



Santa Monica Police Department

YEAR IN REVIEW 2006

A Message From the Chief

TAKING THE BATON



It is my pleasure to welcome you to *2006: The Year in Review*, a summary of Santa Monica Police Department activities, accomplishments and events during the past year.

2006 was a year of transition. As I take the baton from Chief James T. Butts, Jr., on behalf of the entire department I congratulate him for 15 years of fine service to the citizens of Santa Monica. I wish him a successful and fulfilling career with the Los Angeles World Airports.

valuable insight into public priorities, perceptions and expectations for the police department.

If 2006 was a year of transition then 2007 is a year of forward progress. With a firm grip on the baton of accountability, we will endeavor to improve police services through action on community recommendations. In doing so, we are mindful of the department's dual role as a criminal justice agency and as one member of a larger team of city departments. Santa Monicans have asked for a fresh and unique approach to community-oriented policing based upon a problem-solving partnership between a neighborhood and an assigned police officer. We envision a community policing culture that incorporates integrity, respect, and compassion.

The Santa Monica Police Department recognizes that illegal youth gangs, homelessness, and traffic congestion are concerns shared by all of Santa Monica's diverse communities. We will call upon regional and governmental partners to explore new concepts as alternatives or to augment proven policing methods. We welcome new ideas and technologies that improve crime detection, prevention and general police services.

A safer community is built on a framework of progressive law enforcement strengthened by public awareness, education and involvement. Together, we will find new solutions to community challenges as we increase our forward momentum. We are already moving in that direction.

I hope you will enjoy *2006: The Year in Review*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Butts, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the men and women of the Santa Monica Police Department whose efforts made my transition a smooth and successful one. I am especially grateful to Deputy Chief Phillip Sanchez, Captain Jacqueline Seabrooks, Captain Mark Smiley, and Captain Wendell Shirley for their stewardship of the department prior to my arrival. Their collective leadership, courage, and professionalism ensured that when I assumed command the organization was ready to move forward.

Santa Monica is a favorite international destination of travelers who come to enjoy our scenic beaches, historic pier and entertainment venues. The city is home to diverse residential and business communities and world-class information and communications corporations, all packed into just nine square miles. The city's resources are valued and present a unique policing challenge. Our mission is to provide the highest quality of law enforcement services to all who live, work, or play in Santa Monica.

In the first weeks as Chief of Police, I sought to better understand the individual, neighborhood and municipal needs that exist in those diverse communities. The experience provided

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On the Cover: PAL kids of 2006 share an historic moment with Chief of Police Timothy Jackman and former Chiefs of Police James F. Keane and James T. Butts, Jr. They are joined by PAL Officers Natalie Dewberry and Erik Milosevich and PAL alumni who have grown up to become members of the Santa Monica Police Department.

Police Department

ADOPTED BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007

	Adopted Budget Fiscal Year 2006-07	Revised Budget Fiscal Year 2005-06	Percentage Change
GENERAL FUND - POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Salaries and Wages	\$53,922,796	\$51,984,624	3.7%
Supplies and Expenses	\$4,463,332	\$4,661,594	-4.3%
Capital Outlay	\$26,662	\$86,500	-69.2%
Subtotal Department	\$58,412,790	\$56,731,718	3.0%
Fringe Benefits (estimate)	\$0	\$0	n/a
Subtotal	\$58,412,790	\$56,732,718	3.0%
PIER FUND - HARBOR UNIT			
Salaries and Wages	\$667,533	\$641,910	4.0%
Supplies and Expenses	\$113,508	\$98,494	15.2%
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	n/a
Subtotal Unit	\$781,041	\$740,404	5.5%
TOTAL ALL FUNDS			
Salaries and Wages	\$54,590,329	\$52,626,534	3.7%
Supplies and Expenses	\$4,576,840	\$4,760,088	-3.8%
Capital Outlay	\$26,662	\$86,500	-69.2%
Subtotal	\$59,193,831	\$57,473,122	3.0%
FINANCING FROM NON-TAX SOURCES (Excludes Pier Fund)			
Program Revenues and Reimbursements	\$17,049,519	\$16,894,499	.9%
General Fund	\$38,767,398	\$35,359,443	9.6%
Total Funding	\$55,816,917	\$52,253,942	6.8%

City Government 2006

SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER



City Council

Richard Bloom, Mayor
Herb Katz, Mayor Pro Tem

Ken Genser, Councilmember
Robert Holbrook, Councilmember
Kevin McKeown, Councilmember
Pam O'Connor, Councilmember
Bobby Shriver, Councilmember

City Manager

P. Lamont Ewell, City Manager
Gordon Anderson, Assistant City Manager



(Seated, l-r): Bobby Shriver, Robert Holbrook, Ken Genser.
(Standing): Kevin McKeown, Mayor Pro Tem Herb Katz,
Pam O'Connor, Mayor Richard Bloom

Mission, Vision and Values

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Mission

The Mission of the Santa Monica Police Department is to provide the community with the highest quality of law enforcement services. We continually improve the public’s perception of community safety through eradication of criminal activity and any conditions that have a detrimental impact on public safety.

We strive to enhance our tradition of excellent service to all. We continue to seek support and cooperation from the community we serve and from those of us who serve the community. Our organizational culture is responsive to new ideas and is one in which all employees are given the opportunity to develop to their highest potential and see themselves as agents of change. We base all our relationships on the premise that the public and police are one.

Vision

The Santa Monica Police Department will exist to preserve liberty, enhance the safety of the community and defend human dignity. We will be an organization in which each employee embraces integrity as the cornerstone upon which the public trust is built. We will foster an environment of honesty, trust and mutual respect in which the Department and the community work together as catalysts for positive change.

We strive to be recognized for our strong service orientation, progressive development of all our human resources and our application of emerging technologies. We will embody the values of the Department and reflect these values in the performance of our duties.

We will continue to build upon this vision through open communication and receptiveness to new ideas.

Values

HONESTY: Fairness and straightforwardness of conduct, adherence to the facts and dedication to truthfulness.

INTEGRITY: Soundness, firm adherence to a code of moral values, incorruptibility and completeness. We demonstrate personal integrity and the courage of our convictions. We will not sacrifice principle for expediency, be hypocritical, or act in an unscrupulous manner.

TRUST: Is a result of honest behavior between each other and acceptance of other’s judgments and abilities.

CARING: To be sensitive to the needs of others and demonstrate compassion for all people.

RESPECT: To consider all people worthy of high regard. We demonstrate respect for human dignity, and appreciation of the privacy and rights of all. We manifest commitment to justice, equal treatment of individuals, tolerance for and acceptance of diversity.

LOYALTY: Proactively supporting the organization, its membership and its goals, and being held accountable for our conduct as well as for the conduct of our peers and/or subordinates.

SERVICE ORIENTATION: To actively contribute to the welfare of the community, and to genuinely care about improving the quality of life of those we serve.

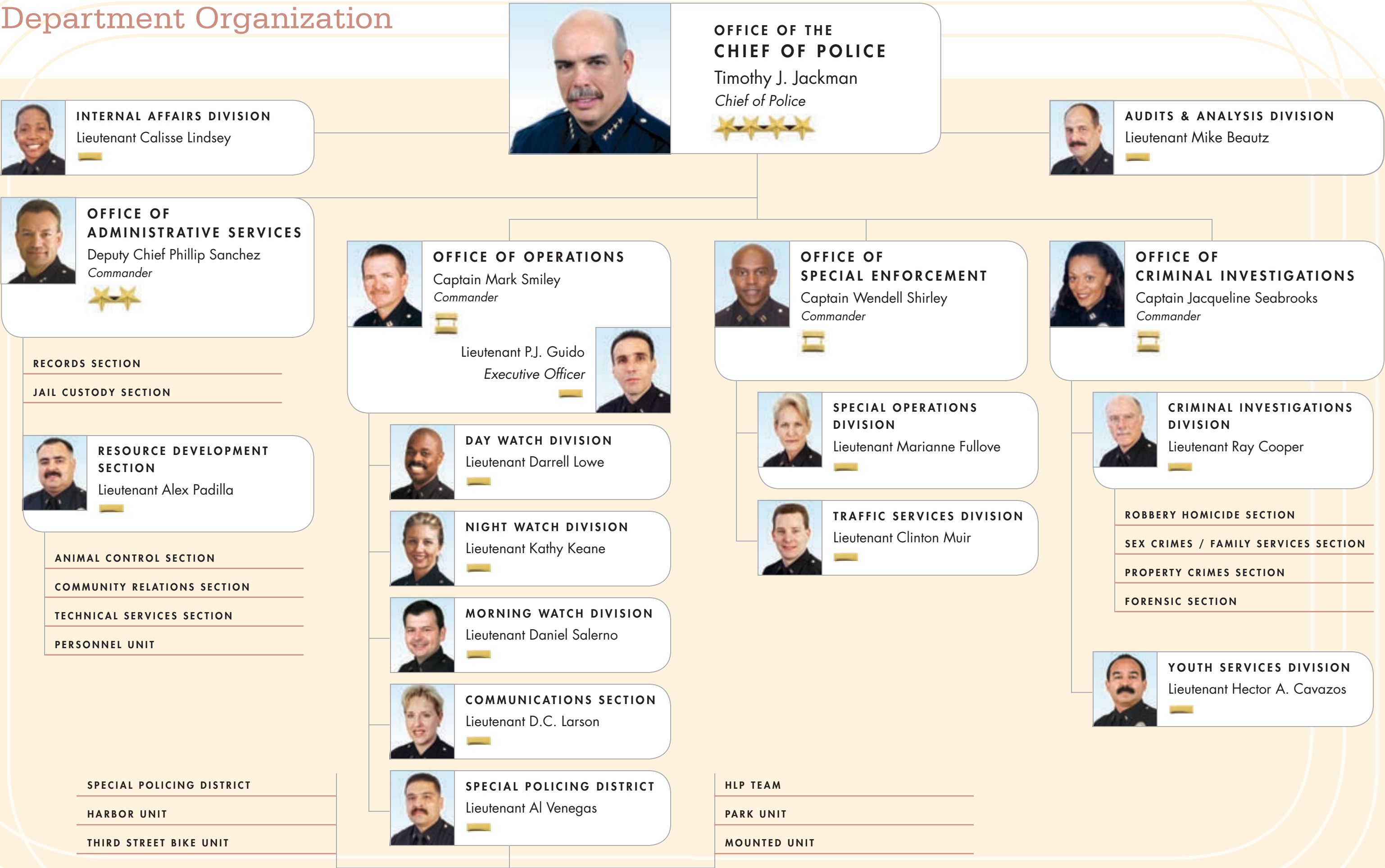
Our Mission



... to provide the community with the highest quality of law enforcement services.



Department Organization



2006

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Santa Monica kicked off the year with the much-anticipated grand opening dedication of the new Main Public Library. The event, held on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, included a commemoration in Dr. King's memory at the Soka Gakkai International World Peace Auditorium. Afterwards, Yolanda King led a march to the new library to dedicate the public auditorium named in her father's honor. The Police Department's Special Enforcement details provided security and traffic control throughout the two events.



▲ Yolanda King helps dedicate the new Santa Monica Public Library auditorium named in honor of her father, Dr. Martin Luther King. Credit: Courtesy Santa Monica Public Library



▲ A toppled construction crane briefly required the closure of the Santa Monica Pier.

Two spectacular shoreline accidents punctuated the first quarter of 2006. On February 2, police closed the Santa Monica Pier to vehicular traffic after a 28,000-pound crane toppled over and landed with the operator cab suspended in air.

The crane was at the site for a general pier strengthening project. There were no injuries and the pier structure sustained minimal damage. A larger crane was deployed to upright the crane and restore Pier access.



▲ A humanitarian flight comes to a tragic end in Santa Monica Bay.

At 9:40 a.m. on March 13, a Beech A-36 single engine propeller aircraft experienced engine trouble over the bay after take-off from Santa Monica Airport. The pilot radioed the tower to declare an emergency and return to the airport, but the plane quickly lost altitude. Witnesses said the pilot appeared to be heading toward a deserted area of the beach when the airplane skipped over the surface once and fell

into the water. It immediately sank in 19 feet of water, 200 yards offshore at the 2700 block of the beach. The crash site was too far from shore for rescuers to reach the victims in time. Surfers and boaters already in the water rushed to their aid but could do little but mark the spot until the wreckage was raised. Harbor Services officers responded immediately while Traffic Services personnel conducted traffic control and command post containment. Airport Services personnel coordinated information between the flight tower and incident commander. National Transportation Safety Board investigators arrived quickly to begin their investigation. Aboard the aircraft was the pilot, former game show host Peter Tomarkin, 63, and his wife Kathleen, 41. The presence of a third passenger was later ruled out. The couple was on a volunteer humanitarian flight for Angel Flight West, a nonprofit group that provides free air transportation for needy medical patients. They were headed to San Diego to bring a patient to UCLA Medical Center for treatment.

