

Santa Monica Police Department



Year In Review

2002



A Message From the Chief

I'm pleased to present to you the Santa Monica Police Department's Annual Report, "2002: The Year in Review."

This year's report is a departure from annual reports published since 1992 in both appearance and content. The new format highlights daily accomplishments and activities of Department personnel that are representative of the way we meet the law enforcement needs of the public we serve. I sincerely hope you will find the articles interesting and informative.

2002 was a transitional year for the Santa Monica Police Department.

We emerged from the events of September 11, 2001 a more sober organization with a new awareness of the changing nature of threats to public safety. More than ever, those tragic events point to the value of partnership, vigilance, and communication among public safety providers and our residential neighbors and business communities.

A weak State economy challenged local law enforcement to do more with less. In response, the Santa Monica Police Department drew upon a tradition of seeking internal efficiencies and outside funding sources for our key initiatives and projects. We recognize the importance of staying abreast of new technologies that optimize the delivery of police services. In 2002, grant funding prevented budgetary constraints from sidetracking improvements in our police technology and traffic safety programs.

Since 1992, the Santa Monica Police Department has continually studied emerging crime and nuisance issues and published an annual mitigation plan based on specific goals and objectives. A decade of statistics proves the effectiveness of this strategic plan in reducing crime and improving the public's perception of safety. In 2002, overall Part One crime declined 4.5% as compared with 2001. Traffic safety strategies during 2002 resulted in an 8.8% decrease in injury collisions. Since 1992, the overall crime rate has been reduced 55% to the lowest level since 1963. All Department personnel can take pride in this achievement.



Looking forward, we have watched transfixed as the new Public Safety Facility emerged from the ground and took shape. All members of the Department eagerly anticipate serving our community from a clean, spacious and efficient police headquarters beginning in 2003.

Now, please, read and enjoy this Annual Report, "2002: The Year in Review."



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The Santa Monica Police Department prepares to bid farewell to our home and headquarters since 1959.

Introduction

2002: The Year in Review

Packed into the 8.3 square mile boundaries of the incorporated City of Santa Monica are beaches, parks, schools, and business districts as well as residential neighborhoods representing all points on the economic spectrum. The 441 employees of the Santa Monica Police Department are responsible for the public safety of a 90,000 resident population and up to a quarter-million visitors who come to Santa Monica each day for work or recreation.

This 2002 Annual Report incorporates a year-in-review with a chance to showcase some of the projects, activities and accomplishments that reflect the challenges and opportunities inherent in policing a dynamic beach community.

Homeland Security

The events of September 11, 2001 left the Santa Monica Police Department, and all of law enforcement, questioning the state of readiness to address the chilling prospect of future attacks. Santa Monica, like other municipal police departments, spent much of 2002 closing potential gaps in terror-related local policies and procedures, attending regional conferences on terrorism, adding non-traditional weapons training, identifying vulnerable targets, and waiting for the federal government to distribute funds to train and equip first responders or to make infrastructure improvements to 'harden the target.' At the close of 2002, the wait continues, but preparedness efforts proceed at the local level.

Management of the Santa Monica Emergency Operation Center (EOC) is a responsibility of the Communications Section lieutenant. In 2002, assigned positions in the EOC were updated. EOC representatives attended monthly meetings, which included a presentation by a member of the Santa Monica Fire Department on his experience and lessons learned as a member of the FEMA Search and Rescue Team at the New York City World Trade Center disaster.

The Chief's Audit and Inspection Unit investigators met with the supervising special agent of the California Anti-Terrorism Information Center (CATIC). Reporting procedures and information exchange protocols were discussed and valuable investigative follow-up contacts were established.

Special attention was given to preparations for summertime deployment and safety concerns related to crowd control and potential terrorist activity. All sworn personnel intending to work summer pier, beach and parking lot details attended "Rapid Deployment" training conducted by members of the Santa Monica Police Department Metro Unit. The Airport Security Unit provided training to airport personnel regarding international terrorism and current intelligence information.

The City of Santa Monica was a significant player in a regional emergency training exercise held in November. The drill was part of a countywide exercise called "Operation Critical Response." Coordinated by the Santa Monica Police Department and Santa Monica Fire Department, the drill tested the readiness of fire, police, public works, transportation and other City departments to respond to an act of terrorism.

Personnel Strength and Deployment

Deployment during 2002 was impacted by the first wave of "Baby Boom" generation retirements of sworn personnel in all ranks. The challenge was to find a way to maintain personnel strength while replacements were recruited, screened, academy and field



trained. The solution was a program of ongoing recruitment and testing for a continuous inflow of applicants. In 2002, 121 background investigations were opened, 35 for police officer positions and 86 for non-sworn positions. Six police officer applicants were offered positions and attended the Orange County Sheriff's Academy.

Priority Goals and Objectives

During 2002, Department personnel organized their work activities around several goals and priority objectives. One of the goals is to find solutions to antisocial behavior, or "Quality of Life" issues, that have a negative impact on community livability.

The Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) Team met with social service outreach and consumer provider agencies, including the Santa Monica Homeless Issues Group (HIG). The HLP Team provided training on homeless-related issues to the patrol watches and new police officers during their orientation.

The HLP Team adjusted their hours in July and August to enforce early morning issues including sleeping on the beach and encampments. They worked with the Third Street Promenade officers to impact an aggressive panhandler problem in the district. They worked closely with the City's Office of Building and Safety to investigate reports of abandoned and unsafe properties, and with owners to secure and remove trespassers. The team helped other City departments to resolve security and safety issues concerning these properties.

Patrol officers diligently researched and documented previous public intoxication arrests to ensure criminal filings and placement of offenders in court-mandated detoxification programs. Officers conducted "livability sting" operations throughout the City to target chronic drunkenness, vagrancy, loitering for prostitution, parolee contacts, and casing for crimes against persons or property.

Third Street officers monitored the conduct of performers on the Third Street Promenade and requested several criminal filings. At the request of the Police Department and City Attorney, the City Council ratified several performer-related ordinances. The significant reduction in performer related calls for service meant that officers could stay in the field and respond to higher priority calls.

The Harbor Sergeant regularly met with performer groups operating on the Pier to ensure that all were adequately informed of codes, expectations of conduct to be displayed, and to establish a cooperative environment.

Beat 8 and Gang officers worked with residents and business owners to combat graffiti and identify taggers that frequent the Virginia Park and Beat 8 area. The officers worked with the City's Waste Management Division to resolve illegal dumping in the Pico Neighborhood.

The Special Operations Division's Vice/Narcotics Section and City Attorney's Office initiated nuisance abatement proceedings involving area motels deemed attractive nuisances by business practices that facilitate vice activity, including alcohol beverage abuse and sale to minors, prostitution, illegal massage and physical training services, live entertainment, and psychic readings.

Another priority goal of the community and the Police Department is improved vehicular and pedestrian mobility. During 2002, the conversion of Parking Enforcement Officers to Traffic Service Officers (TSO) was completed and additional positions hired. These traffic control specialists relieved sworn officers of intersection duties and reduced overtime hours required for that detail.

The Traffic Services Section implemented a program to combat vehicles with delinquent citations. TSOs use small temporary booting devices to immobilize a vehicle with five or more parking citations. The device prevents the vehicle from being moved until the TSO can arrange for it to be impounded.

The Traffic Services Division requested and got new freeway directional signs and other signage improvements to aid motorists and control traffic congestion.

The grant-funded 30-Day Impound program, "Removing Irresponsible Drivers" (RID), caused the removal of vehicles driven by unlicensed drivers or those driving with suspended/revoked licenses.

The Traffic Enforcement Division conducted "Pedestrian Decoy" programs and cited drivers who failed to yield right-of-way to pedestrians at intersections.

Office of Administrative Services, Community Relations staff helped coordinate two bicycle rodeo events at local elementary schools. A total of 125 youth attended these events to interact with officers and learn traffic safety, proper use of hand signals, and applicable bicycle law. The unit designed a colorful web page devoted to traffic safety, driver's licensing, and the hazards of driving while intoxicated. To help parents and youth understand the complicated "provisional license" law, Community Relations staff designed and published an easy-to-understand brochure. School Resource Officers gave a presentation to parents to answer questions about driver's licenses and driving safety.

Radar and PAS devices were acquired to assist patrol officers to impact DUI and traffic enforcement goals.

The Chief of Police recommended that the City Council implement a Red-Light Photo Enforcement Program as a component of its approach toward enhancing traffic safety. City Council requested additional research on civil liberties and due process concerns. The next presentation to City Council will be in early 2003.

Officers assigned to the Downtown Motorcycle Unit took steps to improve traffic flow and maintain public safety. The officers arranged for trees in the Downtown Business District to be trimmed for greater driver visibility.

The Transit Unit officers instructed Big Blue Bus staff on strategies and tactics for interacting with difficult and hostile people.

The Crossing Guard Section used grant funds to acquire new safety equipment. Section personnel were issued a new "Stop" paddle with red LED light flashers. The Section introduced red safety curbs at all school locations to keep children from standing too close to busy curbside areas.

To increase seat belt use, the Santa Monica Police Department joined law enforcement across the nation during Buckle Up America/Operation ABC (America Buckles up Children) Mobilization in November. In California, the mobilization is part of the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign, designed to increase the state's 91.1 percent seat belt use rate to 92 percent by 2003.

The Economy and Budget

With decreased revenues from State sources and tourism, the Police Department stepped up efforts to find and utilize grants and other outside funding sources.

