memorial events held to honor fallen officers.

The Foundation's most significant fundraiser is our annual

Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament, held each June. The first 16 annual tournaments have brought in more than \$750,000 for families of fallen officers. All Foundation proceeds stem directly from fundraising, merchandise sales and the generosity of donors.

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

The worthy recipients and causes supported by PPOA and the Star & Shield Foundation in 2024 include the following:

- Family of fallen LASD Deputy Alfredo Flores
- Family of fallen Oakland Police Officer Tuan Le
- Family of fallen Vacaville Police Officer Matthew Bowen
- ALADS C.A.R.E.S.
- American Legion Star Post 309
- AOCDS Memorial Fund
- Crime Survivors — Celebration of Hope and Gratitude
- Devil Pups Youth Program
- Long Beach Police Officers Memorial Widows and Orphans Emergency Trust Fund
- Los Angeles Chapter of Parents of Murdered Children
- Officer Anthony Thompson Scholarship Foundation
- Police Unity Tour
- Santa Ana POA Widows and Orphans Fund
- Shop With a Cop
- Special Olympics — Southern California
- Star 6 Foundation
- United Peace Officers Against Crime



Key Events From the Year

January

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**Sergeant Danilo Castaneda —
EOW: January 2, 2024**

The well-respected LASD mentor and trainer was assigned to Norwalk Station and is survived by his wife. He was 46 years old with 23 years of dedicated Department experience.



**PPOA Welcomes Newly
Promoted Sergeants**

PPOA representatives proudly welcomed 36 new LASD Sergeants to this Association in January. The Department's newest supervisors reported to the Sherman Block Building to pick up their new badges and credentials and were joined by President Steve Johnson and PPOA staff members in order to answer questions and ensure the Sergeants would be protected by union representation.



**PPOA Reps Meet With Peers and
Legislators in State Capitol**

PPOA representatives joined fellow members of the California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations (CCLEA) for a board meeting in Sacramento and a press conference to advocate for legislation designed to bring consequences back to retail theft. They also met with senators and assemblymembers who author and vote on crucial legislation related to law enforcement.

February

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Graduation of Custody Assistant Class #110

PPOA representatives were proud to attend the graduation ceremony for C/A Class #110 at East Los Angeles College.



First-Quarter PPOA Delegates Meeting

PPOA delegates met with union Board members and staff in Monterey Park to discuss contracts, legal updates and more.



District Attorney Bureau of Investigation Promotions

PPOA representatives attended the L.A. County District Attorney Bureau of Investigation (LADABOI) promotional ceremony for five supervisors, including PPOA First Vice President/LADABOI Lieutenant Jay Chapman.

March

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Court Rules in Favor of PPOA and Privacy for Members

After the Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a subpoena to Sheriff Luna seeking records of all Department members, including many PPOA members, who exercised their right to refuse to talk to ICIB investigators, PPOA took legal action to protect our members. After two months of legal wrangling, a Superior Court judge ruled in favor of PPOA, thereby preventing the release of any PPOA members' files to the OIG without engaging in the requisite meet and confer with PPOA.



PPOA Partners With ALADS and LASD Homicide for Baker to Vegas Event

PPOA members were among thousands of peace officers competing in the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, and we were proud to team up with ALADS and Homicide Bureau to co-host a barbecue event after the race.

Honored to Support the Family of Fallen LADA Sergeant Emilio Guerrero

President Steve Johnson and First Vice President Jay Chapman had the distinct honor of meeting with one of the daughters of fallen LADA Sergeant Emilio Guerrero (EOW: October 8, 2023) in order to present a check from the Star & Shield Foundation, the proceeds from fundraising coordinated by this Association.

Sergeant Guerrero began his law enforcement career in 1994 as a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department deputy, graduating with Class #286. In 2006, he joined the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation, where he served for 17 years. Tragically, Sergeant Guerrero and his wife, Annabel, both died in an automobile accident in October 2023. They are survived by three daughters.



April

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Support for Members at LASD Retiree Roundup

PPOA representatives joined nearly 1,000 friends at the annual LASD Retiree Roundup in Laughlin. A highlight for PPOA every year is hosting Cigar Night on the patio overlooking the Colorado River as the sun descends and glasses are raised to friendships old and new.



Helping Members Prepare for Retirement

PPOA was proud to bring together a panel of experts for a retirement planning workshop in our union conference center. This was the first of our quarterly workshops for PPOA members interested in setting themselves up for a well-earned retirement. These events allow attendees to receive relevant advice from colleagues representing LACERA, the Fraternal Order of Police, workers' compensation law firms, Empower/Horizons, United Estate Planning and more.