A Jack Russell terrier and his owner got their 15 minutes of fame on May 16. They were out together in the vicinity

of Palisades Park when the dog bolted and ran toward a squirrel. Over the side of the bluffs he went and, not far behind, so did his owner. The man quickly learned why signs forbid climbing on the bluffs. He got stuck, precariously perched in the dry shrubbery with no way up or down. Police officers arrived and kept onlookers at a safe distance while fire rescue workers rappelled down the side and helped the embarrassed man climb back up by a rope. The story does not end there. The dog was nowhere in sight.

Unknown to his owner or the dozens of people who had formed an impromptu search party, the little dog had landed, feet first and unharmed, on the coast highway below. The lucky animal was quickly scooped up by a passing motorist before he could be hit and taken directly to a local animal hospital. The incident was widely broadcast in print, television and radio news. However, it took a couple of days for pet rescue workers to make the connection between the missing dog and the one in the vet's office. The dog was reunited with his owner. Lucky dog, indeed.



◀ Sergeant Andy Joseph and Fireman Jeff Furrows discuss the intricacies of rappelling down the unstable Palisades Park bluffs to rescue the man stuck below.

Community Events



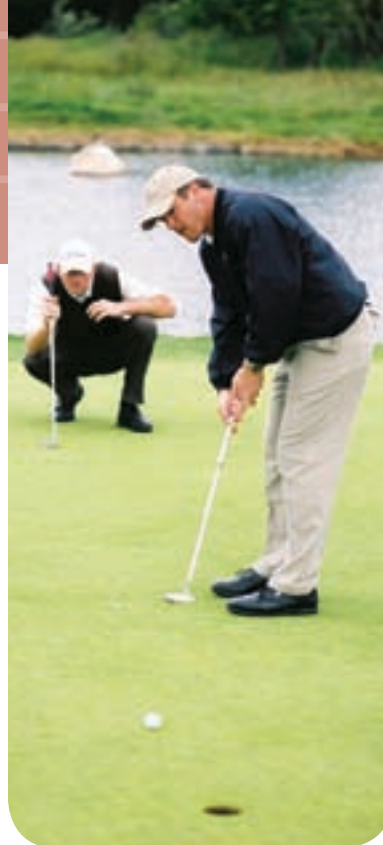
▲ Kids enjoy a ride in the S.E.T. Humvee at the PALpalooza event held at Pacific Park during the summer.

In the spring, the Police Department hosted a crime prevention booth at the Santa Monica Festival in Clover Park. Community Relations Section staff conducted six tours of the Public Safety Facility for community members and official delegations from Sweden and the Republic of Guatemala.

The Mounted Unit and Community Relations Section staff were on hand for summer presentations at the 1200 block of Palisades Park, the Twilight Dance Series, block parties, job fairs, "Summer Solstice" and other public relations events. A major summer event was "PALpalooza," held at Pacific Park. The Special Entry Team was on hand with a static display of the S.E.T. command post and Humvee. S.E.T. again presented their display at the Santa Monica Courthouse for families of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department as part of the "Bring Your Children to Work" day. Several S.E.T. officers participated in the Special Olympics Torch Run that caravanned through the city.

Through the efforts of Police Activities League officers and colleagues throughout the Police Department, the inaugural

Rick Crocker Memorial Golf Tournament was a huge success. The event was held May 22, 2006 at the Wood Ranch Country Club in Simi Valley. Plans were set in motion to make it an annual event. Proceeds are designated to support the Rick Crocker Memorial Fund, which exists to benefit PAL.



▲ Sergeant Ken Semko taps one in at the Inaugural Rick Crocker Memorial Golf Tournament.

Thirteen PAL youth completed the Junior Police Academy Boot Camp, a program that addresses the issues of peer pressure and gang activity. PAL officers rolled out the "Kid's Power" workshop, a program designed to teach participants personal safety measures.

The Police Department organized a ceremony for placement of a plaque honoring Officer Mitchell Kato in front of the Public Safety Facility.



▲ Members of the Airport Services Unit ensure the safety of arriving dignitaries and citizens who use the Santa Monica Airport facilities.

Several celebrity visitors used the services of the Santa Monica Airport throughout the year. Dignitaries and notables included the Israeli Prime Minister, the Air Force Chief of Staff, the Dalai Lama, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, state senators and other high ranking government officials, former presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and former First Lady Nancy Reagan. Airport Services personnel coordinated security and communication between the U.S. Secret Service and the Santa Monica Police Department. K-9 explosive detection teams secured locations prior to the arrival of the visitors.

Under a special arrangement with the State of California, the Mounted Unit horses are boarded at Will Rogers State Park. Fittingly, the SMPD Mounted Unit participated in March 25th ceremonies to rededicate the park, which had undergone major renovations to restore the natural environment as it was when Will Rogers owned the property. Governor Schwarzenegger was also on hand to greet visitors to the park.

The Occidental Petroleum annual shareholders meeting at the Miramar Fairmont Hotel on May 5, 2006 required security and traffic services by over 70 employees from a cross-section of the Police Department.



▲ Governor Schwarzenegger and the SMPD Mounted Unit helped dedicate the renovated Will Rogers State Park.

Administrative Highlights



▲ Deja-vu all over again: After more than three decades, SMPD returns to traditional black-and-white patrol cars.

Under direction of outgoing Chief Butts, Senior Administrative Analyst Marla McCullough completed 18 months of research to write the history of the Santa Monica Police Department. Gleaned from department records and newspaper accounts from the archives of the *Evening Outlook* and *Los Angeles Times*, the comprehensive 110-year history is in its final edit and will be in print by the end of 2007.

The department began its planned phase-in of black and white patrol cars. The colors are universally associated with law enforcement, making the vehicle more recognizable to victims and witnesses in need of police assistance. A black and white patrol car is also believed to be a more potent deterrent to criminals. The new patrol cars reflect one other notable change. At the request of the City Council, they now sport the City's modern logo, designed by Sussman/Prejza and Company and adopted as part of the City's graphic identity program in 1995.

The Resource and Development Section fulfilled the department's obligation to comply with the federally

mandated FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) IS 200 instruction and certification, required of all supervisors. Three members of the Traffic Services Division were trained to serve as presenters of the "We Do the Right Thing Right" customer service training.

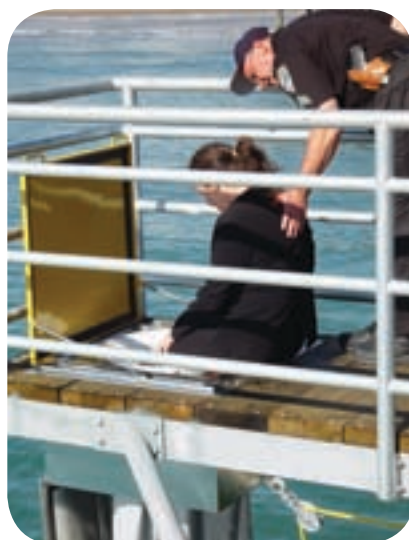
In November, the City of Santa Monica implemented a law prohibiting smoking on the Third Street Promenade. Officers and CSOs began their enforcement campaign by issuing warnings. In the first weeks of the ordinance, the officers were issuing about 100 warnings per week and encountering minimal public resistance.

Homeland Security - Pier Security

The Airport Services Unit increased uniformed patrols in response to the arrest of terrorism suspects in London, England. The national state of alert was upgraded to Level Red for incoming commercial flights from the United Kingdom and Level Orange for domestic commercial flights.

To improve security, an emergency evacuation chute was installed at the west end of the Santa Monica Pier and police and fire first-responders were trained on its use. The chute provides a quick and safe alternative evacuation route should the Pier ever become blocked.

► Police and Fire volunteers participate in a training drill on use of the new pier rescue chute.



Money Matters



The department was awarded \$247,000 in federal grant funds under a 2006 Technology Initiative. The funds were used to add police patrol vehicles to the City's wireless network. A \$496,000 allocation received in 2005 was used to purchase an in-car video system. That project is now completed.

A \$48,500 allocation was awarded under the Buffer Zone Protection Plan program. The federal homeland security funds are administered by the state and used to enhance security for assets identified by the state as vulnerable to terrorist attack. Santa Monica's allocation paid for equipment needed to assess security of the Santa Monica Pier infrastructure.

As anticipated, direct block grant assistance to local law enforcement was eliminated in the 2006/07 federal budget. The Santa Monica Police Department received an allocation under the Justice Assistance Grant program (JAG) in early 2006. The entire \$41,000 was designated to continue the indispensable DNA/Advanced Forensic Evidence program. The program pays costs to expedite laboratory analysis in homicide, sexual assault and other serious crimes.

In 2006, the Office of Operations' Administrative Unit staffed and managed 494 positions for special events, billing \$386,800 for services of department personnel and equipment. The Court Services detail monitored 7,336 court appearances and notified officers of 1,876 cancellations, reducing court overtime pay by an estimated \$184,649. The estimated savings does not reflect the exact pay scale of each officer. Court Services uses an average based on a 3-hour minimum and excluding any bonuses paid.

2006 Incidents and Investigations

Part I crimes, also known as FBI crime index offenses plummeted 8% and 10% respectively in the first two quarters of 2006 but returned to previous levels in the second half. The fluctuation was primarily in reported robberies, aggravated assaults and burglaries. Reported larcenies were consistent throughout the year.

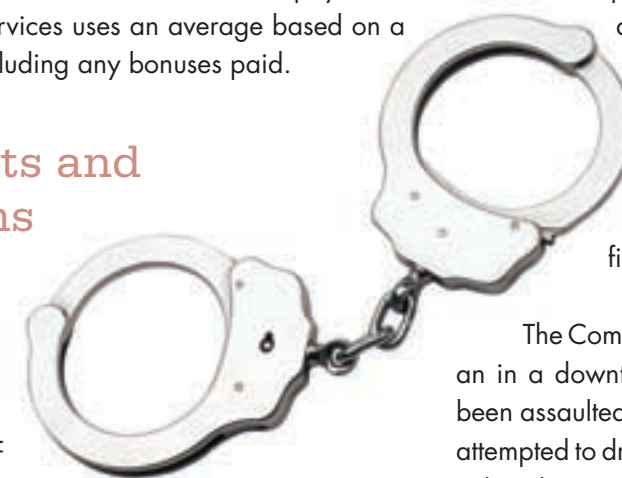
SMPD targeted several crime trend enforcement goals in 2006, with each patrol shift and specialized division committing to impact the goal in its own way. Their enforcement techniques led to some interesting results.

One targeted area was the downtown parking structures, where several robbery crime series had taken place but were broken up by the high visibility presence of police patrol and Special Policing District personnel. In one series, patrol divisions ramped up visibility in the area while investigators completed a composite of the suspect and distributed a bulletin. Surveillance teams from Narcotics and S.E.T. were deployed nightly to apprehend the suspect. Since that time, no similar robberies have been committed.

During one parking structure check, a Third Street officer observed a suspicious subject sleeping in the stairwell area of one of the downtown structures. The officer made contact with the subject to issue him a citation and discovered that

the subject was on parole and had an outstanding no-bail burglary warrant for his arrest. In another incident, a Third Street officer and his partner responded to a "man with a gun" call in a downtown parking structure. Officers located and arrested the subject. During the arrest the officers received information that several "squatters" in the downtown area were in possession of replica firearms. The officers conducted a follow-up investigation throughout the following week and found two other subjects in possession of replica firearms. The subsequent arrest of the subjects and the seizure of the replica firearms prevented the subjects from using the "authentic looking" firearms to commit crimes.

The Communications Center received a call from a woman in a downtown parking structure reporting she had just been assaulted by a male who grabbed her from behind and attempted to drag her away with him. The call was dispatched in less than 45 seconds while the call taker stayed on the line with the victim and continually updated the dispatcher. Police were on scene in less than two minutes to begin an investigation and search for the suspect.



Major Case Updates



2006 saw the successful conclusion of some of Santa Monica's most troubling major investigations. Most cases have either been adjudicated or charges have been filed and the defendant is awaiting trial.

The case against Victor Paleologus for the murder of Kristine Johnson went to trial on July 5, 2006 in Los Angeles. The lead case investigator spent several weeks with the Deputy District Attorney, interviewing witnesses. Midway through the trial, Paleologus pled guilty to first degree murder. In September, he was sentenced to 25 years-to-life in prison.

A parolee was identified and arrested for a July 2006 gang-related shooting in the 2000 block of 20th Street. The District Attorney's Office filed felony charges against the suspect. At the preliminary hearing, the suspect was held to answer on all charges and is currently awaiting trial.

A bank robber who led Santa Monica officers on a pursuit into Marina del Rey, and who was the subject of an officer-involved shooting in late 2005, pled guilty to five bank robberies. He was sentenced to 29 years in state prison.

The defendant in the 2002 Farmer's Market incident was convicted on 10 counts of second degree vehicular manslaughter and other charges. He was sentenced to felony probation.

The defendant in the 2002 murder of Santa Monica resident Jalannie Carter was convicted of first degree murder. Sentencing in this gang-related murder, where the defendant is a local gang member, is scheduled for late January 2007.

Three defendants in the 2005 gang-related double murder at the Moose Lodge were held to answer in a preliminary hearing. The defendants, all members of a Los Angeles-based gang, are scheduled to go on trial in early 2007.

