

THE ROTATOR

The Newsletter for LAPD Reserve Officers



Volume 29

Winter 2021

SKIRBALL REOPENS: RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR/TWICE A CITIZEN GALA

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars (Retired)

After 28 months, the Skirball Cultural Center lights lit up once again. Opening the ceremony on September 18, with COVID-19 safety protocols in place, Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation Presidents Karla Ahmanson and Michael Sellars asked LAPD reserve police officers to stand. “It’s good to see everybody! If there was ever a time to honor our LAPD reserve officers and thank your families,

it’s times like these,” Sellars said. “2020 was a year many of us would like to forget. But adversity brings strength, and the Reserve Corps flexed its muscles,” Ahmanson said, introducing a video of a CBS Los Angeles news story about reserve officers on foot beat and working high-visibility patrol (see pages 18–27).

The Department Reserve Officer of the Year honor was awarded to two reserve officers this


year: Eileen Lomis (West Bureau, West Los Angeles Area) and Paul Strauss (South Bureau, Southwest Area). From their biographies:

Officer Strauss, practicing at Cedars-Sinai as a senior anesthesiologist, joined the LAPD Reserve Corps in 2017 to bring his medical experience and expertise to the streets. He took the initiative and presented Southwest Division with “Stop the Bleed” training — part of a national initiative designed to

continued on pg 4
See “Twice a Citizen Gala”



A ceremony was held on June 26 to dedicate a new memorial plaque for Reserve Officer Stuart Taira and a granite stone that bears the names of fallen LAPD reserve police officers. See story on page 30 and the larger version of this photo on page 33.



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Taira Plaque and Reserve Memorial Granite Dedicated

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Message From the Co-Presidents of the Reserve Foundation

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars (Retired) and Karla Ahmanson

With safety protocols in place, it was a pleasure to once again honor our twice-a-citizens in September.

While in 2020 the beautiful Skirball, like most of the city, had to be silent, the Reserve Corps remained on the job. Brave and dedicated: there is no better description for the Corps. Congratulations to our two Department Reserve Officers of the Year, Eileen Lomis and Paul Strauss!

We are grateful to our community honorees: Steve Soboroff, philanthropist and Los Angeles Police Commissioner, and Shemar Moore, producer and star of the CBS TV series *S.W.A.T.* Thank you for your commitment to the city we all love. Thank you to Chief of Police Michel Moore, Mark Thompson and Bill Ahmanson for co-hosting the evening, along with special guest Joe Mantegna.

Circumstances remain challenging, but the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation stays hard at work. We added a Tourniquet Initiative, Sam Browne-belt worn tourniquets supplied to our reserves that could be the difference between

life and death. The initial rollout went to officers working the field and in high-risk details. Thank you to Officer Mel Kennedy for managing the distribution. The BDU Grant Initiative reimbursed 78 officers, providing the wash-and-wear utility uniform during the pandemic. Several of our other initiatives, like our Legal Defense Plan Reimbursement and Scholarship, are needed more than ever!

More exciting news: A Reserve Exceptional Service ribbon, which can be worn by divisional reserve officers of the year, was approved by the Department's Uniform Committee. It was so wonderful to hand out these ribbons for the first time.

Thank you to Chief Moore, Assistant Chief Beatrice Girmala, director of the Office of Operations, and Commander Billy Brockway, the Department reserve coordinator, for their leadership. Thank you, Police Commission President William J. Briggs II, for helping us recognize the LAPD Reserve Corps. Thank you to the entire command staff and the Reserve Unit for their continued support of the reserve program. Thank you, Officers Johnny Gil and Rosheen



Rosenblum, for your continued dedication, and the reserve coordinators for everything you do for the Corps. On behalf of our Board of Directors, we wish you and your family the merriest and safest of holidays. Thank you for your service and be safe. 🍷

RESERVE ACADEMY CLASSES



Congratulations to Reserve Officer Level II Class 9-20R and Level I Class 1-21R!