Honoring the Public Response Dispatcher of the Year

PPOA Board and staff representatives were proud to attend a ceremony honoring Isidora Pejic as Public Response Dispatcher (PRD) of the Year. The ceremony was held in conjunction with National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. PPOA proudly acknowledges the many dedicated PRDs and Law Enforcement Technicians behind the radio who represent the “calm in the chaos.”



May

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Graduation Ceremonies for Custody Assistants and Security Assistants

PPOA representatives were proud to attend the graduation ceremonies for C/A Class #111 at Biscailuz Center and Sheriff Security Assistant Class #24-1 at STARS Center.



Support for Police Unity Tour

PPOA and ALADS proudly sponsored approximately 100 members participating in the Police Unity Tour. The three-day cycling event kicked off in New Jersey before winding through Pennsylvania and Maryland. It culminated with the riders joining more than 2,000 fellow peace officers from all over the nation as they arrived in Washington, D.C., for National Police Week events. Support team members from PPOA and ALADS were embedded with the riders to ensure the event moved forward as safely and smoothly as possible.



Honoring the Heroic Legacies of Fallen Officers

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

- ★ The 46th annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony was hosted in Sacramento, and PPOA continued its annual tradition of offering travel reimbursements to members who attended.
- ★ The 43rd annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service was staged on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. PPOA and ALADS teamed up with the L.A. Police Protective League to sponsor a luncheon for LASD and LAPD personnel who attended a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Following that ceremony, personnel from both agencies joined the families of Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer (EOW: September 16, 2023) and Sergeant Frank Murillo (EOW: February 8, 2022) for a luncheon at Fort Myer.
- ★ The 55th annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony was hosted at Biscailuz Center.



June

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

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



Second-Quarter PPOA Delegates Meeting

PPOA delegates met with union Board members and staff to discuss labor representation, legislation and more.



PPOA Scholarships Awarded to Dedicated Students

PPOA was honored to issue our annual college scholarship awards to an impressive group of recipients, including a Law Enforcement Technician and 12 students who are children of PPOA members. Since the inception of this program, this Association has been honored to contribute more than \$150,000 toward the educational goals of PPOA members and their families.



July

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

Before the sun rose and temperatures began to soar on the mainland, a boatload of PPOA members and their guests boarded a chartered vessel for a full day of fishing along the Southern California coast. PPOA has hosted this popular event for 24 consecutive years, and we're thankful to all who have joined us in pursuit of fish and memorable moments at sea.



New Sergeants Welcomed to PPOA

PPOA staff and Board members were honored to welcome more than 40 new LASD Sergeants to this Association in July. These new supervisors reported to the Sherman Block Building to pick up their new badges and credentials and were joined by PPOA representatives to discuss new assignments and ensure the Sergeants would be fully protected by union representation.

Graduations for Custody Assistant Class #112 and Sheriff Security Officer Class #60

PPOA representatives were proud to attend the graduation ceremonies for C/A Class #112 at Biscailuz Center and Sheriff Security Officer Class #60 at STARS Center.



August

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Law Enforcement Technician Rafael Ortiz — EOW: August 5, 2024

The dedicated public servant began his career with the Los Angeles County Police in 1990 and was assigned to LASD County Services Bureau at the time of his passing.



PPOA Board Members Discuss Wide Range of Topics With Sheriff Luna

Sheriff Luna attended the PPOA Board of Directors meeting in August to discuss a number of significant issues impacting members of this Association.

Hundreds Enjoy 23rd Annual PPOA Barbecue and General Membership Meeting

PPOA Board and staff members enjoyed hosting the 23rd annual Pre-Labor Day Barbecue and General Membership Meeting at Biscailuz Center. More than 400 PPOA members and their families gathered for an afternoon of food, friends and fun.



September

Third-Quarter PPOA Delegates Meeting

PPOA delegates met with union Board members and staff in Santa Clarita to discuss Board elections, political endorsements and more.



Engaging in Meet and Confers on All Matters

PPOA representatives meet with County executives every month for the formal process of addressing issues that impact members of this Association. September was a particularly busy month for these meetings (referred to as Meet and Confers), with topics including:

- ★ MPP employee groups violating rights of others
- ★ Mandatory overtime shifts
- ★ Safety of firearms while off-duty
- ★ CRDF laundry room rotation
- ★ Privacy rights of crime analysts
- ★ CPRA exemptions
- ★ Body-worn cameras

PPOA Members Kick Off Negotiations for a New Unit 612 Salary Contract

PPOA hosted the first Unit 612 negotiation session with the County of Los Angeles, the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office in September. PPOA's negotiations team, consisting of Unit 612 members, participated in five pre-negotiations meetings to prepare for the fight for a new fair and competitive salary contract.