The defendant in the attempted murder of two Santa Monica police officers was held to answer at a preliminary hearing. The suspect, a local gang member, is set to go on trial in early January 2007.

Investigators participated in the trial of a defendant in a 2001 rape/robbery case at St. John's Hospital. The defendant was found guilty of all charges and faces seven consecutive life terms plus an addition 413 years in prison.

Several cold cases were solved; their prosecution strengthened by DNA and advanced forensic evidence analysis. These include the 1975 murder of Bodil Rasmussen and the

1983 Laguna Beach murder of Patricia Carpenter by the same suspect. Also solved were the 1981 murder of Mary Garnello and the 1998 double homicide of two brothers in a Santa Monica clothing store.

Community Livability

GANGS

An apparent gang-motivated shooting occurred on the evening of February 28 in the 2600 block of Pico Boulevard. Responding officers found a victim, age 15, mortally wounded by gunfire. The victim was with two friends at the corner of Pico Boulevard and 26th Street when a suspect approached, yelled gang epithets, and fired several times, striking the young victim, an honor student at Santa Monica High School. At year's end, the case was still under investigation.

A series of shootings took place in and around the Pico Neighborhood during the second quarter. Some of the tension results from the arrest of a Hispanic gang member who shot a Black gang member. The suspect's brother was a participant in recent shootings and was wanted by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Unit (ICE) for returning to the U.S. after being deported for a violent felony. After several months of looking, officers located and arrested the suspect when he attended his brother's hearing.

Pico Neighborhood officers worked with ICE and Los Angeles County law enforcement agencies to address chronic problems affecting the area. They reviewed 10 years of incidents at specific locations to show a pattern of violence and criminal activity and reveal numerous calls for service attributable to two specific locations. One was a source of gang and drug activity for over 15 years. The other was a meeting place for gang members and drug dealers for several years.

Complaints were received that Latino street gang members congregated in Virginia Park, intimidating visitors and preventing them from sharing the facilities. Officers communicated the concerns to the involved parties and took appropriate

enforcement action. Complaints diminished and visitors are again sharing the space.

The third quarter ended with the termination of Operation Safe Streets, a multi-pronged approach to interdicting an emerging violence trend in the Pico Neighborhood. The Office of Criminal Investigations was tasked with overseeing activities associated with the operation. Seventeen key arrests and felony prosecutorial filings were obtained during the initial weeks of the operation. The outcome was a significant reduction in crime in the area while contributing to the restoration of a sense of calm and normalcy in the community.

HOMELESS

With some innovative new programs, the Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) Team and other City departments are working to reduce the impact of the homeless on community livability and access to public spaces. Regular bluff, park and beach clean-up projects remove tons of derelict items deposited by homeless persons. The HLP Team is a key component of efforts to reunite homeless persons with their families who can be responsible for rehabilitation and monitoring medications. In 2006, plans were finalized for a new community court project to deal with the minor nuisance violations associated with the homeless. This program helps fill the void left by the consolidation of the Santa Monica Municipal Court and the later closure of the Criminal Division at the Santa Monica Courthouse.

The Vice Unit received complaints of lewd activity at several locations that provided massage as a primary or associated business activity. Investigators conducted undercover operations and worked with the City Attorney and Licensing Division to rewrite the ordinances regulating adult-themed businesses where massage is used as a cover for prostitution.

The LAX/ICE Task Force officer participated in investigations and currency seizures valued at \$50,000. A number of the investigations led to drug seizures. In one notable investigation, the largest known urban clandestine methamphetamine laboratory in Los Angeles County was discovered and dismantled. Another focused on a Russian criminal organization smuggling methamphetamine to Tahiti and trafficking assault

weapons. Key figures were arrested and the organization was dismantled, however the investigation is developing, with additional suspects under investigation.

Morning Watch officers took the lead in ensuring that bars and nightclubs adhere to the Alcohol and Beverage Control laws. Several bars were found to be operating and selling drinks after hours. The violations were documented and citations were issued. The information was shared with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

Narcotics and Vice investigators conducted an undercover operation and surveillance on a target location which led to the identification of a mid-level supplier of black market cigarettes. Through continued investigation, both suspects were ultimately detained. Over a dozen cases of black market cigarettes and \$16,000 in cash were recovered at the scene. Investigators searched the suspects' residences and recovered additional cases of black market cigarettes, \$250,000 cash, and a stolen handgun.

REGISTRANTS AND PAROLEES

In July, new federal legislation known as the Adam Walsh Child Protection & Safety Act, or the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act, became law. The impact on each state will be significant and implementation must be accomplished in a three year period. In November, California voters approved a new sexual offender registration statute with an effect date of January 1, 2007. The legality of the law was immediately challenged in court by a Northern California registrant who claimed he could not live in his own home under its provisions. Implementation was stayed pending judicial review.

TRAFFIC

During a July 22 heat storm, an Edison power vault explosion sent manhole covers flying and triggered a 48-hour power outage that affected the Downtown and Third Street Promenade areas. Traffic Services personnel were deployed around the clock as crews worked to resolve the problem. Many closures and restrictions were put in place to assist in timely repairs. The completion of the project took over six weeks.

The Major Accident Response Team (MART) was called out several times to investigate auto accidents with fatalities. While each investigation is unique, the likelihood of the collision involving a homeless person, an elderly pedestrian or a bicyclist is great.

On November 17, MART responded to a solo-car accident that took the life of Carolina Panthers football player Marcus Cassel, 23. Witnesses reported seeing the SUV driven by Cassel traveling westbound on Santa Monica Boulevard at a high rate of speed. The vehicle drove across the T-intersection at Ocean Avenue and into Palisades Park, striking a tree and rolling before coming to rest against a cement light standard. Fire Department extricated Cassel from the vehicle and paramedics transported him to a hospital emergency room, where he later expired. Cassel was the only occupant.



▲ Officers view the remains of the SUV involved in the single-car collision that took the life of Carolina Panthers player Marcus Cassel.

A Transition Year



▲ Sheriff Lee Baca presents a Sheriff's Department commendation to retiring Chief James T. Butts, Jr.

▲ Timothy Jackman is sworn in as Chief of Police by City Clerk Maria Stewart.

On Thursday, August 17, over 400 community members, dignitaries, City officials and Police Department colleagues gathered for a dinner party at the Miramar Fairmont Hotel. The occasion was the retirement of Chief James T. Butts, Jr. Chief Butts' administration ran 15 years from 1991 to 2006, giving him the longest continuous tenure of all Santa Monica chiefs of police.¹ Net proceeds from the event were contributed to PAL and other youth clubs in Santa Monica and Inglewood.

Chief Butts had little time to relax and enjoy his retirement, as he immediately took up official duties as Deputy Executive Director of Airport Law Enforcement & Protection services for Los Angeles World Airports.

After the departure of Chief Butts, department command staff rotated duties as acting chief of police pending a national search and selection of a new department head. On November 8, City Manager P. Lamont Ewell announced his choice of Timothy Jackman, Deputy Chief of Police of the Long Beach Police Department. Chief

Jackman was sworn in on December 12, 2007 by City Clerk Maria Stewart. The new chief spent his initial weeks assessing community priorities and matters of department organization. The holiday season, ushered in with merchant and community events and the traditional Candy Cane parade, gave Chief Jackman a great opportunity to "meet and greet" many members of the Santa Monica community.

Motor officers and Traffic Services officers continued the annual tradition of providing people with "Safe Driving Tickets" during the holiday season. This year, the Santa Monica Police Department partnered with the Big Blue Bus to reward safe drivers with complimentary bus passes to encourage reduced traffic and vehicle emissions and to focus on the City's green program goals.

At year's end, the Santa Monica Police Activities League was the honored recipient of the 2006 Distinguished Program Award, sponsored by the California Juvenile Officers Association.

▼ L – R clockwise: Reserve Officer Rene Talbott and Officer Dave Rynski try out for job openings in Santa's elf shop. / A bell jingles and another angel gets his wings as Sergeant Bob Almada helps set up crèche scenes, a Santa Monica holiday tradition since 1954. / Harbor Services Officer Dan Buchanan gets Santa headed in the right direction...toward Marina del Rey, that is, for SMPD's traditional participation in the annual holiday boat parade.



¹ The longest overall tenure was the two administrations of Chief Clarence Webb, which together totaled 20 years.

Meet the Chief

SANTA MONICA WELCOMES CHIEF TIMOTHY JACKMAN



In its 110-year history, when the Santa Monica Police Department has needed a chief of police, the city fathers have often looked south to the City of Long Beach. Timothy Jackman continues that tradition as Santa Monica's third chief of police to rise through the ranks at the Long Beach Police Department.¹ On December 11, 2006, Chief Jackman claimed his place in Santa Monica history as the city's fifteenth chief of police. He commands the sixteenth police administration, as Clarence Webb was chief of police twice.

Born in Massachusetts, he was raised in neighboring New Hampshire and considers New Hampshire his home.

Working life began with a four year tour in the U.S. Marine Corps. Stationed at El Toro Marine Air Station, he quickly adapted to the community in the Irvine area. He liked the structure and discipline instilled by the Marines and knew it was well-suited to a career in law enforcement. When he completed military service, he chose to defer college and go to work for the Long Beach Police Department. After a short time on the job, he knew that he had chosen the right career path. He set a personal goal to become a chief of police; one with strong experience as a beat officer and a real understanding of police work.

Desiring a college education customized to his needs, he took specialized courses at various institutions; a method practiced in the military. To further broaden his education, he elected a business administration major rather than

administration of justice. He matriculated at the University of the State of New York and was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He enrolled at the University of California, Irvine and earned a Masters of Business Administration degree. Working full time and raising a family meant that it took a few extra years to complete his formal education. Chief Jackman is married and the father of two teenage sons.

Chief Jackman comes to Santa Monica as a 23-year veteran of the Long Beach Police Department. Rising through the ranks, in his last four years he was one of three deputy chiefs second in command to Chief Anthony W. Batts.

In his tenure at Long Beach, he worked many assignments considered critical in today's community-driven policing environment. His résumé includes experience in youth services and youth violence prevention, community relations, internal affairs and field operations. As a vocational and academic instructor and as a board member on the Long Beach Police Officers Association, he has gained a balanced perspective on the law enforcement discipline.

Despite a rigorous professional schedule, he makes time for personal enrichment. He is an avid reader who strives to stay current on professional and pastime reading. As a competitive sharpshooter, vacation travel often revolves around his

participation in shooting competitions and exhibitions. For real relaxation, he has a small but seaworthy power boat. The boat is strictly recreational; he claims no fondness for fish, either in the catching or the eating of it.



In the time-honored Southern California tradition, Chief Jackman has a long daily commute to a long day's work. He has learned ways to balance work and free time, important for persons in a high-stress career like law enforcement. His best advice is to avoid the trap of forming friendships only with career colleagues. Make friends in all walks of life, friends who are wealthy and friends who are poor. A broad social base expands your world view, gives you a great support network and sounding board, and above all, adds variety to your restorative time.

Santa Monica and the much larger city of Long Beach share a number of characteristics, including an attractive beach climate that acts as a magnet to homeless persons. Chief Jackman comes to Santa Monica with an understanding of law enforcement and public safety issues surrounding the city's large homeless population. In Long Beach, he developed a comprehensive program for dealing with homeless-related issues, in particular the element of mental illness that afflicts so many homeless persons.

Weeks before he was officially sworn in at the January 9, 2007 Santa Monica City Council meeting, Chief Jackman was out and about, getting to know the community he now serves. Police Department employees have been impressed to see their new boss walking a self-assigned foot beat in the downtown area, taking in the surroundings and engaging merchants and persons on the street in conversation. No entourage; just the new lawman in



¹ Previous chiefs who got their law enforcement experience on the Long Beach force were Joseph McClelland (1947-1950), and Otto Faulkner (1955-1962).



town, getting to know the lay of the land. On some occasions, this very approachable chief has attended community events in the company of two of his greatest public relations assets, his teenage sons.

When asked if he has found anything surprising about Santa Monica, he says he

is impressed by the strong public service orientation of city employees in all departments. He also notes the remarkable diversity of assets concentrated in such a small geographical area.

Chief Jackman is taking time to evaluate the current state of programs and services before he moves his department toward any significant change. First, he says, he needed a clear understanding of the community's priorities and expectations for its police department. Only then can he assess what resources the department must have to deliver on those priorities. He is impressed with the assets already in place, particularly the geographical mapping databases. He expects to take full advantage of what they offer as he works on a strong community oriented policing plan.

Chief Jackman says the community has spoken clearly that their priorities are the homeless, gang-related community problems in the Pico Neighborhood, and traffic. These three priorities must share the department's attention. They cannot be prioritized. Each tends to rise to the top of the community agenda when, for example, an incident occurs. When he first arrived, issues of homelessness were uppermost on people's minds. Then, there was an unfortunate shooting in the Pico Neighborhood that required him to shift his attention to resolving that crisis.