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

By Commander Billy Brockway

When I was first selected as the Department reserve coordinator, I already knew each of our reserve officers gave selflessly of their time and expertise for the betterment of the community that we all serve. Now, being in this position for a few months, I am humbled and proud to serve each of you, as your sacrifices are an enduring testament of the dedication you have to this Department and to the City of Los Angeles.

In the last couple of months, we have all started to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. I personally requested our Reserve Corps to rally the troops and engage our community in high-profile extra patrols, and without exception, each and every time you have not only shown up, but have made a dramatic impact with the mission.



Commander Brockway, back row center, and Deputy Chief Blake Chow, front row center, with LAPD reserve officers during high-visibility patrol in Hollywood

We have been together for the graduation of the new Level 1 Academy graduates, Twice a Citizen gala and the Sunshine Kids event at Elysian Park. I have walked with you on Hollywood Boulevard and Venice Beach and heard much about you and hope to continue to learn more. I have come to have a renewed admiration for the truest sense of community service each and every one of you project on the Department we all respect.

I have heard you and understand how important continued training is, as well as quarterly reserve meetings, where I can personally keep

you updated on Department issues and can have direct feedback from you. Please never forget that I support each of you, and do not hesitate to contact me or my staff with any issues or questions you may have at 31035@lapd.online or at (213) 484-6633. Your work, self-sacrifice and immense contributions to our Department and the City are truly appreciated. I am humbled by your service and welcome the dedication and smiles you bring to work as reserve officers. I am proud of all of you and honored to be the Department reserve coordinator. 🍷

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www.laprf.org

Volume 29

Winter 2021

Editor-in-Chief
Reserve Officer Michael Sellars
(Retired)

The Rotator is published twice per year and is funded by the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation. Submissions, questions and comments for The Rotator can be sent to the Editor at msellars@laprf.org. Those interested in learning more about the LAPD Reserve Corps can contact the Reserve Unit at (213) 486-6000 or lapdreserves@lapd.lacity.org.



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Published by 911MEDIA®, a division of Trade News International, Inc.
Phone (818) 848-6397

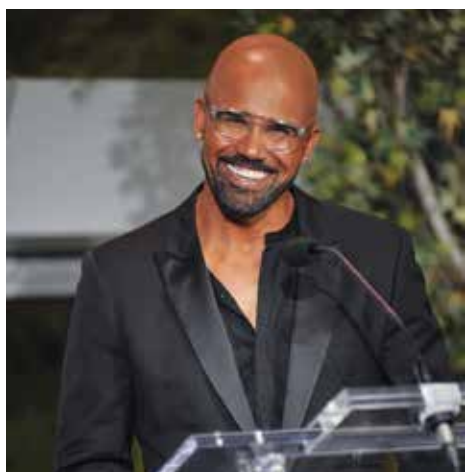


HAPPY RETIREMENT



A retirement barbecue was held for Reserve Officer Cheryl Gifis on July 15 at Valley Traffic Division. Officer Gifis served 31 years.

TWICE A CITIZEN GALA - CONTINUED FROM PG 1



Shemar Moore



Officer Eileen Lomis, Co-Department Reserve Officer of the Year



Officer Paul Strauss, Co-Department Reserve Officer of the Year



Rihanna and Steve Soboroff in the tweet that went viral in 2014



Chief Moore, Shemar Moore and Steve Soboroff with their LAPD wristbands

teach bleeding control techniques to first responders. Strauss has worked over 3,000 hours in a four-year span.

Officer Lomis handles a full detective caseload for Robbery/CAPS investigations and conducts follow-up investigations for assigned criminal cases, including criminal complaint interviews and the filing of those complaints. Lomis was recently assigned a

complex robbery case. She identified the suspects with forensic evidence and met with the reluctant victim, who positively identified the suspects. Locating the suspects in Nevada, she coordinated the arrest with Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, obtained the felony filings

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See "Twice a Citizen Gala"



Marilyn Tefank, Police Commission Executive Director Richard Tefank and Police Commission President William J. Briggs II



Officer Johnny Gil, Department Reserve Officers of the Year Eileen Lomis and Paul Strauss, LAPRF Presidents Michael Sellars and Karla Ahmanson, and Chief of Police Michel Moore



TWICE A CITIZEN GALA - CONTINUED FROM PG 4



and extradition arrest warrants, and returned them to Los Angeles.

