

South Pasadena Police Department

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



Joe Ortiz
Chief of Police

SOUTH PASADENA CITY COUNCIL

District 1



Robert Joe
Mayor

District 2



Marina Khubesrian, M.D.
Councilmember

District 3



Richard Schneider, M.D.
Councilmember

District 4



Michael Cacciotti
Councilmember

District 5



Diana Mahmud
Mayor Pro Tem



About South Pasadena

Situated 12-miles from downtown Los Angeles, South Pasadena is approximately 3.44 square miles on the western side of the San Gabriel Valley and has a diverse population of about 26,000.

Often called the "City of Trees" because of its many oak lined streets, South Pasadena separated from Pasadena and incorporated in 1888. With its elegant craftsman-built homes, distinguished schools and unique businesses, South Pasadena is one of California's desirable locations to live. In 2014, Sunset Magazine readers voted South Pasadena one of the best suburbs to live in the West.

Many movies are filmed in South Pasadena each year since its small-town atmosphere can often represent different cities across the country. Blockbuster movies like "Halloween", "Back to the Future", "Terminator", "La La Land", "National Treasure", "Jurassic Park III", "Pee-Wee's Big Adventure" and "Flags of our Fathers" were filmed in South Pasadena.

South Pasadena is one of the oldest cities to continue to build its own float for the Rose Parade.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



2	South Pasadena City Council	25	K-9 Unit
3	Table of Contents	25	Bike/T3
4	Message from the Chief	26	Support Services Division
6	Mission Statement/Core Values	27	Police Assistants
7	Command Staff	27	Records
8	Leadership History	28	Support Services Assistant
9	New Police Chief Appointed	28	Police Cadet Program
10	Crime Statistics	29	Parking Control
13	Lifesaving Incidents	29	Volunteers
14	Awards Ceremony	30	Reserves
16	New Employees	30	Technology
17	New Assignments	31	Training
17	Retirements	32	Community Outreach Programs
17	Promotions	32	West San Gabriel Valley Mental Health Team
17	Resignations	33	Homeless Outreach Program
18	Organizational Chart	34	Community Programs
19	Department Overview	36	Community Involvement
20	Field Operations Division	38	Social Media
21	Patrol	39	Service Pins
22	Detectives	40	In Memory
23	School Resource Officer	41	SPPD in the Community
23	Crime Analysis/Crime Prevention	42	Community Appreciation
24	Traffic	43	Acknowledgement
24	Foothill Air Support Team		

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1422 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

TEL: 626.403.7270 ■ FAX: 626.403.7271

WWW.SOUTHPASADENACA.GOV



September 9, 2020

Dear Honorable Mayor, City Councilmembers and residents of South Pasadena:

The 2019 Annual Report summarizes significant work that has been accomplished by the men and women of the South Pasadena Police Department. Our Officers and civilian employees work diligently around the clock to reduce crime and positively affect our citizens' quality of life. This year has been exciting and challenging as the Department continues to embrace new technologies, and implement proactive policing strategies to address crime and quality of life issues in South Pasadena. I am proud of the ongoing relationship that the South Pasadena Police Department has fostered with our community. Our Department functions efficiently not only because of the dedication of exceptional employees but also because of the overwhelming support that we receive from the community.

We are honored to serve our South Pasadena community through professional police services and by building positive, police-community relationships. No police organization can effectively serve and protect without the assistance, support, and trust of those we serve. Especially in today's world, wherein some communities trust has eroded, and respect for government and law enforcement agencies is being questioned and challenged. To gain respect, we must continue to earn it. One of the most powerful ways to preserve and protect our constitution and civil rights is to actively promote and champion open dialogue. We must never take for granted the importance of communication and transparency.

As you review this report, keep in mind that it also represents the dedication of the police department employees. These professionals work weekends, holidays, and at night while most people are sleeping. They are unique in that they do not hesitate to run to danger when others are running away. They will risk their lives for strangers and people they may never know. They are genuinely service-minded and committed to this community. I am very proud of the passion and honor our employees bring to the job and hope you are too.

This year the Police Department underwent a significant reorganization to increase efficiency and effectiveness. The restructuring added a Deputy Chief and two Lieutenants to develop a more efficient and effective organizational structure in terms of the span of control and management layers for both Operations and Field Services. We expanded various operations within the South Pasadena Police Department that all contribute to the provision of professional law enforcement services. In 2019, we started the year with a shortage of staff, losing employees due to attrition. Before the end of the year, we made four promotions, hired two police officers, four dispatchers, one parking control officer, three cadets, and one police chaplain.

Many of our staff were recognized for their work at the South Pasadena Police Department's Annual Awards Ceremony. Those staff members were presented with Employee of the Year Awards, Life-Saving Medals, Medals of Meritorious Service, Medals of Distinguished Service, and Outside City Awards.

I am honored to work with these great men and women who serve South Pasadena, and we are very blessed to be part of this great community.



Joe Ortiz
Chief of Police



SOUTH PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

"The Mission of the South Pasadena Police Department is to provide our community with the safest possible environment using interactive crime prevention methods, public education programs, and the equitable and professional application of the law."

CORE VALUES

Integrity - Police officers are entrusted with lives and property. They are exposed to situations where, if lacking a high level of integrity, they can take advantage of that trust. The community must have confidence that their officers have the highest level of ethics and morals. Personal integrity is fundamental in the prevention of corruption. Police officers have a solemn obligation to be honest and trustworthy, accurately document probable cause and the circumstances of an arrest in reports and during courtroom testimony, report ethical violations when committed by others, and serve as a role model for the public.

Quality of Service - The residents and business owners of South Pasadena have high expectations of the quality of service provided by the South Pasadena Police Department. Historically, the Department has provided an exemplary level of service. When handling any type of call for service, criminal or traffic investigation, officers should always provide a level of service they would want their family to receive. They should be guided by what is the right thing to do to solve the problem that resulted in their response.

Respect for People - Police officers must treat all people with as much respect and dignity as the situation allows. Even in a confrontational, adversarial encounter, officers must remain professional and respectful. Respect towards others breeds respect in return. And, respect towards others must begin between co-workers. If employees are not respectful towards each other, they will not be respectful towards the public. All employees must treat each other with respect and recognize that the diversity each employee brings to the South Pasadena Police Department helps to make the Department able to police the diverse community we serve.

Work Ethic - The employees of the South Pasadena Police Department are government employees and their salaries and benefits are paid by the public they serve. Taxpayers have the right to expect their government employees to earn the salaries they are paid. All employees are expected to give an honest day's work. The South Pasadena Police Department does not have any unnecessary positions and everyone must be committed to supporting each other to accomplish the goals and objectives of the organization. This requires a firm commitment from each and every employee.



South Pasadena Police Department
COMMAND STAFF



Joe Ortiz
Chief of Police



Brian Solinsky
Deputy Chief



Tom Jacobs
Lieutenant
Field Services



Shannon Robledo
Lieutenant
Support Services

SOUTH PASADENA CITY HALL



Tony Abdalla
Detective Sergeant



Robert Bartl
Patrol Sergeant



Jim Valencia
Patrol Sergeant



Matt Ronnie
Patrol Sergeant



Spencer Louie
Patrol Sergeant



LEADERSHIP HISTORY

The following is a list of City Marshals and Chiefs that have led the South Pasadena Police Department since being established in 1888.

When the city incorporated in 1888, the City Marshals provided law enforcement services to the community. In 1926, state legislation changed the position of City Marshal to Chief of Police.

Amman Cobb

March 1888 to June 1888

Martin B. Selman

June 1888 to February 1889

E. Peters

February 1889 to April 1894

Isaac Peel

April 1894 to October 1895

George Wilson

October 1895 to April 1896

M.B. Reid

April 1896 to July 1907

William H. Johnston

July 1907 to April 1916

Frank Higgins

April 1916 to April 1942

Everett Setzer

October 1942 to October 1950

Robert Blakely

October 1950 to October 1952

Clifton Brown

December 1952 to June 1960

Melvin Viney

October 1960 to August 1976

Gary Brown

August 1976 to May 1977

Samuel Buntyn

June 1977 to December 1985

William Reese

December 1985 to December 1990

Thomas Mahoney

February 1991 to April 1997

Michael Berkow

July 1997 to July 2001

Daniel Watson

January 2002 to July 2010

Joseph Payne

September 2010 to February 2013

Arthur Miller

February 2013 to 2018

Joe Ortiz

April 2019 to Current

Marshal William Johnston

NEW POLICE CHIEF APPOINTED

Joe Ortiz was sworn in as Chief of Police of the South Pasadena Police Department on April 1, 2019. He became the 21st Chief to lead the department since its inception.

Chief Ortiz has over 25 years of law enforcement experience. He started his career with the Glendora Police Department where he held a variety of positions including Patrol Officer, Force Options Instructor, Field Training Officer, Motor Officer, Detective, Traffic Supervisor, Explorer Advisor and a member of a regional Los Angeles County SWAT Team. Chief Ortiz rose to the rank of Corporal while serving with the Glendora Police Department.

In 2010, Chief Ortiz joined the Sierra Madre Police Department and promoted to the ranks of Sergeant and Captain before achieving the position of Chief of Police in 2016.

