



JIM McDONNELL
SHERIFF

2016 LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARDS

COURAGE ★ BRAVERY ★ SACRIFICE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24TH - 2:00PM
USC GALEN CENTER

3400 SOUTH FIGUEROA STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90089

A special thank you to
Sheriff's Relief Association for their sponsorship!



Serving Los Angeles County Sheriff's Since 1924

~ WELCOME ~
2016 VALOR AWARDS



Los Angeles County
Sheriff's Department



HALL OF JUSTICE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

CORE VALUES

With integrity, compassion, and courage, we serve our communities -- protecting life and property, being diligent and professional in our acts and deeds, holding ourselves and each other accountable for our actions at all times, while respecting the dignity and rights of all.

Earning the Public's Trust Every Day!

MISSION

- to enforce the law fairly and within constitutional authority;*
- to be proactive in our approach to crime prevention;*
- to enhance public trust through accountability;*
- to maintain a constitutionally sound and rehabilitative approach to incarceration;*
- to provide a safe and secure court system;*
- to maintain peace and order;*
- and to work in partnership with the communities we serve to ensure the highest possible quality of life.*

CREED

My goals are simple. I will always be painfully honest, work as hard as I can, learn as much as I can and hopefully make a difference in people's lives.

Deputy David W. March EOW April 29, 2002

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

“ During a time when so many are quick to criticize the actions of law enforcement, it is vitally important we take the time to recognize the heroic actions of our members. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Valor Awards ceremony highlights the single highest honor in recognition of our employees. Today, we acknowledge the courage, commitment, bravery, and sacrifice of those who performed their duties at the highest level in the enforcement of our laws and protection of our freedoms and way of life. “

Jim McDonnell

Jim McDonnell, Sheriff

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MASTER OF CEREMONIES



MR. DAVID ONO

Mr. David Ono is the co-anchor for ABC7 Eyewitness News at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Since joining ABC7 in 1996, he has witnessed history worldwide, covering Hurricane Katrina, Haiti's earthquake and Japan's tsunami. He traveled across Europe and Asia chronicling brave acts of the Nisei soldier from World War II.

He attended the Royal Wedding in London, tracked drug runners through Central America and reported from Paris on a terrorist plot to bring down the Eiffel Tower.

He has trained with the FBI and the elite Los Angeles County Sheriff's SWAT Team. President Obama invited him to the White House for an exclusive interview and he witnessed white smoke at the Vatican twice, in 2005 for the selection of Pope Benedict the 16th and 2013 for the selection of Pope Francis.

Recently, he surfaced in Boston, chronicling the marathon bombing. He has won three Edward R. Murrow awards and 16 Emmys.

He grew up in Texas and is a graduate of the University of North Texas. His career has included stops at KQVR in Sacramento, KDBC in El Paso, KOSA in Midland/Odessa and KXAS in Dallas. He has also hosted ABC7's half-hour show on Eye on LA.

Follow David on social media:

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NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGER



MR. DAMIEN LAWSON

Inspired by so many great singers before him, he honed his skill and developed his "Singing Chops" by learning the Soul of Gospel music, the discipline of Opera and the passions of Rhythm and Blues. He led his high school choir, competed at local talent competitions and wrote music whenever he had the opportunity. When it became apparent that this was no childhood pastime, he moved from the small town of Monroe, Louisiana, to Hollywood, California. Overwhelmed by all of the opportunities now available to him, he dove in head first and has never looked back.

In today's pro-social media world, he began to showcase his voice and gain the likes of hundreds of thousands of fans through YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. With over 100k fans on social media platforms and several million views, he is reaching new heights every day and is well on his way to stardom. His most notable accomplishment to date was becoming a finalist on season 7 of NBC's The Voice. After getting a coveted "4-Chair-Turn" from all of the coaches, he blazed through hits from Adele, Sam Smith, Jennifer Hudson and Leann Rimes just to name a few. Since The Voice, he has been able to pursue his career full time singing all over the country for corporate events and charities while he records his debut EP.

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Find Damien on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter: [IAMDamienMusic](#)



HONORARY GUEST

STAFF SERGEANT SPENCER J. STONE U.S. AIR FORCE



ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 2013 – March 2015, Pediatric Medical Technician, 60th Medical Group, Travis Air Force Base, California
2. March 2015 – October 2015, Ambulance Services Technician, 65th Medical Group, Lajes Field, Azores Portugal
3. October 2015 – Present, Pediatric Medical Technician, 60th Medical Group, Travis Air Force Base, California

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

USO George Van Cleave Military Leadership Award
Key to the City of Sacramento

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman Basic	October 2012
Airman	February 2013
Airman First Class	February 2014
Senior Airman	October 2015
Staff Sergeant	November 2015

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Airman’s Medal
Purple Heart
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
National Defense Service Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Air Force Training Ribbon
French Legion of Honor



Staff Sergeant Spencer J. Stone garnered international headlines in August 2015 when he and two friends thwarted a terrorist attack on a Paris-bound train, subduing and disarming a man wielding an assault rifle, pistol and box cutter. Exposing himself to the man’s line of fire, Stone charged, tackled and restrained the individual. During the struggle, the gunman slashed Stone several times lacerating his head, neck, and thumb. Despite his injuries, Stone then provided life-saving care to a man who received a gunshot wound to his throat during the attack. Stone applied pressure to the wounded man’s neck to stop the life-threatening bleeding. For his heroic and selfless actions, Stone was presented with France’s highest recognition, the Legion of Honor.

Stone is a pediatric medical technician assigned to the 60th Medical Operations Squadron, 60th Medical Group, Travis Air Force Base, California. In his current capacity, Stone collaborates and assists five physicians and four nurses to provide medical care to more than 4,800 empanelled pediatric beneficiaries. His duties include, preparing and administering oral and intramuscular medication under the direct supervision of pediatricians and performing diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; administering prescribed medications and breathing treatments. He maintains a current certification in Basic Life Support and National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician.