Major crime investigations got a boost from the DNA Evidence Program, funded by an allocation from the LLEBG Grant program. In February, detectives were notified by California DOJ – CODIS that a "Cold Hit Match" had been made on DNA evidence submitted from an unsolved 1998 homicide. The DNA evidence was matched to a paroled subject. Patrol personnel were given the subject's description and they quickly found and took him into custody. Additional forensic testing is in progress to further link him to the 1998 homicide. On June 4, detectives obtained a felony filing of 187 P.C. against the subject for the 1998 killing of a home-



less woman at an abandoned house on Hill St.

Grant-funded forensic services were used in other incidents during the year. On July 1, detectives conducted a forensic sweep at the scene of a homicide following a daylong dispute between an auto mechanic and a local transient. They called in the Southern California Prospector's Association – Evidence Recovery Unit, a volunteer group expert in the location and recovery of metallurgic evidence for ballistic analysis. In another incident, detectives were advised that Culver City PD had recovered a suspect vehicle in an armed robbery of a local market. The vehicle yielded latent print and DNA evidence, which was processed against existing databases to identify the suspect.

The grant-funded Senior Registry Project database is now populated with over 500 individuals. The Registry, a voluntary program for senior citizens, has been well received by Santa Monica residents. The information is provided to SMPD in case an individual becomes disoriented and unable to remember their name or where they live. Officers search the database for characteristics that match those of the lost person, reducing the time it takes to return the lost person to the safety and comfort of home.

The city pooled its allocation of 2002 Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) funds to help pay for a Juvenile hearing officer for Santa Monica cases recommended to the Juvenile Offender Intervention Network (JOIN) program. The JOIN program, administered by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, diverts first-time offenders from the juvenile court process into a program that would offer immediate intervention and accountability.

The Office of Criminal Investigations (OCI) received an equipment donation from SocialTech, a nonprofit organization founded in the aftermath of the Polly Klaas abduction and murder. SocialTech partnered with Hewlett-Packard and AT&T to equip law enforcement agencies with technology to mount immediate responses. The TRAK system allows multiple agencies to share information and photographs in a matter of minutes. The Training Unit wrote a policy and procedures for TRAK system use and the part it will play in AMBER Alerts.

Department staff pursued claims from SB-90 Mandated Cost programs that reimburse costs for services mandated by State law. Several new claims became eligible in 2002, including reimbursement of costs to develop, collect and transmit registered sexual offenders' information to the Department of Justice and the Violent Crime Information Network.

The Chief's Audit and Inspection Unit investigators and the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office prepared a worker's compensation fraud case for preliminary hearing. The defendant was held to answer on numerous felony charges. As a condition of sentencing, he was ordered to pay \$50,000 restitution.

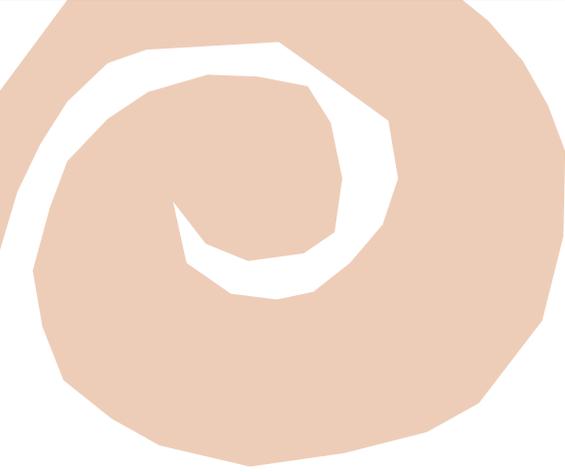
In 2002, the Court Liaison Unit monitored 10,771 court appearances and made notification on 3,639 cancellations. The notifications reduced court overtime by \$334,732, based on a required three-hour minimum court call-back.



City employees and members of the community gathered at City Hall for observances on the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 national tragedy.

Adopted Budget

POLICE DEPARTMENT 2002-03 ADOPTED BUDGET			
	Adopted Budget Fiscal Year 2002-03	Revised Budget Fiscal Year 2001-02	Percent Change
GENERAL FUND - POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Salaries and Wages	\$32,661,203	\$32,236,291	1.32%
Supplies and Expenses	\$4,264,599	\$4,130,764	3.24%
Capital Outlay	\$407,900	\$833,300	-51.05%
Subtotal Department	\$37,606,700	\$37,200,355	0.36%
Fringe Benefits*	\$7,027,200	\$7,310,900	-3.88%
Total	\$44,360,902	\$44,511,255	-0.34%
PIER FUND - HARBOR UNIT			
Salaries and Wages	\$557,400	\$557,400	0.00%
Supplies and Expenses	\$129,600	\$129,600	0.00%
Capital Outlay	\$2,000	\$2,000	0.00%
Subtotal Unit	\$689,000	\$689,000	0.00%
TOTAL ALL FUNDS			
Salaries and Wages	\$33,218,603	\$32,793,691	-1.30%
Supplies and Expenses	\$4,394,199	\$4,260,364	3.14%
Capital Outlay	\$409,900	\$835,300	-50.93%
Fringe Benefits*	\$7,027,200	\$7,310,900	-3.88%
Subtotal	\$45,049,902	\$45,200,255	-0.33%
*Fringe Benefits for General Fund Divisions only			
FINANCING FROM NON - TAX SOURCES			
Program Revenues and Reimbursements	\$12,316,000	\$12,075,273	1.99%
General Fund	\$32,044,902	\$32,435,962	-1.21%
Total Funding	\$44,360,902	\$44,511,255	-0.34%



City Government

Santa Monica City Council and City Manager's Office

City Council

Mayor Michael Feinstein

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown

Richard Bloom

Ken Genser

Robert Holbrook

Herb Katz

Pam O'Connor



City Manager

Susan McCarthy, City Manager

Gordon Anderson, Assistant City Manager

Mission, Vision and Values

Our Guiding Principles

Our Mission

The Mission of the Santa Monica Police Department is to provide the community with the highest quality of law enforcement services.

We continually improve the public's perception of community safety through eradication of criminal activity and any conditions that have a detrimental impact on public safety.

We strive to enhance our tradition of excellent service to all.

We continue to seek support and cooperation from the community we serve and from those of us who serve the community.

Our organizational culture is responsive to new ideas and is one in which all employees are given the opportunity to develop to their highest potential and see themselves as agents of change.

We base all our relationships on the premise that the public and police are one.

Our Vision

The Santa Monica Police Department will exist to preserve liberty, enhance the safety of the community and defend human dignity. We will be an organization in which each employee embraces integrity as the cornerstone upon which the public trust is built.

We will foster an environment of honesty, trust and mutual respect in which the Department and the community work together as catalysts for positive change.

We strive to be recognized for our strong service orientation, progressive development of all our human resources and our application of emerging technologies. We will embody the values of the Department and reflect these values in the performance of our duties.

We will continue to build upon this vision through open communication and receptiveness to new ideas.

Our Values

HONESTY: Fairness and straightforwardness of conduct. Adherence to the facts and dedication to truthfulness.

INTEGRITY: Soundness, firm adherence to a code of moral values, incorruptibility and completeness. We demonstrate personal integrity and the courage of our convictions. We will not sacrifice principle for expediency, be hypocritical, or act in an unscrupulous manner.

TRUST: Is a result of honest behavior between each other and acceptance of other's judgments and abilities.

CARING: To be sensitive to the needs of others and demonstrate compassion for all people.

RESPECT: To consider all people worthy of high regard. We demonstrate respect for human dignity, and appreciation of the privacy and rights of all. We manifest commitment to justice, equal treatment of individuals, tolerance for and acceptance of diversity.

LOYALTY: Proactively supporting the organization, its membership and its goals, and being held accountable for our conduct as well as for the conduct of our peers and/or subordinates.

SERVICE ORIENTATION: To actively contribute to the welfare of the community, and to genuinely care about improving the quality of life of those we serve.



Our Mission



...to provide the community with the highest quality of law enforcement services.



Santa Monica Unique

Policing the Historic Beach City

Santa Monica's History

Santa Monica was part of the early campaign by promoters and developers to lure easterners to California. By 1886, Santa Monica had been incorporated as a 'City of the Sixth Class.'

Just 15 years after the Wright brothers completed their first experiment in flight at Kitty Hawk, Santa Monica had an airport. The new Clover Field quickly garnered attention by visits by such distinguished fliers as Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart. Clover Field was the terminus for the U.S. Air Service fliers who accomplished the first around-the-world flight in 1924.

Before 1900, amusement parks, arcades and baths were already giving the Santa Monica shoreline a Coney Island-like atmosphere. Unsupervised piers and amusement zones can be an attractive nuisance, luring unruly play-seekers and those with a sinister desire to prey on them. During the 1950s and 1960s, and until it finally burned under questionable circumstances, the notorious Pacific Ocean Park (POP) is a famous example of the thorn-in-the-side of law enforcement that such surroundings can be.

Then as today, there were other thorns. The era of Prohibition was followed in short order by the stock market crash of 1929 and the Great Depression. Schemers, profiteers and organized vice lurked in the shadows, always ready to



1922 Prohibition-era SMPD officers enforced illegal liquor manufacturing operations.

take advantage of any situation. Vice officers stayed busy controlling an illegal liquor industry. Later, gambling boats traversed the waters offshore, just beyond the control of authorities. Santa Monica provided great material for writers of the day, and featured as the "Bay City" of Raymond Chandler's Phillip Marlowe novel fame.

