

# THE ROTATOR

The Newsletter for LAPD Reserve Officers



Volume 17

Winter 2015

## RESERVE RECRUITMENT RAMPS UP; SHAQ ON BOARD AS SPOKESPERSON: “LOOK WHAT YOU CAN DO ON THE WEEKEND”

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

The LAPD, with the help of the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation, is ramping up its reserve recruitment with efforts on a number of fronts. The LAPRF has announced that three-time NBA champion Shaquille O’Neal has graciously agreed to lend a hand, serving

as a spokesperson. Many of these efforts are in progress and subject to change, but this is the latest, at press time:

This focus on recruitment has been the goal of Lieutenant Darnell Davenport, who became Officer in Charge of the newly renamed Reserve

and Youth Services Section this year. Lieutenant Davenport began his law enforcement career in the 1980s as a reserve officer himself, when

*continued on pg 5*  
See “Reserve Recruitment Ramps Up”

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS UNIFIED RELAY ACROSS AMERICA



Reserve Officer Roger M. Sands carrying the torch during the Special Olympics Relay Across America, on the way to Los Angeles for the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games held July 25 through August 2. Welcoming 7,000 athletes and 3,000 coaches representing 177 countries, this was the largest event hosted by the city since the 1984 Olympic Games. See Officer Sands’ story and the Special Olympics photo gallery on page 10.

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# PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Message From the Co-Presidents of the Reserve Foundation

By Karla Ahmanson and Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

First, we sincerely wish you and your family happy and safe holidays, and we once again thank you for your invaluable service to our city.

As 2015 comes to a close, we would like to update you on some exciting and significant news about the Foundation and its efforts on behalf of the LAPD Reserve Corps. As you have probably heard by now, or will read in these pages, the Department is ramping up its recruitment of reserve candidates. This has been a primary goal of Lieutenant Darnell Davenport, who became Officer in Charge of the Reserve Section this year. As we all know, increasing the ranks of the Reserve Corps needs to be a focus in order to sustain the program in the long run. Details on the recruitment, and how the LAPRF

is supporting the effort, can be found in the cover story of this issue of *The Rotator*.

*Big news to announce:* We are honored and grateful that Shaquille O'Neal has graciously agreed to be the spokesperson for reserve recruitment, and to help out wherever he can as time permits. Karla has worked tirelessly over the last several months to bring him on board, and we thank Thomas Cetnar and his associates for being instrumental in helping us.

As we have said regarding our advocacy for the reserve program, "a foundation is only as strong as the cause that it represents." We are committed to making the LAPD Reserve Corps as strong as possible, and we feel that the circumstances are now in place to grow the Corps.

Regarding fundraising, it has been a busy year as well. Traditionally, the annual banquet has been our primary method of fundraising. While this may not change in the foreseeable future, we do want to reach out to donors in other ways, and expand our options and opportunities for fundraising. If you recall, we started this process by improving our presence in the philanthropic community with GuideStar and other resources. We are pleased to report that the LAPRF has been named a Top-Rated Nonprofit for the *second year in a row!* (For more information, see page 16.) We thank everyone who wrote a review and helped us provide the transparency that potential supporters look for in a charitable organization. To further our efforts, we are happy to be working with Rob Hollman at Rosinante Group Advisors, LLC, with his professional development experience and network.

We have added a third way for consumers to automatically donate to the Foundation while making their daily purchases: The LAPRF has been approved as a participating charity in the popular eScrip program. We thank Reserve Officer Eric Rose for the suggestion! We ask that you sign up and select the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation as your charity of choice. For more information, see page 17.

Of course, the other two ways for consumers to donate are Amazon Smile (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3900093>) and Ralphs Rewards ([www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com)). **Please note that Ralphs requires that you re-register your nonprofit of choice every year.** We have also set up a simple, direct way to donate at [www.laprf.org/donate](http://www.laprf.org/donate).

We continue to ramp up our funding support, especially as our fundraising success increases. An example of funding that is right in our wheelhouse was the purchasing of BDUs for HWD reserve officers working homeless details. The funding request stated: "This detail is an example of how LAPD reserve police officers can have a real impact on the community in which they work." The Area initially raised partial funds through the local boosters, and we thank Reserve Officer (and LAPRF Director) Bernard Khalili for his support as the LAPRF helped complete the acquisition of the BDUs for these officers.

In addition, we're pleased to announce the

## L.A. KINGS GAME ON MARCH 5: PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW; HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE LAPD RESERVE CORPS

Mark your calendar for March 5, 2016 — and get your tickets ASAP! For the first time, the LAPRF has acquired discounted tickets to an L.A. Kings hockey game, to raise funds for the LAPD Reserve Corps.

The LAPRF acquired approximately 100 tickets for the popular crosstown rivalry game against the Anaheim Ducks on Saturday, March 5, 2016, at 1 p.m. at the Staples Center. The discounted tickets will first be offered to members of the Reserve Corps, then opened up to the entire Department and finally to the general public, all on a first-come, first-served basis. LAPRF Co-President Karla Ahmanson worked with the Los Angeles Kings Hockey Club to bring this fun — and fundraising — event to the Corps. During the game, the LAPD will also have a reserve recruiting booth on the concourse.

All the tickets are in the same general area; however, some are more premium seats. There are 12 Level 100 tickets for \$162 per ticket, and 85 Level 200 tickets for \$137 each (\$28 off face value). To purchase your tickets

before they're gone, contact Paul Favero at [p\\_favero@msn.com](mailto:p_favero@msn.com) ©



Reserve Officer J.T. Alpaugh working the Mounted Unit near the Staples Center in 2014, when the L.A. Kings won the Stanley Cup for the second time. (Their first Stanley Cup was in 2012.)

LAPRF Scholarship Initiative. Active LAPD reserve officers and their children will be eligible for the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation Emeritus Scholarship, giving some financial assistance toward their academic goals (more details to follow). This initiative will join others — recruitment, equipment, training and education — as the Foundation continues to focus on funding needs. You are there for your community and the LAPRF is there for you, especially in cases of financial hardship and your welfare.

The LAPRF has acquired 99 discounted tickets to the Los Angeles Kings game on March 5, 2016. A portion of the proceeds will go to support our cause, the Reserve Corps! Please get your tickets ASAP; see page 2 for more details. The Kings will be playing their crosstown rival, the Anaheim

Ducks, and we are planning for a fun time promoting the reserve program. This is the first time this has been attempted, so it's a test — one we hope will be very successful. See you there!

Finally, save the date April 16, 2016, for the next Twice a Citizen banquet. The details are still preliminary, but we are shaking things up a bit to provide an exciting event with a few surprises. The venue will be the historic Avalon in Hollywood, and you definitely will not want to miss it. The cool 1920s-style nightclub, updated with state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment, will result in what we feel will be one of our best banquets.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we thank you and your families, and we wish you a great holiday and happy new year. We both had the opportunity to attend the L.A. Police Commission

meeting on September 15, and we witnessed firsthand the Department's support of the reserve program in the testimony to the Commission and to the public. Chief of Police Charlie Beck, Assistant Michel Moore, Deputy Chief William Murphy, Commander Patrick Smith and Lieutenant Davenport explained and defended the program to such an extent that there was no doubt about the message conveyed: that reserve officers are held to the same standards as all LAPD officers, should be held in the same regard, and deserve the gratitude and support of our City leaders for their commitment and service. In this, the LAPRF enthusiastically supports them — and you, our Los Angeles reserve police officers. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email us at [kahmanson@laprf.org](mailto:kahmanson@laprf.org) or [msellers@laprf.org](mailto:msellers@laprf.org). Be safe. 🇺🇸

# THE ROTATOR

The Newsletter for LAPD Reserve Officers  
[www.laprf.org](http://www.laprf.org)

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Editor-in-Chief  
 Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

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## OWB TASK FORCE



OWB Reserve Task Force at Venice Beach, Pacific Division, on Saturday, September 5, 2015

# OIC MESSAGE

By Lieutenant Darnell Davenport, Officer in Charge, Reserve and Youth Education Section

I want you all to know that what you do as a reserve officer matters. Whether you work in a patrol car, answer a telephone at the front desk, participate in a DUI task force or help in some other way, it matters. It plays a part in the overall success of a specific Department operation.