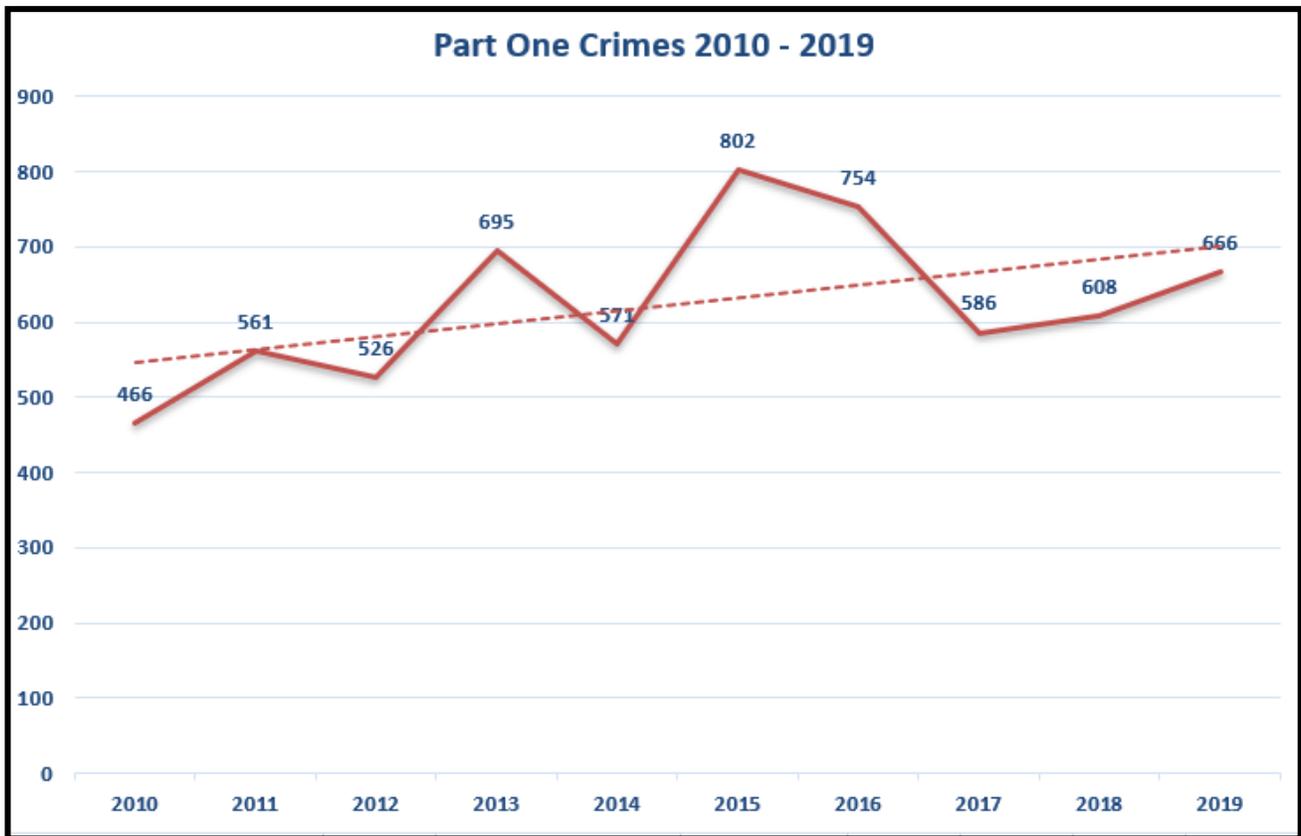
Chief Ortiz is a veteran of the Air Force and Air National Guard. He holds a Master of Science degree in Emergency Management and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Occupational Studies from Cal State Long Beach. Chief Ortiz also holds multiple certifications and professional affiliations.



2018 - 2019 CRIME STATISTICS

The following charts show the 2018 - 2019 crime comparisons and various categories of calls for service:

2018 - 2019 PART ONE CRIMES			
Crime	2018	2019	2018-2019 % Change
Homicide	0	0	Not Calculable
Rape	2	2	0%
Robbery	19	11	-42%
Assault	65	85	31%
Burglary - (commercial & residential)	103	94	-8.7%
Residential	78	72	-7.7%
Commercial	25	22	-12%
Larceny-Theft	360	434	21%
Stolen Vehicles	59	40	-32%
Arson	0	0	Not Calculable
Total	608	666	9.5%



CRIME CLEARANCE		
2018	2019	% Change
16%	17%	6%

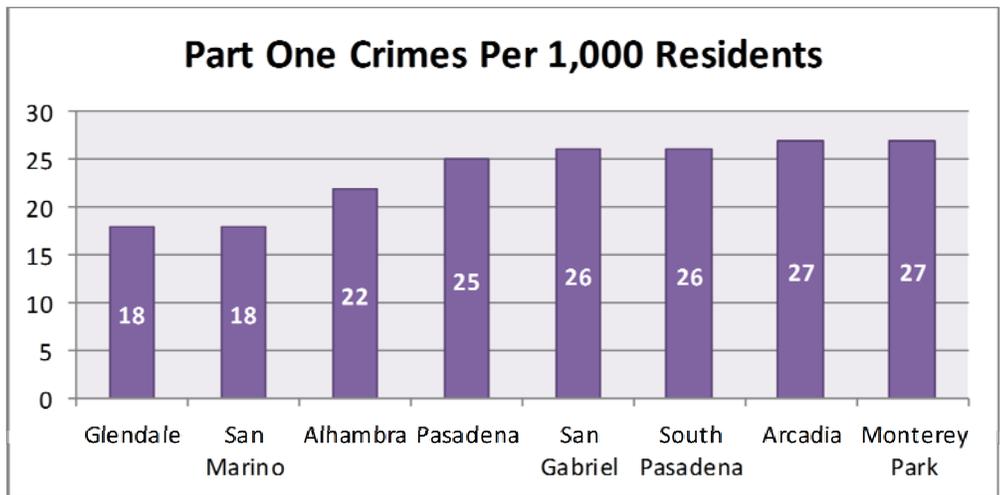
ARRESTS			
Arrests	2018	2019	% Change
Adult	809	751	-7%
Juveniles	36	44	22%
Total	845	795	-6%

2018 - 2019 CRIME STATISTICS

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS				CITATIONS			
Traffic Collisions	2018	2019	% Change	Citations	2018	2019	% Change
Injury	81	99	22%	Citations (moving)	3,414	3,224	-6%
Injury hit and run	0	0	Not Calculable				
Non-Injury	65	266	309%				
Non-Injury hit and run	3	88	2833%	Parking	6,645	6,215	-6%
Fatal	1	0	-100%	Others	136	246	81%
Total	150	453	202%	Total	10,195	9,685	-5%

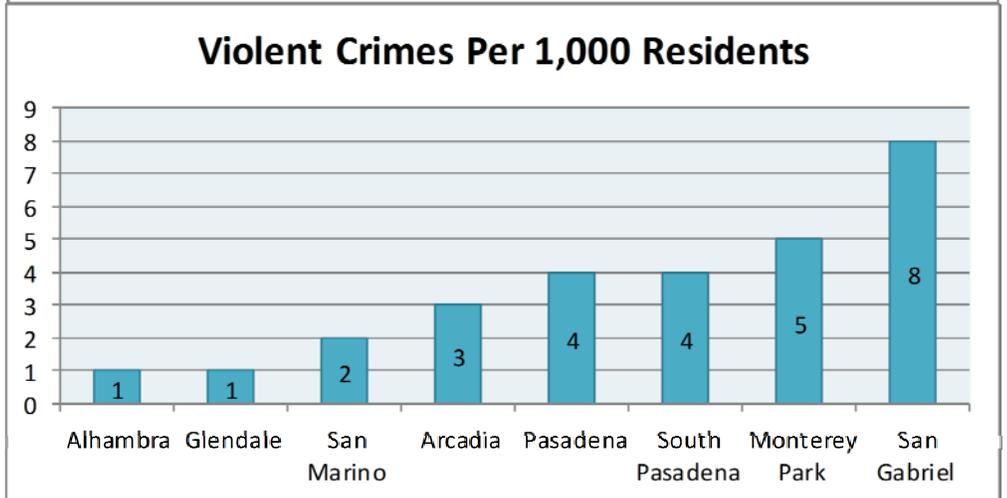
Part One Crimes Per 1,000 Residents

Average Crime Per 1,000 residents compared to surrounding cities in 2019 was 24.



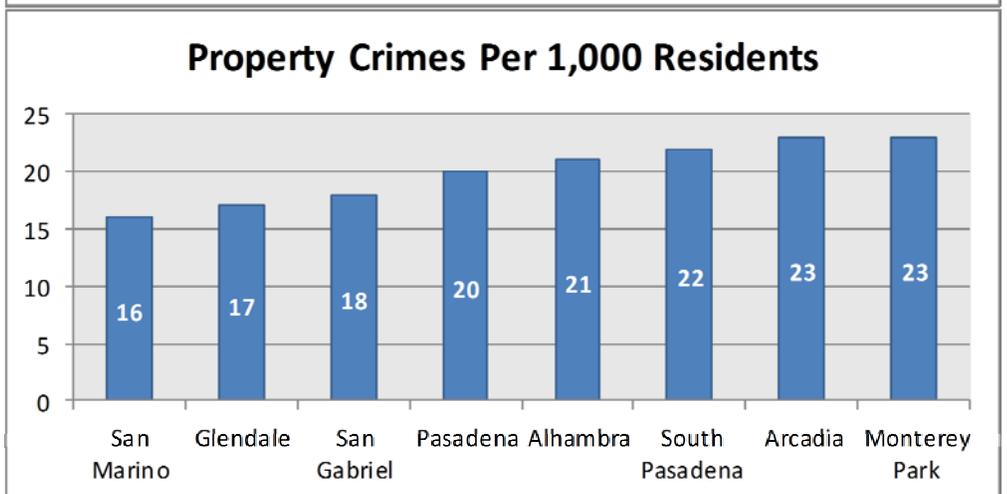
Violent Crimes Per 1,000 Residents

Average Violent Crime Per 1,000 residents compared to surrounding cities in 2019 was four.



Property Crimes Per 1,000 Residents

Property Crime Per 1,000 residents compared to surrounding cities in 2019 was 20.



2018 - 2019 CRIME STATISTICS

AGENCY ASSIST

Calls	2018	2019	% Change
Assist Fire	109	219	101%
Assist Outside Agency	606	464	-23%
Assist Outside Agency 911 Transfer	1,177	1,075	-9%

SELECTED CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls for Service	2018	2019	% Change
Robbery Alarms	71	90	27%
Burglar Alarms (vehicle, residential & commercial)	1,276	1,186	-7%
Domestic Disputes (Domestic Violence, family, boy/girlfriend)	38	22	-42%
Suspicious Persons (pedestrian & vehicle)	1,636	1,574	-4%
Extra Patrol	4,901	3,564	-27%
Traffic Stops	5,896	4,542	-23%
Foot Beats	43	57	33%
Vehicles Booted (5 or more park cites)	6	18	200%
Outside Agency Assist	606	464	-23%
Welfare Checks	492	487	-1%
Disturbance (parties, families, neighbors, business disputes)	917	944	3%
DUI Arrests	151	56	-63%
K9 Deployment	48	34	-29%
K9 Training	70	61	-13%
Online Reports	183	167	-9%
Total Selected Calls for Service	16,334	13,266	-19%



LIFESAVING INCIDENTS



In March 2019, the South Pasadena Police Department received approval from the LA County Emergency Medical Services to implement a Naloxone (Narcan) program. Narcan is an emergency treatment medication used in incidents of known or suspected opioid overdose.

Following approval, Officers immediately received training in the application of Narcan and were issued doses of the medication to carry on patrol. Within the first seven months of issuance, Officers saved the lives of two individuals who had suffered life-threatening complications from opioid overdoses.

INCIDENT DATE: MAY 25, 2019

On May 25, 2019, at about 12:53 AM, Officers Wong, Perez and Burgos responded to a 9-1-1 call of a male subject not breathing possibly due to an opioid overdose. Upon arrival, the Officers initiated CPR and administered an emergency dose of Narcan to the subject who had begun to turn color due to a lack of oxygen. Within minutes, the South Pasadena Fire Department arrived on scene and transported the subject to the hospital where he made a full recovery and was later released.