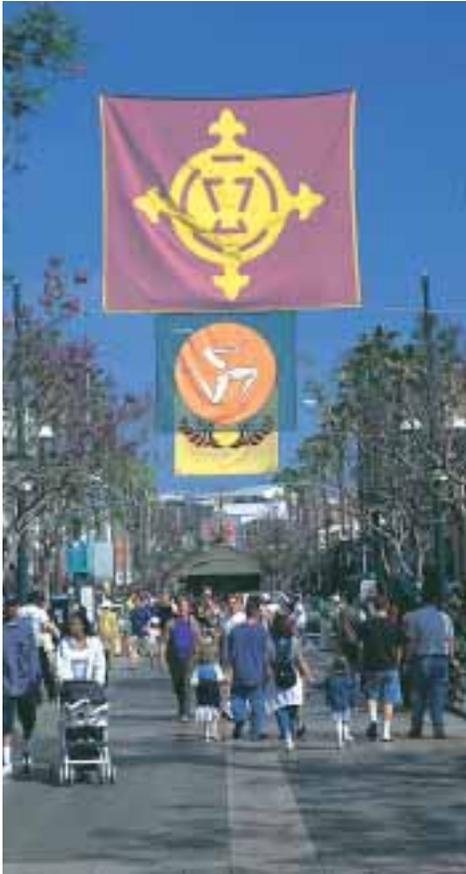
Santa Monica Today

Today, Santa Monica is quite a different and more complex place. The City has an abundance of attractions for visitors that require no help from promoters and developers. Santa Monica has become a densely populated city of 85,000 permanent residents in a mere 8.3 square miles.

Other typical Southern California beach communities incorporate 3 to 4 times the geography, a population per square mile that's only 10% to 70% of Santa Monica's, and offer only fishing piers. None host regional hospitals, an airport, or a major interstate terminus.

Over 3.8 million people visit the city each year from outside Los Angeles County for pleasure, vacation, or business. Prevailing winds mean a more temperate climate and cleaner air than inland communities. In seasonal months, when beach and pier recreation are added to the mix, the daytime population can approach a half-million.

A drive along Ocean Avenue will show that, for a city its size, Santa Monica has



Some of the country's trendiest restaurants and theatres are located on or near Santa Monica's Third Street Promenade. The Police Department staffs a kiosk and full-time bicycle detail to keep the atmosphere safe and pleasant. Photo by Robert Landau.

a high number of hotels at all points on the economic spectrum. Twenty of the 125 Los Angeles area restaurants classified as 'trendy' by the authoritative Zagat Survey are in Santa Monica, and ten of those are among the survey's top rated restaurants.

Santa Monica is home to two world-renowned hospitals, UCLA-Santa Monica and Saint John's, the hospital of choice for celebrities. Lawyers to the stars prefer the friendly and efficient little Santa Monica Court for filing their clients' civil actions. These high profile cases always bring plenty of media attention.

Santa Monica is the last northbound stop before Ventura County that offers both a truly accessible beach and public services. Beach visitors tend to congregate around a freeway access point and Santa Monica is no exception: Santa Monica's coastal zone parking accommodates over 10,000 vehicles.

Ease of access attracted the now-famous Cirque du Soleil. During its lean years, Santa Monica gave the French-Canadian group a friendly welcome and a home to pitch its blue and yellow big top. More recently, the American Film Market, a two-week event, has made Santa Monica its permanent home.

The Santa Monica Airport thrives on the same land that witnessed the U.S. Air Service fliers' historic trip. Access to motor routes and the lifting of restrictions on corporate jet traffic has encouraged the development of large business parks along the freeway corridor.

Santa Monica is a resort town with big city proximity, with all the advantages and disadvantages that come with that distinction. When they come to L.A., they stay in Santa Monica. During the 2000 Democratic National Convention, for instance, several delegations stayed in Santa Monica rather than downtown Los Angeles. Santa Monica has been the site of many Presidential visits.

Visitors from Japan can be seen descending by the busload for a shopping and mall food experience at Santa Monica Place. The Japanese Travel Bureau recently

moved its headquarters from Los Angeles to Santa Monica.

Throughout the year, the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium attracts visitors to its antique shows, gem shows, kennel clubs, stockholder meetings and a variety of other special interest events.

Because it is desirably situated near the coast, all of Santa Monica's property values have skyrocketed in the recent decades, but a high percentage of those properties are rental units. The varied cultural mix is an unusual juxtaposition of economic extremes, high property values combined with low income. Luxury residences and hotels compete with festive beachgoers to decide which will set the atmosphere along the beachfront. Santa Monica takes prides in being a tolerant, humane city that cares for the welfare of persons down on their luck, groups who stage demonstrations to air grievances, nonconformists, street entertainers, and those who wish to express themselves in a manner that isn't considered mainstream.



Heavy tourism on the Santa Monica Pier, Pacific Park and beaches requires the Police Department to staff a Pier substation.

Santa Monica is unique. Perhaps no other city of its size possesses so many concentrated assets: Coastline, beaches, pier, regional shopping and hospitals, municipal airport, freeway access, business parks, luxury hotels, trendy restaurants and theaters.

What does this mean for a police department whose mission is to provide the highest quality of law enforcement service?

Put briefly, the Santa Monica Police Department must provide for the safety and security of visitors who use the City's assets, the same as City residents.



Police maintain order and personal safety for protestors exercising their right of free speech.

The City is bisected by the I-10 freeway, one of the most heavily traveled freeways in the State of California. Along its corridor, the City's layout and zoning since 1966 have been dictated by its presence. Police beat boundaries have been adjusted accordingly. The freeway makes it easy for car thieves to abandon vehicles stolen elsewhere in one of the many public parking lots or structures. As a result, Santa Monica has an unusually high rate of recovered vehicles that were stolen in other jurisdictions.

Hotels, a regional shopping center, pier, beach, restaurants, the Third Street Promenade with its theaters, are all within easy walking distance of each other. Santa Monica is indeed a walking city, but beachgoers, visitors and residents out for a walk must be vigilant. Through inattentiveness to their property and their personal safety, they can easily fall prey to the criminal element. While Pacific Ocean Park is just a memory, in its place are a Pier, beach facilities, and a new amusement park that demand a constant police presence to ensure the safety and security of visitors.

Santa Monica's popularity as a foreign tourism destination requires the Police Department to be a polyglot culture. A log of foreign language-speaking City employees is maintained, and police dispatchers are adept at connecting field personnel to telephone company translation services.

Celebrities and dignitaries bring high profile security issues into the mix, whether checking into the hospital or appearing in court. Events require tactical planning and overtime, and often coordination with the FBI and Secret Service. At times, the Police Department has been confronted with multiple events going on in the City simultaneously.

At the same time, being surrounded by the massive jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Police Department limits the opportunities for pooling resources for the kind of joint venture projects carried out with great success by adjacent agencies in the South Bay and other parts of County of Los Angeles.

Traffic and Mobility

Dense zoning and scarce off-street parking create a competitive parking climate. Preferential zones must be enforced by the Police Department.

The concentration of traffic in the downtown area has forced the City to try out various traffic calming measures. One, the downtown transit mall, brings with it a variety of new traffic control issues. In 2002, the Police Department reorganized to create a Traffic Services Division to manage those issues.

Special Policing

The Special Policing District (SPD) was formed to address unique problems of the downtown and beach areas. Among its specialized teams are the Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) team, the Third Street Promenade Unit and the Pier Substation. When residents of the Pico



Its convenient location near affluent Westside communities makes the Santa Monica Airport a favorite for private and corporate pilots. The Police Department provides airport security.

neighborhood expressed a desire for concentrated community-oriented policing services, the Beat 8 Bike Unit was formed.

The Police Department must ensure the safety of boaters and swimmers. As a result, the Police Department operates the City's Harbor Office. The Police Department also provides security staff for the City's municipal airport.

The richness of venues in Santa Monica requires the Police Department to provide flexible means to perform field law enforcement duties. Few agencies of similar size have the investment in equipment and training in so many service delivery formats: Patrol car, bicycle, horseback, motorcycle, boat, scuba equipment, air-plane, aboard a bus, and potentially, Segway.

