

January – 20

1 January 1975 – Deputy Darden Hollis Gunfire

Deputy Darden Hollis was killed and Deputies John Day and Eugene Leschinsky were shot and wounded during a struggle with a nineteen-year-old vandalism suspect who obtained one of the deputy's weapons during a fight in front of a pornography store on Santa Monica Boulevard in the city of West Hollywood.

The suspect was apprehended and charged with murder. He was found guilty of manslaughter and served a short prison service. After being released, he continued his life of crime. In December 1995 he was arrested for stabbing a man to death in Sacramento and was sent back to prison. In October 2004 he died during a struggle with corrections officers at the California state prison in Lancaster.

In a reflection about Deputy Hollis on the Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP) Retired Deputy Glenn Crites recalled, "I met Darden while I was in the Explorer program at West Hollywood Station. He was kind and a willing mentor to myself and the other Explorers. Looking back, I realize the great patience he commanded putting up with 16 - 17 year old "partners." I have a vivid memory of filling out the patrol log in ink. In the early 70s computers had not arrived and paper work on the Sheriff's Department was done in #2 pencil, including the patrol logs. Darden, however, insisted upon using ink. If there was error - the entire log was done over. This may seem trivial, but I have never forgotten the lesson. Law enforcement is a profession built up attention to detail. It also improved my printing. To this day, I fondly carry Deputy Hollis in thoughts. He played a part in launching my career.

Deputy Gary Fitzgerald remembered, "Darden was a kind and gentle man. He took my shift [that night] so I could be with my family. It cost him his life. He was gentle and loved cats and would light them up with the spotlight while on patrol. I still regret not working that shift. I am somewhat sure it would have been a different outcome and I also live with that guilt. Rest in Peace my friend. Thank you for also teaching me how to smoke a pipe. I will never forget you."

Former Deputy and retired Atwater PD Officer William Frost observed, "After transferring to [West] Hollywood Station from Antelope Valley Station in 1974, Darden was my training officer for a short time while I adjusted to my new station. He was the kind of partner that you knew would be there to protect your back. He was one of the best officers I've worked with."

Retired Deputy Ed Looney remembers, "Over the years I've often thought of this kind man. I first met him at the county jail, where we worked together. I believe it was 1970. We worked the kitchen. Hollis was an old head and had already been in patrol. He used to mimic an Irish accent and always talked about his wife. As I recall she was Irish. What I remember most, was his really easy going nature and a wonderful laugh. If you talked to Hollis for more than 10 seconds you heard the laugh. What a great human being."

Retired Sergeant Moon Mullin recalled, “Darden was the ‘salt of the earth.’ Darden was known with affection as the ‘Cat Man’ of West Hollywood Station. Darden also had the most precise and neatest penmanship of any person I have ever known. He was a good man and a good cop.”

Deputy Hollis served with the agency for 15 years. He was a US Army veteran and was survived by his wife, parents, and brother.

3 January 2010 – Deputy Charlene Marie “Charlie” Rottler, Automobile Accident

Retired Deputy Sheriff Charlene “Charlie” Rottler died from injuries she sustained while working as a patrol trainee at Altadena Station in 1972. She and her training officer were involved in a traffic collision with a drunk driver during the early morning hours on November 5th of that year. That she did not die that day or in the months that followed is nothing short of a miracle. That she survived as long as she did was a testimony to God’s grace and her indomitable spirit.

That Charlie became a deputy at all was a bit of an accident. Her husband was the one who wanted to be the deputy. He took the written exam twice, failing it both times. Charlie decided to take the exam to help him out. She passed it the first time and decided to enter the department herself. Charlie excelled in the academy. Sheriff Baca was one of her drill instructors. She graduated Academy Class 129 in June 1969, just ahead of her husband, who finally did pass that written exam.

After graduation, Charlie was assigned to San Dimas Station and worked complaint and other support functions. Women were first assigned to patrol stations in the 1940’s, but most of them never got any closer to a radio car than the front desk. This was not true with Charlie. She managed to find male deputies who she could ride with in an “unofficial” capacity. It was hardly surprising that Charlie volunteered to be a full-fledged patrol deputy when that opportunity was first offered to women in the summer of 1972.