October

Custody Assistant Class #113 Graduation

PPOA representatives were proud to attend the graduation ceremony for C/A Class #113 at Biscailuz Center.



PPOA ENDORSEMENTS
General Election - November 5, 2024

Los Angeles County District Attorney
 Nathan Hochman

California Proposition 36 (Felony charges and increased sentences for certain crimes)
 Vote YES

California State Legislature
 Victoria Garcia for Assembly, 43rd District
 Michelle Rodriguez for Assembly, 53rd District

City Council/Mayor
 Aaron Drake for Bellflower City Council
 Daren Nigsarian for La Habra City Council
 Robert Pullen Miles for Lawndale City Mayor
 George Nickle for West Hollywood City Council

School District/College Board
 Greg Palatto for Bonita Unified School District
 Scott Schauer for Santa Clarita College District Board of Trustees

PPOA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THIS ENDORSEMENT GUIDE TO THE VOTING BOOTH

Endorsements listed are current as of 10/9/24. Additional endorsements, if any, will be listed in Week in Review email sent to PPOA members.

Support for Hundreds of Personnel at Training Exercise

PPOA teamed up with ALADS to provide a freshly grilled lunch for hundreds of LASD personnel and counterparts from neighboring agencies during Sheriff’s Response Team training in Long Beach.



PPOA Issues General Election Endorsement Guide

The PPOA Board of Directors issued the 2024 endorsement guide in order to help members who live in Los Angeles County make informed decisions at the ballot box. PPOA receives a long list of endorsement requests each year, and the Board of Directors carefully vets each candidate and ballot measure before approving or denying an endorsement.

November

L.A. County Voters Elect Hochman for District Attorney; California Voters Pass Prop 36

Voters across the nation cast their ballots in the general election, including L.A. County residents who elected Nathan Hochman to replace George Gascón as district attorney. The PPOA-endorsed former prosecutor and

defense attorney campaigned on taking a tougher-on-crime approach while restoring trust within the District Attorney’s Office. PPOA was one of the top funders for a coalition independent expenditure committee in support of Hochman.

California voters also passed Proposition 36, which enacts felony charges and increased sentences for certain crimes. The PPOA-endorsed proposition, officially called the Homelessness, Drug Addiction and Theft Reduction Act, is designed to undo portions of Proposition 47 by increasing penalties for certain crimes.



Retired PPOA Members Gather for 20th Annual Luncheon

PPOA was proud to host our 20th annual Retiree Luncheon at the Sheraton Fairplex. A special tribute honored the military veterans in attendance as more than 100 PPOA members and guests joined us for a memorable afternoon.



Ballots Counted for PPOA Board Election

PPOA members who are Custody Assistants cast 71 votes for each of the two challengers in the Unit 621 race, resulting in a tie for Rodolfo “Martin” Cabrera and Melissa Rodriguez. Plans for a runoff election were underway as this publication went to print.



Support for Newly Promoted Lieutenants

PPOA representatives were proud to offer congratulations to approximately 20 newly promoted LASD Lieutenants who reported to Biscailuz Center to pick up their new badges.





The long, colorful history of America’s labor movement stretches back hundreds of years, and one lesson throughout that timeline has been clear: unions are only as strong as their most active members. Fortunately, PPOA has benefited from a long list of solid leaders and representatives over the last 74 years, and we want to acknowledge the current members (about 3% of the union’s total membership) who contribute time to important roles, including the Board of Directors, negotiating teams, committees, event volunteers and a crucial group known as the PPOA delegates.

Approximately 120 PPOA delegates represent their fellow members at facilities throughout the county. They are committed to the important role of facilitating effective communication between

the union’s Board, staff and membership.