Stone grew up in Sacramento, California, where he attended and graduated from Del Campo High School. He joined the United States Air Force in October 2012.



VALOR AWARD HISTORY

In 1982, the Department Valor Awards Program was established to officially and publicly recognize the exceptionally heroic acts performed by members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. These awards signify courage, acts of heroism while saving the life of another, traumatic physical injury while performing their job, preservation of human life, personal commitment, and sacrifice to help others.

Deputy sheriffs are called upon to fluidly handle unexpected, challenging and dynamic situations. They do not shy away from uncertainty and work hard to make peace for others, often times at personal risk.

Every day, the men and women of our Department perform their duties in a professional manner. Today, however, this program honors those who extended themselves extraordinarily beyond what was required or asked of them.

MEDAL OF VALOR



This award is the highest honor a member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department can receive. It is awarded to persons who distinguish themselves by displaying great courage, above and beyond the call of duty, in the face of immediate, life-threatening peril and with full knowledge of the risk involved.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT MEDAL - GOLD



This award is the second highest award a Department member can receive. It is awarded to persons who place themselves in immediate peril and perform an act of heroism and/or save the life of another person.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT MEDAL - SILVER



This award is the third highest award a Department member can receive. It is awarded to persons who, when confronted by circumstances beyond the normal course of their duties, place themselves in potential peril while performing an act of heroism or while saving or attempting to save the life of another.



PURPLE HEART MEDAL



This is awarded to Department members who, through no fault of their own, sustain a traumatic physical injury as a result of a violent encounter with the criminal element, a high-risk law enforcement function, or an accident, and continue to perform their job.

LIFESAVING MEDAL



This is awarded to Department members whose actions result in the saving or preservation of a human life that otherwise would have expired without the Department member's direct involvement.

LINE OF DUTY MEDAL



This is awarded to Department members who, sustain serious or career debilitating injuries during the performance of job related functions such as a violent encounter with the criminal element, a rescue operation, a hazardous materials exposure, a riot, a traffic or other accident, they may be formally recognized by presentation of the Department approved Line of Duty Award and a uniform pin.

HUMANITARIAN MEDAL



This is awarded to Department members who selflessly perform acts of personal commitment and sacrifice to help others. The Humanitarian Award may be awarded to non-Department members who save or attempt to save the life or prevent the serious injury of a Department member. These acts are exceptional, ongoing and extraordinary, and are considered well above commonality.



WALNUT/DIAMOND BAR STATION

Meritorious Conduct Medal - Gold



DEPUTY HUGO BARAJAS

Deputy Hugo Barajas joined the Department in 1999. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Men’s Central Jail, Industry Station, and Walnut/Diamond Bar Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY PATRICIA CASAS

Deputy Patricia Casas joined the Department as a Custody Assistant in 2005 and was assigned to Men’s Central Jail. In 2007, she graduated from the Academy, and was assigned to Century Regional Detention Facility, Court Services Division (Compton Superior Court) and Walnut/Diamond Bar Station, where she is currently assigned.



DEPUTY JAIME H. DE LA CERDA

Deputy Jaime De La Cerda joined the Department in 2006. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Court Services West Bureau (LAX Court), Court Services Central Bureau (ELA Court), West Hollywood Station, Walnut/Diamond Bar Station and Community Partnerships Bureau, where he is currently assigned.

On Monday, August 3, 2015, Deputies Hugo Barajas, Patricia Casas and Jaime De La Cerda, all assigned to Walnut/Diamond Bar Station, responded to an emergency rescue call in which a woman arrived home and found her husband completely submerged in their swimming pool.

Deputy Casas was the first to arrive at the home. She ran to the yard and found a man at the bottom of the deep end of the pool. Deputy Casas, without hesitation, removed her gun belt and jumped into the water. She tried desperately to pull the man from the pool on her own, but he was too heavy. She quickly got out of the pool and called for assistance via her portable radio.

Within minutes, Deputies Barajas and De La Cerda arrived and also jumped into the pool. Together, they grabbed the man and struggled to pull him to the surface, but were hindered by the depth and slope of the pool floor. Cognizant of vital time, the deputies raced to pull the man to the shallow end, out of the water, and succeeded after several attempts.

Personnel from the Los Angeles County Fire Department arrived and began treating the man. He was transported to the hospital in critical condition and placed on a ventilator. Unfortunately, the man passed away the following day.

Later that evening, the on-duty fire captain called Walnut/Diamond Bar Station and commended the deputies for their valiant actions. He said they did a great job of working together as a team during an extremely difficult rescue. Although the victim did not survive the tragic event, the heroic actions displayed by the deputies should not be diminished. They fully understood the danger involved in entering the pool in uniform, and did so while risking their own lives in an effort to save another.

For their tremendous bravery and selfless actions in an attempt to save the victim, Deputy Hugo Barajas, Deputy Patricia Casas and Deputy Jaime De La Cerda are awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Gold**.

LOMITA STATION

Meritorious Conduct Medal - Gold



DEPUTY DWAYNE O. JAVIER

Deputy Dwayne Javier worked for the Los Angeles County Police Department from 2008-2010 before joining the Sheriff’s Department. He has been assigned to the Inmate Reception Center and Lomita Station, where he is currently assigned.

While returning from a detail at Lomita Station at approximately 3:30 A.M. on Thursday, July 16, 2015, Deputy Dwayne Javier travelled on the Harbor Freeway and encountered a five-car traffic collision. One of the vehicles had spun around during the crash and was now facing oncoming traffic.

Deputy Javier saw the vehicle’s engine was completely engulfed in flames and the passenger compartment was quickly filling with smoke. He saw a frantic young woman trapped in the driver’s seat; she was screaming, crying and desperately trying to get out of the car. Deputy Javier tried to open the car door, but it was jammed. With the smoke and flames intensifying, Deputy Javier knew the woman’s life depended on him and every moment was crucial to her survival.