Charlie and the rest of her female partners graduated the Department’s first patrol school on August 31, 1972 and she was assigned to Altadena Station the next day. During the graduation ceremony, they stood for inspection in front of Sheriff Peter Pitchess wearing skirts, white blouses and carrying their guns in a black purse slung over their shoulders. This was to be their regular uniform while performing patrol duties with their male partners.

On November 5, 1972, her daughter’s eighth birthday, at approximately 1:00 A.M., Deputy Sheriff Trainee Charlene “Charlie” Rottler and her partner Doug Oberholtzer were traveling down Altadena Drive responding to a battery just-occurred call. Deputy Oberholtzer was driving and riding in the backseat was a newspaper reporter working on a story on the first women deputies working uniformed patrol. As the patrol car approached an intersection just west of

Altadena Station, a drunk driver ran a stop sign and the radio car broadsided the vehicle. A passenger in that car was killed. Two other passengers were injured. The reporter suffered a broken leg and Doug Oberholtzer a broken bone on his hand. Ironically, only the drunk driver was uninjured. Charlie's injuries were catastrophic. The only organ in her body not damaged was her heart. She required over 350 stitches on her face alone. That she survived was miraculous but, sadly, her injuries compelled her to retire in April 1974.

Over the course of the rest of her life she endured 55 major surgeries attempting to repair the damage inflicted on her body by the collision. When she finally succumbed to her injuries in January of 2010, her body had so deteriorated that she had become compelled to attach herself to a feeding tube each night to ensure she received enough nutrition.

Charlene Rottler did not know the meaning of the word quit and she never felt sorry for herself. She continued to fight and to inspire her family and friends. Charlie remains an inspiration to all the women who have donned a Sheriff's uniform (pants and a shirt, not a skirt and white blouse), after her.

4 January 1909 – Deputy Constable Charles A. De Moranville, Gunfire

Late in the first decade of the twentieth century the rolling ranchland of Newhall in north Los Angeles County was still very much connected to its wild and wooly nineteenth century roots. The ranch hands and other residents of the small township were a restless bunch. In December 1908 there were 104 arrests in the community despite the fact that it contained only 200 inhabitants.

Sheriff William "Billy" Hammel's deputy sheriffs numbered less than thirty in 1909 and the Sheriff, by necessity, often took an active role in the apprehension of suspects. In remote villages in unincorporated areas of the county like Newhall, day to day law enforcement was conducted by the township constable and his deputy. If a complicated case arose requiring more investigation, the area deputy would be called; but the majority of the 104 arrests in December 1908 were made by Constable Ed Pardee and his Deputy Constable Charles D. De Moranville.

About 8 o'clock on the evening of January 4th, John "Arizona Jack" Allen, a cowboy and miner from the Imperial Valley, was enjoying a raucous evening at a local saloon. Arizona Jack, a 35 year old drifter, was not very aptly named. He was born and raised in Macon, Mississippi and only relocated to Arizona in 1903 before making his way to southern California in 1908. Inspired by alcohol, Jack had a loud disagreement with the saloon's keeper. Words were exchanged and Jack drew a pair of revolvers. This encouraged all the other patrons of the establishment to hastily depart and sent the bartender scampering out the back door. The decamped bartender placed a call to constable's office and reported the disturbance and the name of the perpetrator to Deputy Constable De Moranville. Charlie De Moranville and Arizona Jack were on friendly terms when the ranch hand was sober, but his actions in the saloon crossed the line and required the deputy constable's attention.

De Moranville arrived at the saloon on horseback, but by then Allen had fled along with two flasks of whiskey he liberated from behind the bar. The sound of gunshots along the railroad tracks outside the township drew De Moranville's attention and he ran off in that direction. Just what transpired next is a subject of conjecture and the only eyewitness account of the events was the one relayed by Arizona Jack in his defense. The facts that can be proven are these: De Moranville tried to take Jack into custody, a gun battle ensued in which the constable fired three shots to Jack's one. Jack was grazed by at least two of the bullets, but Jack's round entered De Moranville's side and killed him.

When De Moranville's body was found Constable Pardee was summoned. He formed a posse and called downtown Los Angeles and informed Sheriff Hammel of what occurred. The Sheriff climbed into his new locomobile along with former Sheriff and then Deputy Sheriff, Martin Aguirre. At the wheel was Deputy Billy Frye, who was the operator of the Department's first motor vehicle.