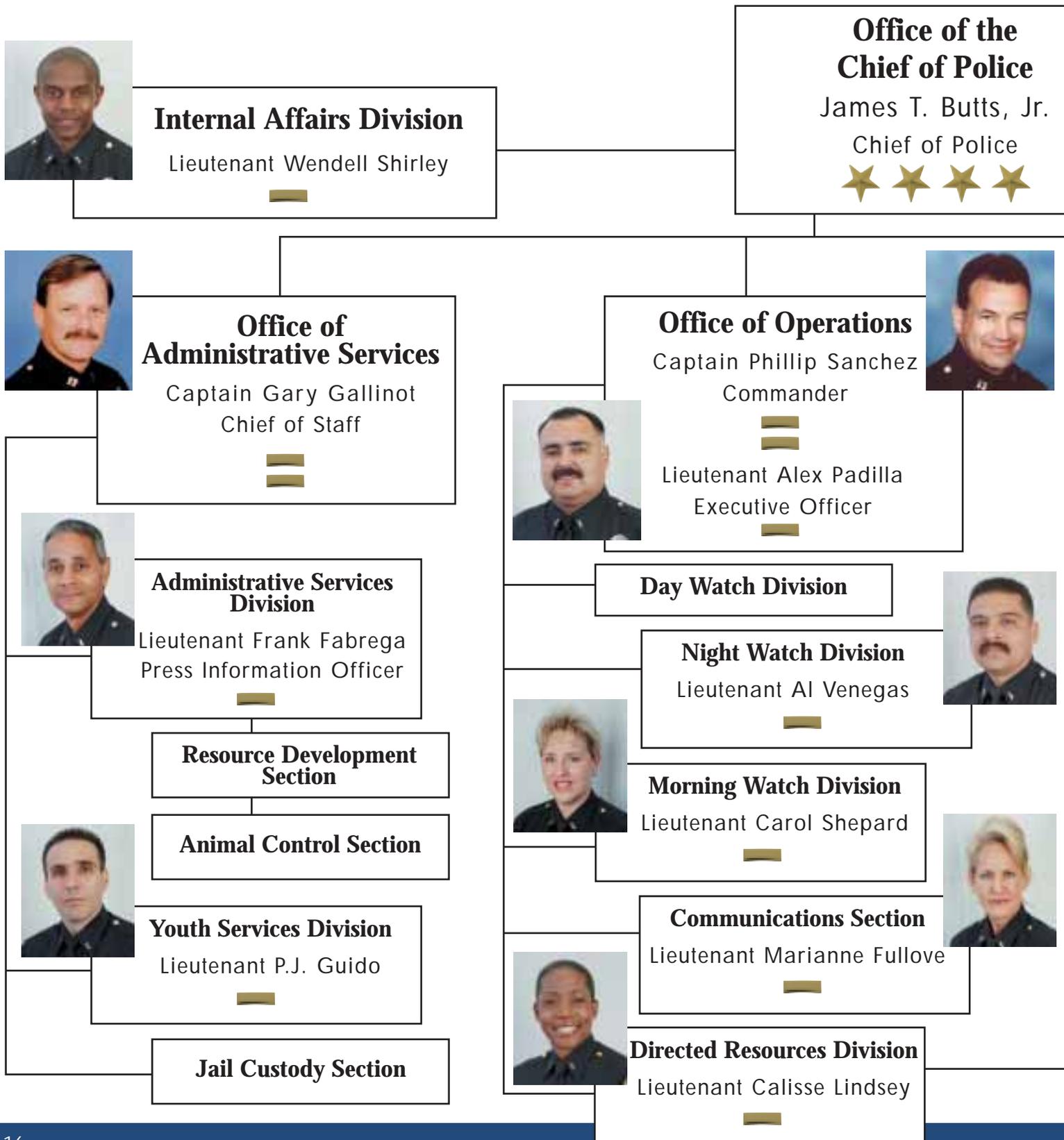
Finding Meaning in the Statistics

The diverse demands for police services require a very high ratio of police officers per resident. The statistic can be misleading unless one digs below the surface to see the impact of diverse public safety responsibilities on the Santa Monica Police Department. In fact, Santa Monica's per-officer productivity rate as measured in arrest, crime report and citation workload, is among the highest in Los Angeles County. It would be inaccurate to measure Santa Monica against other police departments that serve a nominally same size resident population.



The Harbor Unit is organized under the Police Department's Office of Operations.

Department Organization





Audits & Analysis Division
Lieutenant Mike Beutz



Office of Special Enforcement
Captain Jacqueline Seabrooks
Commander



Office of Criminal Investigations
Captain Mark Smiley
Commander
Lieutenant Ray Cooper
Executive Officer



Special Operations Division
Lieutenant William Brucker



Lieutenant Ray Cooper
Executive Officer

Robbery Homicide Section

**Sex Crimes/
Family Services Section**

Property Crimes Section

Records Section

Identification Unit

Traffic Enforcement Division
Lieutenant George Centeno



Traffic Services Division
Lieutenant Clinton Muir

Harbor Unit

And the Emmy Goes to.....

The Santa Monica Police Department

The television news often airs stories about medal awards ceremonies honoring law enforcement officers for valor and distinguished service.

When the awards ceremony is for accomplishments in the television medium itself, law enforcement agencies usually don't come to mind.

Until now.

On Saturday, June 29, 2002 the 54th Annual Los Angeles Area Academy of Television Arts & Sciences were held at the Leonard H. Goldenson Theater. Among the recipients was the Santa Monica Police Department, honored with an Emmy Award for a 30-minute documentary entitled, "Every 15 Minutes—For My Friends."

The Emmy was presented in the Los Angeles Area Children/Youth Programming Category to Chief James T. Butts, Jr., producer Lauralee Asch of the Community Relations Section, Tom Mitchell, who wrote and directed the prize-winning entry, and film narrator John Beard.

The documentary captures the message of a 2-day intensive program organized by Investigator Chris Dawson, and funded by a grant from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. The video airs on Santa Monica City TV to a target audience of high-school age drivers. During 2002, it became required curriculum for all graduating seniors at the City's four high schools.

John Beard, Fox 11 TV anchor, narrated and appeared in the video depicting the tragic consequences of teenage drinking and driving. Also appearing in the documentary were St. Monica High School students, their parents and teachers,

Rodriguez, aired on KCBS (Channel 2) on August 10, 2002.

A hearty, "Congratulations and well done" to all who contributed to the realization of this award-winning documentary.



Emmy winners Tom Mitchell, Lauralee Asch, and Chief James T. Butts, Jr. proudly display their statuettes. Photo provided courtesy of Mathew Photographic Services.

Santa Monica police and fire personnel and their equipment, and UCLA/Santa Monica Hospital emergency room medical professionals. Scenes include a very believable mock fatal traffic collision with these "actors" in the roles they too often must play in the real life tragedies that result from teenage drinking and driving. An edited one-hour version of the Emmy ceremonies, hosted by comedian Paul

Sobering Facts

About Teenage Drunk Driving.

Although the legal drinking age in the United States is 21, the majority of young people begin using alcohol during their teenage years. It is estimated that 80% of high school seniors have used alcohol. Most teenagers start to drink because of peer pressure. Statistics from Mothers Against Drunk Driving reveal that more



college undergraduates will die from alcohol-related causes than will receive a masters or doctorate degree.

Statistics compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration show that motor vehicle accidents account for one-third of all deaths for 15 to 20 year olds. Two out of five motor vehicle fatalities involve alcohol, and 2.5% of all victims of passenger fatalities were between 15 and 20 years of age.

The bright spot in all this grim data is that teenage drunk driving has actually decreased since 1996. What has turned the statistics around?

- ◆ Programs like "The Key to Life", sponsored by the Ventura County DMV, and Santa Monica's "Every 15 Minutes-For My Friends." School education campaigns and grassroots organizations like MADD and SADD get out the message to teens about the deadly effects of mixing driving and alcohol use.
- ◆ Raising the legal drinking age to 21 in nearly all states.
- ◆ Lowering the blood alcohol level to .02 for persons under age 21.
- ◆ Provisional driver licensing for teenage drivers.
- ◆ Restricted nighttime driving for teenagers.



Scenes from the documentary: Every 15 minutes, the Grim Reaper takes another victim because somebody chose to combine drinking and driving...

...While the drunk driver is taken away to confront a different fate at the hands of the criminal justice system.



Going Home

The Senior Registry Project

He is about 80. The frail man sitting in the Police Department report room seems more confused than curious as officers dash in to pick up forms or consult with the Watch Commander. As his pale eyes follow each passerby, he brings his old body to attention and a look of apprehension appears on his face. The still-connected part of his mind recognizes the uniforms. Surely he is in trouble because his little playmates talked him into climbing the neighbor's tree and stealing those apples.

The officer who found the man wandering on the street is on the phone. One by one, he's calling nursing homes to ask if anyone has gone missing. No luck so far. On a good day, a missing person call would come in through Dispatch and the elderly man would be swiftly returned to safe and familiar surroundings. This is not a good day. So the man sits and waits while the officer tries to figure out who he is and where he belongs. The officer should be back in service in his patrol unit, but the elderly man's welfare is his primary concern at the moment.

This scenario is not uncommon in a city with twenty state licensed residential care facilities and a patient population in the hundreds. These elders run the spectrum from intermittent cognitive impairment, sometimes induced by their medications, to severe Alzheimer's disease. Even under the most watchful care, opportunities arise for those who are ambulatory to wander away. Often, they are in need of

their medications, so it is essential to act quickly. As the general population ages, incidents of identifying and returning lost and disoriented individuals will only increase for the Police Department.

Ironically, fingerprints are useless as a means of identifying these confused elderly persons. As a rule, only persons with a criminal record, public employee, or state licensee applicants have a fingerprint record at the California Department of Justice. Few of these gentle souls fit any of those categories. And, for the few who do, the aging process shrivels the fingers and renders the fingerprints unreadable in most cases.

A proactive approach was needed. So in 2000, the City Council authorized the Santa Monica Police Department to designate \$15,000 of grant funds from the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program (LLEBG) to establish a voluntary "Registry" of residential care patients.

The Registry consists of a database of personal information and a digitized photograph of individuals who have, or might develop, a habit of becoming disoriented and wandering away from home. Grant funds paid for a computer, digital camera, publicity and the personnel to get the project underway. The Registry resides on the Police Department's existing Orion database system, which is designed to house similar compiled data.

Initially, file card data from prior incidents were loaded into the database. Information fliers and a release form were designed and distributed to the residential care facilities. Armed with the digital camera and department identification, the project coordinator set out to visit the facilities, collect data, and take photos.

To reach more seniors, letters were sent to the care facilities, the Emeritus College on the Santa Monica College campus arranged presentations to their students, and Registry forms were left at the main office of the campus and at the libraries. Plans are underway to send letters to physicians and hospitals that serve elderly/dependant adults. Form are available on the Santa Monica Police Department website

Information bulletins and fliers are distributed to notify other City departments, outside agencies and hospital personnel about the Senior Identification Registry. Although they will not have direct access to the database, they will be able to utilize the information through the Police Department and assist citizens they may encounter who need this kind of help.