INCIDENT DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2019

On October 4, 2019, at about 1:27 AM, Officer Wise responded to an unconscious male subject who had reportedly suffered a narcotic overdose. Observing the subject on the floor struggling to breathe, Officer Wise immediately rendered aid and administered a dose of Narcan. Within minutes, the subject began to recover and was able to breathe without assistance.



Due to the officers quick and decisive actions in administering Narcan, the lives of both individuals involved in the two incidents were saved. In recognition of their heroic efforts, Officers Wong, Burgos, Perez and Wise were awarded Lifesaving Medals from the Department.

2019 AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



Sergeant of the Year
Tom Jacobs



Officer of the Year
Richard Lee



Civilian of the Year
Cynthia Pacheco



Part-Time Employee of the Year
Nicholas Godoy



Distinguished Service Medal
Daren Wong
Richard Lee



Meritorious Service Award
Shannon Robledo

2019 AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



Lifesaving Award
Incident Date: May 25, 2019
Christopher Perez
Daren Wong
Arthur Burgos



Lifesaving Award
Incident Date: October 4, 2019
Randy Wise



MADD (23152) Award
Tim Kim
Tyler Borrello



Special Recognition
Idessa Gonzales



Citizen Award
Dave Andrews



Citizen Award
South Pasadena Masonic Lodge #290

NEW EMPLOYEES



Joe Ortiz
Chief of Police



David Calderon
Police Officer



Catalina Valdez
Police Officer



Issac Gutierrez
Police Officer



Sara Velasquez
Police Assistant



Valerie Corona
Police Assistant



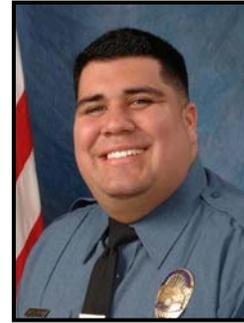
Rachel Lee
Police Assistant



Krista Figueroa
Police Assistant



Bayan Salguero
Police Assistant



Jared Valdiviez
Parking Control Officer



Tyler Chew
Police Cadet



Lizeth Gonzalez-Sotelo
Police Cadet



Katie Ruvalcaba
Police Cadet



Marty Amaro
Management Analyst



Sam Park
Volunteer - Chaplain

NEW ASSIGNMENTS



Joe Johnson
Tactical Flight Officer

RETIREMENTS



Idessa Gonzales
Records Clerk
2008 - 2019

PROMOTIONS



Brian Solinsky
Promoted to Deputy Chief



Shannon Robledo
Promoted to Lieutenant



Tom Jacobs
Promoted to Lieutenant



Randy Wise
Promoted to Corporal

RESIGNED



Juan Salcido



Joe Johnson

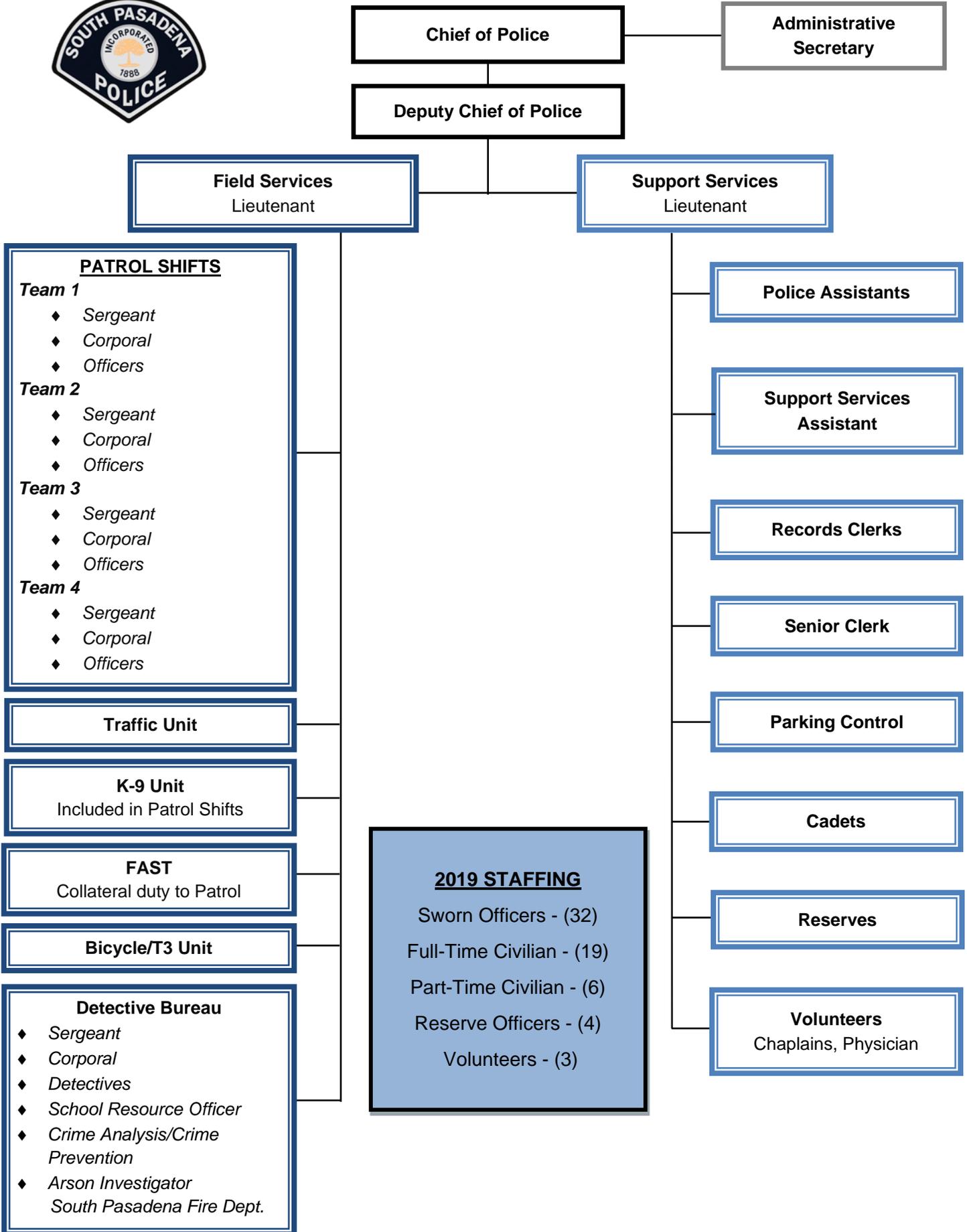


Jose Corney



Jane Hannible

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The South Pasadena Police Department is comprised of sworn, non-sworn, part-time and volunteer personnel. These personnel provide law enforcement related services to the City of South Pasadena, its residents and visitors as well. The department operates 24-hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. In addition to its primary responsibilities, the South Pasadena Police Department also oversees several city contracted services including School Crossing Guard and Animal Control.

Sworn personnel provide a full range of field services such as patrol, traffic enforcement, investigations, crime analysis, as well as a multitude of community outreach programs (ex. Citizen's Academy, Teen Academy, Women's Self-Defense). These services are assisted and supported by non-sworn, part-time and volunteer personnel who are tasked with varying responsibilities including dispatch, parking enforcement, records, property, evidence, training and administrative support.

In Fiscal Year 2018-2019, the Department experienced an increase in its overtime costs due to the challenges of maintaining its full complement of services at a time of unfilled vacancies. While some activities may sometimes be assisted by both State and/or Federal Grants, for the most part grant funds/monies are specific in use and are used primarily to help in purchasing expensive equipment to help maintain efficiency and keep the Department up to date with current industry standards.

The ability to provide an efficient flow of services to our community is a primary goal of the Department.

Challenges with fulfilling this goal sometimes requires resources beyond our capabilities. For this reason, the South Pasadena Police Department continues to maintain and participate in a "Mutual-Aid" program with neighboring police departments whereby additional resources can be called upon. This reciprocal relationship benefits departments by supplementing resources on an "as-needed" basis and helps to foster goodwill amongst participants.

To further improve efficiency in department operations, the command structure of the Department was reorganized in 2019. Changes brought the rank of Deputy Chief (eliminating the rank of Captain) as the second-in-command of the Department. Two Lieutenant positions were also created. One Lieutenant is responsible for Field Services and the other is responsible for Support Services. Two Sergeant positions were eliminated and the reorganization was completed with no additional costs to the budget.

To enhance the overall service for our stakeholders, the South Pasadena Police Department employs a dual focused approach. Combining police best practice with a community-based policing philosophy, the Department utilizes a team oriented concept in dealing with law enforcement concerns within the community thus positively affecting quality of life issues.

The Department actively performs community outreach through programs such as Church Safety and Active Shooter Classes, community meetings, Citizen and Teen Academies.