The quick apprehension of Allen only one day after De Moranville's murder was partly attributed to the use by Hammel of his recently acquired automobile. According to newspaper accounts, Hammel and Aguirre covered over two hundred miles in the car and twice cut off Arizona Jack's attempted escape forcing him back to the area around the Kellogg Ranch where Allen worked as a hand.

The Sheriff also cleverly employed another tool that would not become a standard means of apprehending wanted suspects in Los Angeles County until decades after his death. He used the dog that Arizona Jack rose from a pup to locate him. Jack hid out in the hills near the Kellogg Ranch during the day, but he snuck back onto the spread and into its large barn as a place of shelter against the cold January night. Hammel sent the dog into the barn and he was able to sniff out his master as he hid under some sacks. Jack tried to escape the friendly barks of his own pup by crawling off into the night, but Hammel found him and drew a bead on him with his rifle as Aguirre put him in handcuffs.

After initial denials, Allen confessed to the Sheriff that he shot the deputy constable, but claimed that he did not know it was De Moranville at the time and only fired in self-defense. Jack told Hammel that after the disturbance and his hasty retreat from the Newhall saloon things got much worse for him. He claimed that he was accosted by four "footpads" on the railroad tracks outside of town. The men tried to "overpower him and rob him." As evidence of this, Jack showed the Sheriff how one of his pants pockets was torn and his watch chain was broken by one of his attackers as he tried to steal it from him. Jack claimed the struggle was so intense that he lost his gun, but he was fortunate enough to be able to retrieve it and fire several shots at his attackers chasing them away.

These gunshots were what brought De Moranville. It was dark and the constable approached him from behind. De Moranville ordered him to throw up his hands, but never identified himself. Before Jack could comply with this order, De Moranville inexplicably began shooting at him. After the constable fired his second shot, Allen drew his revolver, whirled and fired one time convinced that he was now engaged in a gun battle with one of the men who attempted to

rob him minutes before. De Moranville managed to fire one more round, but it only grazed Allen. The constable then fell mortally wounded while Jack fled toward Kellogg's Ranch.

The lack of a witness to the shooting, coupled with the fact that Allen did have bullet holes in his clothes, minor injuries from the gun battle, along with the fact that it was common knowledge that Allen and De Moranville were friends, seemed to lend some credence to Arizona Jack's assertion that his shooting of the constable was a case of mistaken identity. To get to the truth of the matter, the District Attorney's office dispatched its chief of detectives Samuel L. Browne to Newhall to investigate the circumstances of the gun battle.

During the course of Browne's investigation, he determined that De Moranville "was regarded as one of the most careful officers in the county... He would not draw a revolver unless it was absolutely necessary." By contrast, Browne learned that Arizona Jack Allen was "looked on as a quarrelsome person when drinking, and handled his gun with the utmost carelessness." Browne also found that some of Allen's "statements in explanation of the trouble do not coincide with the facts..." Browne's testimony at Allen's preliminary hearing on March 4th was said to convincingly refute Arizona Jack's assertion that he was robbed and in a struggle with anyone prior to being found by De Moranville. Allen was held to answer by Justice Summerfield and bound over for trial in Superior Court.

Despite succeeding in getting a trial date for Allen, it was clear that the district attorney's case against Arizona Jack was weak. The D.A.'s office needed more than what was found in Browne's investigation as evidence against Allen's character if it was to convict him. What was needed was an eyewitness who could testify to Allen's state of mind that night. The man they sought to testify at trial was named Frank Contreras. Contreras was not available for the preliminary hearing, but during the course of Detective Browne's investigation into Allen's activity the night of the shooting Contreras claimed that he witnessed Allen brandish a weapon and make threats against other persons. Three weeks before the trial began Contreras was tracked to a ranch in Redondo, but days before the trial was to commence Contreras was nowhere to be found and a search for him by the D.A.'s detectives proved futile.