Without hesitation, Deputy Javier used his window punch tool to break the driver’s side rear passenger window. Despite the obstacles and challenges of the incident, he was able to pull the victim over the driver seat and out through the rear door. Deputy Javier and a concerned citizen carried the victim across the traffic lanes to safety. Moments after the rescue, the vehicle became completely engulfed in flames.

Personnel from the California Highway Patrol and Los Angeles County Fire Department arrived shortly thereafter to handle the traffic collision and extinguish the flames. The victim was transported to a local hospital for care.

For his tremendous bravery, risking his own safety while coming to the aid of a motorist, and placing himself in immediate life-threatening peril, Deputy Javier is awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Gold**.

PALMDALE STATION

Purple Heart Medal



DEPUTY EDMUNDO PEREZ

Deputy Edmundo Perez joined the Department in 1998. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-East Facility, Training Academy, Palmdale Station, Crescenta Valley Station, COPS Bureau, Santa Clarita Valley Station and Community Partnerships Bureau, where he is currently assigned.

During the late afternoon hours of Saturday, February 6, 2002, Deputy Edmundo Perez, assigned to Palmdale Station at the time, responded to a call for service of a male juvenile stabbed at a bus stop. Updated information provided the suspect’s description and indicated he was last seen running into a residential neighborhood near the location of the crime. Deputy Perez searched the area and located the suspect.

When Deputy Perez stopped his radio car to contact the suspect, the suspect ran away from him. Deputy Perez followed and advised assisting units of their location. The suspect ran to a house and attempted to enter the backyard. As Deputy Perez initiated a containment of the area, the suspect doubled-back to the street, right to where Deputy Perez stood. The suspect ran north, away from Deputy Perez, then stopped, turned toward Deputy Perez, and fired two rounds from a handgun at him. Deputy Perez did not have any cover or concealment available and dropped to the ground into a prone position. At that point, he realized he was shot in the right leg. Deputy Perez returned fire at the suspect.

An assisting unit arrived and stopped parallel to the suspect. The suspect redirected his attention to the radio car and engaged in gunfire with the deputies inside. Deputy Perez fired two more rounds, striking the suspect. The suspect fell to the ground, and Deputy Perez ran to take cover behind two parked cars. The suspect was disarmed and taken into custody.

Deputy Perez sustained a gunshot wound in the right leg just behind his holster. He was transported to the hospital and treated for his injury.

Deputy Perez displayed great discipline and remained focused during a dangerous and violent attack. Based on his encounter with a merciless suspect and the bravery displayed in continuing to perform his duties after sustaining such a traumatic injury, Deputy Perez is awarded the **Purple Heart Medal**.

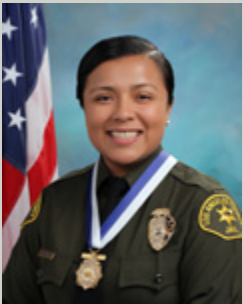
NORTH COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Meritorious Conduct Medal - Gold



DEPUTY ANDREA E. DE LA CRUZ

Deputy Andrea De La Cruz was an Explorer/Cadet with the Department from 2008 to 2009. She joined the Department as a Security Officer in 2010 and assigned to Community College Bureau. After graduating from the Academy in 2012, she was assigned to North County Correctional Facility and Temple Station, where she is currently assigned.



CUSTODY ASSISTANT SYLVIA G. GRANADOS

Custody Assistant Sylvia Granados was a Cadet with the Community College District assigned to Pierce College from 2013 to 2015. Custody Assistant Granados joined the Department in 2015. After graduating from the Academy, she was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, where she is currently assigned.

On Saturday, January 30, 2016, as deputies conducted dorm security checks at the North County Correctional Facility, Custody Assistant Sylvia Granados saw an inmate punch a deputy in the back of the head. She attempted to pull the inmate off the deputy and they all fell to the ground. While on the ground, the inmate grabbed the fallen deputy’s portable radio and threw it, preventing notification of the fight and communication with other personnel.

The inmate continued to punch and kick the deputy while the custody assistant was pushed away by another inmate. Additional inmates entered the fight and viciously attacked the deputy, while others attempted to drag him away. Custody Assistant Granados gave multiple commands for them to stop, which they ignored; they continued to push her away while continuing their attack on the deputy. Custody Assistant Granados was able to break free and deployed her Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) “pepper spray.” Several inmates were affected and ran to the rear of the nearby bunks.

Deputy De La Cruz stood on the lower tier of the stairs when she saw the ambush of her partner on the upper tier. She immediately ran to assist, but was blocked by several inmates who stopped her from going up the stairs and rendering assistance. They also blocked the telephones to prevent her from calling for help.

As Deputy De La Cruz tried to go up the stairs, several inmates grabbed her arm, restrained her and grabbed at her canister of OC “pepper spray” in an effort to disarm her. Their pursuit was unsuccessful; Deputy De La Cruz broke free, ran upstairs and deployed her spray on the inmates who were attacking the deputy.

Assisting deputies responded and were able to restore order to the dorm. The inmates who conspired in the attack were identified and processed with related charges.

Despite sustaining injuries and being significantly outnumbered by the inmates, Deputy De La Cruz and Custody Assistant Granados were able to fight back, subdue the assailants and undoubtedly save their partner’s life. For their tremendous bravery, tenacity and heroic actions while coming to the aid of a fellow deputy sheriff during an aggressive attack, Deputy De La Cruz and Custody Assistant Sylvia Granados are awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Gold**.

PALMDALE STATION

Purple Heart Medal



SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER J. FERNANDEZ

Sergeant Christopher Fernandez joined the Department in 1991. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-North Facility, Inmate Reception Center, Court Services West Bureau (South Bay), Lennox Station, Compton Station, Operations Safe Streets Bureau, Training Bureau and Recruit Training Bureau. In 2008, he promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, Palmdale Station and Community Partnerships Bureau, where he is currently assigned. He served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve for four years (1988-1992) at Camp Pendleton and was activated for Operation Desert Storm. He also served in the United States Coast Guard Reserve for four years (1992-1996) and is now a Reconnaissance Team Leader for an Army National Guard Scout/Sniper Platoon (2015-Present).

