

1970

Special Enforcement Bureau and Emergency Services Detail facilities were completed.

Trial of Charles Manson and his followers held in a Hall of Justice courtroom. SEB deputies provided security in the courtroom.

Association of Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff's (ALADS) was formed to provide deputies with an association to represent them that was separate from their supervisor's association. (February)

Four CHP Officers killed in Newhall. LASD deputies apprehended one suspect. The other took hostages and when confronted by SEB, committed suicide. (April 5)

Isla Vista Riots in Santa Barbara County. SEB assisted Santa Barbara County Sheriff.

Deputy Gordon Erickson was killed when he fell from a moving vehicle. (April 30)

The Aero Bureau acquires its first gas-turbine engined helicopter, a Hughes 500 4-place machine.

East L.A. Riots. (August 29)

The Automated Justice Information System (AJIS) was created. This computerized booking system enabled booking numbers to be obtained quickly by computer.

Disaster and Riot Training (DART) was enacted after East L.A. riots.

The Paramedic Act is signed into law by Governor Ronald Reagan permitting fire paramedics to provide advanced medical life support. Deputies are no longer the primary medical aid responders and the Emergency Aid Plan is eliminated. (July 14)

SEB provided security for the Academy Awards at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion (1970's)

The Aero Bureau moved from the East Los Angeles Heliport to temporary new quarters on the West side of the Long Beach Airport.

A bomb exploded on the sixth floor of the Hall of Justice near the office of District Attorney Evelle J. Younger. The "Weather Underground" claimed responsibility saying that the D.A. didn't prosecute the deputies who they say murdered "Ruben Salazar. (September 5)

Deputy Louis Wallace was shot and killed after he and his partner made a stop of a suspicious person. (December 8)

The Los Angeles County Peace Officer's Memorial was dedicated at Biscailuz Center.

1971

Phone calls received at the station complaint desks are now recorded.

Sylmar Earthquake

ESD Deputies Mike Minore and Donny Dunlop successfully completed the paramedic program with the LA County firefighters becoming the first deputy/paramedics.

The first prisoner screens which isolated prisoners in the back of radio cars were installed in the 1971 Plymouth Satellites. This was also the first radio car to have the Twinsonic lightbar and two spotlights instead of just one.

Hall of Justice Jail Riot.

The Aero Bureau moves to the East-side of the Long Beach Airport into its permanent facility with a large hangar and ample ramp space for its fleet of helicopters. (May)

Deputy Gary Saunders was shot and killed with his own service weapon following a foot chase of a suspect. (May 22)

A Hughes Airwest DC-9 Commercial Airline collided with a military Marine F-48 Phantom II over the San Gabriel Mountains. All 49 passengers and crew members in the commercial jet were killed along with the pilot of the military plane. The co-pilot was able to eject to safety. Deputies hiked back into the canyon to search for possible survivors and retrieve remains of the victims.

Deputy Barry Hoffman was shot and killed during a struggle with a suspect. (August 30)

Academy class 151 was the first class where women went through the entire 26 week academy. Since prior to that women did not work in patrol, there was no need to train them in such classes as felony pullovers or crime scene containment. This was in preparation for the upcoming women in patrol project. Sheriff Pitchess himself came to the class on the second day of the academy to announce that, for the first time, women would be completing the entire academy curriculum. (October 1)

After the East L.A. Riot, Emergency Operations Bureau Captain Foxen wanted a computerized system to track overtime for unusual occurrences. The Computerized unusual occurrence form was created.

Civic Center Security Unit was created to provide security for major trials. (December)

1972

Automated Index System was initiated providing instant access to criminal records and fingerprints from other justice agencies as well as summary probation sentences from county courts.

The Sheriff's Department began issuing break front holsters and discontinued issuing the swivel holster.

Santa Clarita Valley Station was dedicated, replacing the old Newhall Station.

The Sheriff's Department payroll system was computerized

The Department acquired two Sikorsky H-35 heavy lift helicopters for the expansion of Air Rescue in November. With the larger capacity and a 100-foot winch capability, rescues reduced the man-hours of actual rescue and provided a faster response and transportation of the victim to the hospital.

Brown Berets occupied Catalina Island. SEB was sent over to remove them.

Deputy Charles Ley was killed when he lost control of his vehicle during a pursuit. (May 24)

New light bars on radio cars

Hearing protection was now required when firing at the weapons range.

Deputies were no longer required to wear helmets in patrol.