A jury for Arizona Jack's trial was impaneled in Judge Davis's court on June 1st. District Attorney Asa Keyes prosecuted the case for the County and Attorney Fred H. Thompson represented Arizona Jack. Testimony began the next day with Doctor George W. Campbell describing his autopsy of Deputy Constable De Moranville. The fatal thirty-two caliber round penetrated his "right side under the arm pit, passing around the fourth rib and through the lungs..." This seemed to indicate that his arm was extended as if holding a weapon when he was shot. Rancher Joseph R. Moore testified he found a watch fob and ring under a fence ten days after the killing. This suggested that they were hastily torn from a man's pocket as he fled. Pedro Castreno testified that it was so dark on the night of the murder that it would be impossible to identify a person "except at close range." This helped Arizona Jack more than the prosecution. But Frank I. Putka, bartender at the Rivera saloon, stated that three hours before the shooting Allen left some "baggage" at the bar yet never returned to claim it. The prosecution thought Arizona Jack's failure to return for his property suspicious and suggestive of guilt.

The next day Jack's employer Charles Kellogg testified that his ranch was on the most direct route from the shooting scene and Sheriff Hammel stated that when first arrested Jack "would not admit he had shot anybody." But when told that he had in fact killed De Moranville, he replied, "Why, I wouldn't hurt Charley for the world; he was one of my best friends." With that the prosecution rested its largely circumstantial case.

On June 4th, Arizona Jack took the witness stand in his own defense. Jack's account of the shooting riveted the courtroom and was retold by the *Los Angeles Times* on June 5th in an article that they titled, "Gun-fight Science of 'Arizona Jack'". Jack, in a Mississippi twang that the writer for the *Times* attempted to recreate, explained the nuances of a gunfight and the tactics he employed to stay alive and kill De Moranville.

"'I didn't get hit because I was bendin' ovah when I fiahed,' Jack explained scientifically. 'When the other man is using a Colt's,' he said, 'you allus want to lean over. Cause why?

'A Colt's is a very high-power gun, and it nearly allus shoots high. A man in a gunfight will allus shoot too high if he is using a Colt's. If you're standin's up when he shoots, it makes a line shot, and he will sho' get you.'"

Jack then jumped off of his chair and crouched down for the jury using his finger in lieu of his revolver to demonstrate the combat stance he assumed when he shot and killed the deputy constable.

Arizona Jack's dramatic testimony was compelling and clearly swayed some on the jury. Deputy District Attorney Keyes attempted to impeach Jack's character by saying that over a decade before he had already served five years in an Arkansas prison for stabbing a man to death. Allen adamantly denied this charge. What the District Attorney failed to attack was just how Jack was so certain that the weapon De Moranville used against him was a Colt. A stranger might employ any handgun against him, but by his own admission De Moranville was a friend. He would know what kind of weapon the deputy constable carried and why it was necessary to crouch low to respond to its employ against him. Just how he recognized the weapon being used, but not the identity of the man wielding it was never raised by Deputy D.A. Keyes.

In the end, the weight of the circumstantial evidence against Allen was not persuasive enough to sway the entire jury and it hopelessly deadlocked seven to five. In an effort to save face, Deputy D.A. Keyes immediately filed perjury charges against Arizona Jack and had him rearrested asserting that he lied on the witness stand about his murder conviction in Arkansas. Keyes also vowed to retry the case stating that additional evidence would be available in the future. An August date was set for the new trial.

On July 1st, the perjury charges against Allen were dismissed in Justice Ling's Township Court when the necessary records from Arkansas confirming his conviction and serving prison time in that state failed to arrive. Then, on July 14th, the *Los Angeles Herald* reported that Judge Davis dismissed murder charges against Allen on a motion of District Attorney Fredericks when no additional evidence materialized and the D.A. felt that no conviction against Allen was possible.

Deputy Constable De Moranville was regarded as a “brave and fearless” lawman. He was only 39 years old when he died, and he left a widow.

4 January 1973 – Detective Donald William Schneider & Detective Sergeant Carl Eugene Wilson, Gunfire

A pair of young sisters, Rosemary Vasquez, twenty, and her sister Cecilia, seventeen, noticed a young man following them while they shopped at a mall in Cerritos. While walking to their car, the man accosted them and at gunpoint demanded that they take him to their car. The girls tried to give him their property, but he was interested in more than money. Michael Jefferies, twenty-seven recognized that the girls were in distress and ran to their aid. The suspect whirled and fired at Jefferies and then turned and shot both of the girls. Jefferies and Rosemary were killed. Despite being shot four times, Cecilia survived.