At approximately 11:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 16, 2009, Sergeant Christopher Fernandez, assigned to Palmdale Station at that time, engaged in a pursuit of a suspected drunk driver who was operating a vehicle in a reckless and dangerous manner. At the end of the pursuit, the suspect ran from the vehicle prompting Sergeant Fernandez to immediately coordinate a containment of the area.

As assisting units arrived, they heard a citizen yell, “I got him over here!” Sergeant Fernandez and assisting units tracked the source of the voice to an area where the suspect was last seen, and located a citizen in the backyard of a residence. They quickly realized there was a block wall between the yard in which they stood and the yard in which they saw the citizen, partially blocking their view. Sergeant Fernandez approached the wall and saw the suspect positioned on his hands and knees, being detained at gunpoint by the citizen. Sergeant Fernandez advised assisting units of the situation and jumped over the wall into the neighboring yard.

Sergeant Fernandez took a position next to the citizen, detained the suspect at gunpoint and had the citizen safely lower his gun. The citizen turned toward Sergeant Fernandez and unintentionally fired one round from his revolver, hitting Sergeant Fernandez in the left middle finger. Sergeant Fernandez immediately felt pain and a burning sensation in his finger, but he remained composed, assessed the situation and determined no one else was injured.

Sergeant Fernandez advised assisting units via his portable radio of the shooting and instructed all units to maintain their positions. He ensured the citizen was no longer holding the gun and ordered deputies to handcuff the suspected drunk driver. Once the suspect was handcuffed and the incident was under control, Sergeant Fernandez briefed and relinquished control of the incident to another sergeant.

His injured finger was partially severed and bleeding heavily, and required surgery to repair. As a result of the injury, Sergeant Fernandez sustained limited range of motion in his finger and the knuckle fused together permanently.

Sergeant Fernandez displayed great calm and discipline during a dangerous and dynamic situation. His composure and selfless demeanor under challenging circumstances helped ensure the safety of the citizen, the suspect, and responding personnel. The fact he continued to communicate and carry-out his responsibilities in the arrest of the suspect, despite the fact he had been seriously wounded and before seeking medical attention, is truly admirable and worthy of recognition. For his bravery and extraordinary execution of his duties after sustaining a gunshot injury, Sergeant Fernandez is awarded the **Purple Heart Medal**.

TEMPLE STATION

Purple Heart Medal



DEPUTY RICHARD C. ADAMS

Deputy Adams joined the Department as a Custody Assistant in 1988 and was assigned to the Hall of Justice Jail. In 1989, he graduated from the Academy, and was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-East Facility, Court Services Division (Criminal Courts Building), Lakewood Station and Temple Station, where he is currently assigned.

On Monday, October 8, 2000, Deputy Richard Adams was working a patrol assignment in the unincorporated county area of Monrovia, when he along with additional deputies responded to an illegal shooting call near the intersection of Euclid Avenue and Shamrock Avenue. As deputies investigated the call, three gunshots were heard coming from the south side of their location. The first shot fired hit Deputy Adams. Missing his ballistic vest by inches, the bullet struck him in the left side of the chest. Deputy Adams immediately took cover behind his patrol vehicle and broadcast over his radio that he had been shot. He was able to provide substantial information about the shooting while under duress. His partner managed to drive them both out of the line of fire when it was safe to do so. Deputy Adams was transported to the hospital via ambulance and was listed in serious, but stable condition. The bullet passed through his torso, narrowly missing his aorta by less than ½ a centimeter. It ultimately pierced his right lung causing it to collapse before becoming lodged in the upper right side of his chest.

After responding deputies surrounded the area where the shots were heard, they conducted an extensive search for anyone involved in the shooting. The suspect was located in a nearby home and he ultimately confessed to the shooting. A .38 caliber revolver and live ammunition were recovered. The suspect subsequently pled guilty to two counts of attempted murder on a police officer and was sentenced to thirty years in prison.

Although wounded, Deputy Adams displayed a tremendous amount of courage and tenacity by broadcasting the information regarding the shooting to responding units and exemplified his resolve and dedication to duty. For his perseverance and continuing to perform his duties after sustaining such a traumatic injury, Deputy Richard Adams is awarded the **Purple Heart Medal**.

EAST LOS ANGELES STATION

Medal of Valor and Meritorious Conduct Medal - Silver



SERGEANT ABEL JIMENEZ

Sergeant Abel Jimenez joined the Department in 1997. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Twin Towers Correctional Facility, Inmate Reception Center, Century Regional Detention Facility, Industry Station, Parole Compliance Team and Transit Policing Division. In 2015, he promoted to Sergeant and assigned to East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY MARLIN CONDE

Deputy Marlin Conde joined the Department in 2008. After graduating from the Academy, she was assigned to Century Regional Detention Facility and East Los Angeles Station, where she is currently assigned. She served in the United States Marine Corps for eight years (2004-2013) at Miramar Tank Battalion Unit as a Corporal.



DEPUTY JORDAN J. HEMPSTEAD

Deputy Jordan Hemsptead joined the Department in 2012. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, Court Services Central Bureau (Metro Court) and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY LUIS S. LEZAMA

Deputy Lezama joined the Department in 2007. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-East Facility, Men's Central Jail and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY ALBERT MACIAS

Deputy Albert Macias joined the Department in 2011. After graduating from the Academy 2012, he was assigned to Twin Towers Correctional Facility and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY ROGER E. PARGA

Deputy Roger Parga joined the Department in 2006. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-North Facility, Pitchess Detention Center-South Facility and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY ADRIAN RENDON

Deputy Adrian Rendon joined the Department as a security officer in 2005. In 2007, he graduated from the Academy and was assigned to Transportation Bureau and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY ERIC J. VALDEZ

Deputy Eric Valdez joined the Department in 1991. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Men’s Central Jail and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY ANDREW H. ALATORRE

Deputy Andrew Alatorre joined the Department in 2007. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Twin Towers Correctional Facility and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY FERNANDO GALVAN-AGUILAR

Deputy Fernando Galvan-Aguilar joined the Department in 2006. After graduating from the Academy in 2007, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY DANIEL D. GONZALEZ

Deputy Daniel Gonzalez joined the Department as a security officer in 2010. In 2011, he graduated from the Academy and was assigned to Men’s Central Jail and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY EDUARDO MUNIZ

Deputy Eduardo Muniz joined the Department in 2007. After graduating from the Academy 2012, he was assigned to Inmate Reception Center and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY MANUEL NAVARRO

Deputy Manuel Navarro joined the Department in 1999. After graduating from the Academy in 2000, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, Twin Towers Correctional Facility and East Los Angeles Station, where he is currently assigned.