The other bureau honorees were Central Bureau's Officer Carter Magnin (Central Area), Valley Bureau's Officer Carmen Silicato (Foothill Area), Specialized Division's Officer Stephen Greenwald (Air Support Division) and Traffic Group's Officer Ellen Kanda (Central Traffic Division). Biographies of the bureau honorees and a list of all the reserve officers of the year can be found on pages 12-15.

A list of officers awarded service year pins is on page 15. Forty-year service pins were awarded to Officers Cindy Benes, Richard Duran, Paul Favero, Steve Fazio, Philip Iki, Melvin Kennedy, Phillip Tingirides and Marc Zavala. A 45-year pin went to Officer James Miller.

Chief of Police Michel Moore served as honorary chair of the gala. He asked donors to "dig deep" into their pockets, "because this Foundation does do wonderful work for the 400-plus men and women who as volunteers work every shift with heart of commitment to service. This last year and a half has been like a time I don't think any of us have seen as Americans. But I'm particularly proud about the reserve program, which throughout the years has been dedicated to come and demonstrate their resolve to serve. We saw America stay home. We saw America protect itself ... But not with the reserves. Just like the rank and file of this organization, they come to work and they come to serve, no matter the



threat to their personal safety, and it's a show of the size of their heart that I am grateful for.

"So tonight, as we honor every reserve officer, whether it's an area, bureau or the entire city, know that I honor every reserve. You have my gratitude, my respect, and I'm grateful for your dedication. The wives, husbands, brothers, sisters, all the family members: you're also a part of this LAPD family, because it is your support of them that allows them to go out and do the job that they do for us, for the safety that we enjoy as Angelenos. God bless all of you and thank you for your generosity."

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See "Twice a Citizen Gala"



TWICE A CITIZEN GALA - CONTINUED FROM PG 7



Specialized Divisions Reserve Officers of the Year



West Bureau Reserve Officers of the Year



Central Bureau Reserve Officers of the Year



South Bureau Reserve Officers of the Year

For the first time, the newly authorized Exceptional Service ribbons for Reserve Officers of the Year were handed out to the honorees — area, bureau and department. The new ribbons were funded by the LAPRF and are available to all active and honorably retired reserve officers who have received the award during their career. The ribbons are one of several Foundation initiatives that Ahmanson and Sellars briefly described, along with BDUs, Scholarships, Legal Defense Subsidy, Tourniquets and the Reserve Memorial.

The Twice a Citizen community honorees were Steve Soboroff and Shemar Moore.¹

“Steve Soboroff has long been known as a business and civic leader, public servant and

philanthropist” in the city of Los Angeles. He “was a driving force in bringing the Staples Center to reality (keeping the Lakers and Kings downtown). ... Appointed to the Board of Police Commissioners by Mayor Eric Garcetti in August 2013, he has served two terms as president and remains on the Commission today. Among other projects, he was also instrumental in the funding of the first 600 body-worn cameras for the Los Angeles Police Department.”

“Shemar Moore is an award-winning actor, model, producer and philanthropist. Currently producing and starring in CBS’ hit TV show *S.W.A.T.*, he portrays a locally born (Special Weapons and Tactics) sergeant.” Previously, he

starred in the crime drama *Criminal Minds*. “In 1998, Shemar’s mother, Marilyn Wilson, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Since then, he has been committed to raising awareness about the disease and is a spokesperson for the National MS Society. He has participated in the annual Bike MS Ride from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles for the last nine years, raising donations for the cause.”