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION



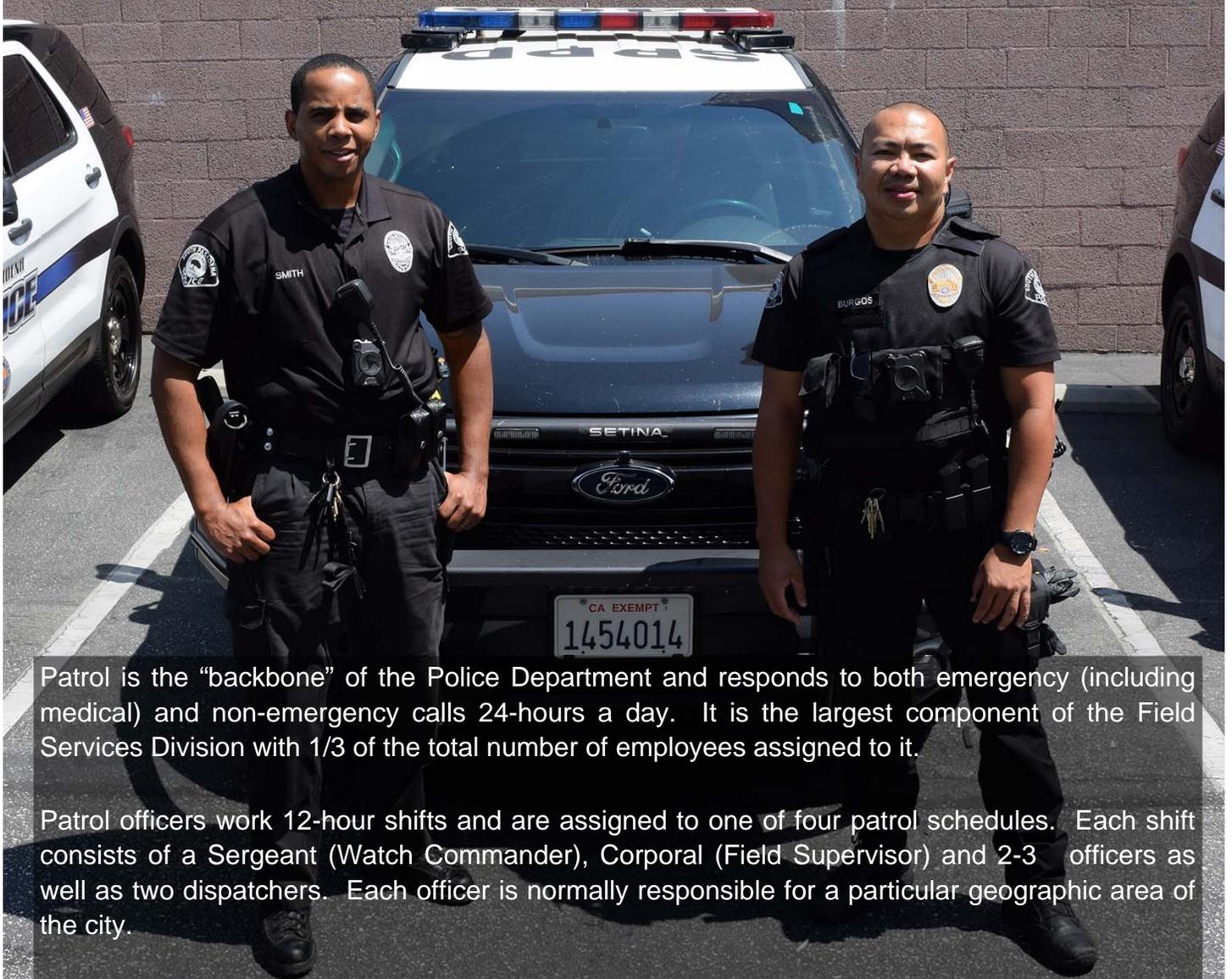
The Field Services Division is the most visible part of the Police Department and consists mainly of uniform personnel. It includes Patrol, Detectives, K9s, Traffic, Foothill Air Support Team and Bicycle Unit. The Field Services Division is supervised by Lieutenant Tom Jacobs.



SIGNIFICANT PATROL ARRESTS

- ◆ On March 2, 2019, a resident returned home and found two bicycles on the side of the residence that didn't belong to the family. Approaching to investigate further, the resident discovered that a window screen had been removed from one of the windows. The resident called police and officers arrested two suspects for burglary.
- ◆ On June 29, 2019, Officers stopped a bicyclist for a traffic violation. The bicyclist was found to be in possession of stolen property and had just recently broke into two vehicles.
- ◆ On July 9, 2019, Officers stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. A search of the vehicle resulted in six pounds of marijuana and over \$100,000.00 in cash.
- ◆ On July 23, 2019, Officers responded to a call of two subjects looking into vehicles with a flashlight. It was determined that both subjects had just broken into two vehicles and were in possession of burglary tools and drug paraphernalia.
- ◆ On October 5, 2019, a resident was home when she heard the front door open and her dog begin to bark. The resident confronted an unknown subject as he fled the residence and called police. Responding officers located and arrested the subject for Attempted Burglary.
- ◆ On October 20, 2019, Officers responded to a residential burglary in progress. Responding officers arrived and saw the burglars exiting the garage. After a short foot pursuit, both burglars were arrested.

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Patrol Operations*



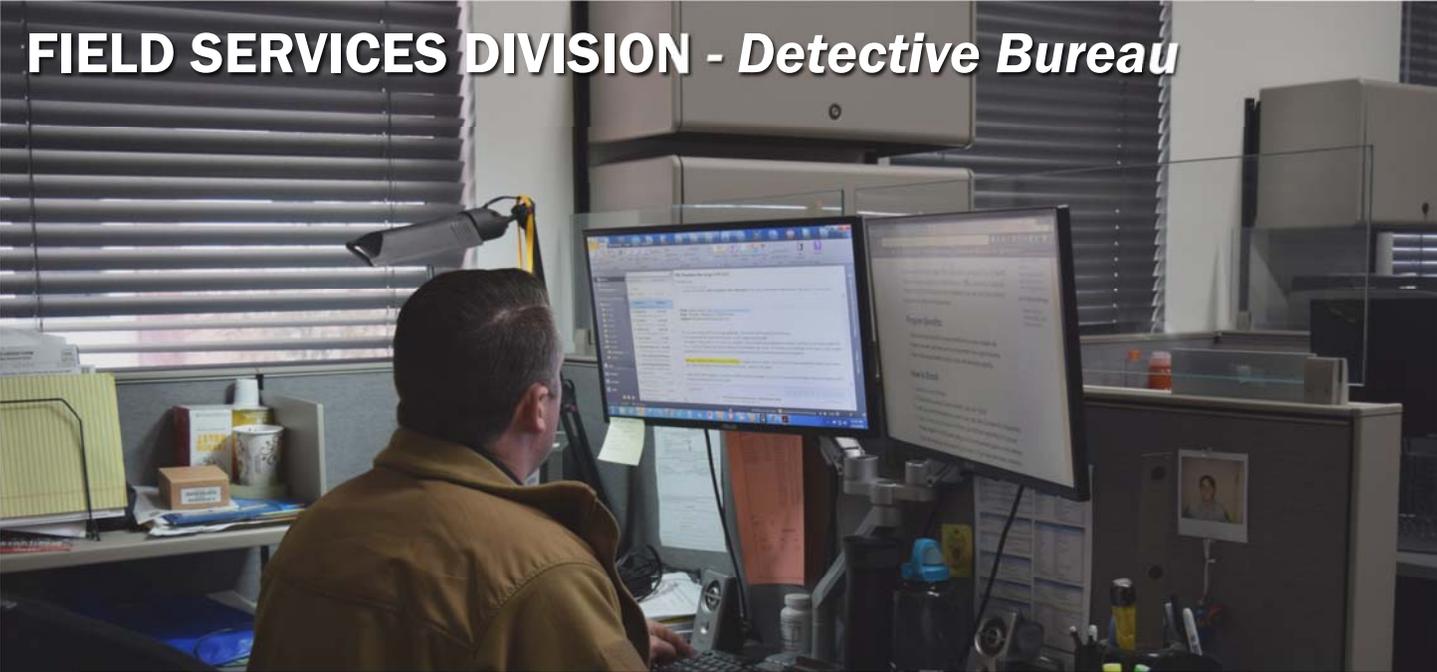
Patrol is the “backbone” of the Police Department and responds to both emergency (including medical) and non-emergency calls 24-hours a day. It is the largest component of the Field Services Division with 1/3 of the total number of employees assigned to it.

Patrol officers work 12-hour shifts and are assigned to one of four patrol schedules. Each shift consists of a Sergeant (Watch Commander), Corporal (Field Supervisor) and 2-3 officers as well as two dispatchers. Each officer is normally responsible for a particular geographic area of the city.

Patrol officer duties may vary but normally include answering calls for service, crime suppression, self-initiating activity including traffic enforcement, preliminary investigation of crimes, report writing, evidence collection, the processing and transport of arrestees and assisting detectives when needed.

Due to their high visibility in the community, patrol officers play a vital role in community outreach and relations. They are in many cases, the face of the Police Department.

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Detective Bureau*



The Detective Bureau is the investigative branch of the Police Department. It is staffed by a Detective Sergeant, Detective Corporal, four full-time detectives (one Detective with a collateral duty as a School Resource Officer, and one Detective who also has a collateral duty as a Crime Analyst and Crime Prevention Officer). In addition, there is a Cadet Assistant assigned to the bureau as well.

The primary role of the Detective Bureau is to follow-up and investigate crimes reported through patrol officers and to prepare cases for filing and prosecution with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

Detective duties include but are not limited to suspect, victim, witness interviews, report writing, surveillances, evidence collection, the obtaining of warrants, suspect extraditions and community education on topics such as Identity Theft, Scam and Con Prevention.

Detectives are cross-trained to handle a variety of different investigations including Crimes Against Persons, Property Crimes, Fraud, Sexual Assault and Burglary. They also assist the South Pasadena Fire Department Arson Investigator when needed.

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *School Resource Officer*

The School Resource Officer (SRO) is the main detective responsible for investigating juvenile related crimes within the South Pasadena Unified School District as well as the entire City of South Pasadena.

The SRO acts as the official liaison between the Police Department and the school district. As such, he participates in numerous official school related activities such as the School Attendance Review Boards at both the middle school and high school.

In addition to criminal investigations, the SRO also plays a vital role in establishing relationships and building rapport with our local youth. As part of his duties, he attends sporting events, dances and other activities and also provides both counseling and mentoring to students in need of his services.