I want to take a moment to thank you for your hard work and your commitment to the Los Angeles Police Department. Your support has helped make the City of Angels safer and more appealing for the millions who live, work and visit here. During the first nine months of this year, reserve officers donated more than 59,000 hours. Clearly, the City has derived a financial benefit from your volunteer work. What is more important is something that cannot be counted: the number of lives you may have changed or saved.

The former Assistant Chief of the Office of Administrative Services (OAS) established the Reserve Committee. Today, that committee, in partnership with the current OAS Chief, the Department Reserve Coordinator, the Reserve and Youth Education Section, and the Police Reserve Foundation, is working to provide the leadership to take our program to the next level of policing. It is hoped that our program will serve as a model for other police agencies to replicate.

Because of the caliber of participants in these working groups, the daily operation of the reserve program has improved. That would not be the case without the commitment, creativity and high standards of each of the group participants and all of our stakeholders.

Today, I am proud to report that the reserve program is reaching the tipping point of growth and opportunity. The program is strong, and I hope you share my enthusiasm as we move strategically into the future. Here are just a few examples of our accomplishments from the past six months.

## Administrative

- A new stipend reimbursement procedure was established. The stipend of \$650 will be paid in July of each year to all reserve officers. Chaplain volunteers will receive \$130.
- A lateral reserve police officer program was established and implemented.

- A change in the Deployment Period System (DPS) was implemented. Local reserve organizations were established to increase the ability of all supervisors in a command to input reserve service hours into DPS without delay.
- The issuance of reserve officer badges and identification cards to full-time officers transitioning into the reserves was streamlined.

## Training

- A Reserve Police Officer Roll Call Training Schedule was established and disseminated.
- Regular and continuous monthly training of reserve coordinators was implemented to improve communications and overall management of area/divisional reserve programs.
- Weekend training opportunities were increased to ensure that reserves are able to obtain their Continuous Professional Training hours. Additionally, more weekend training opportunities emphasized training of Level III reserve officers to enhance their ability to perform more duties.
- A Reserve Officer Guidebook has been completed. It is in the review process and should be distributed in the next few months.

## Recruitment

- The Reserve Section and/or the Police Reserve Foundation met with various community organizations to recruit reserve officers: Wilshire Rotary Club, Los Angeles Veterans Collaborative, and students or instructors from various community colleges.
- A new reserve recruit class began in September, consisting of 14 recruits. This class is 62% larger than the last Module III class.
- The Police Reserve Foundation and the Reserve Section will recruit reserve officers on the concourse at Staples Center during a Los Angeles Kings game in March 2016.
- The Police Reserve Foundation reimbursed reserve recruit officers who were veterans

of the United States military or former students of Police Orientation Preparation Program (POPPS) who entered the September reserve recruit class.

- A new reserve recruitment video has been completed and is anticipated to be shown as a movie trailer in several area theaters.
- The Police Reserve Foundation purchased recruitment materials for future recruitment efforts.

We have actively listened and are responding to your concerns. Collectively, we've streamlined administrative processes, and it is hoped that we have improved reserve officer morale by making some much-needed changes. We recognized that we need to increase the size of the reserve program with new recruit officers. Part of this increase means bringing younger reserve officers into the program. Currently, 66% of our reserve officers are over 51 years of age and near retirement from the reserve program. We have also developed a pathway and reliable feeder pool into the reserve program for young adults and full-time officers transitioning into the program. We anticipate starting the first Module I Academy class in the spring of 2016. This will be the first Module I class since 2009. A Module III Academy class will start in March of next year and every July thereafter.

Reserve officers, I ask you to continue to be inspired by the work that you perform. Reflect on how, individually and collectively, you have changed lives, built relationships and made our communities safer. Let me assure you, *reserves count!*

As a former reserve officer, I understand the importance of volunteers and how organizations must support and appreciate them to create a culture where volunteers want to continue to contribute. In part, my job is to bridge the gaps that prevent the reserve program from reaching its greatest potential. The ability to effectively work with all stakeholders will create the synergy to take the Department as a whole through the 21st century.

Over the next few months, you will see the Reserve Section continue working to increase Department-wide investment in the reserves and community volunteers. Thank you again for your service. 🙏

## "RESERVE RECRUITMENT RAMPS UP" - CONTINUED FROM PG 1

the LAPD ran the combined/full-term classes — often a junior and senior class — each year.

A Level III class started in September with 14 LAPD reserve recruits, and Lieutenant Davenport wants to ramp this up by at least 30 recruits in a class beginning mid- to late next year. The training may resemble the combined and full-term structure in the '80s and '90s, in which Level I and Level III candidates enter training together, and Level I recruits continue on to the next modules without having to wait for another class to be scheduled, as has been the case during the last decade with the implementation of the state-mandated module program.

The plans are a major effort to reinvigorate the LAPD Reserve Corps and reverse its diminishing numbers. While the Los Angeles City Council originally authorized a force of 2,000 sworn reserve officers, the current count is less than 400. This is primarily the result of fewer reserve recruit Academy classes in recent years, coupled with ongoing retirements from the Corps.

LAPRF President Karla Ahmanson arranged to get Shaquille O'Neal on board. Mr. O'Neal was with the Los Angeles Lakers from 1996 to 2004, during which the team won three NBA Championships. He also won an Olympic gold medal with the 1996 U.S. "Dream Team III" in Atlanta. Mr. O'Neal has a long history of supporting law enforcement. He has served as a reserve police officer in several agencies, including the Port of Los Angeles. In 2000, he reimbursed the City for the loss of an LAPD shop, one of two police cars burned by fans. (The Lakers organization paid for the other vehicle.) As *The Rotator* went to press, efforts were underway to have Shaq

participate in several events to be announced, including a toy drive.

On Saturday, March 5, 2016, there will be a reserve recruitment booth during the Los Angeles Kings game at the Staples Center. The LAPRF acquired approximately 100 discounted tickets to help raise funds for the Reserve Corps. Officers, families and friends should get their tickets as soon as possible, before they sell out. (For more information, see page 2.)

Earlier this year, the "Look What You Can Do on the Weekend" campaign, which was used in the early 2000s, was dusted off and given a new, fresh face as a series of posts on the Foundation Facebook page. The posts, which feature pictures of LAPD reserve officers, encourage readers to

contact the Reserve Section and begin the process of joining the team. The medium gives potential candidates the chance to ask questions, and allows the Department to get a better understanding of the FAQs.

In addition, the LAPRF posted a high-quality video about the reserve program, produced by the Chief's Office for Reserve Appreciation Month in April 2015. In the video, Chief Charlie Beck recounts that it was 40 years ago this November when he became a reserve officer. In the original posting, the video was watched more than 13,000 times. During that month, standees of Reserve Officers Tim Whitmann and Rebecca Doten were placed in the PAB lobby, signifying their dual careers. Pictures of these standees — as

well as new standees featuring a couple of other officers — are now being used for the renewed recruitment campaign.

A new 50-second video has also been produced by the Department to serve as a public service announcement for participating media outlets, including selected movie theaters. Other efforts include a digital billboard campaign, placement of recruitment banners on LAPD buildings throughout the city, and the updating of online recruitment pages and links.

A recent LAPRF letter to donors said in part: "As this country's second largest city, Los Angeles needs at least 6,000 additional officers to equal New York Police Department's per-capita deployment. Because of this shortfall, our city has the reputation of being the most under-policed major city in America." In addition to "boots on the ground," reserve officers provide a vital bridge to the community and are, as Chief Beck has stated, "an example of community-based policing in its finest form." 🌐

**Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation**  
August 13 · 🌐

**LOOK WHAT YOU CAN DO ON THE WEEKEND!**

Have you thought about becoming a #LAPD Reserve Police Officer? Now is the time to take ACTION. The Dept. is scheduling classes. Join the team. Start the process today by calling the Reserve Section at 310-342-3160.