John Kolman and Dale Underwood from LASD and Bob Smitson with LAPD reviewed officer involved shootings, eventually identifying 5 causal factors

Federal grant for \$100,000 to establish the "Sheriff's Youth Athletic League" in Firestone Area.

"Adopt a Deputy" Program began.

Deputy Joseph Herrera was killed when a Sheriff's transportation bus struck him. (October 3)

Sheriff's Bulletin 072 – Nationwide Study of Women in Patrol (March 30) announces that "Consistent with this Department's progressive utilization of women in varied law enforcement assignments, we have been selected by the Police Foundation, a sub-unit of the Ford Foundation, to participate in a nationwide pilot program relative to the assignment of women peace officers to field policing duties... The objective of the study is to maximize personnel resources by concentrating on the expansion of the role of women in law enforcement. The project seeks to answer the question, 'Can women be utilized in all facets of police work based on ability and not on gender?'" Sheriff's Bulletin 076-1 – Lady Deputies in Patrol Car Assignments (August 3) went on to add that this was a one-year pilot program and "evaluation of the results will be done by independent research consultants."

Twenty women were selected to participate. All the female deputies in this program were pre-class 151 and attended the shorter academy because at the time of their hiring a patrol assignment was not a possibility. In order to prepare them for patrol, these women attended an eighty hour patrol preparation class that began on August 14. This patrol school continued for all future deputies transferring to patrol.

The class graduated on August 31. Twelve women were assigned to stations on September 1. They were: Mary Fran Baker, Barbara Birkland, Lovette Caples, Carole Freeman, Judy McGrath, Jeanne (Miles) Sysak, Elaine Minnis, Judy (Allen) Preimsberger, Kathy Wade, Norma Zinn and Charlene Rottler. On November 5th, Deputy Rottler was nearly killed by a drunk driver in an on-duty collision in Altadena. She was forced to retire due to her injuries in 1974. Alternate Judy Shepard replaced Deputy Rottler at Altadena after the accident.

On November 5, Deputy Charlene "Charlie" Rottler and her training officer Doug Oberholtzer collide with a drunk driver in Altadena. One of the occupants in the drunk driver's vehicle is killed. Deputy Rottler suffers catastrophic injuries that compel her to retire in 1974 and ultimately claim her life. (Deputy Rottler died on 1-3-2010 from injuries suffered in her traffic collision)

1973

Detective Don Schneider and Detective Sergeant Carl Wilson were shot and killed when they attempted to apprehend a suspect who had murdered two people. (January 4)

Temple Deputy Don Bear arrested a man who had tossed a joint when he drove up. As he did, two other two men who were with the suspect, took off running. The suspect, in cuffs, ran into the house. Deputy Bear instructed his ride-along, Jim Kelly to call for back up. Kelly had rode-along numerous times and was very familiar with the radio and radio procedures. Deputy Richard Filbin and Explorer Hernandez arrived as back-up and when the deputies approached the front door, a shooting ensued. Deputy Filbin was shot in the stomach, Deputy Bear had the tip of his finger shot off. The Ride-along, Kelly immediately ran to the radio car and put out a "999." Explorer Hernandez was shot in the leg. Kelly and Deputy Bear drug the explorer to safety. Deputy Bear also managed to drag Deputy Filbin to safety. (March 25)

The department issued Safariland Body armor. (1973-1974)

After the inception of the Deputy IV program, on the 2nd list the Sheriff instructed all Dep. IV's to wear two stripes.

The S.T.O.L. (Short Take-Off and Land) program was conducted under a Federal Grant to study the cost effectiveness of airplanes vs helicopters for urban patrol. The study demonstrated that fixed-wing aircraft were not operationally feasible as well as not cost effective. Three aircraft were evaluated – a HelioCourier and Maule Rocket airplanes and a Hughes 300 helicopter.

A federal task force called Drug Abuse and Law Enforcement Program (DALE) was formed to target major drug violators. The task force was headed by the Sheriff's Department.

Aero Bureau purchased two additional Hughes 500 helicopters from private companies.

Deputy David Andrews was shot and killed during a robbery attempt at a service station while he was off duty. (December 12)

1974

Carson Station was completed.

Complaint desk was computerized.

New Montrose Station was completed and renamed Crescenta Valley Station.

SEB originated the Special Weapons Team numbering system.

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services requested that a full time Lieutenant be loaned from the Sheriff's Department to become the Health Services Director of Security.

Patty Hearst was kidnapped by the SLA.

SLA Shootout. (May 17)

Old rifles (Remington 35 semi-auto, 45 cal Rising WWII surplus, Winchester 30-30 carbine and 1906 lever action rifles) were traded in for new AR-15 rifles.