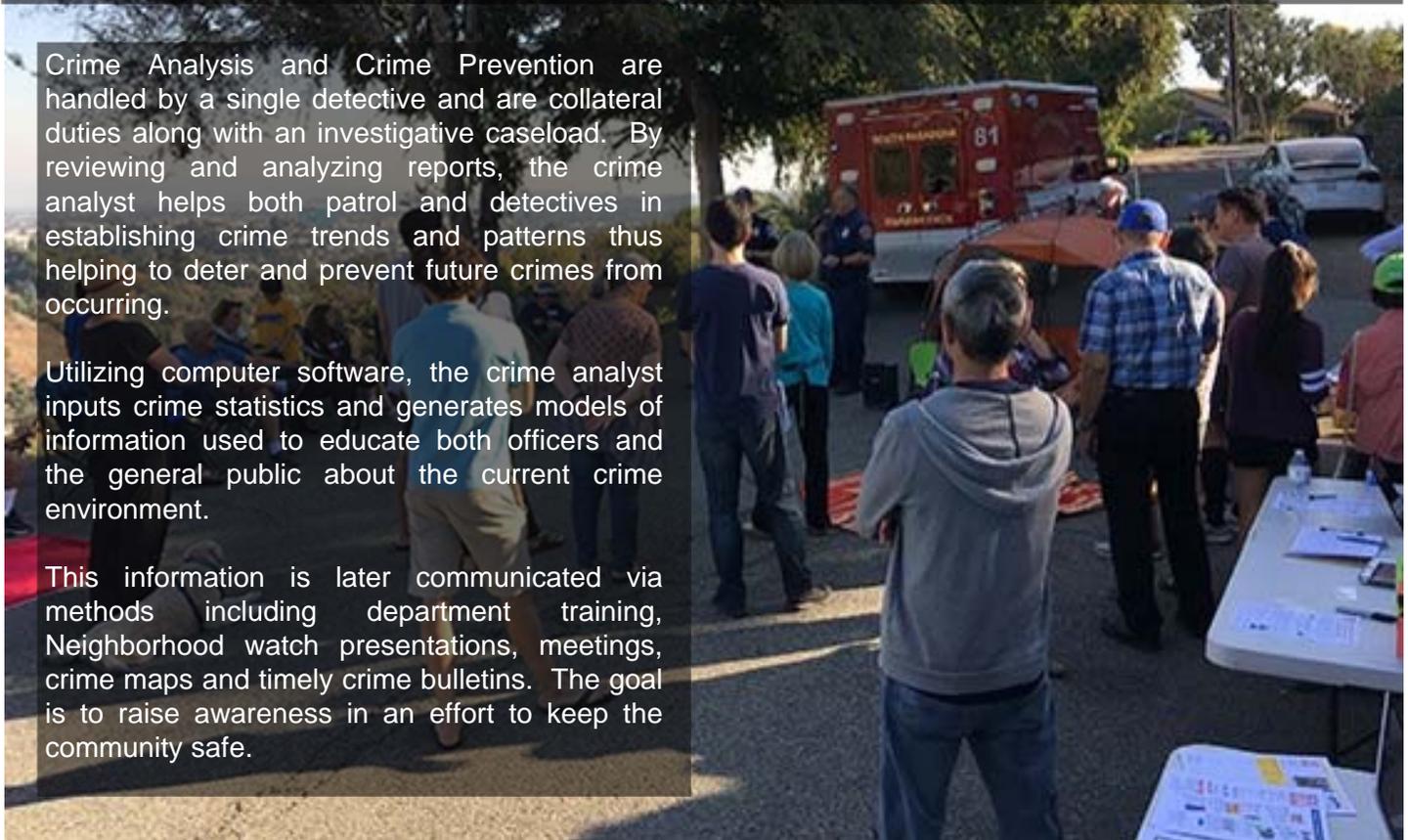


FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Crime Analysis/Crime Prevention*

Crime Analysis and Crime Prevention are handled by a single detective and are collateral duties along with an investigative caseload. By reviewing and analyzing reports, the crime analyst helps both patrol and detectives in establishing crime trends and patterns thus helping to deter and prevent future crimes from occurring.

Utilizing computer software, the crime analyst inputs crime statistics and generates models of information used to educate both officers and the general public about the current crime environment.

This information is later communicated via methods including department training, Neighborhood watch presentations, meetings, crime maps and timely crime bulletins. The goal is to raise awareness in an effort to keep the community safe.



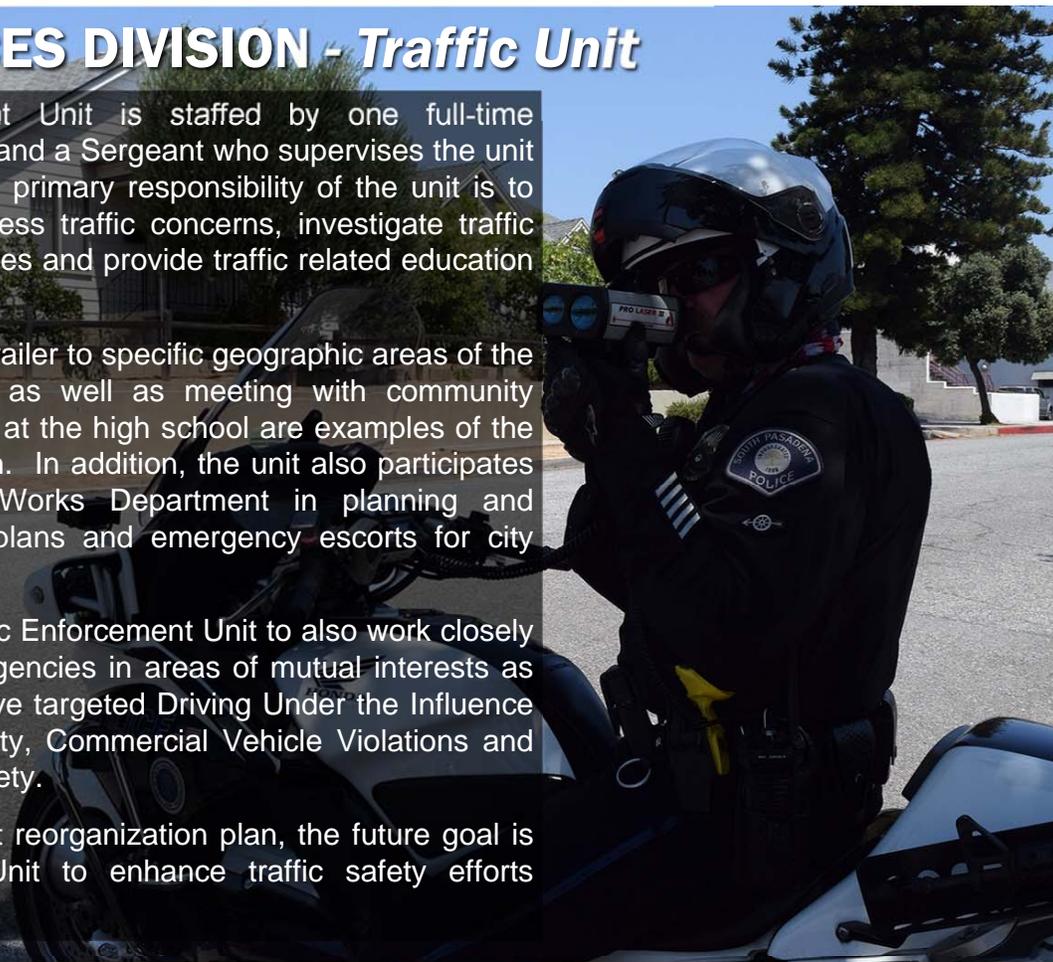
FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Traffic Unit*

The Traffic Enforcement Unit is staffed by one full-time Motorcycle Traffic Officer and a Sergeant who supervises the unit as a collateral duty. The primary responsibility of the unit is to enforce traffic laws, address traffic concerns, investigate traffic collisions and related crimes and provide traffic related education to the community.

Deployment of the radar trailer to specific geographic areas of the city experiencing issues as well as meeting with community groups and presentations at the high school are examples of the unit's community outreach. In addition, the unit also participates along with the Public Works Department in planning and coordinating traffic flow plans and emergency escorts for city events.

It is common for the Traffic Enforcement Unit to also work closely with neighboring police agencies in areas of mutual interests as well. Joint operations have targeted Driving Under the Influence (DUI), Rail-Crossing Safety, Commercial Vehicle Violations and Pedestrian Crosswalk Safety.

As part of the department reorganization plan, the future goal is to expand the Traffic Unit to enhance traffic safety efforts throughout the city.



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Foothill Air Support Team*

The Foothill Air Support Team (FAST) is a regional program developed in 1999 to provide police helicopter services through the Pasadena Police Department to neighboring cities. The ability to have an overhead view provides an additional resource that can be invaluable during incidents of criminal activity, lost persons and natural disasters.

Currently, the FAST program provides services to the communities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Covina, Glendora, La Verne, Monrovia, Pasadena, Pomona, San Marino, Sierra Madre and South Pasadena. Furthermore, with FAST reciprocal agreements in place with other helicopter equipped police agencies, helicopter coverage is provided 24 hours-a-day.

Each participating agency in the program can provide one officer as a Tactical Flight Officer (TFO). While assisting the pilot, the duties of the TFO includes communications, coordinating resources and ground personnel and the operation of equipment such as the Forward Looking Infrared System (FLIR).



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Canine Unit*

In 1982, the South Pasadena Police Department was one of the first agencies in the San Gabriel Valley to create a K-9 team.

Today, the Canine Unit consists of two K-9 teams with each K-9 having a specific skill. "Lisu" specializes in human scent and explosives detection while "Barry" specializes in narcotic detection and articles that pertain to evidence.

Both K-9 teams assist neighboring agencies when a K-9 is needed and both teams also assist local and federal narcotic task forces.

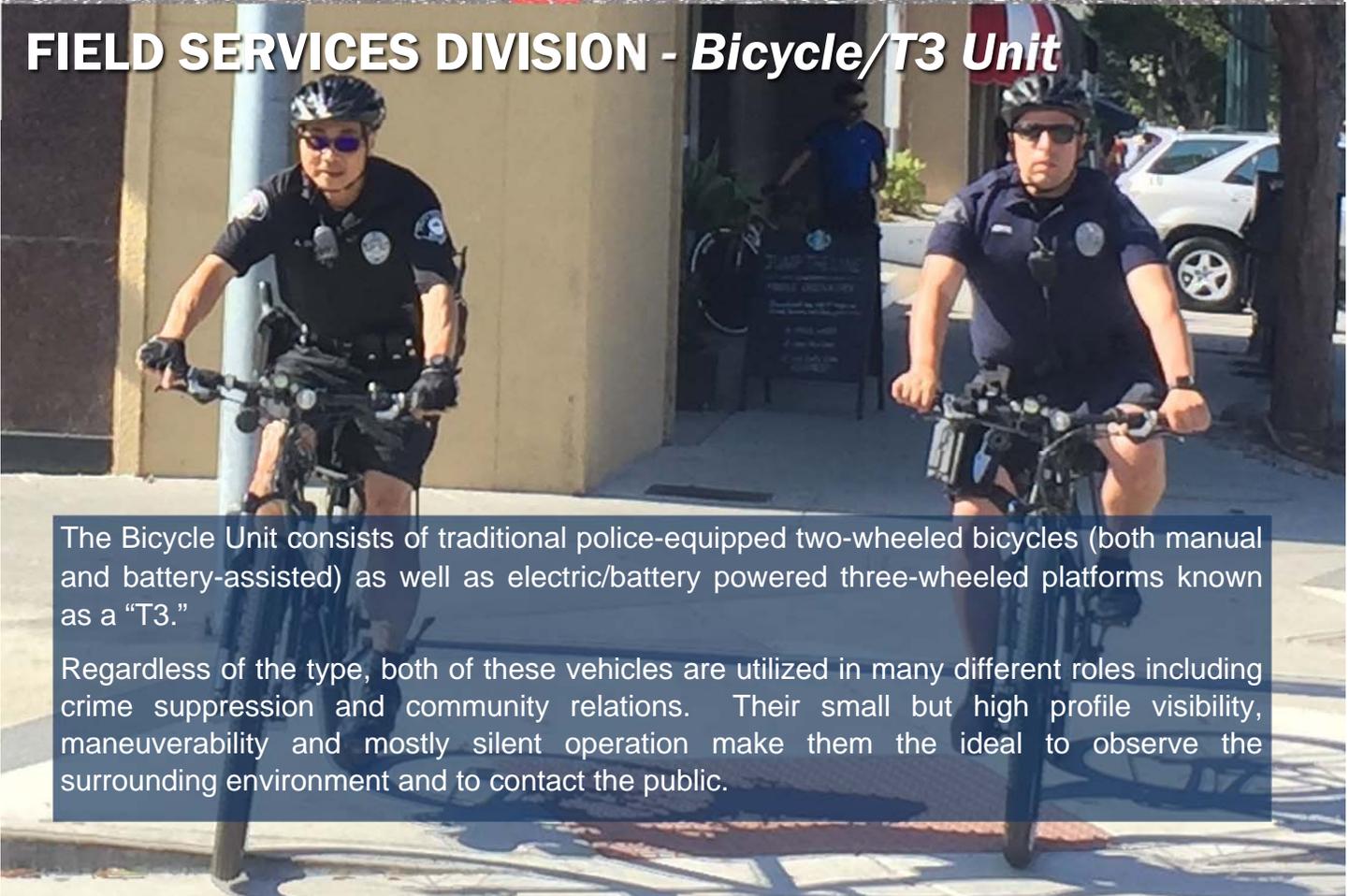
The K-9 teams are a popular public relations tool and participate in special and city events.