During the awards ceremony, Soboroff presented Moore and Chief Moore with blue wristbands. He told the audience about the time he gave Rihanna a wristband courtside at a Lakers game in 2014, a story that went viral after a selfie went wrong when the singer accidentally dropped



Valley Bureau Reserve Officers of the Year



Soboroff's cellphone, breaking it. Rihanna subsequently donated \$25,000.

The LAPD Honor Guard presented the colors to start the evening, with Officer Rosalind Curry singing the national anthem. She closed the night singing "God Bless America."

William J. Briggs II, the president of the Board of Police Commissioners, attended the gala. He wrote: "My fellow police commissioners and I thank each and every one of the reserve officers for the brave, unselfish commitments you make each day to serve and protect your communities. You are an outstanding representation of law enforcement, and real heroes for the city of Los Angeles."

"The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation would like to thank all of the donors and supporters, including the Ahmanson Foundation, Steve Soboroff, Gary and Linda Goldfein, Tom and Judy Flesh, Mark Brooks, Macerich, Steve and Alice Yslas, MUFG Union Bank, Ambassador Frank and Kathy Baxter, John Moriarty — Industry Securities Services (ISS), Lori and Michael Milken, Patricia Glaser/Glaser Weil, Ron and Teri Kurstin, Bernard Khalili, Evan Meyer and Taylor Van, L.A. Police Command Officers Association, Warren Dern, Hon. Joe Buscaino, Los Angeles Police Protective League, Eddie Cunningham — SDS Media, Roger Andrews, Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union, Rick and Debbie Powell, George Phillips — Phillips Law, Donna and Greg Econn, Anissa and Paul Balson, East West Bank, 911MEDIA, Ted Sarandos and Nicole Avant, The Parker Foundation, Ginny and David Sydorick, Peter and Merle Mullin, Ashley and David Frandzel/Mid-West Wholesale Lighting Corporation, Los Angeles Police Academy Magnet School, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Paul Tosetti — Latham & Watkins, Mark White, Paramount, Patricia and Ken McKenna, Beckmen Vineyards, Edward Ines, Steve and Nicole Fazio, Vin and Erica DiBona, Dave Swartz, Aileen Adams, Majestic Realty, Jim Sarni —



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See "Twice a Citizen Gala"

TWICE A CITIZEN GALA - CONTINUED FROM PG 9



Officer Rosalind Curry singing the national anthem



Payden & Rygel Investment Management, Michele and Patrick Thibiant, Scott and Michelle McMullin, Tina Marie and Dennis Ito, Peter Hyan and Merrill Lynch Investments and more.

“The top auction donors: KPMG, Elite Island Resorts, Jeffrey Lehman/KB Collections, Capri Jewelers, Center Theatre Group, Kali Restaurant, Somper Furs, Hyman Inc., Petersen Automotive Museum, Front Sight Firearms Training Institute and Melvin Kennedy, Wyland, Eddie and Sue Cunningham, Electra Lang and so many more — we thank you for your support!”

The evening was coordinated by Scherr Lillico and her team at The Proper Image Events.

The next Reserve Officer of the Year/ Twice a Citizen gala is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 2022, at the Skirball Cultural Center. 🌐

BUS BENCH RECRUITMENT



As part of its reserve recruitment initiative, the LAPRF continued to place bus benches throughout the city. When you spot one, send us a picture at msellers@laprf.org.

¹ Biographical excerpts below from the 2021 Twice a Citizen gala journal, pages 9 and 11.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Olympic Area reserve police officers working and celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with Comunidades Hispanoamericanas Unidas Los Angeles (C.H.U.L.A.). Reserve Officer Jose DeLeon presented a certificate of gratitude to El Salvador's Vice President Félix Ulloa Jr.

LAPD RESERVE OFFICERS OF THE YEAR FOR 2021

TRAFFIC GROUP RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: ELLEN KANDA

Reserve Police Officer III Ellen Kanda's tenure with the Los Angeles Police Department began in 1988, when she started as a reserve officer assigned to Central Division. In the 32 years she has been with the Department, she has gained a wide variety of experience — having worked with the Cruiser Gang Task Force, the Department of Transportation Bandit Taxi Cab Detail and every "COPS 4 TOTS" Car Show, and as an advisor for the Hollenbeck Explorers.