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

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

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

CURRENT PPOA DELEGATES

Sgt. Kevin Ahsmuhs
Lt. Irys Alvarez
SSO Christina Andino
Lt. (DA) Omar Annabi
SSO Santiago Aoalin
Sgt. Thomas Aragon Jr.
Sgt. Walter Arcos Jr.
Lt. David Auner
Forensic Id. Spec. II Susannah Baker
Lt. Roger Ballesteros

SSO Angel Becerra
C/A Anita Belmont
Forensic Id. Spec. II Antoinette
Bravo
C/A Evelyn Bustos
C/A Rodolfo Cabrera
Sgt. Sylvia Calandrino
Sgt. Juan Calderon
Sgt. (DA) Amber Campana
Sgt. Karla Carranza

SSO Roberto Cerna
Lt. (DA) Jay Chapman
Criminalist Yun-Jung Choi
Lt. Vanessa Chow
SSO Waylup Choy
C/A Rosario Coleman
LET Diana Collins
Court Svcs. Spec. Athena Colon
Forensic Id. Spec. II Diamond Cook
PRD II Emily Coria

SSO Paulo Cox
 SSO Juan Cozzarelli
 Crime Analyst Katrina Crawford
 C/A Michelle Culbreath
 Court Svcs. Spec. Jennifer Digioia
 Sgt. Vincent Durante
 C/A Jason Eldridge
 LET Richard Engersbach
 ME Inv. Justine Epperson
 SSO Jose Escobar Jr.
 Lt. Nancy Escobedo
 Sr. Criminalist Gregory Forte
 Forensic Id. Spec. II Cynthia Fortier
 LET Janet Fox
 Sgt. Harold Frayer
 Sr. Criminalist Eucen Fu
 Civ. Inv. Benjamin Garcia
 SSO Gerardo Garcia
 C/A Maria Garcia
 Cmdr. Roel Garcia
 SSO Shawn Gordon
 ME Inv. Jeffrey Guilmette
 Forensic Id. Spec. II Gloria Hanna
 Lt. (DA) Yvette Hartwell
 C/A Betty Hatley
 LET Patricia Helfend
 C/A Alfonso Hernandez
 Sgt. David Hernandez
 Lt. Kellee Hicks
 SSO Tay Ho
 SSA Stacy Houston
 SSO Joanna Hovsepyan
 C/A Robert Howard
 SSO Justin Jaime
 SSO Henry Jimenez
 SSA Robert Jimenez
 C/A Janelle Johnson
 LET Michelle Fabro Johnson
 Lt. Steven Johnson
 SSO Vardan Kasabyan
 ME Inv. Joyce Kato
 Capt. Shawn Kehoe
 Crime Analyst Ansheletta Kirk
 SSO Teresa Lafarge
 SSO Tida Lambert



C/A Scott Lang
 ME Inv. Phi Le
 Sr. Criminalist Christopher Lee
 Sr. Criminalist Aaron Lewis
 Sgt. Robert Lloyd
 ME Inv. Anthony Lopez
 C/A Antonio Lopez
 C/A Kristina Lopez
 Court Svcs. Spec. Luz Loy
 LET John Edward Lozada
 SSO Ricardo Luna
 Lt. Oscar Martinez
 LET Vonetta Mays
 Sgt. David McAllister
 SSO Thomas McConnell II
 Sgt. Ermina McKelvy
 SSO Raquel Chambers McKuen
 LET Victoriano Mendoza
 LET Latonya Mills
 Sr. Criminalist Cristina Montes
 Sr. Criminalist Manuel Munoz
 ME Inv. Melissa Munoz
 C/A Cynthia Murphy
 LET Tanisha Murry
 C/A Veronica Ogas
 SSO Luis Orozco
 Sup. PRD Michael Ortiz
 Sgt. John Padilla
 Sgt. Fidel Parra Jr.
 Sgt. Ruben Pastran
 LET Monique Peevy
 Court Svcs. Spec. Jesus Peralta
 LET Nathan Phillips
 SSO Pedro Pineda
 Cmdr. Tania Plunkett

SSO Estefany Quiroga
 C/A Jeffrey Ramirez
 Sgt. Jose Rios
 Lt. Joann Rodriguez
 SSO Jose Rojas Jr.
 C/A Christine Rosborough
 C/A Jose Sagastume
 PRD II Michael Salazar
 Lt. (DA) Jeffrey Savarese
 C/A Michelle Shields
 C/A Alexander Spieler
 LET Julia Tafoya
 C/A Makeba Thomas
 Cmdr. Johann Thrall
 Forensic Id. Spec. II Danielle Tiesma
 Lt. Kevin Tiwari
 C/A Susan Tupper
 Sr. Criminalist Bryon Turner
 SSO Humberto Vallejo
 PRD II Laura Velazquez
 Lt. Ryan Vienna
 Lt. Larry Villareal Jr.
 Court Svcs. Spec. Ronnell Wade
 Crime Analyst Joseph Walker
 LET Kelly Walper
 C/A Christopher Watson
 Lt. Robert Weber
 Sgt. (DA) Norman Weisenstein
 SSO John Wells
 LET Ursula White
 Sr. Criminalist April Whitehead
 SSO Dominique Lewis Williams
 Court Svcs. Spec. Shateka Williams
 Sr. Criminalist Gregory Wong
 SSO Monique Woods