As the suspect attempted to flee the scene, a witness wrote down his license plate. It returned to an Orange County address: 8251 Flight Avenue in Midway City. Detective Donald Schneider and Detective Sergeant Carl Wilson from Lakewood Station responded to this address in search of the vehicle. They were joined by Orange County Deputy Sheriff Andrew “Andy” Romero. When they arrived at Flight Avenue they saw the suspect’s car parked in the driveway. Rather than waiting for additional Orange County deputies to arrive, Detective Schneider and Sergeant Wilson decided to approach the front door while Deputy Romero made his way to the alley behind the house.

As Detective Schneider and Sergeant Wilson approached the front door, it suddenly burst open and the suspect opened fire on them with an automatic rifle. Detective Schneider was killed instantly. Sergeant Wilson was wounded but retreated around the side of the house followed by the suspect who continued firing until Wilson collapsed dying. By this time Deputy Romero made his way to the backyard. He noticed that the suspect was wearing a flak vest but he managed to shoot and wound him with a shotgun and then approach him and take him into custody.

The murderer of Detective Schneider, Sergeant Wilson, Michael Jefferies and Rosemary Vasquez received four life sentences. The death penalty was not an option at that time, but its absence in this case caused such debate that the conversation for the return of this sentence was begun again in the state legislature.

The murderer made several attempts to have his sentence overturned asserting that his insanity defense was ineffectively represented by his lawyer. His case was eventually heard by the 9th Circuit in May 1991. The justices ruled that a stipulation agreed to by the murderer’s defense counsel at the time “may have seriously damaged the counsel's ability to advocate diminished capacity.” The court ordered the matter back to state district court for review. This review in state court did not alter the original decision reached. The murderer remains behind bars.

Deputy Andy Romero rose through of the Orange County Sheriff’s Department and retired in 1993 as a captain having been in charge of the department’s homicide bureau during two of Orange County’s most notorious serial killer investigations: Randy Kraft and William Bonin.

After his retirement from the OCS D he became the Chief of the Bell Gardens Police Department. He held this position until 1996 when he again retired. The city of Orange persuaded him to come out of retirement in 1998 and serve as their interim chief of police. They then offered him the position full time which he held until his final retirement from law enforcement in 2004. For his actions shooting and apprehending the slayer of Detective Schneider and Sergeant Wilson in 1973, retired Chief Romero was given the Medal of Valor at the Orange County Sheriff's Department's 25th Medal of Valor ceremony in March 2013.

Detective Schneider is survived by his wife and three children. Detective Sergeant Wilson is also survived by a wife and three children.

7 January 1858 – Sheriff William C. Getman, Gunfire

Thirty-one-year old Sheriff William “Billy” Getman, thrice wounded during the Mexican American War, and a Lieutenant in the Los Angeles Rangers became Sheriff in September 1857. On the morning of January 7, 1858 he received word about a mentally disturbed man named Reed who recently arrived from Texas. After securing a judge's order to detain Reed and bring him in for mental evaluation, he and two of his men went in search of the man. They found him only moments after he exited the Monte Pio pawnshop after thrusting a handgun at the owner and begging the shocked store owner to take his life.

Getman called out to Reed and told him that he wanted to speak to him. The deranged man turned toward him armed with a derringer and ordered the Sheriff to keep away from him. Getman tried to calm the man and convince him to put the gun away. Instead, Reed fired point blank at Getman then ran back inside the pawnshop. A fierce gun battle ensued in which another peace officer was wounded. The intense fire from the lawmen finally flushed Reed from the store and he was finally brought down and killed after being struck by ten bullets.

Sheriff Getman was murdered less than a year after the murder of Sheriff Barton and his posse. According to the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Fund website, Getman's murder was determined to be the first in the nation of a peace officer by a mentally deranged individual. The modern syndrome known as “suicide by cop” was foreign in the nineteenth century, but Reed's actions certainly seem to be an early example of this phenomenon.

Getman was the last Los Angeles County Sheriff killed in the line of duty.