The Registry coordinator trains new police officers on use of the database. The officers are eager to use the database as a part of their service to the community.

The Registry is strictly confidential and for the exclusive use of Santa Monica police



officers to search for characteristics that match those of the lost person. The registry greatly reduces the time it takes to identify the person and notify the caregiver/next of kin.

The program is entirely voluntary. Permission to have an individual's information and picture entered into the database is given by persons granted custodial rights and responsibilities for the individuals. The program is not limited to persons living in residential care facilities. Caregivers for elderly persons living in private homes may contact the Police Department to be added to the Registry.

The Registry program has been well received by the community. At the close of calendar 2002, 700 individuals have been added.

Subject to funding, plans are underway to expand the program to include persons of all ages who tend to wander away from home as the result of cognitive impairments.

To have an elderly patient or loved one added to the Registry, contact:

Santa Monica Police Department
Senior Identification Registry
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, 90401
TEL (310) 458-8463
FAX (310) 393-5051
Website: www.santamonicapd.org
E-mail: brenda-sweet@santa-monica.org

Forms are available at the Emeritus College on the Santa Monica College campus, or by request at the above number. A recent snapshot is requested to accompany the information (it will be

returned); if one is unavailable, please call for an appointment to have one taken.

Fees: Free

Some Facts About Santa Monica's Senior Citizens:

Seniors over 65 make up 14.4% of the population of Santa Monica and an additional 25% of the City's population is in the 50-64 year range. Together, they represent 33,000 of the 84,084 citizens living in Santa Monica, according to the 2000 census.

There are 1,750 beds available in facilities for the care of seniors other than the hospitals in the City of Santa Monica.

Emeritus College, classes for seniors at Santa Monica City College, had 2,703 seniors enrolled for the spring classes and projects the same or more for the fall quarter. The summer classes were filled with 2,595 seniors.

In addition to those who live in Santa Monica, many seniors from surrounding communities are frequently in Santa Monica for shopping, doctor appointments and social outings.



Aero Squadron

Air Patrol in Santa Monica ... Then and Now

Fifteen short years after the Wright brothers proved to the world that man can fly, Santa Monica had an airport. Not long after Santa Monica got an airport, the Santa Monica Police Department formed an aero squadron.

The first air patrols took their pilot in a biplane from the new Clover Field over clusters of houses separated by wide swaths of bean fields. In 1928, there wasn't much going on in Santa Monica. Jackrabbits were about the only thing running from the law.

Patrolling by air has had its ups and downs, both literally and figuratively. Perhaps for lack of business, the first SMPD aero squadron was soon disbanded and would not return for another forty years.

In 1968, Chief Earl Reinbold decided to launch another experiment in air patrols. After some brief and unimpressive testing of ultralight aircraft, attention turned to helicopters. Although the project never developed into an official air squadron, the Department entered into an agreement with World Associates for the use of three Hughes 300 helicopters. Three were needed to operate on two shifts per day, and to comply with required maintenance after each 25 hours of flight time. Four SMPD police sergeants were trained as pilots, and police officers signed up for six-month rotations as observers. The helicopters were stored on the lot now occupied by the new Public Safety Facility.



1937 Air reserve officers pose with Chief of Police.

The Department used the helicopters for routine patrols, much like a police cruiser but without the traffic impediments and ground-level hindrances to view. The observers looked for lost children and people trying to jump off the Pier. They followed vehicle pursuits, were first on scene at burglaries, robberies and other crimes in progress. They were highly effective for patrolling and maintaining order at events.

While aloft, it was always necessary to keep a potential landing site at the ready in case of an equipment malfunction. The helicopters could land any place wide

enough to accommodate the rotor's diameter, such as an alley or parking lot.

Then the potential became reality. When the helicopter crashed it was not over an alley or parking lot but 40 feet of cold ocean water in Santa Monica Bay. Officer Pat Armstrong, the observer, was able to smash out the bubble of the helicopter and swim to the surface. Realizing that Sgt. Jim Clark, the pilot, had not surfaced Officer Armstrong dove back to the bottom and pulled him from the wreckage, suffering a serious back injury in the process. It's the stuff of which law enforcement legends are made.



After the crash, the Department decided to continue the program with police officer observers, but to switch to professional pilots. An agreement was formed with World Associates to provide both the equipment and the pilots.

Although helicopter mobility was outstanding, there were problems. The technology at the time could not produce a quiet-operating helicopter. The Department got an average of five noise complaints per night, so low flying patrols were stopped. The approaching noisy craft was a signal to miscreants to stop any criminal activity in progress. The helicopters required frequent maintenance, and the need for constant intervention to control the craft meant pilot fatigue set in quickly.

In time, the Department followed a recommendation to try out a fixed wing aircraft marketed at being 'whisper quiet.' The results were good. The contract with World Associates was dropped and the Department purchased the airplane it has used ever since. The airplane's quiet operation has generated no noise complaints. Fixed-wing flying requires less intensive pilot intervention than a helicopter. The plane can remain aloft for 8 to 10 hours without pilot fatigue or the need to refuel.

The airplane's quiet operation facilitates the observation of criminal activity in progress. While it is not as effective as a helicopter for patrol duties, it is a better surveillance tool. The SMPD airplane patrol caught the Pacoima Gang, responsible for a series of bank robberies in the San Fernando Valley. The airplane is frequently sought for joint task forces and mutual aid for other agencies.

It's 2002. Much has changed in Santa Monica since the first SMPD pilot chased fleeing jackrabbits through the bean fields. The City is densely built with narrow streets and alleys. Vehicular traffic creates gridlock during peak hours. Southern California has become the televised vehicle pursuit capital of the nation. Suspects fleeing vehicles scatter in every direction, making it difficult for the police to set up an effective perimeter. Lack of visibility at street level often puts officer safety at risk when they must approach blind spots.

In some neighborhoods, concerns for noise have given way to concerns for gang violence and other threats to community safety. A helicopter overhead, shining its night sun to flush out criminals who hide in darkness and shadow, can be a welcome presence to a troubled neighborhood.

Since 2000, SMPD has supplemented the good work of its airplane detail with helicopter air support from the City of Hawthorne Police Department. The two operations complement rather than compete. Until 2002, Hawthorne P.D. has provided the services gratis as part of the law enforcement mutual aid effort. The year brought with it lean economic times and it became necessary for Hawthorne P.D. to request a contractual relationship with other cities to help pay the costs to operate the equipment. Because of the good results thus far, SMPD will recommend to Council that the City enter into a contract with Hawthorne for continuing air support on a 12-month basis. SMPD is also exploring the merits of leasing or purchasing and maintaining its own helicopter in a future budget year.



Sgt. David Thomas (pilot) and officer Adam Gwartz (tactical flight officer), aboard a Robinson R-22 helicopter, prepare to take off from Santa Monica Airport.

Extra!!! Spider-Man Takes Santa Monica

In Celebration of National Night Out

Headline:

Santa Monica Police Department recruits Spider-Man to lead 2002 National Night Out Against Crime. Making his appearance from the back of a SMPD patrol unit, Spider-Man, Marvel Comics' fearless crime-fighter, was the star attraction at the August 6 celebration of National Night Out Against Crime. The event was held from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. at its traditional location on the City's famed Third Street Promenade.

Local residents flocked out to join Spider-Man and other featured participants in

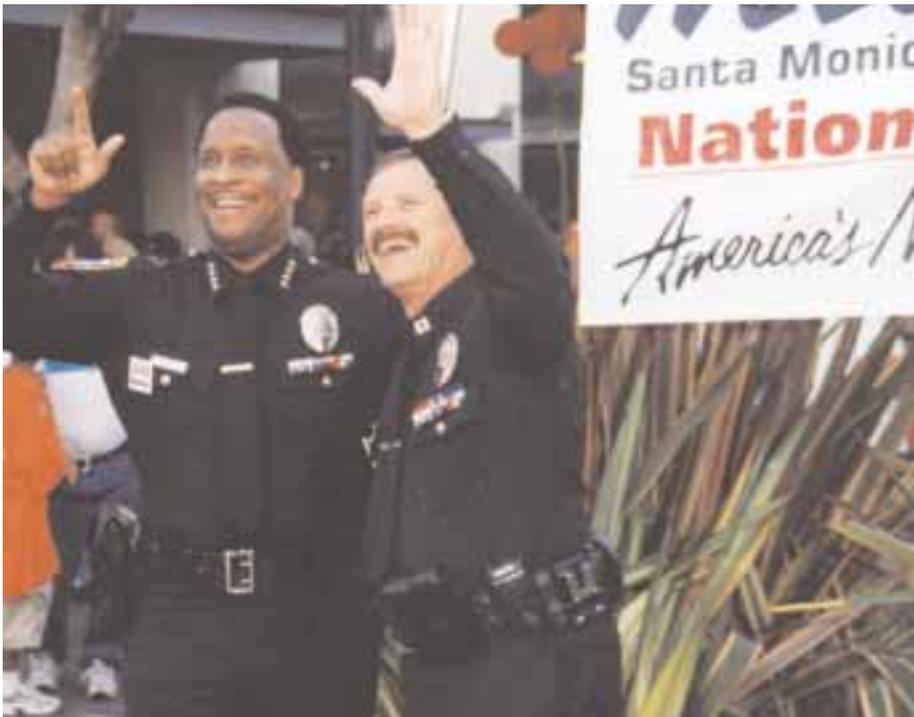
this annual community march against crime.

