



*Los Angeles County*  
**Sheriff's Department**

## **CUSTODY SERVICES DIVISION CUSTODY TRAINING UNIT (CTU)**

The Custody Training Unit (CTU) was established in 1986 and is tasked with training a custody staff of over 3,900 personnel. The unit headquarters is located in the Twin Towers Correctional Facility complex located in Los Angeles. The unit also has a training office located at the Pitches Detention Center in Castaic, California.

The Custody Training Unit is responsible for the provision and oversight of Department and State mandated training for all Custody Services Divisions and station jail personnel. This training includes the "Adult Corrections Officer Core Course" for the Department's Custody Assistant Academy and the "Adult Corrections Officer Supplemental Core Course" (Jail Operations Class) for all newly assigned sworn staff. The unit is also tasked with administering continuing professional education and training for all Custody Services Divisions and station jail personnel through the state mandated "Standards and Training for Corrections" (STC) program. The STC program is partially funded and monitored by the Board of State and Community Corrections. In order to remain in compliance with STC standards, each student is required to complete a minimum of 24 hours of training per year. To put this in perspective, this would be the equivalent of 500 (8Hour) classes, with each class averaging 20 students.

The staff of the Custody Training Unit teaches approximately 60 different training topics, as well as State mandated classes, including but not limited to: First Aid/CPR, Respect Based Communication, Anger Management, Report Writing, Monitoring Inmate Physical and Mental Health, Deaf Culture, Defensive Tactics, Value Based Decision Making, Supervising Inmates, Tactical Weapons, Emergency Procedures, and Maintaining Security.

The Custody Training Unit is also responsible for training patrol station personnel who function as station jailers or have supervisory responsibility of the station jail. These personnel are also held to the same 24 hour STC mandate as those employees assigned to the Department's larger jail facilities.

In addition to traditional training responsibilities, CTU instructors conduct annual inspections of all our custodial facilities. The inspections consist of two specific areas: Fire/Life Safety and Training records. The Fire/Life Safety audit is a proactive inspection of each facility's preparedness for evacuation and fire response procedures. Lastly, the training audit is a physical review of personnel and unit training records. The records are inspected for accuracy and to establish areas of deficiency. Audits of patrol station jails, Type I facilities, are also conducted by CTU instructors throughout the year.

All Custody Training Unit instructors continuously attend Departmental training as well as outside training in order to provide custody personnel with the highest level and most current training available.

The CTU also has a Media Production Office that is staffed by a CTU instructor. The Media Production Office has professional media production equipment and is located at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility. This office is responsible for producing videos and training media for the custody training staff and their respective classes. The office is capable of capturing, extracting, and converting electronic media files from various tape and online sources. The Media Production Office is also responsible for all inmate informational, medical, and training videos that are shown to the over 250,000 inmates who go through our jails each year.

For over 25 years, the Custody Training Unit of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has provided professional training to LASD's custody personnel. As the unit moves forward, the goal of providing top-notch, relevant training to personnel who are working in a challenging and ever-changing custody environment remains steadfast.