8 January 1897 – Deputy George Lee Wilson, Gunfire

On the evening of December 27th, 1896, at approximately 8 o'clock, Deputy Wilson and Deputy Constable Albert Smith responded at the house of Jesus Morales outside Monrovia to arrest Jesus's brother Jose who was wanted for shooting and badly wounding a man near Santa Anita

the previous February. Wilson and Smith bounded on the door for admittance, but it was initially denied. They warned that they would break the door down if it was not opened. Jesus responded and opened the door. A lamp in the bedroom where Jesus was sleeping with a woman was illuminated and it penetrated into another bedroom and revealed Jose in bed with another woman.

Smith carried a lantern as the officers entered the room with the suspect. Morales attempted to pull the covers over his head, but the officers pulled them down and positively identified him by the light of Smith's lantern. They then ordered him out of bed and recovered a menacing knife under his pillow. Morales was ordered to dress. He was about halfway through this process when he asked permission to retrieve his shoes from an adjoining room. He was given permission to do this and then Wilson noticed that his shoes were under the bed and ordered Morales to sit down while he retrieved stooped and retrieved the shoes for the suspect. While bending over to pick up the shoes, the .45 caliber Colt revolver that Wilson carried in his overcoat was exposed. Morales quickly reached out and snatched the weapon then jumped back and turned and fired toward the two lawmen. The round struck the bottom of the Smith's lantern extinguishing it, then deflected downward and struck Wilson in the upper rear portion of his right thigh and travelled on a downward trajectory. The wound was said to be a "serious but not dangerous" at the time. After Morales shot Wilson, Smith returned fire, heard a groan, and assumed he struck Morales. At that moment in the adjunct room, Morales's brother Jesus extinguished the lantern in his bedroom plunging the house into total darkness.

Smith launched himself in the direction where he heard the groan and an intense fight with Morales ensued on the floor of the darkened bedroom as the woman in the bed apparently cowered under the covers. Smith lost his gun and his hat in the fight, but after over a minute of intense fighting Morales broke free, dove out of a window and made his escape. While Smith was struggling in the dark with Morales, Wilson managed to stagger outside the house and scream for help. Within minutes a crowd of fifty men rallied to the spot who took Morales's brother Jesus into custody.

Wilson was taken to Monrovia where two doctors worked on him trying to recover the bullet. They were unable to do so, but did observe that a piece of cloth from his trousers was carried into the wound by the bullet. Every effort was made to make Wilson comfortable and he was transported to father's house in San Gabriel. It was now felt that Wilson's injury was more severe than originally suspected and that if he did not die he would at the least lose his leg.

Sheriff Burr, Under Sheriff Clement and Deputy Aguirre responded to the area via horseback and formed a posse, but Morales was not found.

Two weeks after the shooting. Dr. H.H. Maynard, a member of the medical faculty at USC, performed surgery on Wilson's leg in an effort to retrieve the bullet. Dr. Maynard successfully found and removed the round, but, unfortunately, uncontrollable hemorrhaging resulted from the procedure causing Wilson to lose so much blood he lapsed into a coma from which he never emerged.

George Wilson was thirty-six years of age at the time of his death; he was unmarried. He had been a deputy sheriff for six years and was credited with making twenty-two felony arrests, twenty of which resulted in convictions. He died in his parents in San Gabriel. Wilson's father was justice of the peace in the township where his son served as deputy.

The search for Jose Morales would go on for over five years. On September 29th, 1900, it was wrongly reported that he was killed in a gun battle with Mexican lawmen near the Real del Castillo in Baja California, but he remained free until May 1902. It was then that three deputy sheriffs from Yuma County, Arizona brought him to justice ten miles from the Mexican border, but not before engaging him in a brief gun battle. After Morales emptied the bullets from his revolver at the deputies, they rushed him and took him into custody.

Morales went on trial in November 1902 and claimed that it was Smith who actually shot Wilson. He said he picked the deputy's gun off the floor only after he was shot by the deputy constable. He then shot out Smith's lantern and made his escape. This argument was not believed by the jury and he was convicted of manslaughter and was sentenced to ten years in San Quentin.