Chief Jackman has a clear vision of how to better serve the youth of our community. First and foremost, he feels that the focus must be on the needs of the middle school age group. Ample programs are already in place to attend to the grade school age group, and by the time a student is in high school his or her personal direction is pretty well set. It is during the middle school years that children form their social identities, experience peer pressure, and are most likely to succumb to truancy and substance abuse. He would like to help teachers, school administrators and parents come together to identify and intervene when a middle school age child exhibits the first warning signs of bad behavior. Anything less, he says, makes middle school a "Kindergarten for Crime."

While it is too early to envision a three to five year plan for the Santa Monica Police Department, the Chief does have



some concepts in mind. Above all, he would like to foster a police department that is perceived as a team player in problem resolution. The term "team player" has special significance for Chief Jackman. It means that the police department always makes itself available and ready to help. He believes in consensus-building. It is important to him that the Police Department is not perceived as imposing choices on stakeholders or "telling the community what to do."

He uses traffic, one in the triad of community priorities, as

an example. Traditional traffic planning in Santa Monica has been resident-driven. More than 80% of the city streets have been restricted by preferential parking and it has not solved the problem. He believes attention must be paid to the impact of visitors and daily work commuters on Santa Monica. Together, they triple the city's population, in terms of people and vehicles, "except during four hours in the middle of the night that nobody cares about." Often seen by residents as a traffic nuisance, these drivers are the economic life blood of the city. The Chief points out that the Police Department can certainly provide an immediate but expensive workaround by putting an army of intersection and parking enforcement personnel on the streets. But it is not a solution. Nor can the enforcement authority of the Police Department ever solve the city's traffic problem by itself.

What the Police Department can do is join city traffic planners to become a vocal participant in the regional dialogue about gridlock. The experience with Playa Vista is an example of a regional planning failure. The boulevards surrounding Playa Vista were widened to maximize the flow of traffic in and out of that development. But Playa Vista residents do not stay confined to their community. No unified regional voice demanded the same planning for traffic relief on streets

beyond the development. As a result, Lincoln Boulevard from Marina del Rey through Santa Monica is now in a state of constant gridlock. To escape, drivers increasingly take shortcuts through the residential streets to the detriment of those neighborhoods.

Chief Jackman also looks forward to reaching out and getting to know the city's neighboring communities and law enforcement agencies, which in Santa Monica's case means the Los Angeles Police Department.

Although his formal education is in business administration, Chief Jackman does not perceive government or police administration as a business. He believes the system of checks and balances imposed on public policy at all levels is the real beauty of our form of government. While government is often accused of being inefficient, he calls it "brilliant" inefficiency. For as long as there are other entities whose jobs are to review, disagree with, and reach consensus about issues, none can ever become a dictator.

Welcome, Chief Jackman. We look forward to being on your team.



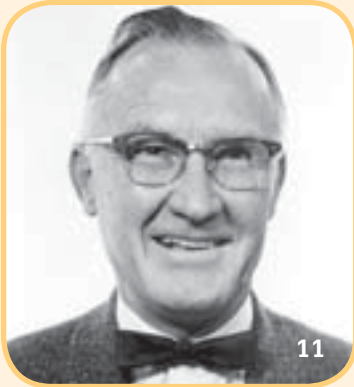
Faces on the Wall

SANTA MONICA'S GALLERY OF CHIEFS

In 2006, work was completed to restore the photo portrait gallery of Santa Monica's chiefs of police since the founding of the department in 1896. The photos were on display in the former police headquarters building. At the time, three chiefs were unknown and unaccounted for. Their absence came to light during research for the department history book. The images were rescued and, with the addition of Chief Timothy Jackman's official portrait, the gallery is now complete.

Here, then, are Santa Monica's chiefs of police — those faces on the wall — with a brief glimpse of each chief's place in history.

- 1. **George B. Dexter** (1896-1898) / It is a little-known fact that Santa Monica's police and fire departments shared their first administrator.
- 2. **Maxwell K. Barretto** (1899-1911) / When chief of police was an elective office, Barretto was the winning candidate in every consecutive election until he ran and was elected city treasurer.
- 3. **Ellis E. Randall** (1912-1915) / He was a visionary who saw ahead of his time the vital role of women and emerging communication and investigative technologies in police work.
- 4. **Fred W. Ferguson** (1916-1920) / Santa Monica's most enigmatic chief of police held the department together through draconean economic times, World War I, Spanish influenza pandemic and the early years of Prohibition.
- 5. **Clarence E. Webb** (1921-1936) / A native of Santa Monica, Webb's steadfast commitment to service in the Santa Monica Police Department is unrivaled to this day.
- 6. **Charles L. Dice** (1936-1939) / His four-year administration during one of the city's most intriguing periods was punctuated by controversy from beginning to end.
- 7. **Clarence E. Webb** (1940-1945) / Fate would reinstate him as chief of police just in time to shepherd Santa Monica through the great challenges facing the World War II home front.
- 8. **Stacey Schmitt** (1944-1946) / Santa Monica's shortest active chief of police, a debilitating heart attack three months into his administration ushered in a sad era under temporary leadership.



- 9. **Joseph P. McClelland** (1947-1950) / He used his experience with the California Department of Justice to standardize and professionalize department procedures.
- 10. **Hubert W. "Bill" Hutchinson** (1951-1955) / He is credited as the founder of department and regional juvenile justice programs in an era that witnessed an unparalleled surge in juvenile delinquency.
- 11. **Otto M. Faulkner** (1955-1962) / During a period of rampant local corruption, he made a fateful promotional decision that eventually spun department and city management out of control.
- 12. **Earl F. Reinbold** (1962-1974) / His appointment returned a sense of stability to the department at the leading edge of an era marked by dynamic social change.
- 13. **George P. Tielsch** (1974-1979) / He was a brilliant criminal justice scholar who introduced the first non-traditional policing concepts and programs; most operate in some form to this day.
- 14. **James F. Keane** (1979-1991) / Chief during Santa Monica's volatile political climate of the 1980s, when a tough decision was required he placed integrity, ethics, and officer safety ahead of popular opinion.
- 15. **James T. Butts, Jr.** (1991-2006) / The department's mission was defined, the goals were stated, the resources were put in place, and the crime rate plummeted.
- 16. **Timothy J. Jackman** (2006-) / What will history write about the latest addition to Santa Monica's Gallery of Chiefs? We'll tell you in future editions of *The Year in Review*.



OUR COMMUNITY STARTS HERE



- | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----|------------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Taji McKinley | 10 | Retired Chief James F. Keane | 19 | Officer Marilyn Amiache | 28 | Amy Larkin |
| 2 | Amado Sernas | 11 | Salea Hayes | 20 | Sky Milosevich | 29 | Christian Franco |
| 3 | Chris Hernandez | 12 | PAL Officer Erik Milosevich | 21 | Haleigh Hurst | 30 | Yolanda Islas |
| 4 | Ryan Jackson | 13 | Doniell Hatcher | 22 | Khariana Ahmir | 31 | Retired Chief James T. Butts, Jr. |
| 5 | Elena Herrera | 14 | Brisa Melendez | 23 | Fernando Vargas | 32 | Luis Evangelista |
| 6 | James Barr | 15 | Dmitry Malkov | 24 | Jessica Perez | 33 | PAL Officer Natalie Dewberry |
| 7 | Victor Akpulonu | 16 | Nicholas Ivy | 25 | Wendy Escobar | 34 | Michelle Gutierrez |
| 8 | Jesus Torres | 17 | Troy Harrington | 26 | Jorge Cortes | 35 | Peter Akpulonu |
| 9 | Helen Albright | 18 | Chief Timothy Jackman | 27 | Richard Castellanos | 36 | Monique Gutierrez |

Our Community Starts Here

SANTA MONICA POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE

BY DEBBIE ANDERSON

In 1986, under the direction of City Manager John Jalili, the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) began assessing gaps in the city police services. One gap was an accessible police presence in the Pico Neighborhood, which had a large immigrant population. After extensive research of crime prevention programs nationwide, Police Chief James Keane decided that a “storefront” operation could bring residents and officers together in an informal setting.

One year later, the Police Department opened the Police Community Center at Virginia Park. Two Spanish-speaking officers were assigned to the center six days a week. Much to everyone’s surprise, local children returned day after day to “hang out” with officers Cesar Scolari and Duke Torrez. Community and Cultural Services (CCS) staff member, Patty Loggins, worked with the officers to provide field trips, dances and other activities, including beginning computer skills workshops.

With serendipitous timing, the California Police Activities League (CalPAL) state office offered a workshop on how to start a Police Activities League or PAL. All who attended were in agreement that a PAL was just what Santa Monica needed. With the support of Chief Keane and City Manager John Jalili, Santa Monica embraced the Police Activities League model.

Shortly after PAL was created, California bond funds to build youth centers became available. John Rossi, director of the John Rossi Youth Center, insisted that Santa Monica apply for the funding. John Rossi was an extraordinary man, a selfless and tireless advocate and mentor to high-risk youth. He convinced Chief Keane to apply for the funds, and the Chief assigned Senior Administrative Analyst Helen Albright to write the grant proposal. No one truly believed that affluent Santa Monica would be successful in securing the funding but Chief Keane pushed forward. Within months the Santa Monica Police



Department was notified that the impossible had happened and the City was awarded \$795,695 in State bond funds. While this was a wonderful success, the state funding did not completely cover all construction and furnishing costs. The City Manager’s office arranged to provide several hundred thousand dollars toward the center. Still short in funding, Chief Keane tapped outside funding sources and budget cost savings to cover the shortfall.

“ I am the oldest and the first in my family to receive a graduate degree. The officers and mentors at PAL believed in me and gave me confidence to achieve many goals. PAL offered us many opportunities to explore our abilities and challenge ourselves. Tennis, drill team, computers, karate, camping trips and Dodger games are only a few of the many activities that kept me focused and motivated to continue learning. ”

BRISA MELENDEZ — PAL Alumni, Teacher, Edison Elementary School

The PAL Fitness Center was established in 1990 to provide structured, non-traditional fitness programs to the youth. The gym was housed in a warehouse type structure that was originally used as a shop building for a technical school. The gym was located at Virginia Avenue Park. In 1998, Santa Monica PAL was awarded a grant for \$300,000 to upgrade and refurbish the PAL Fitness Center as part of the Virginia Avenue Project redevelopment. The new PAL Fitness Center offers boxing, yoga, weight lifting and an exercise room that is used for a variety of classes. PAL is working in collaboration with other organizations to ensure a nutritional component to the programs. Special classes are held to meet the needs of girls and female young adults. Over 200 youth participate in various PAL fitness programs.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the PAL Youth Center were held in 1992 at a site chosen because it was close to the Pico Neighborhood and more centralized for access by

Santa Monica youth outside the Pico neighborhood. PAL continues to operate two sites as the PAL Fitness Center remains a vital part of the PAL program. By that time, Chief Keane had retired and SMPD’s partnership with PAL was under the guidance of a new chief, James Butts, Jr. Chief Butts came from a background that placed a high value on fostering strong families and youth, a value very much instilled by the example set by his father. James Butts, Sr. was actively involved in youth organizations and taught his sons the importance of offering positive outlets and role models for young people. It came as no surprise that Chief Butts was one of PAL’s biggest supporters.

Santa Monica’s PAL Youth Center opened in 1993.



▲ Chief James Butts, Lieutenant George Centeno and Kathleen Schwallie, President of the PAL Board of Directors, broke ground in 1992 for Santa Monica’s PAL Youth Center.

QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED...

Why do we need PAL if we already have the Boys and Girls Club, YMCA and other youth programs?

All programs that truly operate as deterrents to juvenile delinquency should be embraced in a community. It is important to offer many different programs through a variety of organizations because of the diversity of Santa Monica youth and their families. The fact that PAL offers high-quality academic, athletic and recreational activities adds to the importance of the program in the neighborhood. PAL offers a central location adjacent to the Pico Neighborhood and operates free of charge. PAL staff and volunteers are ethnically and racially diverse to reflect the PAL youth. Most revealing, PAL has never

had a racial incident; youth of all ethnicities continue to form strong friendships. Staff is comprised of well-trained and skilled professionals and includes two police officers assigned to PAL. Not all programs in the city operate free of charge, which limits access to families who cannot afford it. PAL is a drop-in facility, meaning participants are not required to sign contracts assuring attendance; rather, each member may choose to participate in any given program or event. PAL feels it is important for the children to see role models and mentors who, simply stated, look like them. An ethnically diverse program offers every child someone with whom they can identify. One staff member shared the fact that when she was growing up there were plenty of female hero-

ines; the only problem was that none of them looked like her. At PAL, that is not the case. Regardless of who you are looking up to, be it a heroine, mentor, role model

or friend, PAL staff and volunteers exemplify it all. PAL embraces the six pillars of "Character Counts": Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Respect, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. Each PAL member understands the simple rules: responsibility for your own actions; no verbal displays of racial, religious or political differences and no gang involvement.

What does this have to do with police work?

What sets PAL apart from other youth programs is its capacity for bringing together police officers and youth. That connection is probably the primary reason Santa Monica was awarded the state bond funds. Providing a venue in which police officers and children can interact on a daily basis offers the possibility of changing lives, especially children's lives but also police officers' lives. It is an opportunity to positively affect participants in the long-term.

