

## **1910**

LA Times building is bombed. Suspects are confined in L.A. County Jail. Threats against their lives caused the Sheriff to create a special security escort led by the Sheriff. L.A. deputies provided security in the courtroom during the trial.

## **1912**

Deputies first assigned to night duty.

The County Constabulary comes under the supervision of the Sheriff's Department.

The first female deputy (Margaret Adams) is hired by Sheriff Hammel. She is assigned to the civil division. (February 15)

## **1913**

The fee system of compensation was abolished and The Civil Service Merit system was installed. Sheriff's could no longer personally profit from incarcerating prisoners or dismiss employees without cause.

Elizabeth Bartoo was hired and became the second full-time jail matron and served in that capacity for 21 years. This came as a great relief to Mrs. Shehi.

## **1914**

Special Deputy Mercado who was security for a boarding house had threatened the boarding house owner. Deputy Coutts responded to the boarding house with a warrant to arrest Mercado. While attempting an arrest, Deputy Coutts was shot one in the stomach and twice in the back as he tried to flee. Deputy Coutts died from the gunshot wounds.

## **1915**

Sheriff John C. Cline 1915 - 1921

Bureau of Identification was established and housed in the county courthouse.

The fingerprint system was adopted.

The motorcycle squad which was established under the District Attorney's Office in 1911 was transferred to the jurisdiction of the Sheriff.

## **1916**

Nettie J. Yaw is sworn in as the first female deputy sheriff hired under civil service rules. The Board of Supervisors authorized a sworn female position and the Civil Service Commission concurred. Deputy Yaw's position was described as "similar to those detailed to women in the

police department of the city.” She was assigned to work chiefly with women but it was noted that “she may be called upon to arrest a boy or man at any time.” Margaret Adams was appointed under the old spoil system and her position in the court system was almost entirely clerical. (March 30)

## **1917**

The “Silver Eagle” badges were the first numbered Sheriff’s badges that were produced. They were numbered from 1 to 82.

## **1918**

Deputy Van Vliet is murdered. First Deputy to be killed in the 1900s. (November 20)

End of First World War – Department members who served in the war are recognized on a plaque in the lobby of the Hall of Justice. (November 11)

## **1919**

On Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, The Volstead Act is passed by President Woodrow Wilson, making liquor illegal.

In response to prohibition, the Sheriff’s Department created the Liquor Detail in 1922. While many departments let the Feds handle bootleggers, the Sheriff’s Department faced it head on. The majority of crimes committed during prohibition involved bootleggers. More officers were killed during prohibition than any other time in our country’s history.

Motor Deputy Harold Broadwell killed in a pursuit. (November 9)

Deputy Emma Benson and Deputy Harry Guard are killed in a traffic collision with a street car in Whittier following the transportation of a mentally disturbed female prisoner to the Norwalk asylum. Deputy Benson was the sister-in-law of Sheriff Cline and was hired the previous summer. She is the first sworn female peace officer killed in the line of duty in the United States. (March 20)