9 January 1988 – Deputy Jack B. Miller, Gunfire

Deputy Jack Miller succumbed to a gunshot wound sustained the previous day while serving a narcotics search warrant at a home on West 55th Street.

One suspect was killed in the ensuing shootout. A woman and a 17-year-old boy were arrested at the scene and charged with murder.

Deputy Miller had served with the agency for 12 years. He was survived by his wife and two children.

15 January 1977 – Sergeant Edward John Russell, Automobile Accident

Sergeant Russell was killed in an automobile accident while on duty. He had been with the agency for ten years and was assigned to the West Hollywood Station.

18 January 1961 – Deputy Manuel A. Ayon, Automobile Accident

Deputy Ayon was killed in an automobile accident as he was finishing up his shift. His patrol car left the roadway, struck a ditch and then a utility pole.

Deputy Ayon had been with the agency for two years and was assigned to the San Dimas Station.

19 January 1982 – Deputy Kenneth D. Ell, Accidental Gunfire

Deputy Ell was accidentally shot and killed by his partner during a confrontation with an armed suspect in a dark alley. When the suspect produced a handgun Deputy Ell's partner opened fire and accidentally struck Deputy Ell once in the head.

Deputy Ell had been with the agency for 14 years.

23 January 1857 – Sheriff James R. Barton, Deputy Charles T. Daly, Constable William H. Little, Constable Charles C. Baker, Gunfire

Sheriff James Barton, Deputy Charles Daly, Constable Charles Baker and Constable William Little were shot and killed while attempting to arrest members of the notorious Flores-Daniels Gang. The gang ambushed the officers, killing them. Deputy Daly had just been deputized by Sheriff Barton in order to help apprehend the criminals.

The site of the shooting (in the city of Irvine near where the State Highway 133 crosses the 5 Freeway), is marked by California State Historical Landmark No. 218, Barton Mound, with this inscription:

Juan Flores, who had escaped from San Quentin, was being sought by Sheriff James Barton with a posse of five men. Near this mound, Flores surprised Sheriff Barton and three posse members; all four were killed. When Los Angeles learned of the slaughter, posses were formed, and Flores and his men were captured.

While the Flores-Daniel Gang was being pursued, the bodies of the Sheriff and his posse were recovered by a special party sent out on horseback, escorting several wagons filled with coffins for the purpose and the bodies were returned to Los Angeles.

52 members of the gang were arrested and 18 were hung for the murders.

24 January 1987 – Deputy Charles Robert Anderson, Gunfire

Deputy Charles Anderson was shot and killed when he confronted a burglar in his home.

He had just returned home from a family outing when he discovered a man inside his house. The burglar opened fire on the deputy when he confronted him and identified himself as a deputy.

Deputy Anderson had been employed with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for 11 years, and is survived by his wife and 5-year-old son.

26 January 1969 – Reserve Deputy Charles D. Rea, Drowned

Reserve Deputy Rea drowned after falling into a stream while attempting to rescue civilians trapped in Big Tujunga Canyon during a flash flood.

Reserve Deputy Rea had been with the agency for 11 months and was assigned to Crescenta Valley Station, Montrose Search and Rescue Team.

26 January 2005 – Deputy James Phillip Tutino, Vehicular Assault

Deputy James Tutino was killed when a man caused a commuter train to derail when he parked his SUV on the railroad tracks in the train's path.

As the train approached the obstruction the suspect ran from the scene. The train derailed when it struck the vehicle and then struck an oncoming commuter train, causing it to derail as well.

Deputy Tutino, who was en route to the Central Jail, and 10 civilians were killed as a result of the incident. More than 200 other citizens were injured. The suspect was arrested a short time later and charged with arson and 11 counts of homicide.

Deputy Tutino had served with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for 23 years. He is survived by his wife, five children, two grandchildren, parents, brother, and sister.

29 January 1932 – Chief Deputy Frank DeWar, Airplane Accident

Chief Deputy DeWar was killed in an airplane accident while returning from Bakersfield after investigating a lead in a kidnapping case. The pilot attempted to fly low under the clouds of a storm but was forced to turn back. The plane struck the ground and burst into flames and all eight passengers were killed. The wreckage was not located for a week.

Chief Deputy DeWar was in charge of the Special Anti-Gangster Duty. He was a veteran of WWI.