**CHALLENGE. EXCITEMENT. SERVICE.**

<http://join.laprf.org/>

LAPRF post dated August 13, 2015, seen by over 6,000 on Facebook

SEPTEMBER 15 AT PAB:

# IG'S REPORT TO POLICE COMMISSION; RESERVE COORDINATORS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

**O**n September 15, the heavy rain came early in the morning. KABC-TV reported: "In downtown Los Angeles, 2.39 inches of rain fell, breaking the previous record of 0.03 inches set in 1968.... The large amount of rainfall received in downtown Los Angeles made Tuesday the second-wettest day in September since 1877." It was a very wet day in what otherwise was a very dry year to date.

It would also be a very distinctive day for the LAPD Reserve Corps. A vortex of sorts was in the works with three meetings — two next door to each other that morning, and one later that evening.

## The Police Commission Meeting and the Inspector General's Report

The Los Angeles Police Commission was to hear the results of the Inspector General's report on the LAPD Reserve Corps. The Commission had tasked the IG with determining whether what had happened in Oklahoma on April 2 — when a 73-year-old Tulsa County sheriff's reserve deputy mistook his firearm for his Taser and fatally shot a man — could possibly happen in Los Angeles.

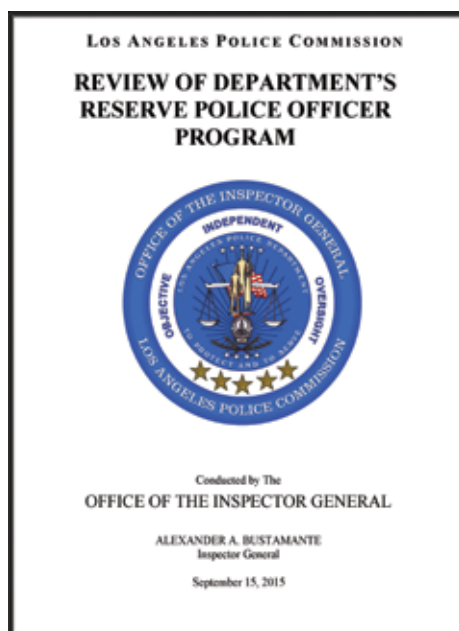
Police Commission meetings are usually held every Tuesday, in an auditorium on the first floor of PAB. Recently, these meetings have become rather lively with protestors and their public comments.

Each Tuesday, the Chief of Police presents his report to the Commission, a summary of city crime statistics, Department updates and other key issues. At 1:30 that morning, an LAPD officer in Sylmar had been hit by a vehicle, throwing the officer 30 feet. The Chief advised the Commission: "This morning in Mission Division one of our sergeants was struck by a vehicle while setting up a perimeter for a robbery suspect. I visited him in the hospital this morning. He's in good spirits. He has a broken leg, a number of staples in his head, but he will recover."

Under Personnel statistics, the Chief's report included 391 Levels I, II and III reserve officers; 372 specialist volunteers; and 61 chaplains.

Also at this meeting, the newest member of the Police Commission, Matthew M. Johnson, was elected President of the Commission.

The details of the meeting below are not so much chronological as an attempt to summarize



*The front cover of the Inspector General's Report on the LAPD Reserve Corps, which was on the agenda of the Los Angeles Police Commissioners meeting on September 15*

the main points in a clear, concise way. To ensure that the reporting is precise, *The Rotator* quotes from the meeting transcript.

The IG report on the LAPD reserve program (available at [www.lapdpolicy.com.lacity.org/091515/BPC\\_15-0283.pdf](http://www.lapdpolicy.com.lacity.org/091515/BPC_15-0283.pdf)) focused on service, training and deployment issues. It found that some officers had not fulfilled minimum service and training hours, or had failed to qualify. But it also found that there were no reserve OISs or other Categorical Uses of Force between January 2013 and March 2015. And it discussed "age-related deployment," in answer to the question about Oklahoma. In conclusion, the IG report made several recommendations based on the findings (see sidebar on page 7).

The report was published on the Friday before the Commission meeting. The *Los Angeles Times* posted an article on the same day with the headline: "LAPD watchdog raises concerns over training and oversight of reserve officers." The *Times* article focused on the "age-related deployment," highlighting the ages of a couple of officers working in Patrol.

In the meeting, Inspector General Alexander Bustamante clarified the purpose of the report, saying that it was not a criticism of the reserve program itself: "This report had nothing to do about whether or not reserves are important or essential to the Department, whether they work hard, whether they are meaningful with their impact in the Department or any of those things.... We think reserves are a fantastic part of LAPD and an essential one. That had nothing to do with the report.... The report was simply about: Are there better ways to ensure that the people that are in reserve capacity do what they're required to do, have the training that they're required to have?" Mr. Bustamante also clarified the issue of "age-related deployment." He said the goal was to find "an age-neutral way" to ensure that officers are physically capable of Patrol functions.

**Review of Department's Reserve Police Officer Program:** Deputy Chief William Murphy led the Department's presentation to the Commission. He was joined by Commander Patrick Smith and Lieutenant Darnell Davenport. At one point, Chief Murphy said that it was comparing "apples and oranges" to equate the LAPD reserve program with the one in Tulsa County.

In fact, news from Oklahoma, after the Commission had originally asked for the study, may have subsequently confirmed the differences in the two programs: On September 30, the *New York Times* reported that the Tulsa County reserve deputy "worked briefly as a [full-time] police officer in the 1960s, led the sheriff's last re-election campaign and had donated expensive equipment to the sheriff's office, including vehicles." While the conclusion inferred from the news regarding the Tulsa program may prove eventually to be inaccurate or incomplete, it has been reported periodically elsewhere that some auxiliary/reserve programs, in their various forms throughout the nation, have been used for political purposes. "We never would do that," Deputy Chief Murphy advised the Commission. "The Chief would never give his buddy a badge."

In the LAPD, Chief Murphy said: "Everybody who is going to be a reserve [has] to go through the Academy. They go through the same background standards that a regular officer does." He went on to describe the modular training of the different

levels and reiterated: “But make no mistake. This is POST-certified. All the testing that they do is the same as the [full-time] Academy.”

Later, Chief Beck told the Commission: “I get that there was a problem in other places, and there is a problem in other places because reserve status is used as a *quid pro quo*. It’s used as a political favor. We don’t do that here.”

**Service and Training:** The IG report noted the number of officers who had not met minimum service hours (for example, 38 had each reportedly served less than 50 hours in a recent one-year period). The report also acknowledged, however, that “there is little incentive to maintain accurate DPS entries, unlike full-time officers, where DPS entries control paycheck totals.”

For training, the report found that 31 officers each completed less than 10 CPT hours for a recent two-year period. The Commission was informed about the Department’s auditing efforts, and that reserve officers (Levels I and II) are held to the same standard in terms of CPT and perishable skills training.

A 10-hour use-of-force class is currently being planned, and reserve officers may be directed to attend it. The course would include six hours of perishable skills. Deputy Chief Murphy reminded the Commission that a lot of Department training is career-path-related; for example, reserve officers do not go to lieutenant or sergeant training.

**“Age-Related” Deployment:** The Department position was that age by itself must not be the determining factor. Deputy Chief Murphy told the commissioners: “They want to be police officers. If they can do the job, then that’s the key. I’d be uncomfortable with putting an age on something if they can do the job; if they can do those essential job functions.” One of the older reserves working Patrol, it was noted, was a retired full-time sergeant with many years of service.

Chief Beck said that older reserves almost exclusively work Admin assignments that they’re familiar with and fit in with. But he reminded the commissioners that all LAPD assignments are contingent on training and capabilities: “I mean, even if I go do a search warrant, I can’t just jump in with SWAT and tell them I’m going to lead the stick in — because I haven’t been trained that way for a long

time. And they can’t do that either. We make sure that they find jobs and niches that suit them. And I think the proof of that is in the results.”

**Firearms Qualification:** The report discussed the matter of FTQs, and the IG’s specific recommendation was that reserve officers with 30 or more years of service should have to qualify more than once a year with their primary firearm.

Deputy Chief Murphy responded: “We hold the reserves to the same standards as a [full-time] police officer. So depending upon how long you have on the job, you’re going to qualify at that particular level. The vast majority of our reserves, just like the vast majority of our officers, qualify four times a year with their handgun.”