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION - *Bicycle/T3 Unit*

The Bicycle Unit consists of traditional police-equipped two-wheeled bicycles (both manual and battery-assisted) as well as electric/battery powered three-wheeled platforms known as a "T3."

Regardless of the type, both of these vehicles are utilized in many different roles including crime suppression and community relations. Their small but high profile visibility, maneuverability and mostly silent operation make them the ideal to observe the surrounding environment and to contact the public.



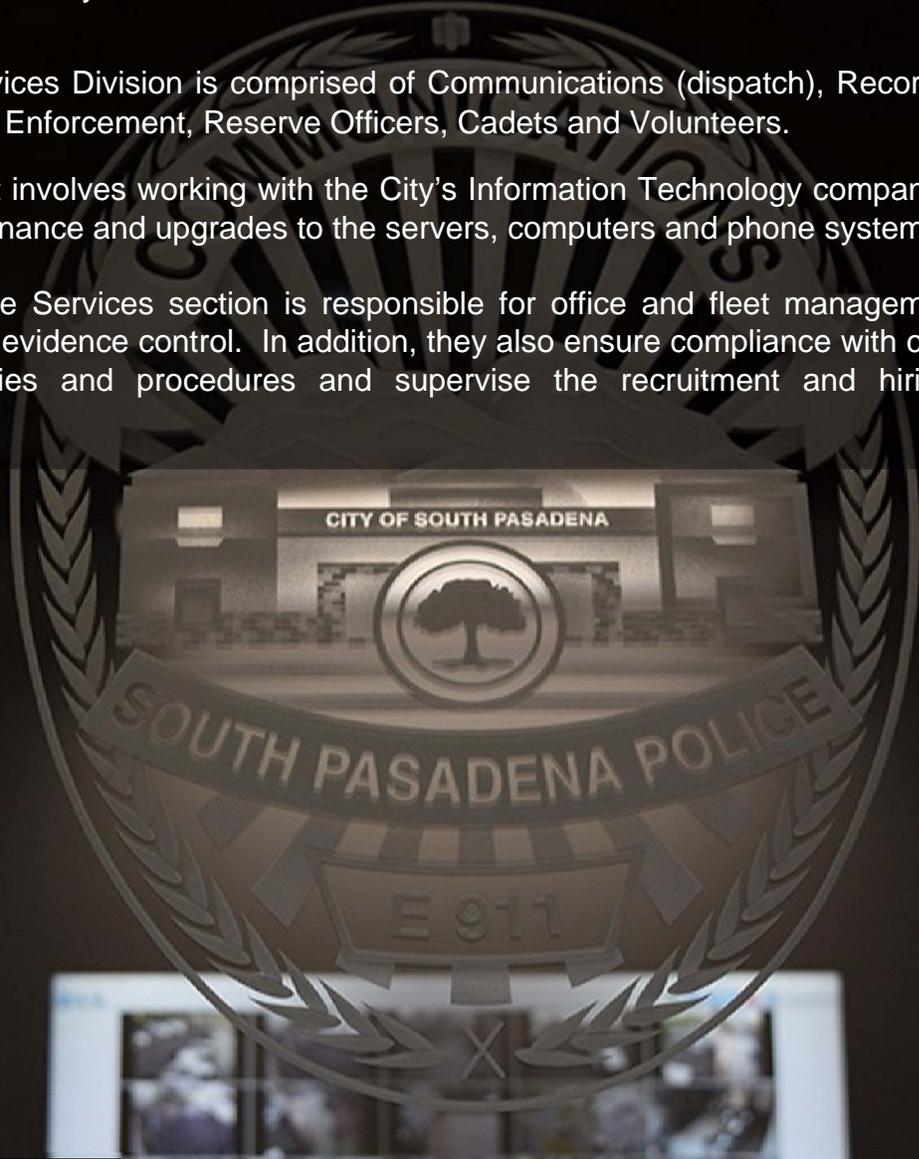
SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Support Services Division consists of non-sworn personnel who provide technical and Administrative Services to the Department and clerical support to the patrol officers. This Division is supervised by Lieutenant Shannon Robledo with assistance from the on-duty Watch Commander.

The Support Services Division is comprised of Communications (dispatch), Records, Support Services, Parking Enforcement, Reserve Officers, Cadets and Volunteers.

Technical support involves working with the City's Information Technology company to ensure the proper maintenance and upgrades to the servers, computers and phone systems.

The Administrative Services section is responsible for office and fleet management, station maintenance and evidence control. In addition, they also ensure compliance with current laws, department policies and procedures and supervise the recruitment and hiring of new employees.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - *Police Assistants*

Police Assistants are considered the “heart” of the police department as the majority of calls for service from the public originate with them. They are responsible for processing both police and fire non-emergency and emergency calls as well as obtaining emergency city services after hours.

Whether managing radio communications for police or coordinating fire/medical response with Verdugo Fire Dispatch, our Police Assistants serve as an invaluable resource for the Department as well as the City and its residents.

In addition to their communications responsibilities, Police Assistants are also cross trained in the areas of custody, parking enforcement and first aid.

6,315

911 Calls
Answered

25,262

Calls for
Service

57,465

Total calls

911 and
Administrative Calls

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - *Records Unit*

The Records Division is staffed by non-sworn clerks and part-time cadets. The Records Division archives all police reports, processes subpoenas and citations, fulfills public requests for police reports and processes court-ordered discovery requests.

They work closely with the Detective Bureau by processing all required paperwork for cases filed with the District Attorney’s Office. The Records Division also handles the front counter for services and provides ink fingerprinting to the public.

The Senior Clerk answers the business line to the police department during regular business hours, handles payroll for police employees, reconciles revenues from paid citations and parking permits and coordinates hearings for contested citations.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - *Support Services Assistant*

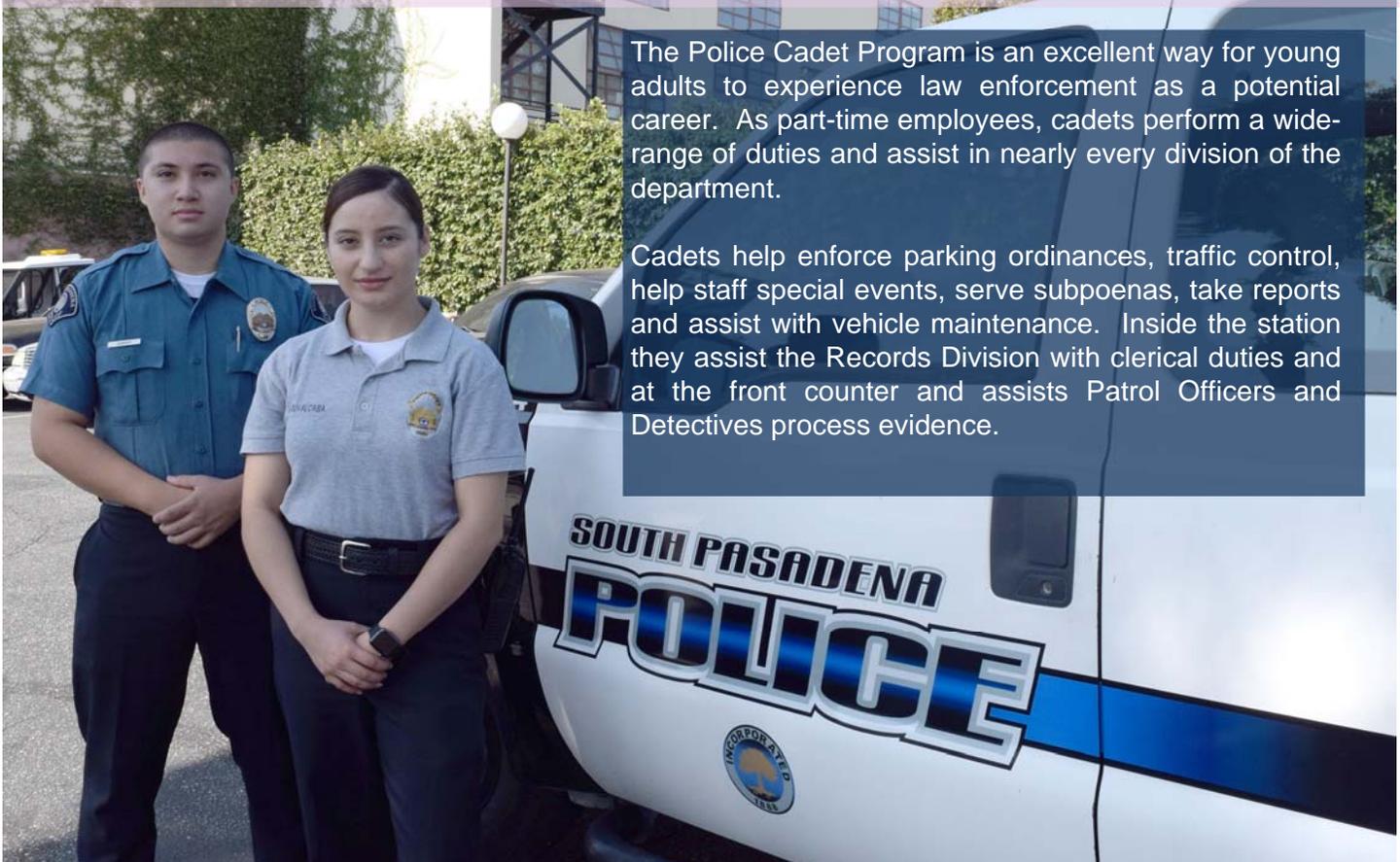
The Support Services Assistant (SSA) is a specialist who is responsible for Recruitment, Training and Property/Evidence. This is considered a specialist position due to the knowledge required regarding rules and regulations relating to each area that are mandated by law.