During the early morning hours of Monday, November 9, 2015, Deputies Albert Macias, Manuel Navarro, Fernando Galvan, Roger Parga, Andrew Alatorre, and Eduardo Muniz, assigned to East Los Angeles Station, responded to a family disturbance call which indicated the suspect threatened to kill his ex-wife and their three-year-old son.

From the driveway, deputies heard the sound of glass breaking at the back of the house. Deputy Navarro requested additional assisting units, as he and the deputies at the scene moved cautiously toward the rear of the residence. The victim ran toward them, yelling and crying hysterically. She told deputies the suspect broke her window and forced his way into the house, made threats against her, and barricaded himself inside the house with their son. The victim said she had a restraining order against the suspect for prior domestic assaults, and warned deputies the suspect appeared to be under the influence of methamphetamine and was known to carry knives.

Sergeant Abel Jimenez, Deputies Eric Valdez, Luis Lezama, Jordan Hempstead, Adrian Rendon, Daniel Gonzales, and Marlin Conde arrived at the scene. Using their flashlights, the deputies shone light into the room and saw the suspect was distraught, pacing back and forth, and held a knife to his neck. The suspect’s shirt, arms and neck were covered in blood. He told deputies he wanted to talk to his mom and he “knew how this was going to end.” The deputies could neither see nor hear the little boy and feared he had been harmed.

The deputies formed a plan to breach the door and make entry in an effort to locate and rescue the young boy. An entry team used a pick, ram and shield to strike the doorframe while deputies near the window maintained contact with the suspect, giving him continuous orders to put the knife down and surrender. The initial strike created a loud noise which shifted the suspect’s attention toward them. Sergeant Jimenez ordered deputies to deploy a Taser through an open window, which proved ineffective. Sergeant Jimenez ordered a second Taser deployment and the suspect fell on top of the bed. Without hesitation, the deputies made entry and used the shield to pin the suspect down on the bed and located the boy nearby.

Simultaneously, additional deputies entered the room and rescued the toddler. The suspect was taken into custody without further incident.

The teamwork and communication demonstrated by all the deputies throughout this dynamic encounter was exceptional. In an effort to save the life of a child, the deputies gave little thought to the threat the suspect posed to their own safety.

For displaying bravery and a courageous execution of their duties during a challenging situation, Sergeant Abel Jimenez, Deputies Marlin Conde, Jordan Hempstead, Luis Lezama, Albert Macias, Roger Parga, Adrian Rendon, and Eric Valdez are awarded the **Medal of Valor**.

For their selfless actions and placing themselves in potential peril, Deputies Andrew Alatorre, Fernando Galvan-Aguilar, Daniel Gonzalez, Eduardo Muniz, and Manuel Navarro are awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Silver**.

TEMPLE STATION

Line of Duty Medal



SERGEANT BURTON L. BRINK

Sergeant Burton Brink was an Explorer/Cadet with the Arcadia Police Department from 1977 to 1982 and a Level 1 Reserve Police Officer with the Monterey Park Police Department (1982-1989). He joined the Department in 1989. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Court Services East Bureau (Pasadena Court), Sybil Brand Institute and Temple Station. In 2009, he promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-East Facility, Crescenta Valley Station, Altadena Station and Sheriff’s Information Bureau, where he is currently assigned.



CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER SCOTT P. RILEY

Officer Scott Riley entered the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Academy in April of 1998. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to the East Los Angeles Area. In 2001, he was assigned as a permanent motorcycle rider. While assigned to East Los Angeles, he was given a variety of specialized duties and was assigned as a liaison for the Community Oriented Policing (COPS) program. He was selected as a Field Training Officer and was a member of the Protective Services Detail. In July of 2009, he transferred to the San Bernardino Area where he earned the position as the Special Enforcement Officer (SEO). As the SEO, he improves community relations by identifying traffic related issues and taking the necessary enforcement action to minimize the recurrence of those violations. He also participates in numerous community meetings, helping members of our communities with their concerns. He is the President of the local CHP Squad Club and is an active participant of the CHIP’s for Kids toy drive. He is married with four children and enjoys camping as well as family outings.

On Wednesday, June 13, 2007, Sergeant Burton Brink, who held the rank of deputy at that time, was riding his marked patrol motorcycle westbound on Interstate Highway 10 when he saw a California Highway Patrol officer conducting a traffic stop. As Sergeant Brink positioned his motorcycle to provide backup for the officer, a vehicle travelling in front of him suddenly turned out of the carpool lane at a 90-degree angle, causing a violent collision with Sergeant Brink and his motorcycle. Sergeant Brink was thrown from the motorcycle and landed on the freeway. His head, left shoulder, ribs, and knee struck the asphalt, and his body skidded into traffic lanes. The momentum of his skid was halted by the tire of a stopped vehicle, which narrowly missed him.

Sergeant Brink was transported to a local hospital where he spent three days in the Intensive Care Unit and remained for three additional weeks. Sergeant Brink sustained extensive injuries, including a collapsed lung, broken ribs, broken shoulder, and a broken scapula. In addition, his spleen was lacerated, his kidneys were severely bruised and his knee required two surgeries to repair. He spent the next eighteen months recovering from his injuries.