Deputy James Foote was killed in an automobile accident while responding to a report of a gang fight. (October 4)

Deputy Theodor Abreu was killed in an automobile accident. (October 23)

“Pitchess Motion” was established when the Superior Court ruled that a defendant has the right to information about alleged officer misconduct or dishonesty.

Sheriff's Bulletin 113 – Expansion of Lady Deputy's Role in Law Enforcement (July 26) declared the success of the pilot program. This bulletin stated, “The Lady Deputy has been accepted and has performed well not only in crime prevention and investigation, but has also won acceptance as a working field law enforcement officer.” It went on to add that, “The study revealed that in certain specific areas the Lady Deputies possessed an investigative potential which previously had not been considered. They could communicate with victims of certain crimes better than their male partners.”

This last statement led to the creation of the "Comprehensive Rape Investigation Program" and "Rape Prevention" lecture series. Sergeants Winona "Nonie" Franz and Marilyn Mariena were the first women to be assigned as adult sex crimes investigators and instructors of program.

1975

Deputy Darden Hollis was shot and killed during a struggle with a man on Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood. (January 1)

A commuter plane and a Cessna collide over the county area of Whittier. 14 people are killed. (January 10)

SLA members William and Emily Harris are held in the Hall of Justice Jail during their trial. Department executives thought that SLA members on the outside might attempt to break William and Emily Harris out of jail. To provide extra security of SLA members during attorney visits, the Hall of Justice Jail Special Operations and Search Team was the only custody SOS Team trained with the AR-15. During SLA member attorney visits, an SOS Team member was stationed, with an AR-15, in the elevator landing outside the attorney room.

SLA members Russell Little and Joseph Romero, who assassinated Oakland Schools Superintendent Marcus Foster were housed in High Power Module 1010 at the Hall of Justice Jail.

Black Guerilla Family (BGF) gang member Harold Holiday known as Doc Holiday was housed in High Power Module 1010 at the Hall of Justice Jail.

Inmate Geraldine Elizabeth Carmichael, who had undergone a partial sex change to become a female, was housed in the Hall of Justice Jail in a row by himself. He was charged with defrauding investors who thought they were investing in the perpetual motion Dale Car. He was a transvestite with a court order to wear a bra.

Sheriff's Communications Center began operations with computerized high speed dispatch facilities.

Lomita Station was dedicated.

The Taser, an electroshock weapon that uses electrical current to disrupt voluntary control of muscles was approved for department use. (This old version was only 7 watts and worked up to 15 feet away)

First female deputy shot in line of duty in the State of California and the LASD. Irma Alvarez, Pico Rivera Station.

Three additional Sikorsky H-34 helicopters were acquired to replace the two Sikorskys acquired in 1972.

“Sky Heist” a made for T.V. movie was shown on NBC Television. The movie involved a husband and wife who had a plan to steal \$10 million in gold, using the hijacking of a Sheriff’s helicopter as a diversion. The show featured LASD Aero Bureau and stars Don Meredith, Larry Wilcox, Joe Campanella, Stephanie Powers and Frank Gorshin. (May 26)

Santa Clarita Valley Patrol established utilizing a Bell 47 helicopter. The Aero Bureau continued to enhance and expand patrol functions. Greater demands were placed on the unit for surveillance missions due to stepped up narcotics enforcement. The expanded use of Hughes 500 aircraft in patrol for faster response times to calls for service.

1976

The Crime Laboratory moved to expanded new facilities on West Beverly Boulevard which accommodated the latest scientific equipment and techniques.

Formation of the Hostage Negotiation Team.

The California Peace Officer’s Memorial Torch Relay run was established to honor the memory of those brave, dedicated individuals in Los Angeles County who have sacrificed their lives in the performance of their duties.

Sergeant Carole Freeman is assigned to Temple Station as the Department’s first woman patrol sergeant.

Lieutenant Jean Alley is assigned to Carson Station as the first woman watch commander.

The Sheriff’s Revolver Club was dissolved by the Board of Supervisors. The quarter of a million dollars in their account had to be spent or it would be transferred into the general fund. The money was used to purchase weight machines for all Sheriff’s Facilities as well as material to build Hogan’s Alley and other ranges at the Wayside Weapon’s Range.

Deputies were no longer required to wear ties in patrol.

1977

Deputy Lynn Lewis was killed in an automobile accident while returning from a Chief of Police Conference. (January 15)

Lynwood became the 19th Sheriff’s Station when that city contracted with the County for law enforcement.