The Police Community Center demonstrated the need for the PAL program. Often, from early childhood the only contact youth in a troubled community have with police is negative. PAL officers have an opportunity and strive to develop positive attitudes toward law enforcement that will remain into adulthood. Bridging the gap between our police department and the children of our community is an investment in everyone's future. The police officers brought the youth back into Virginia Park and clearly showed community policing at its best!

“ You know that the beginning is the most important part of any work, especially in the case of a young and tender thing; for that is the time at which the character is being formed and the desired impression is more readily taken...Shall we just carelessly allow children to hear any casual tales which may be devised by casual persons, and to receive into their minds ideas for the most part the very opposite of those which we should wish them to have when they are grown up?

We cannot...Anything received into the mind at that age is likely to become indelible and unalterable, and therefore it is important that the tales which the young first hear should be models of virtuous thoughts. ”

— PLATO'S REPUBLIC

“ Having the police officers involved was a good thing; they brought a strict structure into our lives. We learned that they were regular people. I know kids that wouldn't go to PAL just because the officers were there. We went because they were there. ”

ADRIANA TORRES — PAL Alumni, Staff Assistant, City of Santa Monica



▲ Officer Scott Matsuda and youth decked out for PALloween are engrossed in conversation.

One local family made the decision to send their youngest child to PAL to help avoid the possibility of becoming a gang member. Some members of the family had already fallen into that lifestyle. The boy joined PAL at the age of six, and is now in his second year of college majoring in criminology, working as a college public safety officer and has aspirations of becoming a police officer upon graduation.

The Youth Directors Council

Each year, two male and two female PAL members are invited to attend the Sacramento Experience, an event hosted by CalPAL. Members get to see first-hand how government functions as they listen to representatives from their areas conduct legislative business. When schedules permit, the youth have an opportunity to meet their Santa Monica representatives. Part of the experience includes meetings with other PAL chapters throughout California. Youth have the opportunity to meet and share their thoughts and ideas with other young people. In 2002, the concept of the Youth Directors Council (YDC) was introduced to those in attendance. The Santa Monica chapter took the concept and ran with it!

The YDC is a key component of Santa Monica PAL. The council is comprised of PAL members ranging from 13 to 17 years of age. Those interested in participating in the Youth Directors Council must submit a letter of interest and are interviewed by a panel of YDC peers who make the selections. YDC members are committed to their responsibilities and have a clear understanding that they are the youth leaders of PAL. YDC participants learn leadership skills, fund raising skills and how to positively impact their community. YDC leaders make recommendations to the staff and presentations to the PAL Board of Directors when needed. Written into the by-laws of each California YDC is a minimum requirement of community service of 96 hours a year per member. Our YDC, which has a strong emphasis on community service, far exceeds the required hours. Of the many events that the YDC participates in, two are by far the most moving:

Each year the YDC is involved with the annual South Bay Senior Prom. This is not your typical prom. It is just what the name implies, a prom for seniors. YDC members prepare the auditorium, serve refreshments and dance the night away with senior citizens from throughout the South Bay. It is obvious to all who attend that the differences in the generations melt away and that the "children," as they are called, have as much fun as the seniors.



▲▶ YDC members and seniors dancing the night away at the "Senior Prom."



The rewards for the second poignant event occur each year at the Special Olympics. This year, YDC members meet with Special Olympians on a weekly basis and provide instructional swimming tips along with support and friendship.

It should be noted that YDC members have "saved the day" on countless events. At times, adults who promise to assist with events...fail to show up. Without the support of the YDC, staff and volunteers could not produce the PAL extravaganzas that the community is accustomed to enjoying.

Dimitry Malkov proudly represents Santa Monica PAL as a member of the 2007, California PAL YDC Board of Directors. Other Santa Monica PAL members who have served on the California PAL YDC Board of Directors include Amy and Amber Larkin, Nancy Olmos, Simon Hanna, Jennifer Pacheco and Nani Barr.

“ I joined the Santa Monica PAL family early in my youth. PAL's nourishing environment fostered my creativity, independence and leadership aptitudes. ”

DONIELL HATCHER — PAL Alumni, Attending Smith College

In Pursuit of Knowledge

Through the power of consistent positive example, PAL children are able to grow and gain self esteem. Many of the teens say they have been told by their school counselors that they will never get accepted to a college, that they are not college material, they shouldn't bother applying for "that school," or they should pick a vocational school. That is not the message they receive from PAL staff. Each member is encouraged, mentored and assisted in their quest for higher education. Santa Monica's PAL kids are currently attending junior colleges, state colleges and universities throughout the nation. The degrees they are striving for are at all levels: associate of arts, undergraduate, and graduate degrees including one juris doctor. The PAL staff is always there for them, always believing in them and teaching them that they can attain whatever they set their minds to achieve. PAL alumni include teachers, military personnel, professional athletes, police officers, emergency medical technicians, recreation leaders, and a variety of other occupations.

Those who choose not to pursue a college education are encouraged and assisted in securing gainful employment. Regardless of his or her chosen profession, the goal is to help

each individual become a productive member of society. Many PAL alumni return to PAL as volunteers hoping to mentor younger members.



▲ PAL Youth Police Academy graduates Doniell Hatcher, currently attending Smith College and Cheryl Donoho, currently attending Cal Lutheran University.

“ The staff and volunteers were extremely diverse from all different walks of life; but one thing they always agreed on was the importance of education. I loved listening to college stories of the staff especially about the diversity of study and the freedom to choose what you learn. It was hard not to be inspired by the reminiscent words of my story tellers, so I began to hope and wonder. By this time the college application process had begun and when it came time to write a personal statement about a significant occurrence in my life, I wrote about PAL and the amazing people I had met there. I was accepted to several prestigious schools but decided in the end to go to SMC in order to stay closer to PAL and enroll in the highly prestigious and coveted volunteer positions. ”

ALEXANDRA GARCIA — PAL Alumni, Attending the University of Hawaii

COLLEGES CURRENTLY ATTENDED BY PAL "KIDS"

University of Hawaii
Drew University
Loyola Marymount University
Smith College
California Lutheran University
University of California at Davis
University of California at San Francisco
California State University, San Marcos
California State University, San Francisco
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Los Angeles
Mount St. Mary's College
Woodbury College
Santa Monica College
West Los Angeles College
California State University, Dominguez Hills

Grants and Funding

1998 was the first year PAL members participated in the Los Angeles Marathon. Eight PAL youth participated that year. In 2007, 25 PAL youth ran the Marathon while another 35 participated in the bicycle portion. PAL marathoners take part in the "Students Run L.A." (SRLA) program as they prepare for the Los Angeles Marathon. SRLA enables at-risk students to realize their potential, enhance their self-esteem and plot a new course for their future by providing them with a truly life-changing experience, training for and completing a 26.2 mile marathon.

PAL staff and volunteers run with the marathoners three times a week and also ride with the bicyclists two times a week. Their conditioning program gradually increases the distances throughout the training period. Cars honk and supporters shout words of encouragement as they see a long line of joggers or bicyclists in their bright colored PAL vests. The dedication and commitment of staff allows so many youth



▲ Oh how our PAL Marathon Team has grown!

to ultimately participate in the Los Angeles Marathon. Staff members Karen Humphrey and Don Condon have completed 10 marathons running alongside "the kids." Each year, Karen and Don claim "this is the last year," and each year, they start the training cycle again. PAL Officer Natalie Dewberry completed her first marathon this year. She said, "By mile 18, I asked myself, 'Why am I doing this?' Then I remembered it was for the kids. I'm 48 years old, so it is a big deal!"

Volunteers hold a very special place in the hearts of anyone involved with PAL. One such young man, Chris Carrey, son of board member Neil Carrey, lost his fight with cancer at the age of 16. The Chris Carey PAL Educational Fund offers PAL members the opportunity to compete for scholarships. Applicants must meet a strict list of requirements and participate in a written and oral interview process. Twenty-six cash scholarships have been awarded to PAL youth through the Chris Carey fund since its start in 2002. To date, \$35,000 has been awarded.

In 2006, SMPD held the first Ricardo Crocker Memorial Golf Tournament. Rick, as he was known to his friends, was killed in action in Iraq in 2005, while serving in the U.S. Marine Corps and holding the rank of Major. Rick worked at the Santa Monica Police Department for 10 years. The last assignment Rick worked was as a PAL officer. He loved being a mentor and example to the children at PAL. Rick successfully passed the California CBEST test required for teaching and was only 9 units away from completing his graduate degree

in education. The Ricardo Crocker Memorial Fund was established to provide for youth programs that honor Rick. The programs reflect the two passions in him, his love of the outdoors and his incessant quest for knowledge.

The National Police Activities Leagues Youth Enrichment Program (PALYEP) offers funding to PAL chapters to cover educational and athletic programs. PALYEP funds are used for a wide variety of programs ranging from homework assistance to cultural field trips and athletic events.

Another state grant awarded to PAL \$115,550 toward the creation of a state-of-the-art computer lab. Those new computers were added to the City's equipment replacement program, which has allowed the computers to be updated every four years. Technology has moved at such a rapid speed that when PAL began computers were relatively new. The computer lab is not a luxury, rather an essential tool for PAL kids. Many of the children do not have computers at home and rely on computers at the center.

Special Events



▲ Shrek enjoys a photo op with Cleopatra and the Rose Queen at the annual PAlloleen event.

PAlloleen offers families in the community a safe, fun and spooky place to spend Halloween. Through the generosity of owner Judi Barker and the Children Affected by AIDS Foundation (CAAF), the Barker Hangar is transformed into a magical place with trick or treat lanes, haunted house, game booths, photo booths, and costume contests for all ages. Attendance at PAlloleen ranges between 3,000 and 6,000 people. This year we will celebrate our 16th PAlloleen.

PAlpalooza is a new event for PAL. For the past two years, Pacific Park has offered friends and families an evening of fun on the Pier. Tickets are discounted and include rides and a meal at one of the food venues. The Police Department rolls out an impressive display of specialized equipment

and officers are on hand to answer any questions. Children have the opportunity to sit inside a vehicle utilized by the Special Entry Team, or on an ATV used to patrol the beach. The event has been such a success that there are plans this year to open the night up to all California PAL members throughout the State of California.



▲ Chief Jackman takes a turn at bat.

This year, the Spring Fling was held at Will Rogers State Beach. The day included a softball game in which Chief Jackman participated, sack races and a hike lead by a docent with park rangers and staff watching over the 55 children who participated. It was a joy to see the children all working together. There was patience and an absence of harsh words toward the younger or slower hikers. When someone needed help or encouragement, the children exercised teamwork. Everyone enjoyed a great day!

Each December, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive on a fire truck with a police escort as they make their way into the PAL gym, which has been magically changed into a Holiday Wonderland. Children can create jewelry, decorate gingerbread houses and of course... talk to Santa and Mrs. Claus. Each child receives a gift and has an opportunity to win a raffle for more prizes.

Through the generosity of local restaurant owner Fred Deni, Back



▲ Chez PAL workers pose with Cal PAL Representative Ron Exley who drove from Sacramento to attend.

on Broadway is transformed once a year into Chez PAL. Fred and his staff work alongside our PAL teens as they set tables, serve food, and entertain. The proceeds from the evening go directly to the YDC.

The Santa Monica Police Activities League works in collaboration with other local youth programs. The Virginia Avenue Project (performing arts and mentoring) has worked hand in hand with PAL for many years. The Virginia Avenue Project is modeled after the 52nd St. Project in New York. Under the umbrella of PAL, the program began to teach creative dramatics and offer play writing skills. Through PAL's Homework Assistance Program, children are identified who may benefit from additional reading time with a special friend. The America Reads program offers those friends. When we say special, we are referring to the fact that these friends have four legs and a tail. The children meet and read with licensed therapy dogs. The children love it because the dogs never judge them on their reading ability and are happy to hear the same story over and over. Each year in October, PAL benefits from the generosity of the Children Affected by AIDS (CAAF) Foundation. They host an evening of fun for children and families touched by AIDS. When their event is over, they allow PAL to utilize their stage settings and overflow gifts for PAlloleen. Another organization with which we participate is the Students Run LA program. Santa Monica PAL has been involved with them for the last nine years. More than 2,200 students from more than 150 schools and community programs join together to train, support and encourage each other. Race fees, shirts and shoes are provided by the organization.

Chief Jackman although new to the Santa Monica Police Department, is by no means just learning about PAL. Chief Jackman spent the previous 23 years of his career as a member of the Long Beach Police Department, a department that operates three PAL sites and is staffed with one sergeant and five officers among other support personnel. The Chief is a regular at PAL events and is always seen interacting with the children. The youth love the fact that the Chief of Police is willing to serve them dinner, play softball or just take a moment to really talk to them.

The California State Juvenile Officers Association awarded the Santa Monica Police Activities League the Distinguished Youth Program Award of 2006. The award is presented annually from a statewide list of candidates.