The CHP officer Sergeant Brink intended to assist, Scott Riley, came to his immediate aid. He kept Sergeant Brink conscious and undoubtedly helped save his life by removing his ballistic vest to help him breathe under the weight of his collapsed lung and other injuries.

The trauma doctor in the Intensive Care Unit said Sergeant Brink sustained a number of serious internal injuries, and if it were not for CHP Officer Scott Riley coming to his aid, it is likely Sergeant Brink would not have survived the accident.

Through no fault of his own, Sergeant Brink sustained traumatic physical injuries during the performance of his duties and endured great physical pain during his recovery and rehabilitation. His determination allowed him to return to work and continue to perform his job functions.

For his tremendous fortitude, will power, and spirit, Sergeant Burton Brink is awarded the **Line of Duty Medal**.

INDUSTRY STATION

Meritorious Conduct Medal - Silver



SERGEANT ROBERT J. BLUNT

Sergeant Robert Blunt joined the Department in 1988. After graduating from the Academy in 1989, he was assigned to Men’s Central Jail, Industry Station and Personnel Administration Bureau, Pre-Employment Unit. In 2007, he promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-East Facility and Walnut/ Diamond Bar Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY GORDON L. BAKER

Deputy Gordon Baker joined the Department in 1990. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Biscailuz Center, Inmate Reception Center, Criminal Courts Building and Industry Station, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY ROBERT D. SEMINARIS

Deputy Robert Seminaris joined the Department in 1981. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Men’s Central Jail, Malibu/Lost Hills Station, Industry Station, Walnut/Diamond Bar Station, Transit Services Bureau and back to Industry Station, where he is currently assigned.



RETIRED DEPUTY AND CORPORAL DAVID ALLIS

He joined the Department in 1990. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Court Services Bureau (Pasadena, Long Beach and Criminal Courts Building) and Industry Station. In 2015, he joined Ontario Police Department and was assigned to Patrol, School Resource Officer, COPS Unit, Hostage Negotiator, Field Training Officer, promoted to Corporal and retired in 2016. He served in the United States Marine Corps (active and reserve) for eight years and promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He was activated for Operation Desert Storm and honorably discharged in 1995.

David resides in the city of Corona with his wife Erika of thirteen years. They have two children, Ryan and Sean, and own a pet hotel business. He is a Board Member and Treasurer of the Eastvale Law Enforcement and Fire Fighter’s Association. He also served as a Public Safety Commissioner for the City of Eastvale.

On Wednesday, February 9, 2005, Sergeant Robert Blunt and Deputies David Allis, Gordon Baker and Robert Seminaris, then-assigned to Industry Station, responded to a rescue call in Hacienda Heights. The informant reported a 14-year-old girl screaming and hanging from the side of a cliff. Upon arrival, the deputies learned the girl slipped approximately 40 feet down a steep canyon and was clinging to an unstable slope; she was within inches of a treacherous, hundred-foot drop and in need of swift and immediate rescue.

Believing the girl was in immediate peril of falling further over the cliff, the deputies quickly formulated a plan to climb down the side of the cliff, to a ledge parallel to the girl. With the shrewd and impromptu use of a ladder and garden hose as rescue aids, the deputies formed a human chain in an attempt to reach the girl. Deputy Allis moved judiciously across the cliff face and got within feet of the victim. He fed the garden hose down for the young teen to grasp and instructed her to hunker down as close to the dirt as possible and remain calm.

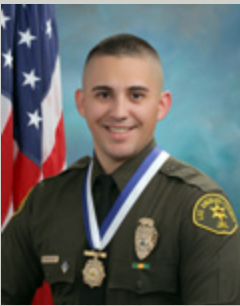
Personnel from the Los Angeles County Fire Department also responded. A fireman dressed in climbing equipment shimmied his way down to the girl and tied a harness around her to keep her from slipping further down the cliffside. A fire department rescue helicopter arrived on scene and lowered a rescue basket, hoisting the fireman and girl to safety. The teenager was taken to a local hospital where she was treated for cuts and abrasions.

The sergeant on-duty that evening indicated the responding deputies were faced with an extremely difficult situation. He stated they did a great job of working together as a team during a dynamic and precarious rescue. There was no doubt in his mind that if any one of the rescuers or the victim would have fallen over the cliff, they would have all fallen.

For their tremendous bravery and heroic actions, knowingly risking their lives to save the victim, Sergeant Robert Blunt, retired Deputy David Allis, and Deputies Gordon Baker and Robert Seminaris are awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Silver**.

NORTH COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Meritorious Conduct Medal - Gold



CUSTODY ASSISTANT JESSE HERNANDEZ

Custody Assistant Hernandez joined the Department in 2012. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, where he is currently assigned. Custody Assistant Hernandez is currently serving in the Army National Guard as an Infantryman (2014 to Present).

On the evening of Sunday, October 18, 2015, Custody Assistant Jesse Hernandez was on his way to North County Correctional Facility to begin his scheduled work shift. While traveling westbound on State Route 60 through Hacienda Heights, he noticed a large charter bus stopped at an angle, blocking two lanes. As he drove closer, he saw flames coming from the rear engine compartment of the bus and immediately pulled his vehicle to the right shoulder to help.

As Custody Assistant Hernandez ran toward the bus, he saw numerous occupants inside frantically looking for a viable exit. The bus driver was trying to open the front exit door from inside, but it appeared to be stuck, trapping everyone inside.

Custody Assistant Hernandez saw the smoke intensify and knew he had to take immediate action. He looked for an emergency door release, located the outer release latch and forced the door open. He entered the bus and assisted the 42 distraught passengers out, then went back into the smoke-filled cabin to confirm everyone was able to get out safely.

In spite of the obvious threat, Custody Assistant Hernandez entered the burning bus and aided all the occupants to safety without injuries. His swift and selfless actions unquestionably helped save the lives of 42 people.