During this past year, Officer Kanda could be counted on to regularly attend the CTD reserve officers' monthly meetings and assist with many of the sobriety checkpoints and pedestrian crosswalk details CTD held each month. Officer Kanda attended all training days and field enforcement days. She has been, and continues to be, an indispensable leader for CTD and the Department.

She consistently demonstrates a superior work ethic, and genuinely cares for the City of Los Angeles and its community members. She is equally concerned for her fellow police officers. Her leadership talents and dedication have helped to contribute to the overall effectiveness, productivity and esprit de corps of the reserve officer program at CTD.

It is with great pride, and distinct honor, that Central Traffic Division selects Reserve Police Officer Ellen Kanda as the 2021 Central Traffic Division Reserve Officer of the Year.



VALLEY BUREAU RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: CARMEN SILICATO

Reserve Police Officer I Carmen Silicato began his career at Foothill Division in 1981 and has remained in this Division for almost 40 years. In his "other" career, he owns and operates a local pharmacy.

His proactiveness and passion for traffic enforcement have been critical in reducing traffic-related incidents. His mission includes educating the public, enforcing vehicle code violations, and preventing traffic collisions and casualties. He routinely works past his required hours, citing an average of 10 speeding violations per shift on a consistent basis. Always the first to volunteer for any assignment, Silicato assisted in planning, coordinating and carrying out the first ever Volunteer Traffic Awareness Task Force in Foothill Area, consisting of Volunteer Community Patrols, Valley Traffic Division and reserve officers from throughout the Valley Bureau. Volunteers utilized radar guns to track speeding, and violators were then stopped and either warned or cited. As soon as Department activities resumed from COVID-19 protocols, he returned to conducting traffic enforcement within the Division.

Officer Silicato is passionate about his duties and providing quality service to our communities.

For the past 24 years, he has been involved in, and looks forward to, visiting Children's Hospital of Los Angeles with other reserve officers to bring cheer and smiles to hundreds of children battling cancer and blood disorders.

Silicato's exemplary work ethic has led to him receiving numerous commendations through the years for top performance, professionalism and courtesy. His passion, devotion and perseverance in 2020 should be commended, and we take great pride in nominating Reserve Police Officer Carmen Silicato as our Reserve of the Year.



SPECIALIZED DIVISIONS RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: STEPHEN “MIKE” GREENWALD

Reserve Police Officer IIIA Stephen “Mike” Greenwald was nominated by Air Support Division (ASD). He has been a member of the Los Angeles Police Department for 31 years and currently serves as the ASD assistant reserve coordinator.

During 2020, Officer Greenwald distinguished himself by working over 250 hours as a Tower Operator. Additionally, he supports the City’s Personnel Department in its police recruitment meetings twice a week for civilians interested in joining the Department reserve officer workforce.

In his professional career, Greenwald serves as an account manager for Alta Dena Dairy, and he is also a very active member of his community, including local neighborhood councils and associations.

Each year, Officer Greenwald is involved in the planning and execution of one of the most important ASD events, the Southern California Public Safety Aviation Coordination Exercise. His early involvement, organization and understanding of what’s required to coordinate the acquisition of food and associated supplies ensures the success of the exercise, which is designed to test the operational capability of regional public safety aviation units in transporting personnel in and out of Hooper Memorial Heliport. The six-hour emergency aerial exercise involves the coordination of over 250 helicopter arrivals and departures and the hosting of over 600 participants, including local VIPs and LAPD command staff.

As a divisional assistant reserve coordinator, Officer Greenwald assists with the coordination of meetings and ensures ASD reserves are updated regarding training. His attention to duty is exemplary and represents his staunch commitment to serve the Los Angeles Police Department. Air Support Division is proud to select Officer Greenwald as our 2021 Reserve Officer of the Year.