PAST PAL POLICE OFFICERS

- Cesar Scolari
- Duke Torrez
- Lieutenant George Centeno
- Sergeant Jay Trisler
- Detective Leslie Trapnell
- Lieutenant Hector Cavazos
- Mitch Kato
- Lieutenant Calisse Lindsey
- Sergeant Mohamed (Mo) Marhaba
- Scott Mena
- Rick Crocker
- Matt Rice
- Natalie Dewberry
- Erik (Milo) Milosevich

If you are interested in learning more about PAL, volunteering, supporting or just meeting us, please contact us at

(310) 458-8988

PAL Activities

BUILDING CHARACTER, HAVING FUN



Rescuing Our Past

110 COLORFUL YEARS AT THE H.Q.s

BY MARLA McCULLOUGH

Why should a police officer never give a deer a lift out of town?

What is the Santa Monica Police Department's connection with the royal court of Czar Nicholas II of Russia?

What was "The Barrage" and when did it take place?

Which Santa Monica chief of police helped track down the infamous Hole-in-the-Wall Gang?

These and other intriguing questions will be answered in *Agents of Change: The Santa Monica Police Department, 1896-2006*. After nearly two years of laborious research and writing, the history of our department is expected to be ready for publication in summer 2007.



The Santa Monica Police Department waited a long time to have our saga told and this book is worthy of the wait. At 800 pages, it is neither a collection of "war stories" nor a coffee table pictorial but a thoroughly researched and foot-noted chronicle of the law enforcement experience in Santa Monica since the department was established in 1896. The book will include 20 pages of illustrations and historic photographs, some familiar and some surprising.

In May 2005, I was commissioned to carry out this project by former Chief of Police James T. Butts, Jr. and given a most ambitious 90-day completion deadline. Any expectation of meeting that deadline was dispelled on my first visit to the microfilmed *Evening Outlook* collection at the Santa Monica Public Library. Construction of the new main library was in high gear. Library staff was working out of temporary quarters in a former bank building. Most collections and all but one unit of the library's excellent digital microfilm reader equipment were in storage. Under a "one hour-per-customer" rule, I competed for its use with community researchers and school children assigned to look up the *Evening Outlook* headlines and report on, "What happened the day I was born." Despite the working conditions, the library staff was always most gracious and accommodating. Their automation manager even set up a way for me to burn the digitized newspaper articles directly to a CD as an alternative to the

painfully slow email or print option.

Just when I thought my research was coming to an end, Lieutenant Mike Beautz got access for me to the *Los Angeles Times* historical newspaper collection. The every word index feature and postscript format sped up the research and provided a level of detail I could not have captured any other way. The addition of content from the *Los Angeles Times* literally transformed the scope and character of the book.

And thank goodness for those historical newspapers. Early in the project, I learned just how few early department records have survived. Sadly missing are the administrative files, deployment plans, commendations, and chiefs' correspondence from days gone by.

I learned that the newspapers of yore were newsier or, if you will, nosier than today's dry copy off the AP wire. The news, politics, and feature stories about local issues and events affecting the work and lives of the police officers helped fill the void left by years of departmental purging and shredding. I got to know our former chiefs of police and those "Keystone Kops" we have enjoyed in photos around the police station. They were real people with unique personalities and a story to tell.

That is not to say that all departmental records are lost to us. We have the good fortune that Terrie



Centeno, the Chief's administrative assistant, has taken meticulous care of retiree 3x5 cards that date to 1915. Each has a bit of cryptic personal information and most have a photo. We are also lucky that Carl Olson, nor I, nor any of our predecessor records managers ever aggressively purged the microfilmed files stored in the Records Section. Otherwise, the history of each era, its colorful lingo, and the evolution of police practices documented and captured on reports since 1938 would be lost forever. Some have asked: "What information of interest could you possibly glean from the old crime reports?" My answer is: "A lot."

The chronicles of this police department reveal that it has had its share of characters, some heroes, and a lot of dedicated workers. And, yes, a very few of them engaged in a little corruption...just to spice things up a bit.

For me, the most fascinating historical period was unquestionably the World War II years, 1941-1945. With half the complement of police officers in military service, Chief Clarence Webb and his department found remarkable ways to overcome shortage and sacrifice. Make no mistake; it was the Santa Monica Police Department that successfully oversaw the city's civil defense system, protected a major defense plant, gracefully met the demands of a military occupation, and still managed to keep the community safe.

Others who have read portions of the book transcript commented that it is as much an account of the city's history as the Police Department's. That is an accurate observation. Since its founding in 1896, the fortunes and direction of the Santa Monica Police Department have always been influenced – no, dictated – by the culture, politics, and economic conditions of the city and the nation.

Agents of Change: The Santa Monica Police Department 1896-2006 is undergoing a final edit and will be ready for publication in 2007. Information about pricing and ordering will be announced as it becomes available.



Hold Your Fire

SANTA MONICA'S NEW OUTDOOR SMOKING ORDINANCE

November 23, 2006 was Thanksgiving, a symbolic day for smokers to quit “cold turkey,” at least while enjoying one of the public outdoor service areas within the Santa Monica city limits.

It was last Thanksgiving Day that an ordinance went into effect expanding Santa Monica’s smoke-free public areas to include many outdoor venues. The ordinance is the latest aimed at improving health, safety and environmental quality for everyone who visits, lives or works in Santa Monica.

Regulations on smoking inside or within 20 feet of a public building have been in force since 1988. More recently, Santa Monica became one of the first cities to prohibit smoking on city beaches, where participants in the annual “Heal the Bay” coastal cleanup could tell you that smokers all too often were mistaking the beach sand for a giant cigarette urn. Soon, other beach cities were following Santa Monica’s lead.

The ordinance, SMMC § 4.44.020(a), prohibits smoking in the following locations:

- Public parks
- Public beaches
- Santa Monica Pier, except in designated areas
- Any outdoor public service area, defined as a place people use to wait for services provided by a private or government entity including, but not limited to, bus stops, ATMs, kiosks, and theater lines
- Outdoor dining and bar areas
- Within 20 feet of any entrance, exit or open window to a public building
- Third Street Promenade
- Farmers Market

Ordinance § 4.44.020(a)(5) specifically prohibits outdoor smoking at a bus stop.

Indoor smoking is already prohibited:

- In an elevator
- Inside any public building, as defined in Section 7596 of the California Government Code

Business owners are expected to request compliance with the ordinance, but are not legally responsible for a customer who fails to do so.

Enforcement of the Outdoor Smoking Ordinance is a Police Department responsibility. As the effective date approached, department administrators recognized that many residents and, in particular, visitors would not know about the ordinance. So they adopted a plan to enforce through education, awareness and voluntary compliance. Officers were instructed to first make a verbal request to stop smoking or warn the violator of the existence of the ordinance. Officers were to issue a citation only if a smoker refused to comply voluntarily.

Usually, the specter of a \$250 infraction ticket is enough to persuade most smokers to familiarize themselves with the new restrictions. If not, the scientific research alone should be compelling.



Why an Ordinance?

The Santa Monica City Council was convinced by reports of the U.S. Surgeon General that secondhand smoke is a “toxic air contaminant,” containing such lethal chemicals as ammonia, arsenic, benzene, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde and hydrogen cyanide.

While the health hazard to smokers is well-known, the damage to non-smokers is too often dismissed as part of the myth of “smokers’ rights.” Annually in California, indirect or secondhand cigarette smoke is responsible for:

- 400 lung cancer deaths
- 3,600 cardiac deaths
- 31,000 cases of children’s asthma
- 21 cases of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
- 1,600 cases of low birth weight newborns
- 4,700 premature births

If you are a non-smoker, this ordinance will ensure that you can enjoy Santa Monica’s fresh outdoor air. If you are a smoker, perhaps it will convince you to quit or at least...hold your fire.

Ordinance information is available from the Santa Monica City Attorney’s Office at (310) 458-8336, or from www.freshairsantamonica.org



▲ CSO 1s, like these patrolling the Third Street Promenade, issue first time warnings to visitors they see light up who may be unaware of the outdoor smoking ordinance.

Double Helix Detectives

USING DNA EVIDENCE IN CRIME INVESTIGATIONS

Lieutenant Ray Cooper, a 35-year veteran of the Santa Monica Police Department, has spent much of his career in the Office of Criminal Investigations as a robbery-homicide detective and division supervisor. He has managed the grant-funded DNA Evidence Testing Program since its inception in 1999. In that capacity, he established the criteria to identify cases that best leverage the use of limited grant dollars.

Lieutenant Cooper agreed to share his insights about the current uses of DNA evidence in crime investigations, offer some success stories, and predict the direction the technology will take future crime scene investigations. With his reputation as a no nonsense

manager, Lieutenant Cooper believes it is vitally important that the public understand the limitations of DNA analysis as well as the benefits.

◀ Lieutenant Ray Cooper

State of the Art

DNA science has been around for two decades but its use in the investigation of crimes lagged behind genetics and family medical issues. Even before its mainstream use in solving crimes, Cooper saw the potential and began to educate himself about the emerging science. His first DNA evidence case was in the early 1990s. A nurse on Santa Monica's north side was a rape victim. A suspect had been identified but the victim could not make a positive identification. Circumstances allowed no reason for the suspect to be in the area. Cooper submitted the DNA evidence and got a match on the suspect, a Los Angeles County probation officer.

¹ STR—Short Tandem Repeat (STR) DNA: DNA sequences that vary from person to person are called “polymorphisms.” Criminal forensics increasingly uses a class of polymorphisms known as “Short Tandem Repeats, or STR. STR are short sequences of DNA, usually of length 2-5 base pairs, that repeat numerous times. It is also called “contact DNA” because it is found in body detritus left in the surroundings or on objects after contact.

Great strides have been made since that 1990s case. Early DNA testing relied on time-consuming—and therefore expensive—mitochondrial DNA, usually based on a sample provided by a willing volunteer. Recent advances in the analysis of short tandem repeat (STR) DNA, commonly called “contact DNA,” opened the science to crime scene investigation.¹ In most circumstances, people leave skin cells on everything they touch. STR analysis means that crime scene investigators can retrieve DNA from a garment or object handled and left at a crime scene. Analysis and reporting on STR evidence can be completed and returned much faster than is possible with mitochondrial DNA. As the time required for the lab to process an item of evidence has decreased, so has the cost.

Considering the current state of the technology, why not submit all crime scene evidence for analysis? The O.J. Simpson trial moved DNA evidence to the forefront in the investigation of crime scenes. As law enforcement adopted its use, the nation's crime labs quickly became mired in a backlog that continues to this day.

The Los Angeles County Crime Lab is the designated, ostensibly free, crime laboratory for Santa Monica and other Los Angeles County agencies. Its two sites serve an 11 million population and 44 different police agencies. Despite an infusion of federal funds, a 5,000 case backlog continues, forcing the labs to prioritize cases and limit the number accepted from any one agency. The lab accepts only cases in which a criminal filing or trial date has been set. That's little help to the investigator trying to identify a suspect or work a cold case. Delays are also a problem. In fact, Cooper explains that, unless there is a personal relationship with the examiner, the investigator is likely to get an envelope back from the crime lab months later, containing the unanalyzed evidence. As he observes, “It's a hit and miss proposition. What good is ‘free’ if you never get the results?”

The federal government recognizes the value of DNA and other forensic science in crime investigations and allocates

generous funding in the form of grants to build laboratory capacity. But most of the money goes to state crime labs where it is used to build their infrastructure and clear backlogs. California's giant Department of Justice crime lab gets a big share of the funds. So, another obvious question is why the DOJ crime lab is not an option for Santa Monica. Cooper cites two problems with the DOJ lab. One is that their Sacramento-based lab is inaccessible. The other is the fact that DOJ regards the Los Angeles County crime lab, actually part of the state system, as Santa Monica's designated lab. DOJ gives priority use of its lab services to agencies with no county crime lab.

An Interim Solution

Beginning in 1993, the Santa Monica Police Department was awarded annual block funding under the federal Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program (LLEBG). In the first years, the money was typically used to buy unbudgeted equipment. Aware of the problems at the Los Angeles County Crime Lab, in 1999 a new grants coordinator challenged tradition to recommend that the funds be used to contract with other certified crime labs that, for a fee, have the capacity to process and return a timely analysis. The chief and city council agreed. Each year since 1999, the program has been infused with funds from LLEBG and its successor, the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

A short drive from Santa Monica, the Orange County Crime Lab offers a partial solution for Santa Monica investigators. The lab has the capacity to take limited forensic evidence from out-of-county agencies for a fee. Cooper explains: “All the work is done in-house. When we hand-carry our evidence to the Orange County Crime Lab, it is back with an analysis a week later. It's a big difference.”

Lieutenant Cooper began to cautiously tap the funds for cold case homicides and sexual assaults that still had viable forensic evidence. After a lag period, the results began to roll in. The success stories have escalated in the last two years as a number of troubling, high profile cases were finally solved and adjudicated.



A lot has changed since the 1990s rape case. The cost to get that case to the preliminary hearing alone was over \$10,000 because the analysis was done by

Cellmark, a private laboratory in Maryland. A decade ago, a limited number of technicians had the expertise. Now, more experts are entering the field and more labs dedicated to DNA analysis have opened their doors. The more experts and labs that are available, the less expensive it is. In the last five years, the average cost has dropped from \$7,000 and months of waiting to \$700 or \$800 and a week to ten days of waiting.