Sponsored for the last 19 years by the National Association of Town Watch, National Night Out is a nationwide event with participation by 33 million people in 9,700 communities. The Santa Monica event was videotaped and photographed by CityTV for the 2002 national competition.

In 2001, over 1,800 marchers set a record for the local event. "With the help of our local residents," Chief James Butts said, "I have every hope that



Spider-Man gives Daily Bugle reporter 'the scoop' on Santa Monica's National Night Out celebration.



Chief Butts and Captain Gary Gallinot enjoying the National Night Out festivities.

Santa Monica will set a new record for this most important march against crime." The parade ended in Palisades Park and included free food courtesy of 7-Eleven Trader Joe's and Frito Lay. There were performances by Aspects of Live "Circus Extreme", the First AME Church Choir and the Santa Monica High School Marching Band, and music by J&M Entertainment. Kids from all over had their photos taken with Spider-Man at the Santa Monica Police Department booth. Other booths were sponsored by the Santa Monica Fire Department and local organizations including Rock the Vote, ADT Security, Find the Children, Nurses Against Violence, Red Cross and American Medical Response.



Members of the Santa Monica Police Department welcome their newest recruit.



Spider-Man flirts with Forensic Specialist Maria Navarro.



Stand and Deliver

Traffic Services Division Tests Segway

Innovations that promise to improve public safety and service always capture the attention of Santa Monica Police Department planners and administrators. SMPD was among the first law enforcement agencies to migrate to digital imaging of documents, host a Cal-ID site, and equip patrol officers with laptops and PDAs. So it came as no surprise, one bright July day, to see members of the Traffic Services Division at the south beach parking lot, trying out the new Segway personal transporter.

The Segway--its name is the phonetic spelling for the Italian word 'segue; to transition smoothly from one state to another,'— looks like the offspring of a push lawnmower and a pogo stick. The magic of the odd-looking contraption lies in its complex gyroscopy, its ability to instantly adjust to the center of gravity of the person who steps on for a ride. After just a few seconds, those who try it out report the ability to move forward, maneuver about, and stop on a dime with no sensation of losing balance.

The brainchild of inventor Dean Kamen, the Segway was introduced as a "non-polluting mobility device." It operates silently on clean, renewable battery power. Able to travel up to 12 miles per hour, the practical speed is closer to six, or about twice the speed of a fast walker. Kamen wants his invention to be taken seriously and not regarded as a toy. He views it as a quantum leap into the new century, a solution for the mobility prob-

lems of individuals and our crowded urban society. His strategy is to initially market the Segway where its reputation as a utility device will be firmly established. He carefully selected a test user group from government and private industry based on their credible applications for the transporter. The group consists of mail carriers of the U.S. Postal Service, park rangers of the National Park Service, warehouse workers at Amazon.com, character actors and security personnel at Disneyland, and law enforcement agencies like the Santa Monica Police Department.

With all its benefits, the Segway still has its detractors, who say it will be unsafe for

other pedestrians. The Segway must overcome the perception that it is yet another recreational device for reckless youth, like scooters and skateboards.

State legislatures were also caught unprepared for the new technology and are still debating its legal definition. In California law, the Segway seems to fit the description of a motor vehicle. Until it gets a clear legal definition, it must operate on the street, subject to the Vehicle Code.

Ironically, municipalities may regulate the device on roads or highways and public properties, but not on city sidewalks. Should the transporter be recognized as an alternative to the powered wheelchair,



Members of the Traffic Services Division discovered how quickly they could adapt to the Segway's intelligent gyroscopy.



for example, it may gain a limited exemption for sidewalk use. Until traffic laws catch up with the technology, the Segway's benefit to private citizens as "empowered pedestrians" will not be realized. With a variety of official applications, the Santa Monica Police Department sees a bright future for the Segway transporter. The first units were tested for use by the Traffic Services Division in the downtown area. The public benefits are numerous:

The Segway is a natural solution for a city that has identified improved mobility as a community priority. Where a traditional parking enforcement vehicle blocks a lane of traffic in the downtown area's already congested streets, the Traffic Services Officer (TSO) easily navigates the transporter between parked vehicles to keep the roadway clear. This ability to steer clear of traffic is a significant boost to the safety of the TSO, motorists, and bikers.

The transporter's silent operation reduces environmental noise pollution. Its use of clean, renewable electric energy lives up to the spirit of Santa Monica's environmentally conscious, sustainable city policy.

The Segway is economical. At around \$6,000 each, four Segway HT e-series units may be purchased for the price of one parking enforcement scooter. Larger scale use of the transporter will reduce fuel costs significantly. The units are low maintenance. Unlike traditional parking enforcement vehicles, they require no down-time for service and repairs.

Where storage is an issue, four Segways HT e-series units can be stored in the space occupied by one parking enforcement scooter. Further, they can be stored

in an indoor facility, eliminating the potential for vandalism and theft.

TSOs could save the time they now spend starting, stopping, and climbing in and out of the enforcement vehicle every few yards. The Segway's balance controls,



and the attached storage receptacle, allow the TSO to remain standing on the unit while writing a citation.

Perhaps the greatest potential benefit of the Segway human transporter is its effect on employee morale. Traffic enforcement personnel view the little machine as an opportunity to add some good public relations to their workday and turn

around their negative image. Out of the enforcement vehicle and sporting a biker helmet and high visibility day-glo yellow vest, the TSO is perceived as human and approachable. The sheer novelty of the Segway piques curiosity and gives people a reason to open a positive exchange with the TSO.

Use by park ranger and police foot patrols are under consideration as future applications in the Police Department. The City's cemetery is also evaluating the Segway for use by its cemetery maintenance staff.



2002 Awards Ceremony

Honoring Exemplary Service

The Santa Monica Police Department's Annual Awards Banquet was held on May 10, 2002 at the Casa Del Mar Hotel. The ceremony is held each year to recognize the achievements of department personnel and to recognize notable citizen involvement in the cause of public safety during the prior year.

Todd Mitchem of J&M Entertainment officiated as the event's master of ceremonies.

Awards and medals presented at the 2002 Awards Banquet are:

City Attorney's Award

The City Attorney's Award is given to an officer who demonstrates diligence, initiative and thoroughness in working with city prosecutors to promote the community's welfare.

Officer Ira Rutan

Line of Duty Medal

The Line of Duty Medal, new in 2002, is a Unit Citation awarded to members of the Department who have shown a total team effort under extremely hazardous situations, displaying bravery and outstanding service during the incident.

The Line of Duty Unit Citation award is awarded for heroic team actions in response to a hostage situation on the Pier on July 4, 2000.



Line of Duty Medal recipients (from left to right): Officer Steve Wong, Officer Cristina Coria, Sergeant Jim Hirt, with Chief of Police James T. Butts, Jr.

Officer Cristina Coria
Officer Steve Wong
Sgt. Jim Hirt

Special Recognition Award

The Santa Monica Police Department Special Recognition Award is determined by members of the Department who have witnessed their co-workers going above and beyond the scope of their normal duties to better personify the Mission, Vision and Values of the Santa Monica Police Department.

Denise Cepeda, Crossing Guard
Traffic Services Division

Hazel Darden, Transcriber Typist
Internal Affairs Division

Sergeant Kathy Keane

Carol Lekowski, Fingerprint Technician
Forensic Section

Alfonso Lozano, Police Cadet

Officer S. Erik Milosevich



Katherine Mitchell
Community Services Officer
Office of Operations

Lieutenant Alex Padilla

Rene Talbott, Juvenile Investigator
Youth Services Division

Police Officer of the Year

The Police Officer of the Year recipient is selected by fellow Police Officers. The award is an affirmation of the respect, recognition and high regard in which the recipient is held by the peer group.

1999
Michael Bambrick

2000 & 2001
Sgt. Jim Hirt

Reserve Officer
Maurice Dean
Mark Hoffman

Technical Reserve Officer
Don Doss

Medal of Merit

Awarded to Department employees who have performed meritorious service to Department programs, fellow employees, or the community.

Mike Cveyich
Crime Prevention Coordinator
For meritorious service in community and sister city outreach.

Investigator Chris Dawson
For meritorious service in traffic safety.

Eric Uller
Lead Public Safety Systems Analyst
For meritorious service in technological operations of the Police Department.

Jason Mann
Range Master
For meritorious service in weapons training and policy.

Medal of Courage

Investigator Chris Dawson
For heroic actions on April 9, 2001, in controlling and bringing to an end a situation involving an armed disgruntled employee of a local business who was threatening the safety and lives of fellow employees.

And

Sgt. Jim Hirt
For actions above and beyond the call of duty in knowingly placing himself between two injured officers and an armed suspect holding hostages on the Pier on the early morning of Tuesday, July 4, 2000.

Citizen Involvement Award

David Sampson, Jr.
For uncommon citizen bravery on April 5, 2001, in detaining a bank robbery suspect until police officers arrived.

Chief's Award

John Beard, KTTV Fox 11 News Anchor
For his years of countless contributions and assistance to the Santa Monica Police Department and the community and the donation of time to narrate the Emmy Award-winning documentary on the dangers of teen drinking and driving, "Every 15 Minutes - For My Friends."

Community Recognition Award

Captain Gary Gallinot
Lion's Club

Detective Nancy Burum
Elks Lodge

Police Officer Cristina Coria
American Legion

Pinnipeds to Pet Adoptions

Vignettes from the Santa Monica Animal Shelter

Don't Call Them "Dog Catchers"

Calling an Animal Control Officer a "dog catcher" is like calling a brain surgeon a "bandage wrapper." These specialized officers do so much more than just pick-up stray dogs and cats. Spring of 2002 dramatically revealed one of many little known facets of their job.