SOUTH BUREAU RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: PAUL STRAUSS

Reserve Police Officer I Paul Strauss was raised on the East Coast, pursued a career in the medical field and then made the decision to move to Los Angeles for the weather and a practice at Cedars-Sinai as a senior anesthesiologist.

Officer Strauss joined the Los Angeles Police Department Reserve Corps in 2017 to bring his medical experience and expertise to the streets directly and indirectly. He was first assigned to Hollywood Division and transferred to Southwest Division in 2018, where he has worked assignments in Patrol, Vice and Narcotics.

He has also taken the initiative and presented Southwest Division with a “Stop the Bleed” training — part of a national initiative designed to teach bleeding control techniques to first responders involved in mass casualty or active-shooter events. Strauss has been able to apply real-world experience and stress the importance of proper techniques to save a life, while emphasizing that it is a first responder’s duty and responsibility to act quickly to care for the citizens of Los Angeles.

Officer Strauss’ full-time career and other personal commitments have not prevented him from volunteering time and energy to the Southwest Area. Giving a constant two days a week or more, depending on his primary work schedule, Strauss has volunteered over 3,000 hours in a four-year span. During the civil unrest and COVID-19 pandemic, he continued to participate in many details, all the while staying committed to his duties at the hospital.

Reserve Officer Strauss has developed a continuing series of relatable videos for the Department website about the health and wellness of our officers, and has also expanded his training efforts to assist several other Department entities. Reserve Officer Strauss should be recognized for his motivation, excellent teamwork, professionalism and work ethic during his assignments to Southwest. He is truly “Twice a Citizen”!



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CENTRAL BUREAU RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: CARTER MAGNIN

Central Area is proud to select Reserve Police Officer Carter Magnin as our Reserve Officer of the Year. Officer Magnin has been a reserve police officer with the Department for 13 years. He began his career as a Level IIIA Reserve Officer and with commitment rose through the ranks to become a Level I Reserve Officer.

A native of California, RPO Magnin attended USC, where he received his degree in political science. Not pursuing this field, he became a commercial real estate broker instead. Although that was a noble profession, Officer Magnin felt he wanted to “give back” to the community and become a Los Angeles Police reserve officer.

He joined the Department in 2008, and his first assignment was Hollywood. He transferred to Central Area in 2010, where he has remained. Officer Magnin has worked both Patrol and foot beat assignments in Central Area, especially within the boundaries of Skid Row, where he has interacted with and provided service to numerous citizens experiencing homelessness over the years. He has distinguished himself as a peer leader and quickly assumed a leadership role within the Central Area Reserve Unit. He assists in communicating with all reserve officers assigned to our division, which includes Department Mandates as well as work details requested by the Officer-in-Charge of the Community Relations Office. Officer Magnin also leads the monthly reserve officer meetings and provides or arranges training on various subjects.

Officer Magnin is consistently one of the first to volunteer for a detail or assignment and has been a consistent and dedicated asset to the Downtown Los Angeles community. His work ethic and the countless hours he volunteers truly highlight the meaning of “Distinguished Service.”



WEST BUREAU RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: EILEEN LOMIS

Operations-West Bureau is honored to nominate Reserve Police Officer III Eileen Lomis from West Los Angeles Area as our Reserve Officer of the Year for 2020.

Starting as a volunteer in the Detective Division in 2018, Officer Lomis was quickly drawn to the investigative nature of the work and began taking on more challenging tasks. She soon applied to become a Los Angeles reserve police officer. On January 4, 2019, Officer Lomis graduated the Police Reserve Academy and has been functioning at the level of a police detective ever since.

Officer Lomis now handles a full detective caseload for Robbery/CAPS investigations and conducts follow-up investigations for assigned criminal cases, including criminal complaint interviews and the filing of those complaints. Officer Lomis was recently assigned a complex robbery case where the victim had been shot at during the commission of the crime. She identified the suspects with forensic evidence and met with the reluctant victim, who positively identified the suspects. Locating the suspects in Nevada, she coordinated the arrest with Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, obtained the felony filings and extradition arrest warrants, and returned them to Los Angeles.