Former San Gabriel Police Officer Billy Joe McIlvain was incarcerated in Los Angeles County Men’s Central Jail while he was on trial for abducting and executing a teenage gang member. (February 28)

West Hollywood Station Sergeant Edward John Russell, assigned to the Station D.B., was killed in a traffic collision after completing an investigation in the area. (January 15)

Hillside Stanglers Kenneth Bianchi and Angelo Buono began their crime spree.

First K9's trained and certified by U.S. Customs were assigned to Narco. Sgt. H.C. "Jake" Jahelka and K9 Tuffy, and Dep IV Joe Lesnick and K9 King .

The Aero Bureau replaced its 1956 Cessna with a 1975 Cessna 210, 6 passenger turbo-powered airplane for improved movement of Investigators, prisoners and Executives when necessary.

The new side of Central Jail was opened.

The "Vial of Life" program began.

Deputy Didier Hurdle was shot and killed after stopping suspected gang members. (November 25) While his partner, Johnny Brown, attempted to reload, an expended casing was caught behind his extractor rod, rendering the gun inoperable. To prevent this from happening again, an extractor rod safety collar was installed on all deputies revolvers.

Sheriff's Bulletin 180 – Uniform and Equipment Changes (June 28) announced new class "A" and class "B" uniforms for Lady Deputies. "The white blouse and equipment bag used with lady deputies' class "A" uniforms are being phased out."

The Sheriff's Department changed from straight to the side handle, PR-24 baton.

Jarvis (Prop 13) was passed by voters and required cuts in spending and forced transfers of personnel in LASD.

1978

After incorporation, Lancaster began operation as the 32nd city to contract for the Sheriff's services.

A fight broke out in the baseball field at Wayside, Minimum Facility. This quickly spread and a riot took place with inmates divided along racial lines. One of the barracks was burned down. (February 21)

Deputy Gregory Low and Reserve Deputy Charles Plumleigh were killed responding to a burglary in progress call when their patrol car collided with a second patrol car. (February 26)

Deputy Arthur Pelino was shot and killed by a mentally deranged suspect. (March 19)

Deputy Thomas Pohlman was shot and killed while attempting to make an arrest after a foot pursuit. (April 18) Physical conditioning became the 6th causal factor.

The department implemented the physical agility test for new Deputy Sheriff applicants to ensure that they were in good physical condition.

SEB adopted a mandatory physical agility test.

Deputy Shirley (Browning) Farris becomes the first woman assigned to Arson-Explosives Detail.

Deputy Walter Hannan was killed while responding to an officer needs assistance call. (May 3)

Operation Safe Streets (OSS) was created to build a rapport with gang members and investigate their crimes. (December)

1979

Iranian Riots in Beverly Hills. Deputies assisted Beverly Hills P.D. when Iranian rioters attacked the Shaw's home. (January 2)

Canine Program uses dogs for searching and bomb detection. 2 for SEB Deputies Ed Honeywell, and Van Bogardus, 1 for the Gormen outpost resident Deputy Bill Thompson, and 1 for the Catalina Island Isthmus resident Deputy Bob Murcott. Both of the Narco dogs were cross trained for patrol work .

Stanley "Tookie" Williams murdered Albert Lewis Owens during a robbery of a 7-Eleven convenience store in Whittier, California. (February 28) During his trial he planned to escape by killing two transportation deputies when they transported him along with other inmates to court. The escape plan was discovered and prevented.

SEB Deputy George Barthel was shot and killed while investigating a group of suspicious males. (April 19)

240-Robert T.V. Show began production. The show chronicled the missions of paramedic rescue deputies of Emergency Services Detail. The creator of the show was LASD Reserve Deputy Rick Rosner. The stars of the show utilized four-wheel drive vehicles and a helicopter during their assignments involving sea/air/land search and rescue operations. The show began airing in 1980.

Deputies job action for higher pay.

1979 - Harbor Patrolman Harold Edgington was stabbed to death by a deranged man while issuing a parking citation.

Deputy Jack Williams was shot and killed as he and other members of the Narcotics Bureau served a warrant on a home. (May 3)

Lawrence Bittaker and Roy Norris kidnapped, tortured, raped and killed five women over five months.

Death Valley Relays (later Baker to Vegas) began.

The Aero Bureau acquires a second Cessna 210 (1977 Model) adding to the transportation requirements and capabilities.

MOU Officer Survival and vicarious liability training of all deputies from recruit thru division Chief.