Lieutenant Davenport added: “The qualification standards for our reserves are the exact same as for a regular officer. And if you look at the IG’s report ... it indicates that as far as our reserves are concerned, from January 2013 to 2015 there has been no reserve OISs or categorical uses of force involving reserves. So our reserves are performing at a level of expectation that we would have of any officer.”

Assistant Inspector General Kevin Rogan, whose office was responsible for the report, made his case for having reserves (with 30 years or more of service) qualify more: “I can understand, and we agree

*continued on pg 8*  
See “September 15 at PAB”

## IG REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Inspector General’s “Review of Department’s Reserve Police Officer Program,” discussed at the September 15 meeting of the L.A. Police Commission, concluded with the following recommendations. Commission approval of these recommendations, in whole or in part, was tabled, pending further information from the Department. Updates were not yet available at press time.

1. Regarding the issue that numerous reserves reportedly have not served the minimum required hours, the Department should:
  - a. Mandate that the Reserve Coordinator at each command account for each assigned reserve officers’ hours served and ensure that it is entered into DPS.
  - b. Modify DPS, as necessary, to consistently allow multiple superiors to view the service hours of any reserve, or create a separate reserve module within DPS.
  - c. Use COMPSTAT to monitor reserve service hours compliance by command.

2. The Department should address reserves who have not completed the minimum required CPT hours, possibly by using COMPSTAT to monitor compliance by command.
3. The Department should develop policy to address whether reserves may be deployed in field assignments without consideration of age or physical ability. For risk management purposes, COs should report reserve assignments to the Department Reserve Coordinator, who should maintain a database comparing training to assignment.
4. The Department should consider revising its firearms qualification policy to require all reserves to qualify at least semiannually, regardless of their total years of service.
5. The Department should update the Manual to reflect the current practice that the C/O of Police Sciences and Training Bureau is the Department Reserve Coordinator. ©

that the reserves provide a great service to the City. And we certainly want to give them the impression that they're valued members." But he said they are "different" in that they don't work as much, and thus are not as "familiar" with their firearms, or as practiced with tactics and other daily police procedures.

Of course, LAPD Level I reserve police officers have 24-hour peace officer status, and one can argue that these officers certainly have had 30 years of familiarity with their firearms off duty as well, the status of which comes with the same responsibility and tactics/perishable skills knowledge. This point was brought up by Chief Beck, who summed up his position on the matter: "Why would we treat a reserve officer who has gone through the same Academy I went through — when I was reserve — as you all know, I was a reserve. I know how hard it is to balance family, a regular job, and then do your reserve work. Why would we penalize a reserve that has gone through the exact same training as I do, who carries a gun every day, a Level I — he may not work every day, but he carries a gun every day, if they want to. Why would we penalize them? Why would we treat them different? Why do I want to take these 250 or so Level Is and tell them, 'You know, you need more scrutiny than I do?'"

The Chief was adamant about not singling out reserve officers on this matter: "We'll see what other data is out there, and we can bring it back, but at the Department macro level, and not just concentrate on our reserves and separate them out and tell them, 'You know, hey, thanks for going through the Academy for six months. Thanks for showing up for, you know, 24 days a year, but we're going to treat you different.'"

It should also be noted that in the weeks following this meeting, *The Rotator* heard a concern that the IG report did not clearly define the term or use of the phrase "failure to qualify," and that the Inspector General's staff unintentionally misinterpreted the item, through no fault of their own. The source stated: "In LAPD-speak the expression or use of the words 'failure to qualify' does not mean an officer [full-time or reserve] attempted to qualify but failed. It [usually] means that an officer never showed up to qualify as required. I think that is a big difference worth noting when considering a new policy regarding shooting proficiency."

**Reserve Motors:** Commissioner Robert Saltzman asked for information on the Reserve Motors, inquiring why only West Traffic Division had a unit.

Chief Beck replied: "I've been through motor school. Motors school is the hardest school in the Los Angeles Police Department. And every one of these reserves had to go through it. And, to find eight, that's pretty good.... They handle a lot of special events, things that would take our Motors away from their traffic enforcement duties and limit our ability to improve traffic safety in the city.... It was something that was created out of an enthusiasm."

He then asked Assistant Chief Michel Moore to provide some history on the Reserve Motors. Chief Moore said that the idea for the unit sprang up in 2004, and was evaluated: "We said, these officers would have to go through and understand the rigors of the Department's motorcycle program and have to maintain proficiency in the operation of a bike. We have very high standards on that. I remember it well because we said, let's start it at Davis, February of 2004, and someone said, what about rain? I said, not in California. And that month it was the rainiest month for six weeks that they had in like, seven or eight years. And they actually came up with rubber ducks as their mascot. But that team is really the remaining core team today. They are hardworking Level I reserves that transitioned to motor bikes, [and] have a love for it like motor officers have to have, and have remained persistent."

This author and LAPRF Co-President Karla Ahmanson were encouraged to speak during the public comment period. Here are excerpts of what was said:

LAPRF President Ahmanson: "I can tell you firsthand the extraordinary character of most of the men and women that participate in the reserve program. Can you imagine that somebody voluntarily would go through the kind of training that all these officers in this room have gone through — and you know how arduous it is. It's unbelievable — that they put their lives on the line for free?" She mentioned that the Chief of the Special Constabulary in Kent, England, visited Los Angeles in September as part of a research project to learn the LAPD's best practices for reserve law

enforcement programs. (*Editor's note: See article in the Summer 2015 issue.*) "LAPD's program is extraordinarily valuable for this city — monetarily, morally, community policing — the finest example of community policing there is."

LAPRF President Michael Sellars: "I've been a Los Angeles [reserve] police officer for 22, going on 23 years. And I'm as proud today as I was when I first started. You have to understand that the Reserve Corps has been around for almost 70 years. We've had three reserve officers killed in the line of duty.... These people are giving so much of themselves, in some cases their lives."

In the end, the Commission voted to table a decision on the IG recommendations until the Department presented its follow-up regarding the firearms qualification and other training questions.

The new reserve recruit Academy 9-15R was scheduled to begin that Saturday. Chief Beck suggested to the commissioners: "I would love for a commissioner representative to go and talk to the recruits — talk to a reserve class. You know, it is a huge commitment. I know being a commissioner is a huge commitment, but being a reserve — that might be even worse. I mean as far as putting time in, especially when you're going through the Academy. And to hear from you that you value them, as you've said, I think that would be significant."

### The Reserve Coordinators' Meeting

Meanwhile, across the hall, reserve coordinators from throughout the Department met with the Reserve and Youth Education Section (formerly named Reserve Officer Volunteer Unit) in the COMSAT Room.

The meeting served as an introduction to the program for those new to the position, as well as getting into the details of current issues and coordinator duties and procedures. New recruitment plans were described, which can be read in more detail in the cover story of this issue of *The Rotator*. Assistant Chief Moore provided a command perspective on the Reserve Corps.

Part of the agenda included:

- Lack of training and oversight (follow-up from IG report)
- The levels of reserves and what job duties each level can perform



- Full-time officers transitioning into reserves
- Divisional accountability
- Service hours
- Continuing professional training
- Inspector General review of the Department's reserve police officer program
- Options to address issues
- Meet with reserve and develop action plan
- Resignations
- Termination/complaint

The following was the list provided of a coordinator's duties:

- Ensure reserve police officers complete required service hours each Deployment Planning System (DPS)
- Ensure that service hours are entered into DPS
- Ensure that reserve police officers complete their continuing professional training hours
- Ensure that reserve police officers qualify
- Ensure upon resignation, separation or termination the return of Department-owned issue equipment
- Ensure that reserve officers attend monthly reserve meeting
- Verify that each reserve police officer has a POST certificate

### Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting


Later, at 6 p.m., up on the 10th Floor of PAB, Assistant Chief Moore hosted the Reserve Advisory Committee meeting. By then, several participants were tired and hungry, and Reserve Officer Eric Rose graciously provided a meal from Langer's Deli. The Committee was established last September to identify and discuss, on a regular basis going forward, the issues and challenges affecting the Reserve Corps and the specific concerns of LAPD reserve officers. *(Editor's note: See article in the Summer 2015 issue.)*

Much of the September 15 meeting was a debriefing of the Commission meeting and a summary of the Coordinators' meeting. Chief Moore emphasized the comments made by Chief Beck and the command staff at the Commission meeting, which should leave no doubt of the Department's position and its support of the reserve program.