Officer Lomis is dedicated, self-motivated and a tremendous asset to West Los Angeles Detectives. She is an unbelievable investigator and clearly an exemplary representative of the Reserve Corps.

Reserve Officer Lomis volunteers long hours and is always available to assist her partners with their investigations. She keeps a global perspective when planning, making decisions and responding to daily developments in the workplace. Officer Lomis has shown extreme dedication and great results, and has been crucial in reducing the fear and incidents of crime in the communities of West L.A. ©



TWICE A CITIZEN HONOREES

Department Reserve Officers of the Year

Eileen Lomis – *West Bureau*
Paul Strauss – *South Bureau*

Community Leaders Honored Twice a Citizen Award

Steve Soboroff – *Philanthropist and Los Angeles Police Commissioner*
Shemar Moore – *Producer, Actor (S.W.A.T.) and Community Leader*

Bureau Reserve Officers of the Year

Paul Strauss – *South Bureau*
Carter Magnin – *Central Bureau*
Carmen Silicato – *Valley Bureau*

Eileen Lomis – *West Bureau*
Stephen Greenwald – *Specialized Divisions*
Ellen Kanda – *Traffic Group*

Area and Divisional Reserve Officers of the Year

RPO I Eduardo Cuevas – *77th Street Area*
RPO II Lawrence Sam – *Harbor Area*
RPO I Paul Strauss – *Southwest Area*
RPO I Carter Magnin – *Central Area*
Chaplain Agustin Sahagun – *Hollenbeck Area*
RPO I Daniel Stephens – *Newton Area*
RPO III Sarah Novak – *Northeast Area*
RPO IIIA Virginia Hernandez-Gonzalez – *Rampart Area*
RPO IIIA David Bush – *Devonshire Area*
RPO I Carmen Silicato – *Foothill Area*
RPO I Joseph Avalos – *Mission Area*
RPO III Peter Feldman – *North Hollywood Area*
RPO I Pheap Chev – *Topanga Area*
RPO IIIA Rory Holdstock – *Van Nuys Area*
RPO I Joseph Robinson – *West Valley Area*
RPO I Bernard Khalili – *Hollywood Area*

RPO I Trevor Ingold – *Hollywood Area*
RPO I William Ahmanson – *Olympic Area*
RPO I Ryan Matsui – *Pacific Area*
RPO III Eileen Lomis – *West Los Angeles Area*
RPO III Nicholas Osborne – *Wilshire Area*
RPO IIIA Stephen Greenwald – *Air Support Division*
RPO I Marc Zavala – *Commercial Crimes Division*
RPO I Kenji Inaba – *Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau*
RPO I Michael Goodman – *Detective Support and Vice Division*
RPO I Marie Brindle – *Detective Support and Vice Division*
RPO I Ronnie Gildner-Kersher – *Juvenile Division*
RPO I Greig Smith – *Robbery-Homicide Division*
RPO III Ellen Kanda – *Central Traffic Division*
RPO II Jim Flores – *Valley Traffic Division*
RPO I Jacquelyn Frazier – *West Traffic Division*

Officers Receiving Service Pins

20 Years

Peter Feldman
Gary Kennedy
Domingo Mairena
Daniel Stephens
Wendy Wollin Tung

25 Years

Roger Andrews
Gregory Canino
James Hammond
Matthew Mottola

30 Years

Sharon Abbot
Evanury Arocho
Frank Carmello
John Colello
Armando Flores
Stephen Greenwald
Marco Jimenez
Sandra Jones
Gary Loo
Steve Unanian

35 Years

John Bravakis
Baxter Duke
Catherine Euler
Michael French
Alton Jones

40 Years

Cindy Benes
Richard Duran
Paul Favero
Steve Fazio
Philip Iki
Melvin Kennedy
Phillip Tingirides
Marc Zavala