Still, the grant-funded budget for lab services is limited. The \$23,000 per year has been adequate, but would be seriously compromised if several new cases were to occur in the same year. Cooper realized he had to set up a system to prioritize candidate cases.

He explains that all cases are first subjected to the department's standard case management review. Only those cases with sufficient solvability factors to pursue an investigation are added to the candidate pool. Generally, new cases are ranked ahead of cold cases and the selection criteria differ somewhat between the two.

In evaluating new cases, direction is taken from the department administration. Current agency goals, an emerging crime pattern, or a particularly troubling case may shift the priorities. First to be considered is the gravity of the offense. Second is whether there is a community exigency in solving the case, for example a rash of gang shootings in the Pico Neighborhood.

Selecting cold cases for analysis is far more complex. So complex, in fact, that some large police agencies have a dedicated cold case investigations unit whose sole job is to review and recommend cold cases for follow-up. Clearly,

there is far more to it than pulling the evidence from the shelf and sending it off to the lab. Many elements must be in place and the obstacles are legion.

First to be determined is whether the case is legally viable. Except for homicides, a statute of limitations applies to every criminal charge. Less well known, a statute of limitations also applies to the submission of evidence, even evidence that is scientifically viable beyond the arbitrary date set by statute.

The second issue that must be resolved is the condition of the case file and whether the evidence and documentation needed to reconstruct the case has survived. Cooper cites as an example the Patricia Dulong murder, a 30-year-old cold case recently in the news. He recalls his frustration to learn that, some years ago, a lieutenant in charge had signed a blanket authorization to destroy evidence from cases that occurred prior to a specified date. Included was evidence from the Dulong case that could have linked the suspect to the crime scene. Even the photographs were gone. Evidence is often lost because a case was believed to be a ‘dead-end’ years ago. In today’s world there are many more avenues to address the evidence than in the past.

Similarly, the evidence sought may not have been collected at all. Previous generations of homicide investigators could not anticipate the new technologies and did not examine crimes scenes with DNA in mind. Cooper is quick to point out that all is not lost in such cases, however. Testing of old ballistic evidence often gets good results. The chances of getting a “hit” on old fingerprint evidence improve exponentially as career criminals re-offend and get their prints added to the CODIS database.²

People are another major obstacle in cold case analysis. Questions a cold case examiner must answer include: Do the involved officers and investigators still work for the department? They are the primary source of information and

² CODIS—Combined DNA Index System: CODIS is a national DNA profile database that allows federal, state and local crime labs to exchange and compare DNA profiles electronically to link crimes and convicted offenders. Managed by the FBI, CODIS became operational in October 1998. California joined CODIS in November 2004 upon voter approval of Proposition 69, “The DNA Fingerprint, Unsolved Crime and Innocence Protection Act.”

must be interviewed. What was the quality of the first investigation? Can it stand on its own if the investigator is no longer available?

Are witnesses still alive, willing and able to cooperate with an investigation? A search for witnesses is a time-consuming, costly, and often fruitless endeavor. The high profile Geronimo Pratt case is an example. Pratt served 25 years for the murder of Caroline Olson in Lincoln Avenue Park, now Reed Park. When Pratt’s release was announced, investigators considered re-filing the complaint, but learned that essential investigators and witnesses in the case were all dead and the evidence and photos were gone.

Taken together, these “unknown variables” make it impossible even to estimate the number of viable cases waiting on the Property Room shelves. Even if a DNA hit could be obtained, would it be sufficient to clear the case but not to prosecute it? With limited funds, Cooper says one overarching question must be answered: “Is the goal to prosecute the case or simply to clear it?”

Leveraging, aka “Bang for the Buck”

The next task in prioritizing candidate cases for analysis is to develop a strategy for how the evidence can best be used in each case. Skillfully managed, DNA evidence can leverage a case and be a cost-effective use of public funds. A DNA “hit” alone does not solve or adjudicate a crime. To borrow from the Department of Defense lexicon, in the war on crime, DNA’s value is as a *force multiplier*.

Lieutenant Cooper estimates that 5% of the population commits 85% of all crime. Most criminals are *recidivists*; they recommit after their first conviction. One strategy to prioritize cases for DNA analysis is to weigh the odds of solving multiple cases committed by the same offender. Value is added to the use of public funds even in the case of a property crime if its solution will solve many cases, prevent other crimes, or stop the defendant’s

victimization of people. To this end, footprint, fiber, hair, serological, tire track, ballistic casings and bullets are also sent for analysis. The objective is to get multiple forensic disciplines from one exposure to the lab.

Thanks to the growth of state and national databases, this leveraging often means that multiple jurisdictions benefit from the results of one agency’s evidence report. Recent cases demonstrate the increasing interagency application of DNA evidence.

Bodil Rasmussen lived in the Carson area and worked as a clerk for a South Bay school district. In 1975, she was found dead in the 1725 beach lot, a ligature around her neck. She was identified as a missing person from Carson. She was not killed in Santa Monica but her body was dumped here. The last person seen with her was a neighbor who had served time in a New York prison for rape. Forensic science at the time could not connect him with the body or the crime scene. There was only circumstantial evidence. The neighbor was arrested but not charged due to the lack of forensic evidence. Even the rape kit could not be applied because he said the relationship was consensual. He was released.

In 1983, another murder with the same modus operandi occurred in Laguna Beach. The victim had been strangled and her body dumped in a parking lot. She was traced to Hollywood but Laguna Beach investigators didn’t connect

a suspect to her. She was a known prostitute so her killer could have been anyone. In 2005, a Laguna Beach investigator working cold cases got a DNA hit on a John Whitaker, an out-of-compliance sex registrant. Whitaker was living in Pasadena and attempting to get on the local school board advisory committee. He had an assumed identity, claiming to be an Army colonel and Vietnam veteran named John Betances. Cooper explains:

He turns out to be an ex-con who had served time, so his DNA is in the system. He gets linked. Laguna Beach did a background on him and called Santa Monica: “Your department did an investigation in 1975 for murder. What’s that all about?”

I said: “Send that evidence to the lab.” Whitaker’s DNA was on the ligature. There’s no explanation for his DNA being on the ligature unless he was there. We even found some of the witnesses from 1975. Ours is the stronger case, but Orange County wanted to prosecute, so our D.A. ceded and let them have it.

John Whitaker was arraigned on June 20, 2006 in Newport Beach, charged with the 1975 Santa Monica murder of Bodil Rasmussen and the 1983 Laguna Beach murder of Patricia Carpenter. The Orange County District Attorney, who will prosecute both cases, issued a press release commending the Santa Monica and Laguna Beach police departments for having the forethought to preserve the evidence and never giving up on getting justice for these two young women whose lives were cut tragically short.

DNA in weapons cases, matched to known gang members with extensive criminal histories, has allowed serious felony charges to be filed that otherwise would have fallen by the wayside.

In the case of the Moose Lodge murders of Jonathan Hernandez and Hector Bonilla, DNA applied. We had an idea the 18th Street gang was involved. We took ballistic comparisons. We

◀ Forensic Specialist Jennifer Kapala and Identification Technician Jesse Eller demonstrate the technique for DNA cheek swab sampling.



knew an L.A. gang was involved. William Vasquez was a suspect in 20 murders. A pendant was dropped at the scene of the murder. Not only were we able to link him through identification, the DNA came back to one of the other suspects we believed to be his running mates. Three people are being prosecuted in that case. One case involved a sheriff's deputy in a shooting incident after a chase. That's another successful prosecution for multiple agencies. It's happening more and more often that we're connecting people not only to our crimes but to other crimes.

The three defendants in the 2005 gang-related double murder at the Moose Lodge were held to answer at preliminary hearing. The defendants, all members of a Los Angeles-based gang, are scheduled to go on trial in early 2007.

Los Angeles County Crime Lab backlog issues do not apply to cases investigated in cooperation with the Los Angeles Police Department or an LAPD affiliate agency, such as the L.A. Airports. The LAPD has its own crime lab in shared facilities with the county crime lab. The LAPD lab can handle most kinds of evidence; footprint, fiber, hair or tire tracks.

On a recent SOTEL gang series, we were able to hand carry evidence to the lab, enter the ballistic evidence in NIBIN² and link it to many other crimes, most in the City of Los Angeles. We employed LAPD's scientific investigation division and got their help to analyze the case. We got comments from their SID investigators that: "You guys are doing more on our cases than we are."

A vital but often overlooked aspect of DNA is its exculpatory value. In 2004, Santa Monica investigators used DNA results to exonerate a subject identified

² NIBIN—National Index for Ballistic Information Network: In 1997, the FBI and ATF partnered to create NIBIN by integrating their two independent imaging system networks. Local law enforcement agencies, assigned to one of the 16 regions in the United States, benefit from this partnership by having comparisons made on firearms related crime evidence, such as fired bullets and cartridge casings, stored in the federal database.

by witnesses as having been involved in a series of residential robberies. The subject's DNA pattern did not match evidence left at the scene by the suspect. Charges were dropped pending further investigative leads linking him to the crime. The same DNA was matched to a prolific criminal that, when arrested, admitted to committing similar crimes in other states.

The District Attorney

The district attorney's job is to get convictions. It can be frustrating to an overworked police investigator when an overworked prosecutor rejects a case because the evidence is insufficient or not convincing. To improve the odds of getting a criminal complaint filed, Cooper's system for prioritizing cases for evidence testing generally places violent crimes ahead of non-violent or property crimes. Occasionally, Cooper makes an exception to his own rule and approves a contract for lab analysis on a serious property crime such as a hot prowl burglary series:

I authorized an Orange County contract on a commercial burglary because we know the suspects did it. There is strong physical and circumstantial evidence on the case but the district attorney won't file because they don't think they can get state prison. These are drug addicts and we know they are responsible for this and many other burglaries. We can clear many burglaries at an enormous savings in the Property Crimes Division by solving cases in an area heavily hit by burglaries.

In a crime series, DNA obtained in a single strong case can be the keystone, giving the district attorney enough to prosecute the weaker cases. Around 1994, Santa Monica had a series of rapes of seven homeless women. All were victimized by a single suspect, David Wright, readily identified by his modus operandi and physical description. Each case was rejected for filing because of issues with the credibility of the victims. Some had mental problems. Others were substance abusers.

His next victim was Aviva Labbe, a 19-year-old girl who

Cooper describes as: "a semi-homeless semi-prostitute street person." Her body was found behind a house on Ashland Avenue. Detectives worked the homicide investigation but it was not fruitful. A break came when Wright was arrested for an attempt rape and went back to prison. This time there was DNA evidence.

In 2002, we get a DNA hit from the evidence...and it's Wright. He is subsequently prosecuted for the murder on DNA. A lot of the other victims are contacted for testimony on the prior consistent felonies. The law permits testimony on prior consistent felonies even though there are no convictions. David Wright is a 290 sex registrant. Here is a case where we have a violent predator, a rapist, who continued to offend knowing the system was not going to punish him. Finally, you get a piece of evidence so significant — of course it led to somebody's murder — he will never again be on the street to murder another young woman.

In the 2003 murder of Jalonnice Carter, four gang members were present in the vehicle used in the crime. A gun seized from the floor of the car had been wiped clean of fingerprints and none would admit that the gun was his. The district attorney would not file complaints unless the investigators could link fingerprints to the gun. Cooper and his investigators accepted the challenge: "Maybe there were no fingerprints, but DNA was on the trigger. We sent one to prison while we continue to investigate the murder."

The value added is even greater when the suspect is already in prison. In a death penalty case, it influences both the district attorney's decision to file a complaint and the chances the defendant will plead guilty. A defendant's plea bargain may disappoint the community, but it is cost effective. It expedites the investigation and eliminates witness management, discovery and trial costs.

Two suspects were identified in the October 1998 quadruple shooting spree that fatally wounded two brothers and severely injured two other victims. The murders took place at a small clothing store on Lincoln Boulevard. The case was languishing, so a decision was made to process evidence

recovered during the crime scene investigation using current DNA technology. By positive identification of two gang members on DNA, investigators were able to reconstruct the whole investigation and get multiple identifications from witnesses.

It became a death penalty case. The DNA samples matched two convicted felons, both currently serving prison terms in California. Robbery-Homicide detectives presented the case to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for review. The head deputy and his designee decided to charge the suspects with two counts of first degree murder with special circumstances, two counts of attempted murder, four counts of personal use of a firearm, and four counts of participating in a street gang and committing a crime in furtherance of the gang. The best shot is adding charges while these guys are still in prison. It's a very efficient and economical use of the funds.

When asked which case resolution was most gratifying to him, Cooper responded without hesitation: "the Mary Garnello case." That case is another example of how DNA evidence can turn a recalcitrant guilty suspect into one who is anxious to confess.