Lieutenant Davenport updated the Committee on pending items. Recruitment and increasing the size of the Reserve Corps topped the agenda, and the lieutenant and his team have begun to implement this. The new reserve recruit class started in September, with 14 LAPD recruits (four of which were from the POPPs program). A much larger class is being planned for July 2016. Officers will be able to go through the modules at a much faster rate.

A goal is to provide more in-service training opportunities for all reserve levels, based upon reserve input. This includes a 12-month calendar that identifies training opportunities. The lieutenant mentioned that a lateral hiring and training process was approximately 90% complete.

Administratively, the notice for the new stipend procedure has been completed. This will change the stipends to being paid once a year, as previously reported. *(Editor's note: See Department Notices on page 16.)* A single messaging system for reserve officers, like Nixle, is being looked at.

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for November 17. There is a three-year maximum term for those appointed to the Committee. The current membership will be posted on the Chief's Web page under "Divisions and Sections" and under "Reserves." Suggestions can be submitted directly to committee members or via the Reserve and Youth Education Section, which will also contact the Committee members with suggestions. The reserve officer members of the inaugural Committee are Sharon Abbott, John Colello, David Cox, Mitchell Englander, Mel Kennedy, James Lombardi, Eric Rose, Michael Sellars, Randi Tahara and Drew Terenzini. 

## LAWFUL CONTACTS CARD DATED 6/2015



### LAWFUL CONTACTS

#### CONSENSUAL ENCOUNTERS

A consensual encounter includes only those situations where the conduct of the police would lead reasonable persons to believe he/she is free to leave or terminate the encounter. The officer must not restrain or exert any authority over the person.

#### DETENTIONS

A detention occurs when an officer restrains or asserts authority over an individual to such an extent that the person reasonably feels as though he/she cannot terminate the contact. An officer may restrain or assert authority over an individual when he/she has "reasonable suspicion" to believe the person has or is about to commit a crime. The officer must possess **specific and articulable facts** that lead an officer to reasonably believe that:

- Unusual activity has occurred, is occurring, or is about to occur;
  - The unusual activity is related to a crime;
  - The person to be detained is associated with the criminal activity.
- The person detained is **not** free to leave during a detention, which may last as long as reasonably necessary to investigate the reason for the detention. Reasonable force can be used to complete the investigation.

#### PATDOWN/FRISK SEARCHES

A **Patdown/Frisk Search** is not permitted during a lawful Detention, unless the officer **ALSO** believes the person may be **Armed or Dangerous**. Generalized "officer safety" concerns are not enough to support routine **Patdown/Frisk Searches** of detained persons. Officers must be able to articulate specific facts that lead them to believe that **this particular person** may be armed or dangerous.

**Patdown/Frisk Searches are permitted of a person's outer clothing for Weapons only.**

#### ARRESTS

A lawful arrest must be based upon **Probable Cause (PC)**; PC to arrest is defined as a set of facts that would cause a reasonable person to form an **Honest and Strong Belief** that the person to be arrested has committed a crime. A lawful arrest requires only a **Fair Probability** that the person committed a crime.

Both an Arrest and a Detention should be evaluated based upon the **Totality of the Circumstances**, including the officer's training and experience.

**For more information or for additional cards, please contact the LAPD Legal Training Unit at (310) 342-3075.**



6/2015

# 2015 SPECIAL OLYMPICS: THE UNIFIED RELAY ACROSS AMERICA

By Reserve Officer Roger M. Sands



When I first read the article about needing reserves for the Unified Relay Across America, I thought that it might be interesting to find out more about it. I learned that it was actually three relays across America, with northern, central and southern routes.



I contacted another reserve officer, Bob Aguirre, whom I have known for many years. I knew that he, like me, had the time to take part in this adventure. We both went to the orientation but were a little apprehensive, as there were still many unanswered questions.

In any event, after much speculation, Bob and I took on the challenge to see what it was all about. I have to be honest: I started out wanting to do this for selfish reasons — that I would get a free trip across the country, seeing cities I have never seen before. Our southern route was from Austin, Texas, through many towns, ending after three weeks in downtown Los Angeles. Little did I know that it would positively change my life forever!

It was a hardship being away from home, family and friends for so long — 18 cities and 15 hotels in 18 days. We visited Austin, Waco, Dallas, Fort Worth, Abilene, Lubbock, Amarillo, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Gallup, Glendale (Arizona), Phoenix and Riverside, as well as many



very small towns in between. Along the way I met wonderful people: law enforcement personnel, volunteers, supporters and many forever acquaintances. At the end of the day, I have to tell you that this was one of the best experiences I've ever had!

The most rewarding and satisfying experience was getting to know the Special Olympics participants and their families — families of all sizes, shapes, creeds and colors running along many miles from city to city and celebrating for the cause, the 2015 Special Olympics. Each family had a different, very poignant story to tell about why they were involved and how important this cause was to them.

I remember going through small towns before hitting the big cities, where families came out to thank us for coming to their little town and making the Special Olympics very special for the kids. In Happy, Texas, the entire town came out to show hospitality and support for the Special

Olympics and us. In reality, we were showing our support for them.

Some of our days were very long! Sometimes we had 14- and 15-hour days; at times we were up before the sun came up and finished after the sun had gone down. However, as we reached our destinations, just to see the smiles on the participants' faces, and how proud they were that they had made it to the next post, was very rewarding and felt very worthwhile!

We were donating our time while representing the Los Angeles Police Department and the Reserve Corps, with brand-new LAPD SUVs with flashing lights and sirens, driving alongside and supporting these wonderful people and taking an active part in this wonderful event. Personally, it has forever changed and humbled me in a way I didn't know was possible. I was honored to have been selected to be a part of this event; it was one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had in my 25 years as a Los Angeles reserve police officer. 🌟



# CRPOA JOINS LAWSUIT CHALLENGING LARGE-CAPACITY MAGAZINE BAN

The California Reserve Peace Officers Association (CRPOA) has joined 30 sheriffs and others in a lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles, challenging its ban on the possession of large-capacity magazines (magazines holding 11 rounds or more). In its announcement, dated October 25, the association said that CRPOA objects to the magazine ban on several grounds, and that the law has two major problems.

First, state law preempts local law with regard to the carrying of a concealed firearm by active and retired law enforcement officers. “Under the doctrine of preemption, local governments cannot ignore state law and pass measures on their own on the same substantive area of law,” said CRPOA. “The other major problem with the L.A. City ordinance is that its exemption for peace officers is poorly drafted and confusing. It provides that peace officers are exempt as long as they possess the large-capacity magazine ‘while acting within the scope of his or her duties.’... How that can be interpreted as anything other than in an on-duty capacity is beyond us.”

Jim René, general counsel for CRPOA, told *The Rotator* that “CRPOA strongly believes that the state legislature is the proper body to regulate firearms law, not towns, cities and counties, each of which would be free to legislate on their own if this ordinance is left intact. You could have tens if not hundreds of different laws throughout the state

on the same subject.” Furthermore, Mr. René noted that “a determination of whether possession of a large-capacity magazine is ‘within the scope of [an officer’s] duties’ is nearly impossible to make and gives no certainty to the off-duty officer when carrying a firearm with a large-capacity magazine.... In my view, every off-duty law enforcement officer in the state is at risk of arrest and prosecution with this ordinance, not just reserves. The ambiguous language applies equally to full-time officers too.”

In its emailed announcement, CRPOA acknowledged that the L.A. Public Safety Committee had approved, the previous week, amendments that “would specifically exempt reserve officers and LEOSA-eligible retired officers (provided they have a CCW or CCW endorsement) and made other changes to the ordinance.”

As the *Los Angeles Times* reported on the amendments in an article dated October 19, “Councilman Mitch Englander, who first made the proposal, called them ‘common sense’ rules that would ensure retired officers didn’t face criminal charges for holding on to the weapons they had been trained to use. Englander and Councilman Joe Buscaino emphasized that the exemptions would apply only to retired and reserve officers who were deemed ‘qualified’ under state or federal laws.”