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

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

PPOA extends sincere condolences to the loved ones of the following peace officers who died in the line of duty in California in 2024*:



Deputy Alfredo "Freddy" Flores

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: April 20, 2024

Deputy Flores was training with another deputy on October 10, 2023, inside the mobile shooting range at Pitchess Detention Center when an equipment malfunction ignited a fire. Both deputies suffered severe burns before being rescued by fellow deputies and transported to the hospital. After a valiant months-long fight for his life, Deputy Flores succumbed to his injuries on April 20, 2024. The 22-year Department veteran is survived by his wife, children, parents and siblings.



Officer Matthew Bowen

VACAVILLE POLICE
DEPARTMENT

EOW: July 11, 2024

Officer Bowen was conducting a traffic stop when he was struck from behind by a passing vehicle. The four-year law enforcement veteran is survived by his wife, two sons, parents and brother.



Officer Austin Machitar

SAN DIEGO POLICE
DEPARTMENT

EOW: August 26, 2024

Officer Machitar and his partner were responding to a pursuit when their patrol unit was struck by the fleeing suspect vehicle. Officer Machitar died at the scene and his partner sustained critical injuries. The five-year SDPD veteran is survived by his parents and sister.

*As of December 26. List of fallen officers from California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation.

In Their Honor

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

Sergeant

Vernon J. Corbell
EOW: April 15, 1957

Deputy

Harold Stephen Blevins
EOW: October 12, 1957

Deputy

David Alois Horr
EOW: February 9, 1958

Lieutenant

Donald J. Gillis
EOW: September 20, 1958

Deputy

Harold A. Reis Jr.
EOW: September 23, 1958

Reserve Deputy

Lee E. Sawyer
EOW: October 14, 1960

Detective

Timothy J. Harnett
EOW: November 22, 1961

Deputy

William A. White
EOW: March 21, 1964

Sergeant

Willard R. Ballard
EOW: May 26, 1964

Reserve Deputy

Lloyd G. Constantine
EOW: June 24, 1964

Deputy

John M. Slobojan
EOW: November 7, 1964

Deputy

Ronald E. Ludlow
EOW: August 13, 1965

Reserve Deputy

Michael V. Wigderson
EOW: March 20, 1967

Deputy

James W. Waygood
EOW: October 11, 1967

Deputy

Robert K. Schnur
EOW: September 30, 1968

Deputy

Gary E. McCullah
EOW: September 30, 1968

Reserve Sergeant

Charles D. Rea
EOW: January 26, 1969

Reserve Deputy

Lionel W. Dashley
EOW: September 1, 1969

Deputy

Gordon D. Erickson
EOW: April 30, 1970

Deputy

Louis Carl Wallace
EOW: December 8, 1970

Deputy

Gary David Saunders
EOW: May 22, 1971

Deputy

Barry J. Hoffman
EOW: August 30, 1971

Deputy

Charles O. Ley
EOW: May 24, 1972

Deputy

Joseph R. Herrera
EOW: October 3, 1972

Detective

Donald William Schneider
EOW: January 4, 1973

Detective Sergeant

Carl Eugene Wilson
EOW: January 4, 1973

Deputy

James Foote
EOW: October 4, 1974

Deputy

Darden Hollis
EOW: January 1, 1975

Deputy

Didier M. Hurdle
EOW: November 25, 1977

Deputy

Arthur E. Pelino
EOW: March 19, 1978

Deputy

Thomas H. Pohlman
EOW: April 18, 1978

Deputy

Jack Don Williams
EOW: May 29, 1979

Sergeant

Larrell Kent Smith
EOW: April 16, 1983

Deputy

Hagop Jake Kuredjian
EOW: August 31, 2001

Deputy

David Alan Powell
EOW: November 30, 2002

Captain

Michael Lawrence Sparkes Sr.
EOW: August 10, 2004

Deputy

Charlene Rottler
EOW: January 3, 2010

Lieutenant

Patrick Libertone
EOW: August 12, 2014

Sergeant

Steven C. Owen
EOW: October 5, 2016

Sergeant




Alfonso Lopez
EOW: October 24, 2016



Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association

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