Recruiting and processing new employees is a challenging task with rigorous requirements. From written and physical fitness exams to interviews, background investigations, and psychological and medical exams, the process to becoming a new police department employee can be complicated. The SSA must navigate and follow not only department policy but state and federal law as well.

In accordance with POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) requirements, the SSA ensures that all department personnel comply with state guidelines regarding mandated training.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - *Police Cadet Program*



The Police Cadet Program is an excellent way for young adults to experience law enforcement as a potential career. As part-time employees, cadets perform a wide-range of duties and assist in nearly every division of the department.

Cadets help enforce parking ordinances, traffic control, help staff special events, serve subpoenas, take reports and assist with vehicle maintenance. Inside the station they assist the Records Division with clerical duties and at the front counter and assists Patrol Officers and Detectives process evidence.

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - *Parking Control*

Parking Control is staffed by non-sworn, full-time employees whose responsibility is parking enforcement.

They operate during overnight and daytime hours enforcing municipal and state vehicle code laws. Parking Control Officers can also help with traffic control at traffic accidents and at special events.



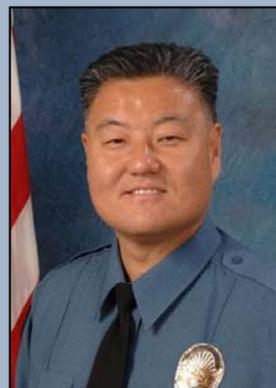
SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - *Volunteers*

The police department has three volunteers that utilizes their technical skills to provide a valuable service to the community.

Physician - Dr. Nicholas Greco has been volunteering since 2014 and is the Medical Director for the department's Tactical Medicine Program. The program trains officers as well as outside agencies in Tactical Combat Casualty Care. Dr. Greco is a full-time emergency room physician at Huntington Memorial Hospital and at Los Angeles County USC Medical Center and has a background in trauma.



Chaplains - The police department has two Chaplains which provides support, guidance, counseling and encouragement for employees of the department. Chaplains can also assist with death notifications, give invocations and city, police and special events. Dan Bricker has volunteered since 2002 and teaches Biblical and Religious Studies at Azusa Pacific University. Sam Park recently joined the department in late 2019 and is the lead pastor at ReNew United Methodist Church in South Pasadena.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - Reserve Program

The South Pasadena Police Reserve Program holds the honor of being the second oldest reserve organization in the State of California. Created in 1942, these officers are sworn volunteer members of the department and have donated more than 500,000 hours of service to the city.

Reserve officers wear the same uniform and perform the same duties as full-time officers. In order to do so, they are required to complete the same training as full-time officers including mandated in-service training. Our Reserve Officers primarily work uniformed patrol but also participate in other areas including detectives, bicycle unit and training.



TECHNOLOGY

The Police Department continues to stay at the forefront of technology. This allows us to maintain a competency in our service. As crime continues to evolve and become more technologically advanced, we have no choice but to meet the new challenges or risk becoming obsolete. Staying current with technology trends allows the Police Department to become more efficient not only in solving crimes but in policing as a whole.

The Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) system is utilized to help locate embezzled and vehicles used in crimes. The ALPR cameras are located on the patrol vehicles.

The department implemented the use of the Purple Communication Software which is a tablet that allows officers to connect with a live interpreter for communicating with the hearing impaired, deaf, or non-verbal community.

Body cameras continue to be worn by all officers to maintain accountability with department policies and to the public. The cameras are also used as evidence in criminal cases.

The Detective Bureau utilizes a GPS tracker to help combat Package Thefts. Trackers are placed inside packages and then placed in front of a door. Once the thief takes the package, the GPS is activated and sends a signal that can be tracked on a map.



TRAINING

Training occurs on a continuous basis throughout the careers of all Police Department personnel. From initial training as a new hire, and through state mandated training, all employees must adhere to POST (California Peace Officer Standards and Training) requirements.

Employees that are in specialized units must pass additional training specific to their assignments. Employees are also encouraged to attend training offered by private organizations.



New officers must pass a grueling four-month long field training program and Tactical Combat Casualty Care course before being allowed to work alone. All sworn officers must qualify monthly with their duty pistol and quarterly with the shotgun and rifle. The field training program for Police Assistants is seven months long and they must also complete a Basic Dispatch Training Course and Jail Security School.

All employees continuously receive updates on policy and procedures, and any current or upcoming laws/assembly bills.

While POST requires 24 hours of mandated training each year, police employees surpasses this amount with additional training. Annual training includes perishable skills such as arrest and control, firearms, defensive driving, communications and de-escalation techniques. Employees may attend additional training if they choose to do so.

This year, Sergeant Matt Ronnie completed a four-month long leadership program hosted by the Los Angeles Police Department. The program is directed to improving leadership among the command staff level.



South Pasadena is part of a Los Angeles County mutual aid program that is divided into geographic areas, designated letters A through H. South Pasadena is part of “Area C” which includes the cities of Pasadena, Burbank, Glendale, Alhambra, San Marino, San Gabriel, San Fernando, Monterey Park and La Canada. Training with other Area C cities allows officers from the different agencies to learn standardized procedures when assisting other cities. Mutual-aid training is sometimes conducted with the use of role players,



simulations and special effects to make the training scenarios more realistic.

The police department co-sponsored elder abuse and scam training with the FBI and US Attorney’s Office. This valuable training was attended by numerous local, state and federal agencies.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Besides the Neighborhood Watch Program, the South Pasadena Police Department established several community outreach programs, each developed for a specific purpose. The goal of each program is to work with residents in creating positive relationships within the community. The department also partners with other outside agencies and organizations to offer additional services to the community.

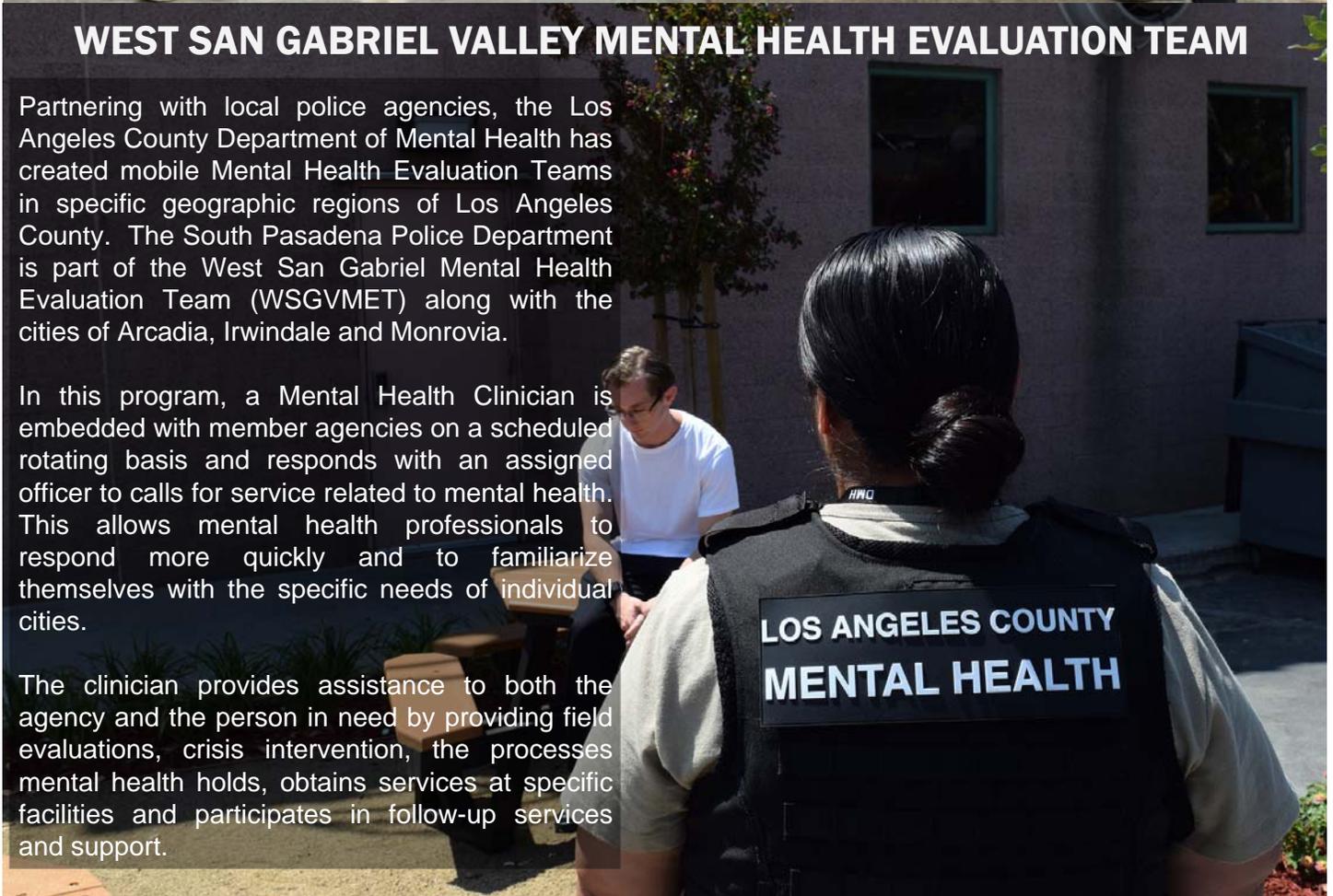


WEST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION TEAM

Partnering with local police agencies, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health has created mobile Mental Health Evaluation Teams in specific geographic regions of Los Angeles County. The South Pasadena Police Department is part of the West San Gabriel Mental Health Evaluation Team (WSGVMET) along with the cities of Arcadia, Irwindale and Monrovia.

In this program, a Mental Health Clinician is embedded with member agencies on a scheduled rotating basis and responds with an assigned officer to calls for service related to mental health. This allows mental health professionals to respond more quickly and to familiarize themselves with the specific needs of individual cities.

The clinician provides assistance to both the agency and the person in need by providing field evaluations, crisis intervention, the processes mental health holds, obtains services at specific facilities and participates in follow-up services and support.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

There are two homeless outreach programs that the South Pasadena Police Department participates in. Both programs help the homeless community by providing resources and find housing for them.

HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM

The “Homeless Outreach Program” (HOPE) was developed in-house to address the city’s homeless population. The HOPE program works with the LA County Department of Mental Health, Pasadena Union Station, LA Homeless Authority and Holy Family Catholic Church to help the homeless with resources and to locate housing for them.



Many private organizations contribute to the HOPE program by making donations to help the homeless. The South Pasadena Police Officers’ Association provides a monetary donation to the Holy Family Giving Bank that provides food to needy families and the homeless.