The *Times* continued: “The Los Angeles Police Protective League said it was important for retired and reserve officers to be exempt as well so that

they could face down threats to public safety. Reserve officers ‘are highly trained people who go out there and put the same uniform on, drive in the same police cars, and run into the same situations,’ the protective league’s director, Peter Repovich, said. In the face of gun violence, Repovich added, ‘there’s nothing better than to have somebody pop up that they wouldn’t think was necessarily armed, ready to go and eliminate the threat.’ Buscaino echoed that argument, saying, ‘Heaven forbid, if this city were to be under attack, I would want retired and reserve officers who have the experience and the training to be allowed to protect the people of this city.’”

Overall, Councilmember Englander advised *The Rotator* that his goal with the proposed amendments was to ensure that full-time, reserve and all retired officers — including retired reserves — are exempted from this limitation on large-capacity magazines.

Councilmembers Englander and Buscaino and Officer Repovich serve as Board members of the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation (LAPRF). At the press time, the full Council had not yet voted on the amendments.

*Editor’s note:* As *The Rotator* went to press, a Department notice from Risk Management Legal Affairs Group was pending on the large-capacity magazine issue. Officers are encouraged to check the LAN for the notice and any subsequent updates. 🌐

## SAVE THE DATE! TWICE A CITIZEN BANQUET

April 16, 2016

Avalon Hollywood | [www.laprf.org](http://www.laprf.org)

# RESERVE TRAINING DAY

SEPTEMBER 26 AT DAVIS



# HANDLING TRAFFIC COLLISION INVESTIGATIONS

By Reserve Officer John Lee

**Y**ou receive a radio call of a three-vehicle crash and when you arrive, the scene pictured below is what's waiting for you.

Big crash? Not necessarily. Big wow factor? OK, I'll give you that.

What's the first thing you do? The same thing any first responder does: Check for injuries. Most of the time, but not always, FD is already there. Still, check for injuries and notify FD that they need to check any party you found who has injuries. If you arrive first, make sure FD is en route for injuries or fire hazards.

Next, secure the scene to prevent secondary crashes. Identify witnesses, since they are not required to stay and often will leave if the wait is too long. Their independent information can be the key to how the entire event happened. Secure each driver's operator license, insurance and registration. Keep the three items together. Having their documents ensures to some extent that they won't leave on you.

These are the key questions to ask each witness and driver, and answers that are typically given:

- Where were you? Answer: *Standing on the corner waiting to cross eastbound.* (Subject

to verification, this statement implies green light for north/south traffic.)

- Where were you going? (This question is used to verify that their destination is not behind them, or to identify some other conflicting information.)
- What did you see or hear? Answer: *I heard the silver truck honk the horn continuously for about five seconds.*
- What happened next? Answer: *I heard the crash and saw that the truck had hit the right side of the white SUV. The white SUV flew up in the air and landed on top of the blue car.*
- Did you happen to see what color your light was at the time of the crash? Answer: *It had turned green, but I wasn't going to cross. I went to see if I could help.* (Question further to get more precise information. This appears to be a red-light or unsafe left-turn violation. From the totality of the circumstances and statements, you might be able to determine which it is. At times, it's not possible to determine, but usually, the cause becomes clear.)

Things to remember: A big crash is nothing

more than several smaller crashes coming together. When you read the actual collision summary from this event, you'll see what I mean.

**Collision Summary:** *V1 (truck) S/B Sepulveda crossing Ohio collided with the rt side of V2 (SUV) negotiating left turn from N/B Sepulveda to W/B Ohio. Impact between V1 and V2 caused V2 to overturn and collide with V3 (sedan) stopped E/B Ohio in the left turn lane.*

That's all this crash was. Had it involved 30 cars, not three, the collision summary would just continue; e.g.: *V27 (Volvo) N/B Sepulveda #1 collided with rear of V28 (Ford) stopped N/B Sepulveda #1 lane. So, a multicar crash is simply a conglomeration of V1 hit V2, V2 hit V3, V3 hit V4 and so on.*

Curious what the injuries were in this spectacular crash pictured? The SUV driver suffered a cut, probably not even related to the crash itself, but sustained as he contacted sharp metal trying to climb out. No one was transported.

## Report Tips

Carry some CHP 555 Page 1, 2, 3. Just start completing the boxes. Some officers find it more convenient to use a steno pad to take notes, transferring them to the CHP 555 later. Your choice. The CHP 555 records party information for three parties. You can scissor the information needed for one party and tape that to your steno pad. That's your guide as to what info you need to get, *per vehicle*. Devote one steno pad page per party.

For witnesses: Name, DOB, address, phone. Some may be reluctant to give much personal info, so get what you can.

For passengers: On the steno page corresponding to the car they were in, get name, DOB, address, phone (if different), seating position (e.g., right rear), restraints (e.g., seat belt, child seat), injuries and LAFD paramedic serial numbers of personnel who treated the injuries.

You must issue 4.37 to each party. This is the information exchange that is required by law.

If you're still overwhelmed, periodically check for a clear T-unit to meet you. If I'm working, I'll be there! Take lots of your own photos. I recommend 10 photos per vehicle. Anything you missed (license plate number, car color, etc.) will then surely be in your 10 pictures. Once you've gathered



this information in rough note form, if you wish, head for the nearest traffic division. There's always a desk officer there who can help you knead your notes into a final report.

If you have a CHP 555 Page 2, out of the 100-plus checkboxes, choose the ones that apply. It's easy. Really, it is — easier than a multiple-choice quiz, because you already know the answers.

### Area of Impact

You need to identify each area of impact. Where did the impact(s) (X-Y coordinates) occur? This is always measured relative to two nearby curbs; for example, "25 feet east of the west curb, 10 feet south of the north curb." In English, this means the impact occurred in the intersection, 10 feet short of the north curb, and 25 feet short of the west curb. If you don't have a rollmeter, calibrate your own feet and remember that reading. Measure a 25-foot distance. Record how many paces heel to toe it takes you to cover the distance. The distance can later be computed in feet. Say it takes you 12 heel-to-toe paces to cover 25 feet. If at the scene, you pace out eight paces from the south curb and five paces from the west curb to the impact location, then the impact point is roughly 16 feet from one curb and 10 feet from the other. You'll need two measurements per impact (X-Y).

### At-Scene Tips

Don't risk a negative comment card — wear your Department-issued yellow safety vest. Assume there are video cameras with sound everywhere, because there are. In addition to the interview steps listed above, restoring the normal flow of traffic is also required. Typically, bandit tows are already at the scene, including bandit AAA tows. Since the involved parties are usually still in a hysterical daze and don't have the presence of mind to have already called for their own tow, those tows — including


unsummoned AAA tows — at scene are therefore unsolicited tows (a LAMC violation). This includes unsummoned AAA tows. Ask them the name of