In July 1981, 18-year-old Mary Garnello was murdered in her apartment. Her body was found four or five days later. She had been covered and was clearly the victim of sexual assault. Investigators collected a spot of blood on the floor that was not hers. Cooper recalls: "It always bothered me. Over the years, I talked to the father and brother who lived in Florida. In 2003, the brother told me his father had died; he went to his grave without the case being solved."

Alex Hines was serving time in Camarillo for the senseless shotgun murder of a young man at a beer bust party. Ventura County prosecuted the case after Hines became the suspect in the rape of two 12-year-old Yolo County girls. He had moved there, assumed a new identity, and

started a business. When Yolo County sentenced him to prison for the rapes, Ventura County figured out who he was, reopened the murder case and got a conviction.

Facts were developed that gave Hines a tenuous connection with Santa Monica. Cooper reopened the Garnello case and sent the blood evidence for analysis. It was a match with Hines' DNA. Once again, there was no reasonable explanation for his blood being at the crime scene. The case against him is founded on the DNA evidence alone. A skilled interrogator can use the forensic results to leverage the interview by asking the suspect: "How do you explain how your DNA got on the evidence?" Santa Monica investigators confronted Hines with it. Cooper continues:

So the D.A. filed...There was an edge for them because he was already a convicted murderer. They were going to pursue the death penalty.

The defendant told his attorney—we haven't even got to the preliminary hearing yet—"I want to plead guilty. I want to plead guilty and I'll take life without possibility of parole." He wanted to avoid the death penalty. The Garnello family flew from Florida to be here for the pleading and sentencing. The family is ecstatic that we didn't forget...that we kept our promise to them, a promise made in the '90s that we were not going to give up on this.

Not a Panacea

Lieutenant Cooper believes law enforcement is obligated to inform and educate the public about how criminal investigations really work. Too often, victims make their assumptions based on fictional police programs on television, such as the popular CSI series.

It's always a success story in 44 minutes and 16 minutes of commercials. Detectives run from the crime scene back to the station, put the information in a computer and five minutes later they have the suspect, his picture, his family...They go out, knock on the door and he confesses to the crime. No agency, not even the FBI, has the resources available

to have an instant hit on DNA or fingerprints and know five minutes later who committed the crime. Solving cases requires manpower, resources and balancing priorities.

Another misperception fomented by "cop shows" is that detectives work their cases sequentially, expending all resources on a single case, "24-7," to its conclusion.

On television, there's somebody available at the lab around the clock, somebody asking questions around the clock. In reality, a detective may have 140 open cases on his desk and barely time to return phone calls. Or victims ask, "Why didn't he confess? They always confess on TV." But if he says, "I don't want to talk to you," we have no option. Pressure him? Beat him? Threaten him? It doesn't work that way. The more fictional information that's out there, the more hurdles we have to overcome.

New technologies like DNA augment but do not replace traditional investigative methods. Properly melded, they form a more effective package for prosecution. A fingerprint at a crime scene doesn't automatically identify somebody. The DNA found could be anybody's, left a week ago or five minutes ago. It may belong to somebody who was never arrested, perhaps an illegal alien or foreign tourist.

DNA evidence can be collected in most, but not all, crimes. A notable exception is the 2003 Kristine Johnson murder case. The victim was wrapped, placed in a sleeping bag and thrown down a hill. Recovery of ample forensic DNA was expected but, surprisingly, none was found on the body or wrappings. In July 2006, the trial of Victor Paleologus for the murder of Kristine Johnson commenced. Midway through the trial, Paleologus pled guilty to first degree murder. He was sentenced to 25 years-to-life in prison. The Kristine Johnson case serves as a reminder that a murder conviction can be won without DNA.

Time, decomposition, and multiple DNA findings also impact recovery and analysis of DNA evidence. In the infamous Duke La Crosse case, analysts tested 46 samples taken from team members and found no match, but did find DNA from three unidentified males.

Into the Future

Cooper believes DNA has already assumed its role in mainstream forensics and will continue to gain status as a principal tool for crime investigators. Inmate DNA is now being collected and entered in CODIS even for burglary and other property crimes. As CODIS expands, law enforcement will recover DNA evidence in an increasing percentage of cases. The clearance and conviction rates will increase, but so will the workload for detectives to prepare the cases for prosecution.

Economics will play a role as costs continue to go down and allow more agencies to jump into the use of the technology. The question is whether the human resources needed to act on the information provided will be able to keep up.

Currently, the Orange County Crime Lab doesn't experience backlogs and has been able to do work for Santa Monica for a per-case fee. Thus far, the lab has not rejected a single case but, at times, does mention staffing shortages. Santa Monica was among the first to take advantage of Orange County's

excess capacity. As other Los Angeles County agencies learn about it and take their work south, it may adversely impact the turnaround time on Santa Monica cases.

2006 was a most gratifying year in the adjudication of major crimes aided by DNA analysis. The issue now turns to continued funding of the DNA program. The federal government has ceased direct block funding to local law government. To ensure continued access to lab services, the department must begin to phase DNA lab costs into its regular operating budget.

It is also important to plan for improvements in training and on-site equipment so the department can keep pace with advances in the forensic sciences and technology. With vision and sufficient resources, the Santa Monica Police Department could one day have a certified, on-site DNA crime lab staffed by skilled technicians.

▼ Forensic Technician Leslie Funo captures fingerprint evidence using the Mideo system. The system uses two different cameras to photograph an overview of the collected object and a close-up of evidence present on it.



Crime Statistics

A FORTY YEAR RETROSPECTIVE

PART I CRIME IN SANTA MONICA — 1956 to 2006

		1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967													1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980		
Person Crimes		139	12%	19%	-12%	8%	7%	4%	-5%	22%	-5%	2%	15%		11%	-4%	14%	0%	-6%	-9%	12%	13%	-1%	6%	-2%	1%	22%													
	Homicide	8	9	6	6	8	6	10	10	10	9	7	6		13	7	7	6	9	7	14	10	9	10	14	12	17													
	Rape	20	21	13	11	6	11	20	19	26	12	11	31		52	66	73	69	49	35	51	48	30	77	47	57	67													
	Robbery	55	72	81	58	78	136	127	117	149	150	154	169		254	229	299	281	305	335	331	330	430	445	485	520	660													
	Aggravated Assault	56	47	49	59	50	71	87	47	199	201	222	306		284	295	281	267	316	255	270	205	181	242	255	260	290													
Property Crimes		3362	3780	4534	3988	4294	4539	4696	4495	5346	5056	5126	5855		6436	6179	7039	7112	6619	5999	6733	7751	7601	7956	7785	7844	9601													
	Burglary	728	738	913	842	826	866	992	971	1221	1328	1216	1572		1698	1736	1758	1868	1919	1571	1656	2092	2065	2340	2459	2628	2911													
	Larceny	2235	2592	3079	2748	2971	3193	3213	3099	3477	3251	3384	3646		4090	3788	4490	4426	3955	3748	4255	4826	4749	4518	4209	4060	5403													
	Auto Theft	399	450	542	398	497	480	491	425	648	477	526	637		648	655	791	818	745	680	822	833	787	1098	1117	1156	1287													
UCR Totals		3501	3929	4683	4122	4436	4763	4940	4688	5730	5428	5520	6367		7039	6776	7699	7735	7298	6631	7399	8344	8251	8730	8586	8693	10635													

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	05-06	
Person Crimes	-6%	-5%	1%	-5%	2%	-7%	-3%	3%	2%	2%	11%	1%		3%	-18%	-9%	-9%	-13%	-16%	-9%	-4%	5%	-4%	-4%	-9%	-1%	4%		
	1019	968	928	979	916	954	969	1119	1063	1282	1314	1414		1445	1050	1083	929	835	651	628	645	654	647	555	557	552	590	7%	
	Homicide	6	7	10	9	8	8	7	9	6	6	13	7		9	8	8	4	1	12	1	2	2	8	2	2	4	2	-50%
	Rape	88	79	71	84	56	62	62	67	61	66	67	50		49	46	48	45	39	22	29	31	24	33	21	29	21	26	24%
	Robbery	621	602	553	549	477	456	460	552	487	616	652	704		716	507	522	438	393	268	279	268	312	299	242	244	241	256	6%
Aggravated Assault	304	280	294	337	375	428	440	491	509	594	582	653		671	489	505	442	402	349	319	344	316	307	290	282	286	306	7%	
Property Crimes		9413	8987	9163	8565	8851	8156	7842	7956	8153	8101	9082	9109		9446	7837	6986	6447	5571	4733	4256	4049	4255	4042	3946	3551	3513	3314	-6%
	Burglary	2718	2242	2357	1868	1707	1700	1478	1459	1311	1482	1614	1604		1511	1580	1112	1038	767	703	560	603	720	737	769	752	788	733	-7%
	Larceny	5546	5746	5715	5470	5775	5239	5095	5099	5307	5078	5574	5827		6181	5091	4795	4469	4005	3300	3120	2962	3020	2811	2715	2368	2286	2187	-4%
	Auto Theft	1149	999	1091	1227	1369	1217	1269	1398	1535	1541	1894	1678		1754	1166	1079	940	799	730	576	484	515	494	462	418	422	394	-7%
	Arson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26	29	37	38	42	49	50	13	17	13	-24%
UCR Totals	10432	9955	10091	9544	9767	9110	8811	9075	9216	9383	10396	10523		10891	8887	8069	7376	6406	5384	4884	4694	4909	4689	4501	4108	4048	3904	-4%	

* Arson offenses are not included in the Total Part I Crimes as they are reported separately to the State of California Department of Justice. Prior to 1997, arson investigations were handled by the Santa Monica Fire Department.

Traffic Accidents 1995 – 2006

	Total Collisions	Injury Collisions	Pedestrians Involved	Fatalities	Hit and Run	Drunk Driving Arrests
1995	2,040	528	109	11	566	486
1996	2,073	490	118	5	598	541
1997	2,035	570	142	2	564	501
1998	1,970	415	123	6	534	485
1999	2,023	467	106	3	589	417
2000	1,960	553	120	8	596	320
2001	1,966	594	130	8	585	245
2002	1,937	542	130	2	583	311
2003	1,842	426	97*	10*	535	367
2004	1,745	437	110	0	502	324
2005	1,722	444	108	3	420	361
2006	1,834	487	116	3	543	292
Change 2005 to 2006	6.5%	9.7%	7.4%	0%	29.3%	-19.1%

*All 2003 fatalities resulted from the Farmers' Market Incident on July 16, 2003.

Authorized Personnel Strength

2006 Budgeted Sworn and Civilian Positions (Full Time Equivalents)

	Office of Administrative Services	Office of Operations	Office of Special Enforcement	Office of Criminal Investigations	Animal Regulation	Harbor Unit	Total by Rank
Police Chief	1						1
Deputy Chief	1						1
Police Captain		1	1	1			3
Police Lieutenant	3	5	3	2			13
Police Sergeant	5	16	5	5			31
Police Officer	6	94	38	29			167
Total Sworn	16	116	47	37			216
Civilian Support Staff	54	64	41.6	12	11.5	6	189.1
Overtime	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.2	0.2	14.4
Temporary	4.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	0	3.7	24.8
Totals by Division	78.1	189.0	97.6	58.0	11.7	9.9	444.3



Police Department Public Inquiry Phone Numbers

Emergency	9-1-1	ONLY to report a life threatening police, fire or paramedic emergency
Non-emergency incident	458-8491	Request a non emergency call for service, or have your call directed for information about a police service not listed here
Alarm Billing	458-8481	Inquire about fees charged for a police response to a false burglar alarm
Animal Control	458-8594	Report animal control violations, dog bites, animal welfare; Inquire about pet relinquishment and adoption, spay neutering, wild animal problems
Community Relations	458-8474	Enroll in a Citizen Academy; Inquire about police community events
Crime Prevention	458-8473	Schedule training on crime avoidance and deterrence for community groups, businesses and households
Desk Officer	458-8495	General inquiry about enforcement of state law and municipal code violations
Employment	458-8413	Recorded information about becoming a Santa Monica Police Officer
Graffiti Hotline	458-2231	Link to Public Facilities Maintenance to request removal of graffiti from public property (private property if authorized by owner)
Jail	458-8482	Reach a person held in custody
Operations Office	458-8461	Hire a police officer for a film shoot or event security
Press Information Line	434-2650	Recorded press information
Property Room	458-8440	Inquire about lost or found items; Release of items held in evidence
Records	458-8431	Purchase copies of unrestricted crime and traffic accident reports, photos; Schedule fingerprinting services; Inquire about subpoena duces tecum
Traffic Services	458-2226	Inquire about parking enforcement, preferential parking, post-tow hearings

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Police Department Beat Boundary



Year in Review: 2006 was written and published for the Santa Monica Police Department by Marla McCullough, SMPD Planning & Research Unit. Police Activities League article was researched and written by Debbie Anderson. Photos contributed by Mel Weinstein, Elaine Sena-Brown, Ed Burns, Fabian Lewkowicz/Courtesy of SantaMonicaCloseup.com/. Creative concept for "Our Community Starts Here" theme courtesy of Erica Paige. Photo shoot coordinator Lauralee Asch. Layout design by Lydia Chung ~ Printed by Charlie Chan Printing