It started in April with a dead seagull on the beach. Then there were many. Then a sick sea lion...another...and another. Shore birds (sea gulls, pelicans) and pinnipeds (sea lions and elephant seals) were presenting themselves on the beach in various stages of distress. Even more were washing up dead. The live ones would sometimes appear to be just resting; others would act like they were drunk. Some were comatose.

Marine biologists revealed that animals were being poisoned from feasting on fish that had just fed on masses of a toxic micro alga called *Pseudo-nitzschia australis*. Although this organism often exists in normally innocuous numbers in local waters, something had caused its population to explode: A phenomenon known as a marine bloom.

At first, Animal Control Officers diligently transported the sick pinnipeds to the Marine Mammal Care Center and sick shore birds to the Oiled Bird Care Center,



Animal Control Office's join marine mammal experts in one of many sea lion rescues during 2002.

located next door to each other in Fort MacArthur. Some rescues involved sea lions weighing upwards of 500 pounds.

But this marine bloom, one of just a handful ever seen on the west coast, was massive, eventually afflicting coastal marine life from Santa Barbara south to San Diego. The Marine Mammal Care Center quickly became so overwhelmed with patients that they were forced to implement a form of triage for sick pinnipeds. Those not comatose or obviously injured would have to wait it out for 48 hours. Animal Control Officers would assess the condition of individual pinnipeds and those that were not critical would be marked and signs cautioning the public to not approach them were posted. Only if the animal remained in the same location for two days was it eligible for transport to the Care Center. Exhausted staff and volunteers there would greet arriving Officers in chorus, "Not another!"

Meanwhile, beach-goers were puzzled at the sight of so many beached marine mammals. Well-meaning citizens often ignored posted signs and would try poking and prodding sick sea lions to go back into the water, compounding the animals' stress and risking injury to them-



Santa Monica's geography brings diverse visitors from around the world. In this circa 1935 photo, the late Captain George Figueiredo played host to an errant penguin.



selves. Animal Control Officers were challenged with having to educate the public and with explaining why the sick animals were being left to fend for themselves. Officers, trained to assure that sick or injured animals receive needed medical care, found themselves coping with the dilemma of having to abandon severely compromised animals.

By mid-June when the toxic bloom finally subsided, the toll of victims picked up by Animal Control was a staggering 38 dead shore birds, 15 dead pinnipeds and two dead porpoises. Most of the 15 sick pinnipeds fortunate enough to be transported for medical care eventually recovered. Animal Control Officers' sole reward from this horrific episode has been earned on subsequent visits to the Marine Mammal Care Center. The staff there now greets them with smiling faces. Unspoken acknowledgment of the team effort that each played during the crisis.

Phoenix Rising

I'm seven years old. They say that's 42 in People Years. But my memories beyond just a few months ago are fading fast. You see, I've been reborn.

My first memory is of being taken from my mother when I was quite young. The first big event in my life that I can remember is when the people I was living with let me go outdoors. I heard them say I was old enough...and something about cats being happier outdoors. Bugs, birds and lizards . . . I used to hunt these creatures, I think. My owners weren't home a lot. They were too busy to play with me much. I guess I had time to kill, so to speak.

I remember once I was staring down a pigeon across the street. With utter concentration, I timed my sprint to catch the bird unawares, but a car making a scary screeching sound with smoking tires bore down upon me. How dare that driver get in my way!

The years sort of drifted by, and then one day my owners put all their furniture into a truck and never came back. There were other cats in the neighborhood, and I had to raid their food dishes to get by. Sometimes I had to fight for my dinner. My gums started getting sore, and I began to get real itchy around my head. People were avoiding me and giving me funny looks. But one day that I will never forget someone put me in a wire cage. I got scared and tried to get out; somehow I poked my head through a small hole and got stuck. I was still scared until an officer in a nice clean khaki uniform came to my rescue. I didn't like it when she put vegetable oil all over my neck, but she had such a reassuring voice and really seemed to know what she was doing. She was trying to get me out. I relaxed for her a bit and my head popped free!

I went for a ride in a clean white truck to the Santa Monica Animal Shelter where they put me in a small room with several other cats. Even though I looked out through metal bars, the kind people who work there gave me good food and kept my cage clean. My head still itched and my gums hurt, but one day someone in a white coat came by. I'm not sure why she poked me with a needle but after a few days my itching stopped. While I got better, I noticed that when I rolled over on my back in front of people they would all say, "Awwww."

Then, for the first time in weeks, they started to handle me without gloves. It felt good to get belly rubs. And then the guy who works in the Shelter office brought me indoors. I was in heaven. They all fussed over me and I got more attention in one day than I had in my whole life. I told myself, "This place will be my home." They must have read my mind.

It hurt when they took me to be spayed and to pull my bad teeth. The pain soon went away, and it was worth it. If you stop by the Animal Shelter, ask for me and I will show you a happy, healthy cat. My name is Phoenix, and I've been reborn.



Phoenix, the Animal Shelter mascot. For the former feline cast-off, life is now the cat's meow.

The Animal Shelter is located at 1640 9th Street, one half block north of Olympic Boulevard, in Santa Monica. The Shelter is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seven days a week.

For more information about pet adoptions, becoming a shelter volunteer or animal control services, please call (310) 458-8594.

Education and Enforcement

2002 Traffic Safety Initiatives



The Santa Monica Police Department's Traffic Services Division was created in 2001 in response to increasing traffic circulation and mobility issues caused by construction-related improvements to the City's infrastructure as well as commercial development throughout the City. With the addition of the Traffic Services Division, the Police Department can more effectively and efficiently address the public's traffic safety-related concerns. By separating the responsibilities of the Traffic Services Division from those of the Traffic Enforcement Division, each was able to fine-tune its traffic safety focus and develop programs appropriate to its role and function. Both divisions rely upon a combination of intervention, education, and enforcement to accomplish their respective tasks.



Consolidated under the umbrella of the Traffic Services Division are: the Traffic Services Section, whose members provide City-wide traffic control and parking enforcement; the Downtown Motorcycle Enforcement Unit, whose members provide traffic enforcement in the Downtown area; the Transit Policing Unit, whose members work closely with the Big Blue Bus, the municipal bus company, to enhance the safety of the bus-riding public; and the Crossing Guard Section, responsible for providing a safe environment for pedestrians crossing at selected intersections throughout the City.

During 2002, the Traffic Services Division impacted the FY2001-02 Community Priority of "Mobility" by organizing and staffing intersection and parking controls during the construction of the Downtown Transit Mall. As part of a departmental budget objective, the Traffic Services Division worked with other City departments to develop long-term strategies to improve pedestrian and vehicular mobility through public education, signage improvements, and analysis of traffic flow problems caused by right-of-way violations. One such strategy tested in 2002 is the use of the Segway personal transportation system for parking enforcement in traffic-congested areas of the City. Another strategy was use of a fund allocation from the federal L.L.E.B.G. (Local Law Enforcement Block Grant) program to procure high visibility vests, cones and speed bump devices to enhance intersection safety around schools enforced by the Crossing Guard Section.



The Traffic Enforcement Division retains responsibility for Vehicle Code moving violation enforcement, commercial vehicle equipment inspections, and major traffic accidents and hit-and-run collision investigations.

Year 2002 program highlights for the Traffic Enforcement Division included preliminary approval from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for the receipt of a grant allocation totaling \$65,000 to be used in the funding of a



comprehensive traffic safety program entitled, "C.R.E.A.T.E. (Community Resource, Education and Traffic Enforcement) Safety."

The mission of the CREATE Safety Program is to increase a general community awareness of the importance of traffic safety by specifically addressing those circumstances and conditions that lead to pedestrian injury and fatal collisions in the over-65 age group, bicycle safety, the enforcement of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) laws, and child safety seat requirements. The CREATE Safety grant funding will help offset the costs associated with publishing information to be provided to community groups on Senior traffic safety, DUI intervention and education, DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols, pedestrian decoy operations (pedestrian stings), bicycle rodeos, and child safety seat check points, activities which go far in communicating the message that safe driving is no accident.



Another 2002 program highlight for the Traffic Enforcement Division was the development of the Automated Red-Light Enforcement Program. The Police Department, after receiving preliminary approval from the City Council, began developing a technology-based traffic safety program to specifically address the incidences of red-light running. The purpose of the program is to minimize the numbers of crashes that occur as a result of these types of violations; this is particularly important because of the injury potential inherent in these types of collisions.

The advanced technology required for photo-enforcement has generally caused

police agencies to contract with vendors for the use of the requisite equipment, equipment installation/maintenance, film, and citation processing services. In California, there are three vendors who offer red light camera systems: RedFlex Traffic Systems, Nestor Systems, and Affiliated Computer Services (formerly Lockheed Martin).