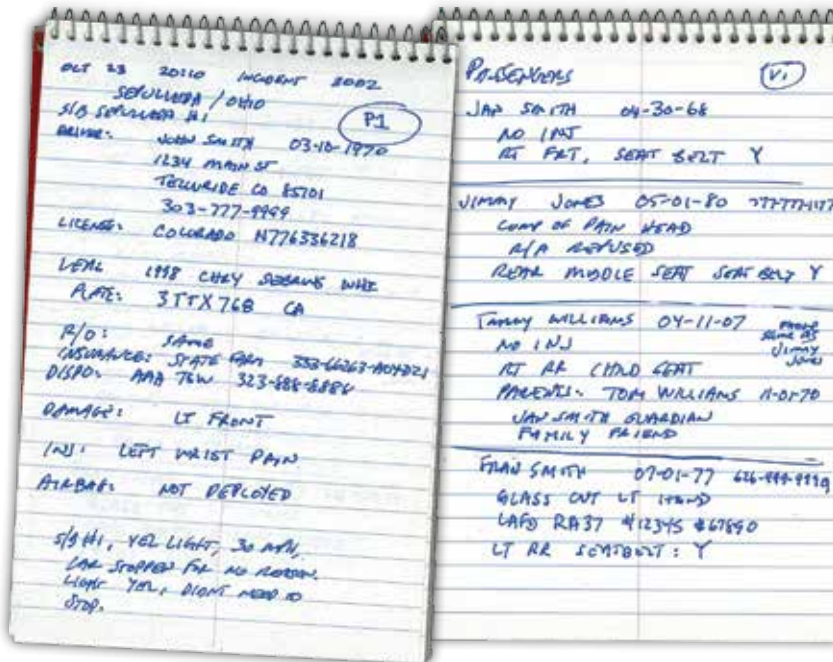
60 minutes, and they should sign for and use OPG tow. If they don't want to sign for OPG tow (signing means it's an owner's request, a non-impound), you

can assume police control over their vehicle and impound it under authority 22651(b) VC. Then the driver has no say in the matter. This will also cost them or their insurance \$100 more (impound release fee) than if they would have signed. You can also offer to call OPG. Tell the party whoever gets there first will get the tow. If they don't agree, you can again resort to 22651(b) VC. Usually OPG will arrive before the contract tow anyway, but if OPG is not first, OPG gets short-changed (they are responding to a police call, but with no benefit). For that reason, I only double-call sparingly. Sometimes I don't care. I want the road cleared as quickly as possible.

There's no policy outlining time limits. In practice, 30 minutes ETA is usually OK; 60 minutes is usually not. Besides, the parties themselves don't want to wait 60-plus minutes either, so the normal 25-minute ETA for OPG is mutually enticing.

Encourage all parties to take photos. Sometimes parties object to their car or themselves being photographed. With PD present, cooperation abounds. A party once complained to me that another party was taking pictures of her and her car. I explained that they're entitled to do so because they are an involved party, and also because she is in a public place. She still didn't like that. I finally told her, "Well, then, why don't you take pictures of him?" That answer satisfied her!

Reserve Officer John Lee (WTD) has conducted more than 2,500 crash investigations. He has attended over 300 hours of collision investigation training, including collision reconstruction. Officer Lee can be reached at lapdr2138@sbcglobal.net. 



Example of steno pad technique: Party 1 info. Back contains passenger info.

the party they are responding for. Shoo them away if the answer is wrong or if they otherwise interfere with your investigation. You can issue parking tickets to them for parking in the red zone to get your point across. They'll try to be your best buddy, offering to move cars out of the street even with no guarantee of getting a tow out of it ... this time. They do this hoping that at future scenes, you'll feel an obligation to allow them to gouge a frantic customer for a \$500 tow, or a "free" tow to a crooked body shop buddy.

Get AAA for those drivers who have AAA roadside and want to use it. Get OPG and start an impound if a driver got transported. Others may want to use their insurance company's tow service. Most insurance companies use contracted tows with ETAs of 60-plus minutes. You don't have to tolerate such a long ETA. Your obligation is restoring traffic flow and public safety. If you feel 60-plus minutes is unreasonable based on existing conditions, let the party know that it's not safe to wait

## DEPARTMENT NOTICES:

# ANNUAL STIPENDS REIMBURSEMENT; RESERVE HOURS NOW RECORDED IN DPS; NEWLY APPROVED UNIFORM ITEMS

On October 15, two notices were distributed making changes to the stipend reimbursement and how reserve officers' hours are recorded.

**Reserve Officer Stipend:** "The previous hourly-based payment procedure has been replaced with a one-time-per-year reimbursement. For the Fiscal Year (FY) beginning July 2015 and ending June 2016, reserve police officers will receive \$650. All future stipends will be issued at the end of each FY." Chaplain volunteers will receive \$130.

**Reserve Hours Now Recorded in DPS:** "Beginning Deployment Period (DP) 11, 2015, the Department's Deployment Planning System (DPS) Local Administrators must move all their reserves to the Reserves organization in DPS and shall grant access to reserve coordinators, timekeepers and all supervisors in their command." The notice explains that these changes will improve the recording of service hours by reserve officers, by being able to record the hours worked without delay. Reserve officers are reminded to make sure the Reserve Section and their coordinator has their correct and

up-to-date address information, to ensure accurate mailing of stipend checks.

On October 8, the Department distributed a notice to all concerned personnel that the Uniform Committee and the Chief of Police have approved several uniform and personal equipment items. The notice is on the LAN.

**Body Armor:** "Effective immediately, the Point Blank Alpha Elite AXIIIA and AXII-IAF Level IIIA concealable body armor with speed plate shall be the officially issued body armor" for the Department. "Department personnel who currently are issued concealable body armor that is not within six months of expiration will continue to wear their current vest until such time as the vest is no longer serviceable or reaches its ballistic expiration date. All Department personnel are encouraged to inspect their current issued body armor for expiration. If your body armor is expired, or will expire within the next six months, Department personnel shall report to Supply Division for fitting and replacement." The Department also approved the Paraclette SOST-500 Hard Armor Plate as a tactical vest.

**Polished Uniform Buttons Authorized:** "Department policy currently prohibits officers from polishing the buttons on Department uniforms. Many officers would opt to polish their buttons for wear on the Department uniform due to the professional appearance the highly polished buttons present. Therefore, the use of polished buttons with the Department uniform is now authorized." The Manual has been amended with these changes: "If the buttons are polished, they shall be maintained highly polished at all times. Silver-plated oxidized buttons *shall not* be combined with polished buttons on the same uniform or garment."

**Body Cameras:** This notice also approved the wearing of body cameras: "All body-worn cameras shall be worn as an attachment to a Department-approved uniform. The camera shall be worn forward-facing, worn mounted from the waist up, and on the outermost garment." Officers cannot alter their uniform "to accommodate the wearing" of the camera, and "only Department-approved attachments are authorized for mounting the camera." The notice concludes, "The Department will continue to evaluate the best practices regarding placement and wear of body-worn video devices." ☺

## LAPRF HONORED FOR SECOND YEAR AS TOP-RATED NONPROFIT

For the second year in a row, the LAPRF has been honored with a Top-Rated Award from GreatNonprofits, which announced: "Congratulations! The

Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation has earned a spot on the 2015 Top-Rated List! Your community has shared their inspiring stories about your work. We congratulate you on all of your

accomplishments. You'll be featured on our site, our 2015 Top-Rated List, and distributed to media and corporate foundations."

The Top-Rated Nonprofit Award was based on the large number of positive reviews that the Foundation received — reviews written by volunteers, donors and clients.

Last year, the LAPRF also earned the Gold Participation Level at the GuideStar Exchange, a directory of nonprofit organizations. As GuideStar stated, "This is a testament to your organization's commitment to data transparency." ☺





# LAPD PARTNERS WITH SUNSHINE KIDS FOR ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

By Reserve Officer Dave Bush

**O**n Thursday, September 24, 28 special Sunshine Kids were sworn in as Los Angeles police officers for the day, then rode in a Code 3 motorcade from the Sheraton Universal Hotel to Raleigh Studios in Hollywood.

The children, who are seriously ill with blood disorders and cancer, were in Los Angeles with their medical support team and local Sunshine Kids directors for the annual California Fun Time Fantasy Trip. This was our 10th year of supporting this great event!

LAPD Deputy Chief Bill Murphy was the master of ceremonies for the roll call and rooftop ceremony. Deputy Chief Murphy filled in for Assistant Chief Michel Moore and did a great job. This year, the Sunshine Kids were greeted on the rooftop and escorted on the red carpet to the podium area by Chief of Police Charlie Beck. The Chief greeted the Sunshine Kids, and the Deputy Chief began the ceremony.

As the kids walked on the red carpet, they were treated to special music by the LAPD Concert Band, directed by Dr. Don Holcomb. The LAPD has supported this event for the last five years and really adds a special touch. The Sunshine Kids received ID cards, Junior Police badges, gift bags,

Photo by Officer Joseph Orlanes



and quilts from the local chapter of Project Linus, then were treated to a special flyover by the LAPD Air Support Division.

At the end of the rooftop ceremony, the kids were escorted to the waiting black-and-white vehicles, with lights on, and the motorcade departed for Raleigh Studios. When the motorcade arrived, Chief Beck was there along with Deputy Chief Murphy to greet the kids and join them for lunch.