For his tremendous bravery and great heroism while placing himself in immediate life-threatening peril, Custody Assistant Jesse Hernandez is awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Gold**.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

Medal of Valor and Meritorious Conduct Medal - Gold



SERGEANT KAMAL H. AHMAD

Sergeant Kamal Ahmad joined the Department in 1995. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-South Facility, Twin Towers Correctional Facility and Century Station. In 2008, he promoted to Sergeant and assigned to Lennox Station and Special Enforcement Bureau, where he is currently assigned. He served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve for six years (1993-1999).



DEPUTY DARELL A. EDWARDS

Deputy Darrell Edwards joined the Department in 1999. After graduating from the Academy in 2000, he was assigned to Pitchess Detention Center-East Facility, Pitchess Detention Center-North Facility, Inmate Reception Center, Century Station and Special Enforcement Bureau, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY GONZALO GALVEZ

Deputy Gonzalo Galvez joined the Department in 1999. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, Lennox Station and Special Enforcement Bureau, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY RICARDO MUNOZ

Deputy Ricardo Munoz joined the Department in 1998. After graduating from the Academy in 2000, he was assigned to Inmate Reception Center, Century Station and Special Enforcement Bureau, where he is currently assigned. He served in the United States Army for eight years (1994-2002) at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and out of the San Pedro National Guard Unit.



DEPUTY DANIEL R. LEON

Deputy Daniel Leon joined the Department in 1996. After graduating from the Academy in 1997, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, Court Services West Bureau, Lennox Station, Operation Safe Streets Bureau and Special Enforcement Bureau, where he is currently assigned.

On Thursday evening, September 10, 2015, Aero Bureau personnel witnessed an armed carjacking in the City of Pico Rivera and advised ground units in the area. California Highway Patrol (CHP) personnel initiated a pursuit of the vehicle. Aero Bureau personnel assisted from overhead by relaying their observations and narrating the pursuit.

The pursuit traveled through several cities and policing jurisdictions, during which the suspect drove recklessly, had several near-collisions with pedestrians and vehicles, and committed a second carjacking in an attempt to get away.

As the pursuit progressed, the suspect exited of the freeway and travelled southbound on Lakewood Boulevard through the City of Downey. CHP personnel applied a Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) maneuver which caused the suspect's vehicle to collide with a parked car. Officers approached and ordered the suspect to surrender. The suspect refused to comply and remained in the vehicle.

The suspect suddenly emerged from the vehicle, with a gun in his hand, and indiscriminately fired several gunshots. As he continued to run, he fired the gun several more time with no regard for the safety of the officers or the public. He continued running and entered a local restaurant that was crowded with patrons. Some of the customers ran for their lives and managed to escape through the front door while the suspect forced several other customers to remain inside as hostages.

As the incident progressed, the suspect pointed his weapon at the hostages inside the restaurant. Witnesses who escaped earlier described the suspect as highly-agitated and making statements that he would not go back to jail. His actions demonstrated willful and complete disregard for the safety of anyone, and they indicated he was intent on escaping at any cost, including the possibility of harming or killing innocent people in order to do so. Deputies gathered intelligence while attempting to contain an extremely chaotic scene and coordinate the response of Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) personnel. Sergeant Kamal Ahmad, using CHP and Downey Police Department personnel, established a crisis entry team in the event immediate intervention became necessary. Another group of deputies assembled as a second entry team at the rear of the location.

Personnel at the command post established text communication with one of the hostages inside the restaurant, informing them the suspect was armed and extremely agitated. They learned from another hostage the suspect was gathering people and moving them into a restroom.

Additional SEB personnel arrived and organized a tactical entry. A team began the deployment of equipment and personnel, with Deputy Daniel Leon taking a position with a long rifle at a side window, which gave him a view of the kitchen and seating area. His position was in close proximity to the suspect and provided minimal cover, but it offered the best vantage point to monitor the suspect's actions and protect innocent lives. He saw the suspect gather and move the hostages to various locations and heard the suspect order hostages to close all of the blinds, intensifying the threat.

As Deputy Leon reported updates from his position, SEB members replaced patrol personnel to facilitate a tactical response. A crisis entry team was formed at the front of the restaurant and prepared for entry while communication with the suspect was initiated by cell phone. The suspect said he would not surrender and hung up. The suspect’s movements and behavior were monitored as the incident quickly progressed. Law enforcement personnel realized the situation reached a critical level as the suspect became more distressed, and maintained a position of close proximity to a hostage. The suspect’s closeness to the hostage complicated matters greatly and left the crisis entry team at a substantial tactical disadvantage.

Believing the hostages were about to be harmed, the suspect was shot and entry was made. Sergeant Ahmad, Deputies Darrell Edwards, Gonzalo Galvez and Ricardo Munoz moved toward the place where the suspect was last seen. Simultaneously, an explosive breach to the rear side door was made. A number of hostages were found inside seeking cover. The suspect was found crawling on his hands and knees toward the hostages and was still armed with a handgun. He turned toward the deputies and a deputy-involved shooting occurred. With the threat posed by the suspect neutralized, all of the hostages were rapidly rescued and evacuated. The suspect did not survive the encounter.

The successful conclusion of this incident is a credit to the entire team on scene. However, the exceptional actions of the four deputies who moved to put themselves between the hostages and the suspect, with full knowledge they could potentially encounter an armed suspect who was willing to shoot and kill them, are truly commendable.

For their tremendous courage, heroism and determination to save the victims, and with full knowledge of the risk involved by engaging an armed suspect, Sergeant Kamal Ahmad, Deputies Darell Edwards, Gonzalo Galvez and Ricardo Munoz are awarded the **Medal of Valor**.

For displaying great bravery and decisiveness during a difficult and deadly situation and knowingly placing himself in immediate life-threatening peril, Deputy Daniel Leon is awarded the **Meritorious Conduct Medal-Gold**.

