

WALNUT/DIAMOND BAR SHERIFF STATION HISTORY TIMELINE

1927 – San Dimas Station opens and is responsible for patrolling the east San Gabriel Valley including all the communities in the Walnut/Diamond Bar area.

1961 – Plans for a new 23,775 square foot Sheriff Station are proposed for the East San Gabriel Valley Station to be constructed in the City of Industry.

1962 – Long range county construction planning envisions a \$732,000 Sheriff Station to be built in the Walnut/Brea Canyon area.

1964 – The new 24,410 square foot, \$625,000, Industry Sheriff Station is dedicated February 27th. Deputies at the new station are responsible for patrolling, the cities of Industry, La Puente and Walnut, as well as unincorporated areas including Diamond Bar. This is an area of 105 square miles.

1969 – The citizens of Diamond Bar make their first effort to incorporate.

1969 – A racial riot occurred on the campus of Mount San Antonio College in Walnut requiring a large response from Sheriff's personnel.

1972 – In May, the Walnut city council considers the selection of a site on La Puente Road for a library and civic center and possibly a sheriff's station.

1972 – In September, a seventy-five minute gun battle occurred in the city of Walnut at the apartment complex at 20700 San Jose Road. Over one hundred rounds were fired. Four people died, four were wounded, including Deputy Daniel Hawkins and Sergeant James Callas.

1973 – The possibility of Walnut city officials buying three acres of land as a site for a Sheriff's Station is discussed with county officials in June.

1980 – The body of James Michael Macabe, 12, of Garden Grove is found in Walnut. He was one of numerous victims of notorious Freeway Killer William Bonin.

1980 – Walnut and county officials begin negotiations with Shea Homes for a land swap to acquire 5.3 acres of land at Valley Boulevard and Grand Avenue for a Sheriff's Station.

1983 – In August, the county supervisors grant authority for the construction of Walnut Station.

1985 - The county began accepting bids in September for construction of Walnut Station. The cost was estimated at \$9.5 million dollars. The *LA Times* wrote: "The project provides for a one-story station building with a partial basement and a one-story service building. Total expenses include the cost of construction inspection, project administration and communications equipment. The development is being financed through a joint powers agreement with the

county, the city of Walnut and the Walnut Improvement Agency, a city-run redevelopment agency.”

1987 – September 23rd, Walnut Station opened under the command of Captain Tom Vetter. Two hundred and sixty-five personnel were assigned. Thirty percent of these came from Industry Station. San Dimas Station was made a substation subordinate to Walnut Station’s command. The cost to construct the facility was \$8 million dollars.

1989 – Diamond Bar becomes a city.

1991 – Captain Lee McCown begins a volunteer program requesting station deputies to carry tape recorders to help document their contacts in an effort to lower complaints. The program’s success leads to copying by police departments in neighboring cities.

1992 - In January, a two-year motorcycle pilot project begins in Diamond Bar, San Dimas and Walnut. Six full-time deputies riding Kawasaki 1000s are assigned. The cost is \$1 million dollars. This is the first time in sixty years the Sheriff’s Department will again deploy motorcycles to routine patrol. Formerly, the Department relied on twenty-two reserves to perform this task on an irregular basis and required them to purchase their own motorcycles.

1994 – Deputy Steve Belanger is shot and wounded in the head during a traffic stop in Rowland Heights.

2000 – San Dimas Station is made a full service station again and Walnut/San Dimas Station is renamed Walnut/Diamond Bar Station.

2001 – While on motorcycle training at Walnut Station, Lomita Deputy Brandon Hinkle is killed in a traffic accident on Brea Canyon Cutoff just south of Pathfinder Road in the city of Diamond Bar.