I want to thank all the command staff for supporting this event for 10 years. A special thanks to WTD and other full-time officers who have also supported this event for the past decade. We could not do this without their participation and support. This year the Community Relationship Division attended and supported the event. They will be coordinating it in the future.

I have left the best for last — to thank all the LAPD reserve police officers who have supported this event every year. Many of you have attended all 10 years, and truly it would not be possible without your support. As you all know, this is a life-changing event for every Sunshine Kid and their families. I have been honored to help coordinate every year, but it is you who have made this a model for other law enforcement agencies across this country that also work with the Sunshine Kids organization. 🙏

Photo by Reserve Officer Ali Bashar



## ANOTHER WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR LAPD RESERVE CORPS

**T**he LAPRF has signed up with eScrip, the popular program supporting nonprofits. When you shop with participating merchants, they give back to make a difference for the organizations you choose. Please go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) today to sign up and select the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation as your nonprofit to support. If you are *already* signed up, please add the Foundation!

### Sign Up

- It's free
- Support up to three schools or nonprofits
- Register store cards or credit/debit cards to earn

### Shop

- Shop online or locally
- Buy things you normally buy
- Dine out or book travel

### Earn

- Automatically earn for your causes
- Over \$400 million raised to date
- Shop with thousands of merchants who care!

Also, don't forget to support the Corps through Amazon Smile (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3900093>) and Ralphs Stores Rewards ([www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com); select the Los Angeles Police Foundation or charity #94438). Please note that Ralphs requires that you re-register your nonprofit of choice every year.

Thank you! 🙏

# KEEPING YOUR EDGE DURING DIFFICULT TIMES

By Reserve Officer Charlie Nicgorski

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times; it was the age of Internet enlightenment, it was the time of social media darkness. The Web could spread seeds of truth around the world and yet it could spread lies and evil intentions into every corner of society.” With apologies to Charles Dickens, this might be how his words would sound today. The age of Internet and social media has certainly changed the way most people gather their information. The old adage “Don’t believe everything you hear (or read)” has never been truer than it is today. This has had a chilling effect on law enforcement in particular, as we have noted by the overall tenor of the media’s reporting in general.

Most negative police stories in years past

stayed local, but now any negative story concerning police can go national. Of course, that exacerbates the narrative that police are rotten everywhere. In Oklahoma, when an off-duty reserve deputy saved the day by taking action against an extremist trying to behead his fellow employees, it did get good press. But the Oklahoma story of a 73-year-old reserve deputy’s shooting of a foot pursuit suspect, as he mistook his pistol for his Taser, doesn’t seem to go away. Even though similar tragedies have happened with full-time officers of all ages, the focus is on reserves. We all know that reserve programs across the nation vary from state to state. Many questions have come up about qualifications, training, age, etc. LAPD management has been

quick to defend our Reserve Corps. Chief Charlie Beck was adamant that he was not going to have his reserves jumping through hoops that the regulars don’t have to do. During a casual visit on a Saturday training day, Chief Beck was there to bolster our morale and let us know that as long as he is the Chief of Police, we will have his support. He encouraged us to contact him by email with concerns or questions, so that he is aware of our issues. As he said, he can’t help us if he doesn’t know our concerns. I have now heard Deputy Chief Bill Murphy — on three occasions — describe reserves as regular officers who happen to work part-time. I know every one of us is encouraged when we hear of this level of support.

## Qualification Schedule

| Cycle # | Qualification Cycle | Officers with Less Than 20 Years of Service | Officers with 20-29 Years of Service |
|---------|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1       | January             | Shotgun<br>Level III Exempt                 | Shotgun<br>Level III Exempt          |
| 2       | February/March      | Qualify<br>Duty Ammo                        | Qualify<br>Duty Ammo                 |
| 3       | April/May           | Qualify<br>Practice Ammo                    | None                                 |
| 4       | June/July           | Qualify<br>FOS                              | None                                 |
|         | August              | None  | None                                 |
| 5       | September/October   | Qualify<br>Practice Ammo                    | Qualify<br>Practice Ammo             |
| 6       | November/December   | Qualify<br>Practice Ammo                    | None                                 |

Officers with 30 years or more of service are required to qualify one time per calendar year at their convenience, during cycle 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6. Officers must qualify prior to the last week of handgun qualification cycles, unless exempted by their commanding officer. The last week of these cycles will be reserved for remediation and officers with the approved exemptions.

So what can we do to keep our edge during these difficult times?

In order to continue getting support from our command staff and the city as a whole, we do need to do our part. As you may have noted, the Reserve Section has been providing more training opportunities for us. We need to take advantage of this training. Some may be concerned with qualifying on firearms. Trust me, you are not alone. After working the range for 10 years, I can tell you that some officers, both full-time and reserve, get a little nervous when it comes time to qual. The good news is that the Firearms Unit is heavy with reserves, and we are always willing to take the time to help anyone wanting to fine-tune their skills. Would a weekend qualification geared toward reserves be helpful? If there is any interest in this, send

me an email at [R1174@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:R1174@lapd.lacity.org) and that might be something we could explore.

In conclusion, let's make this "the best of times" for our personal commitment to being the most professional reserve program in the nation. The haters are going to hate and will never go away. Focus on the good people, those thankful for law enforcement. I see more and more folks stepping up to show us their support — from great videos and comments online to leaving notes on our police cars. Keep in mind, too, our regular partners who appreciate our efforts and continued support. Stay positive even when it's easier to go negative. Think smart, think safety, think tactical, think positive PR in our dealings with the public. Above all, we must train to win the fight, both figuratively and literally. 🌐

**IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN ARTICLE FOR *THE ROTATOR*, OR WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, SEND US AN EMAIL AT [MichaelSellars@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MichaelSellars@sbcglobal.net).**

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE "SERIES 6" POLICE BADGES

It is the 75th anniversary of the famous Series 6 LAPD badge. Commemorative badges are available for purchase by active and honorably retired members of the Department. This badge was first issued in 1940.

Sun Badge Company in Ontario, California, is taking orders. The price is \$108 for the Policeman or Policewoman badge, or \$202 for one of each, shipping and taxes (in California) included. Sun Badge Company states that the prices are effective through July 31, 2016. The size is the same as the retired clip badge: 2 23/32" by 1 29/32".

Orders should be submitted on a Sun Badge Company order form, must include a photocopy of your LAPD ID front and back, and are subject to a sales agreement that the badge "shall at all times be maintained by the customer in compliance with all laws and Department policies." The Sun Badge phone number is (909) 930-1444. 🌐



## FROM TWITTER ON A RAINY DAY IN JULY



On July 18, West Bureau's Deputy Chief Beatrice Girmala (@LAPDGirmala) tweeted: "Dedication!! Now, two HWD Division tenured Reserve Ofcrrs wrkg in the rain. Thanks Ofcrrs Pillsbury and Jenner #lapd." 🌐



**LAPD RESERVE CORPS**  
In association with the  
**Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation**

Los Angeles Police Department  
Reserve Officer and Volunteer Unit  
Mail #996  
5651 W. Manchester Ave.  
Westchester, CA 90045

Presorted  
Standard Mail  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
Los Angeles CA  
Permit #12932

## IT'S NOW EASIER THAN EVER TO SUPPORT THE LAPD RESERVE CORPS

*The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation (LAPRF) provides financial support for the Reserve Corps, including reimbursement for training and officer safety equipment, event travel assistance, support for community events, and bereavement and emergency assistance to reserves and their families. Your donations deliver the resources to sponsor these causes and more.*

**GO TO [LAPRF.ORG/DONATE](http://LAPRF.ORG/DONATE)  
TO DONATE ONLINE TODAY!**

**Looking for more ways to help?** You can, while shopping at Ralphs and Amazon! Visit [LAPRF.org/donate](http://LAPRF.org/donate) for more details.

## Join the Team: Become a Los Angeles Reserve Police Officer

Start the process of becoming a **Los Angeles Police Department reserve officer** by attending an orientation at the City of Los Angeles Personnel Department.

For more information,  
call a recruiter at **(310) 342-3160**.

