

Volunteer Programs



At the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, volunteers perform critical services at each of the stations throughout the county. Crescenta Valley is no exception. As the Volunteer Coordinator, I have the privilege of overseeing approximately 100 uniformed volunteers who perform a variety of non-hazardous duties.

These duties greatly advance the goals of this Department, raise the level of service to the community, and give the volunteer a great deal of personal satisfaction. The following information is an abbreviated list of services volunteers are performing for Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station and the community. If, after reading this information, you feel compelled to be apart of this team, please contact Deputy Jorge Valdivia at 818-236-4021.



Volunteers on Patrol

Here at Crescenta Valley Station, we utilize both vehicle patrol and bike patrol. Once the volunteer has participated in a 40 hour long training period, the volunteer may perform several different tasks. These may include radio operations, residential perimeter checks for those citizens who have left the area for a vacation, traffic control at the scene of an accident, or assisting detectives with surveillance.



School Watch

This is an extension of our patrol duties here at the Station but with a more specific goal. The volunteer will function as a road guard for students crossing the street, watch for potential loiterers, and interact with parents of students for the purpose of addressing their concerns about school safety.



Arson Watch

The arson watch team is another extension of our patrol function with the added emphasis on the mountain areas, picnic areas, and campgrounds where fire hazards are elevated. The arson watch team will identify potential fire hazards and then work with Fire Department or Forestry Department to correct them.



Detective Support

The team of volunteers who participate in this program assist our Station detectives in many different ways. They may work side by side with our criminal analyst to compile crime statistics, or record stolen property items into a computer data base, or even be used for surveillance purposes under the direction of the Detective Sergeant.



Station Tours

Station tours are available to all age groups but have become extremely popular among school aged children. These tours may include any number of the following: desk area where 9-1-1 calls are answered, the armory, the jail area including holding cells, the Detective Bureau, the Narcotics Bureau, the Emergency Operations Center, and a "hands on" viewing of a radio car. Each tour may also include brief lectures on any number of safety themes.



Couriers

One volunteer each day will deliver mail from the station to various department locations throughout the county. Other errands may be included depending on the needs of the Station.



Front Desk

Volunteers participating in this program will answer non-emergency telephone calls from the public and assist individuals who enter the Station lobby to receive services. This allows us to serve the community in a more efficient manner.



Newsletter

A monthly newsletter is sent to every volunteer along with other groups and councils who have an interest in our program. This letter highlights upcoming events, makes special announcements, and provides useful tips and trivia. You may assist in the writing, proofing, layout, or distribution of the newsletter.



Radar Trailers

Each morning a team of volunteers transports two radar trailers from Crescenta Valley Station to specific areas within the La Canada Flintridge area. The digital reading on the trailer sign indicates to the driver the speed of their vehicle as they approach the trailer. This assignment is critical because it provides our area with a safer driving environment.



Phones for Life

This is a program designed to provide seniors with cellular telephones on which they can dial 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency. Each cell phone has the capability of calling 9-1-1 without a service provider which provides a secure feeling for those individuals who are away from home



Neighborhood Watch

Volunteers will meet with local residents to instruct them on how to unite a neighborhood that will collectively work together to minimize vandalism, burglaries and other criminal activities. Tips on personal safety at home and while driving may also be addressed. Each meeting includes a packet of information to facilitate the program.



Business Watch

Volunteers who oversee this portion of the program will conduct any number of tasks to enhance the safety of the businesses in our area. Some of these tasks may include seminars on how to recognize counterfeit bills and forged checks. Other seminars will educate business owners on how to secure a business quickly in the event of an alleged child abduction. The Volunteers also meet with employers/employees on a regular basis for the purpose of recording their safety concerns and then relay these concerns to the Station.



Clergy Council

This program works to unite several spiritual and religious leaders throughout our area to work together in assisting the Station and the public. They can be used as a resource to any Station personnel who may need counsel or advice on any number of personal issues. These volunteer clergy members will also be called upon to help with death notifications or respond to locations for the purpose of providing comfort to those individuals who have been involved in some sort of a tragic event.



Caring Arms

At times, due to exigent circumstances, children may be transported to the Station until a relative or agency can arrive to take custody of them. When these situations arise, volunteers assigned to this program will respond to the Station and entertain the children thereby allowing the handling Deputy time to complete his or her work related tasks.



Special Projects

The volunteer program as a whole organizes many special events throughout the year. These events include the Station Open House, Rummage Sale, and the Toy and Food Drive. Due to the time and energy needed to make each event a success, each volunteer will be called upon to help plan, organize, and then participate in the event.