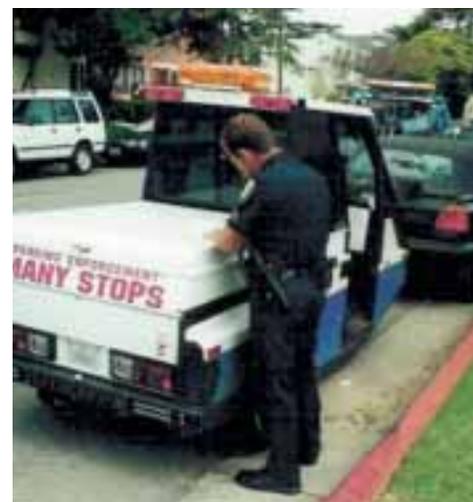
Following a competitive process, RedFlex Traffic Systems, was selected to provide the photo-enforcement services. RedFlex uses a digital camera to take both still and video photographs of a vehicle entering an intersection on a red traffic signal. The cameras are only operational during the red light phase of the traffic signal cycle. After a violation has occurred, Police Department personnel review records from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in an attempt to identify the motorist. In those cases where the driver's photograph is clear, the vehicle's registered owner is sent a citation. The cameras operate continuously to provide constant enforcement of the red light traffic law. In this sense, photo enforcement is more efficient and equitable than using a police officer because citations could potentially be issued to each motorist running a red light at the selected intersections. Red light cameras have the added advantage of deterrence. Reducing the number of violations occurring at the enforced intersections has the positive spillover effect of reducing red light violations Citywide. Deterrence of unsafe driver actions is consistent with the Police Department's goal of promoting traffic safety.



The need to control gridlock during Transit Mall construction was instrumental in reorganization and expansion of the Traffic Services Division.



Sobriety and seat belt enforcement checkpoints are intended to educate motorists, but also yield a high incidence of violations.



Citations are an important deterrent to bad parking habits including blocked access ways and monopolizing limited parking space.

Crime Statistic Summary

Santa Monica Experiences Lowest Part I Crime Rate Since 1963

SANTA MONICA CRIME STATISTICS SUMMARY				
PART I REPORTED CRIMES	2002	2001	Percent Change	
Criminal Homicide	8	2	+300%	
Forcible Rape	33	24	+38%	
Robbery	299	312	-4%	
Aggravated Assault	307	316	-3%	
Burglary	737	720	+3%	
Larceny / Theft	2,811	3,020	-7%	
Grand Theft Auto	494	515	-4%	
TOTAL	4,689	4,909	-4.5%	
Arson	47	42	+12%	
ARRESTS				
Felony Arrests	1,312	1,362	-3.7%	
Misdemeanor Arrests	2,950	2,526	+17%	
Adults	3,915	3,578	+9.4%	
Juveniles	347	310	+12%	
PART I PROPERTY VALUATION				
Amount Stolen	\$7,074,903	\$8,040,396		
Amount Recovered	\$2,273,234	\$3,015,064		
Percent Recovered	32%	37.5%		
CASES CLEARED	2002	RATE	2001	RATE
	1,074	23%	1,016	21%



Traffic Accidents

SANTA MONICA TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 1993-2002						
	Total Collisions	Injury Collisions	Pedestrians Involved	Fatalities	Hit & Run	Drunk Driving Arrests
1993	1.814	519	115	3	561	569
1994	1.972	583	153	11	562	503
1995	2.040	528	109	11	566	586
1996	2.073	490	118	5	598	541
1997	2.035	570	142	2	564	501
1998	1.970	415	123	6	534	485
1999	2.023	467	106	3	589	417
2000	1.960	553	120	8	596	320
2001	1,966	594	130	8	585	245
2002	1,937	542	130	2	583	311
Change 2001 to 2002	-1.5%	-8.8%	0%	-75%	-0.3%	+27%

Authorized Personnel Strength

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL STRENGTH (Full Time Equivalents)							
	Office of Administrative Services	Office of Operations	Office of Special Enforcement	Office of Criminal Investigations	Animal Regulation	Harbor Unit	Total by Rank
Police Chief	1.0						1.0
Police Captain	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0			4.0
Police Lieutenant	4.0	5.0	3.0	1.0			13.0
Police Sergeant	7.0	16.0	5.0	3.0			31.0
Police Officer	14.0	92.0	38.0	21.0			165.0
Total Sworn	27.0	114.0	47.0	26.0			214.0
Civilian Support Staff	37.7	60.0	42.6	36.0	12.0	7.0	195.3
Overtime	3.5	19.7	2.8	2.7	0.2	0.2	29.1
Temporary	4.6	4.9	16.7	2.9	0.0	3.0	32.1
Totals by Division	72.8	198.6	109.1	67.6	12.2	10.2	470.5

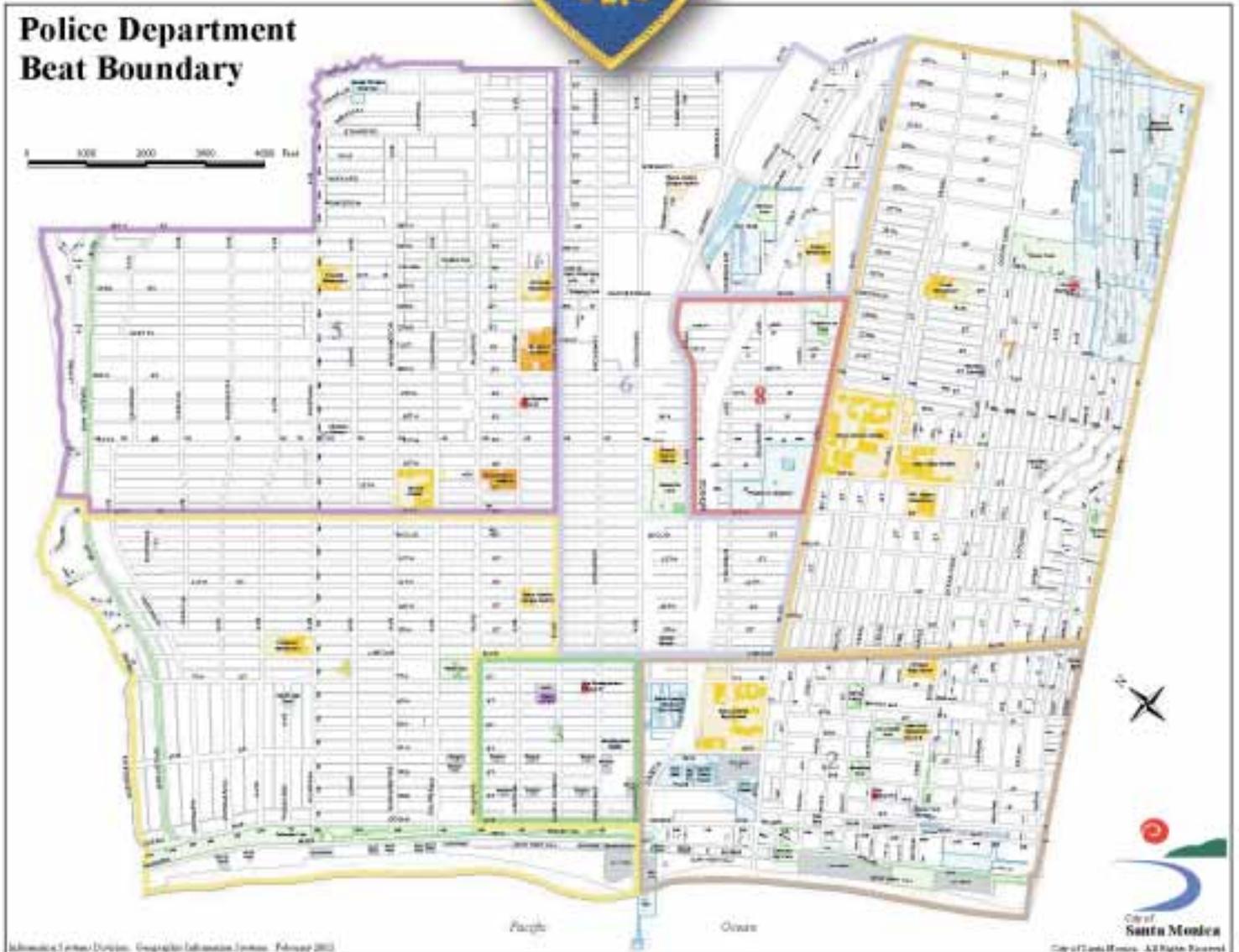


Public Inquiry Phones

POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC INQUIRY PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency	9-1-1	ONLY to report a bona fide police, fire or paramedic emergency
Non-emergency incident	458-8491	Request a non-emergency call for service, or have your call directed for information about a police service not listed here
Alarm Billing	458-8481	Inquire about fees charged for a police response to a false burglar alarm
Animal Control	458-8594	Report animal control violations, dog bites, animal welfare; Inquire about pet relinquishment and adoption, spay neutering, wild animal problems
Community Relations	458-8474	Enroll in a Citizen Academy; Inquire about police-community events
Crime Prevention	458-8473	Schedule training on crime avoidance and deterrence for community groups, businesses and households
Desk Officer	458-8495	General inquiry about enforcement of state law and municipal code violations
Employment	458-8413	Recorded information about becoming a Santa Monica Police Officer
Graffiti Hotline	458-2231	Link to Public Facilities Maintenance to request removal of graffiti from public property (private property if authorized by owner)
Jail	458-8482	Reach a person held in custody
Operations Office	458-8461	Hire a police officer for a film shoot or event security
Press Information Line	434-2650	Recorded press information
Property Room	458-8440	Inquire about lost or found items; Release of items held in evidence
Records	458-8431	Purchase copies of unrestricted crime and traffic accident reports, photos; Schedule fingerprinting services; Inquire about subpoena duces tecum
Traffic Services	458-2226	Inquire about parking enforcement, preferential parking, post-tow hearings

Or visit us at <http://santamonicapd.org/>



<http://santamonicapd.org>

On the Front Cover: "Night Watch." A Santa Monica Police Department patrol unit keeps a watchful eye on the safety of Pier visitors. Thanks to the Pier Restoration Corporation and to Pacific Park for their assistance and for permission to use images.