The “Purist Group” donated backpacks that contain hygiene kits, blankets, food, water and a resource list. “You Are Essential” donated care packages that contained hygiene kits and Holy Family Catholic Church provides food and sponsors the “Shower of Hope”, which provides for free showers for the homeless.

The donated items are distributed to the homeless by our police officers. The HOPE program is staffed by department personnel as a collateral duty.

A frequent contacted homeless female who lived under a bridge under Fair Oaks Avenue finally accepted the HOPE’s team assistance. The homeless female was provided shelter and resources at Union Station in Pasadena. She was later transitioned to temporary housing as a more permanent housing could be located. After months of living in temporary housing, she was able to secure a permanent house to live. The female was grateful to Union Station and the police department for providing the necessary resources to get off the streets.

HOMELESS OUTREACH SERVICES TEAM

The South Pasadena Police Department also teams with surrounding agencies in a joint program called the “Homeless Outreach Services Team” (HOST), which is funded by Measure “H” Homeless Initiative. Measure “H” teams neighboring agencies throughout LA County to locate and assist the homeless with county resources.

South Pasadena is teamed with San Gabriel, San Marino, Alhambra and Monterey Park. Officers from each participating agency forms a team and together each team patrols each participating city in an effort to assist the homeless.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Citizen's Academy

This year, six residents completed a nine-week Citizen's Academy program where they were immersed in all facets of police department operations. The goal of the program is to provide a better understanding of law enforcement.



Project Lifesaver

The department continues to support "Project Lifesaver". A program designed to expedite locating missing juveniles and adults who are developmentally disabled. By wearing a GPS bracelet, tracking devices can be used to quickly locate them.

Spark of Love Toy Drive

The City of South Pasadena continues to support the annual Spark of Love Toy Drive. Collection boxes are placed in the lobbies of the police, fire and City Hall where residents can donate a toy for a needy child during the holidays.



Secure the Call

Residents can donate old, or unused cell phones for recycling at the police department. Secure the Call collects the old cell phones and recycles them so they can be given to victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and victims of natural disasters.

"Justice" Mascot

"Justice" is the official police mascot that was introduced in 2018. Donated by the South Pasadena Masonic Lodge #290, "Justice" is used at public events to help build a positive relationship with children.



Operation Chill

Developed by 7-Eleven, "Operation Chill" was designed to help build a positive interaction between children and the police. In partnership with 7-Eleven, the department received and distributed coupons to children for performing good deeds and following safe practices in the community. The coupons are redeemable for a free child sized Slurpee drink at 7-Eleven stores.

"Beanie Babies" Donation

Local resident, Hanna Crowley donated her collection of Beanie Babies to the department. Ms. Crowley wanted the Beanie Babies distributed to children during a crisis situation to help comfort them. The Beanie Babies are individually wrapped and stored in the patrol units.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Prescription Drug Take Back

The South Pasadena Police Department partnered with Ralphs Market to participate in the Drug Enforcement Agency's Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative. The nationwide campaign allows residents to properly dispose of unused or expired medication.



National Night Out

National Night Out is a national campaign, created to promote an ongoing partnership between the police and residents. Residents visited Orange Grove Park and celebrated the event with the various city departments, while children played carnival games and adults climbed the rock wall display.

Woman's Self-Defense Training

In collaboration with resident Dawn Muench, the department's Defensive Tactics Team provided numerous women's self-defense classes for adults and teen-aged women throughout the year.



Active Shooter Training

Active shooter training continues to be provided to organizations, businesses and city employees. The training educates and prepares employees and community members in the event of an active shooter.

Community Presentations

The department provides presentations to organizations and businesses on a variety of topics. The department partnered with Oneonta Congregational Church and hosted a church safety symposium. Churches from throughout the area were invited to hear safety tips and ask questions from representatives of the FBI, US Attorney's Office, Anti-Defamation League and SPPD.



Foothill Air Support Team Toy Drive

Each participating agency in the Foothill Air Support Team raises funds and donations during the holidays that are distributed to children in the pediatric ward of Huntington Memorial Hospital. Children are brought onto the roof of the hospital to see Santa Claus flown in. Toys are distributed to the children by Santa Claus and officers.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The South Pasadena Police Officers' Association (SPPOA), which represents full-time employees, takes pride in representing the department at community and charitable events. Police employees remain active in the community by supporting local causes. Each year, the SPPOA makes monetary donations to charitable activities and local organizations. SPPOA participates in the following events:



Police Cadets Gary and Ricky Sze participated in the Ketchum Downtown YMCA Stair Climb to help raise funds for YMCA programs and scholarships in LA. The run is up 75 floors of the US Bank Tower in Downtown LA.



Each year the SPPOA awards scholarships to South Pasadena High School seniors. The scholarships are named after Officers Ray Rogers and Kevin Sandoval both died in the line of duty. Officer Sandoval's parents were on hand to present the Kevin Sandoval scholarship.



Officers participates in "Read Across America" which is a nationwide campaign that commemorates the birthday of Dr. Seuss and shows the importance of literacy.



Participating in city events like the SP Tournament of Roses Classic Car Show allowed residents to meet with officers and watch a K-9 demonstration.



Each October, officers can swap their shoulder patches for a pink one to help raise awareness for breast cancer. The patches are also sold to the public with all proceeds going to breast cancer research and education.



The SPPOA continues to co-sponsor a Christmas lunch for seniors. City employees, Councilmembers, Senior Center staff and volunteers along with police employees serve lunch to seniors.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



The South Pasadena Police Officers' Association continues to support the Women's Club of South Pasadena's annual "Operation Cookie". Donated cookies are sent to hospitalized and homeless veterans.



The police and fire department associations hosted a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for breast cancer research. The food was donated but cooked and served by firefighters and police officers.



Firefighters, Councilmembers and family join officers in carrying the "Flame of Hope" through the city to bring awareness for the Special Olympics. In addition to running, SPPOA makes a donation to the Special Olympics.



"No Shave November" is an annual campaign to bring awareness to cancer. Employees put down their razors for the month of November and help raise funds for cancer research.



Detective Lee participated in the US Police & Fire Games and represented the department well by winning three gold and three silver medals in pistol competition.



Officers Tim Kim and Tyler Borrello were honored by Mothers Against Drug Driving for their efforts in taking DUI drivers off the street.



For the second straight year, SPPD won a "mug" in the "Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup" relay race. This 120-mile run promotes camaraderie, teamwork and physical fitness. SPPD teamed with San Fernando, San Marino and USC Department of Public Safety.

SOCIAL MEDIA/E-POLICING



SOCIAL MEDIA

The variety of social media platforms used by the South Pasadena Police Department allows us to interact with the community at different levels. Bulletins, alerts and notifications are also distributed through the various social media outlets

E-POLICING

E-Policing allows residents to access non-emergent police services on-line. These services include filing crime reports, purchasing police reports, obtaining overnight parking permits and requesting extra enforcement and vacation request checks.



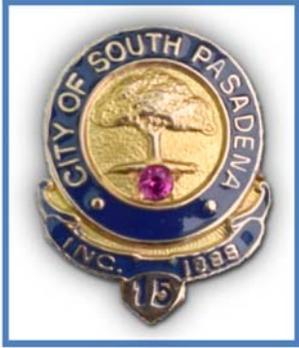
Connect **South Pasadena**
Mass Notification System



Online Police Services



SERVICE PINS



The Service Pins are awarded for every five years of service. These Service Pins are engraved with the employee's milestone anniversary date and corresponding gemstone. The pins are awarded in recognition and appreciation of an employees service to the city.

In 2019, the following police employees were recognized for their years of dedicated service:



Peggy Grangetto
Support Services Assistant
30 Years



Brian Solinsky
Deputy Chief
25 Years



Randy Wise
Corporal
20 Years



Andy Dubois
Detective
20 Years



Mike Palmieri
Detective
15 Years



Craig Phillips
Corporal
5 Years



Chris Perez
Police Officer
5 Years



Ryan Hang
Police Officer
5 Years



Ricky Sze
Police Cadet
5 Years



Gary Sze
Police Cadet
5 Years

IN MEMORY



RESPECT. HONOR. REMEMBER.



Officer Kevin Sandoval

EOW

June 14, 2011

Officer Ray Rogers

EOW

April 15, 1944

SPPD IN THE COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY APPRECIATION



Received
MAR 18 2019

I would thank you **CHIEF'S OFFICE**
here or there

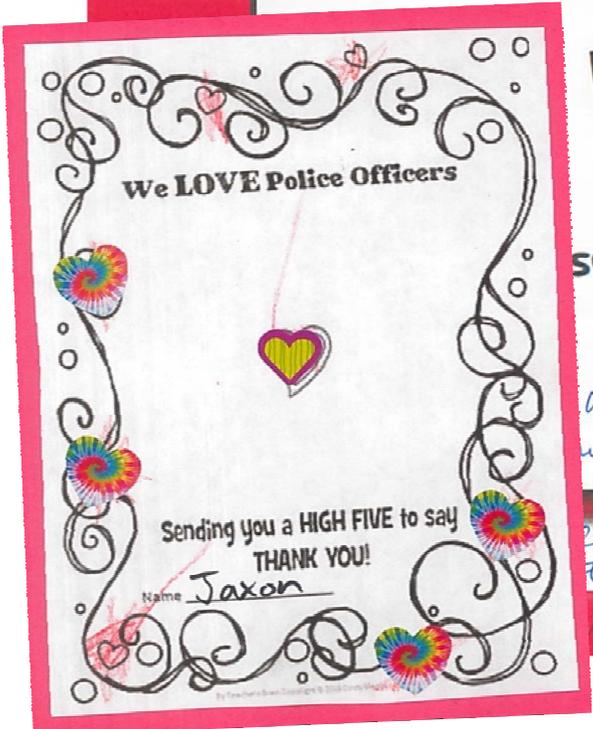
I would thank you
anywhere!



I would thank you
on a boat

I would thank you
with a goat

In the park or
at the zoo



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to thank the following employees that help produce the annual report

Graphic Design and Layout

Detective Richard Lee

Photography

Detective Richard Lee

Cadet Ricky Sze

Contributing Writers

Chief Joe Ortiz

Detective Richard Lee

Editorial Staff

Chief Joe Ortiz

Deputy Chief Brian Solinsky

Lieutenant Shannon Robledo

Lieutenant Tom Jacobs

Detective Sergeant Tony Abdalla

Officer Daren Wong

Clerk Joe Ramirez



The South Pasadena Police Department's
2019 Annual Report was
Designed and Published by the
South Pasadena Police Department



South Pasadena Police Department
1422 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030
www.southpasadenaca.gov/police

Follow us on