TWIN TOWERS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Lifesaving Medal and Humanitarian Medal



DEPUTY JAVIER TISCARENO

Deputy Javier Tiscareno joined the Department in 1997. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to Century Regional Detention Facility, Men’s Central Jail, Lakewood Station and Twin Towers Correctional Facility, where he is currently assigned.



DEPUTY JORGE CASTRO

Deputy Jorge Castro joined the Department in 2001. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to North County Correctional Facility, Twin Towers Correctional Facility, Norwalk Station and Twin Towers Correctional Facility, where he is currently assigned.

On June 4, 2015, Deputy Javier Tiscareno, assigned to Twin Towers Correctional Facility, served as a liver donor to save the life of a fellow deputy, Jorge Castro.

In January, 2014, Deputy Castro was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease which attacks the liver’s bile channels. There is no cure and he was in need of a liver transplant. With none of his family members being a match, Deputy Castro’s recovery was extremely difficult. He was placed on a waiting list and by 2015 the disease had progressed.

While at work one day, Deputy Tiscareno asked his friend how he was doing. Deputy Castro replied he was fine, but Deputy Tiscareno could tell something was wrong. Deputy Castro disclosed the details of his illness and the need of a liver donor. He was disheartened and said a match could not be found, conceding, “I should be dead by the end of the year.”

Deputy Tiscareno could not fathom the grim thought of losing his friend and, without hesitation, volunteered to be his donor. He submitted to a medical evaluation process, and was determined to be a suitable and compatible candidate for donation.

TWIN TOWERS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CONTINUED

Deputy Tiscareno selflessly and courageously underwent an eleven-hour surgery to provide his friend with a life-saving gift. Approximately sixty percent of his liver was removed and transplanted into his friend. The donation was accepted and both deputies have since fully recovered.

Although the two men already share a strong friendship, this act of compassion and humanitarianism solidified a deeper level of bond between them, and has forever connected them.

Deputy Tiscareno's reverence for human life and devotion to his friend exemplifies the very best in the human spirit. For his extraordinary sacrifice, at the risk of his own safety, Deputy Tiscareno is awarded the **Lifesaving Medal**.

For his commitment and selfless deed to help save the life of another, Deputy Tiscareno is also awarded the **Humanitarian Medal**.

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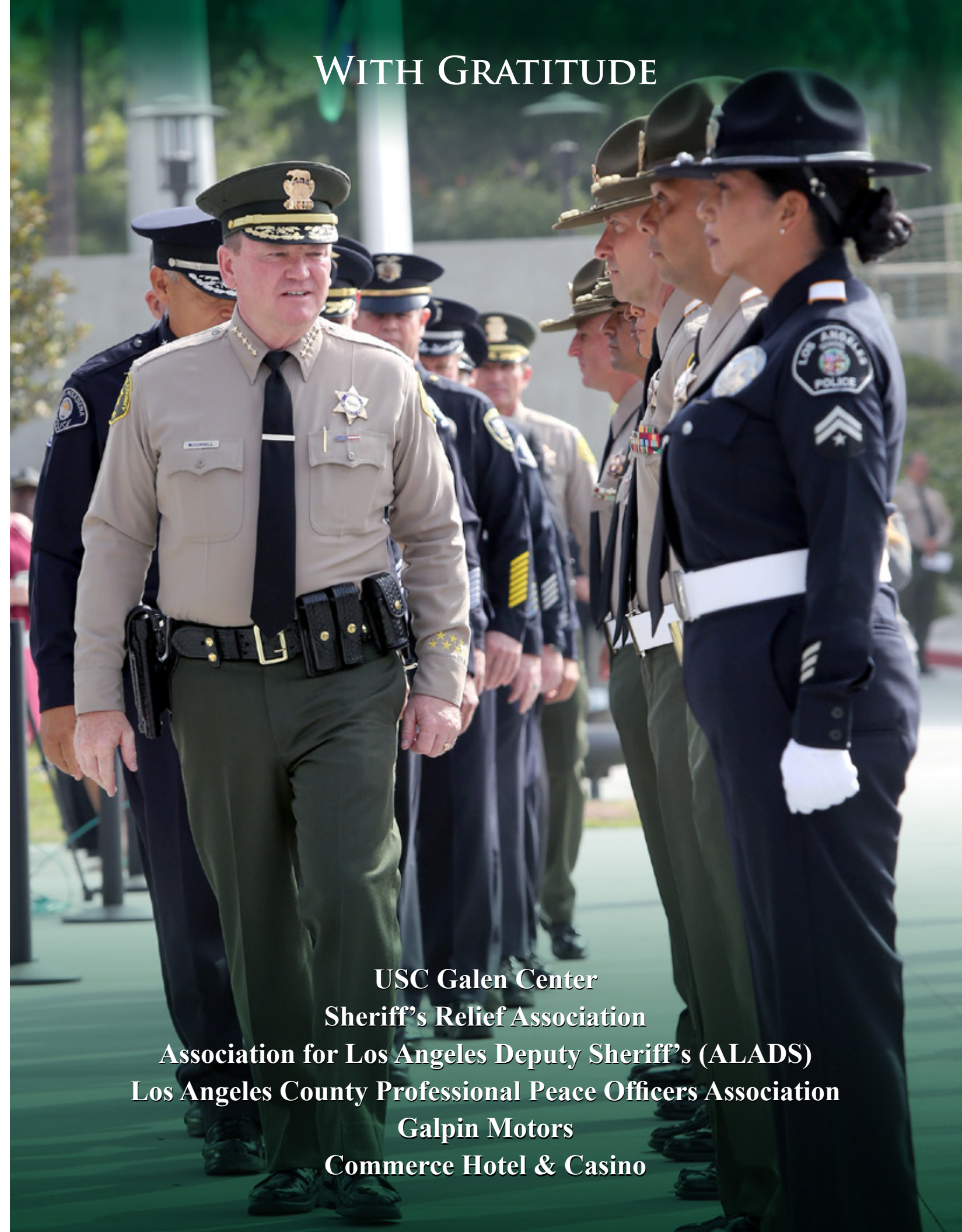
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