45 Years

James Miller

A GLIMPSE OF RESERVE CORPS HISTORY

The LAPD Reserve Corps has a long, distinguished history, much of which is still to be documented. The Corps became an official part of the Department in 1947. These pictures from the late 1940s and early 1950s are from the files of retired Sergeant Bob Kellar, who ran reserve training for many years. Thank you, Sergeant Kellar! 🙏



Los Angeles Police Department

Citation of Appreciation and Commendation



WILLIAM O. JACOBSEN

In recognition of Meritorious Service to the Citizens of Los Angeles and to the Los Angeles Police Department, in that he has faithfully served this city and this department as a volunteer member of the Los Angeles Police Reserve Corps, from JAN. 1, 1949 to October 16, 1953.

Now, therefore, having resigned with honor from the Los Angeles Police Reserve Corps, this Certificate is tendered as an expression of the appreciation of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Given under my hand and seal this
18 day of NOVEMBER 1953

W. H. Parker
Chief of Police



PURPLE HEART AWARDED

Officer Frank Pettinato underwent surgery but still carries most of the 44 pellets. He returned to duty after six months and has 50 years of combined service as a (full-time) officer and as a reserve officer.”

Reserve Officer Pettinato received the Purple Heart at this year’s Above and Beyond Awards on September 23 for an incident in 1968 when, as a full-time officer, he attempted to capture a suspect who had shot a fellow officer. In the Summer 2019

issue of *The Rotator*, Reserve Officer Charlie Nicgorski documented the story in the article titled “Heroes Who Walk Among Us.” Retired full-time Officer Richard Harsma also received the Purple Heart for the incident. ©



Officer Pettinato, front row, third from left. On his left is the daughter of Officer Harsma, who accepted the award on her father’s behalf, who was unable to attend.

2021 RESERVE HIGH-VISIBILITY PATROL, FOOT BEATS

In the latter part of 2021, the LAPD implemented several reserve officer high-visibility patrol details, particularly foot beats, focusing on locations that have seen a rise in robberies, such as the Melrose corridor in the Hollywood and Wilshire areas. While the number of robberies has remained flat in the city compared to last year, there has been an 18% increase in robberies involving guns,¹ including brazen midday robberies of businesses and their customers.

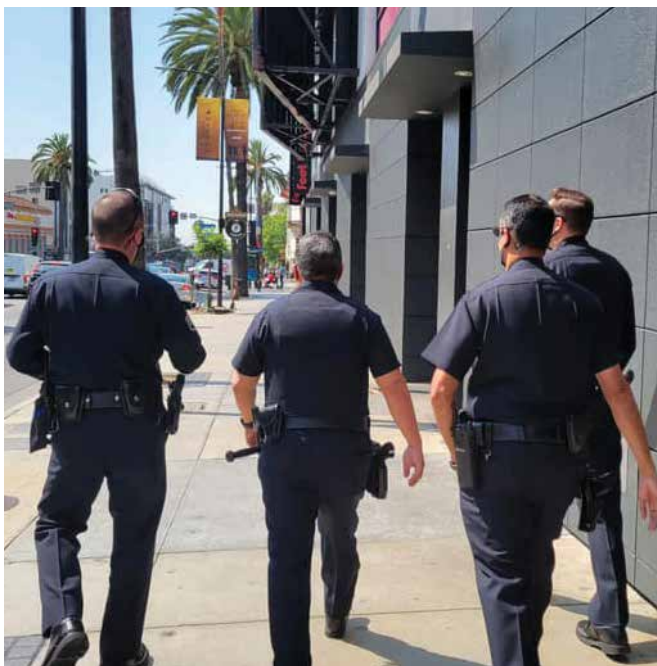
A key part of these task forces has been to connect with the community and to engage with business owners and others. Leading these efforts has been Deputy Chief Blake Chow and Commander Billy Brockway.

On August 13, 14 LAPD reserve officers from several divisions worked a task force in Hollywood Area, focusing on Hollywood Boulevard. CBS Los Angeles reported, “LAPD is showing off its presence on the streets of Hollywood,” noting that the

officers were reserve officers, and the Department says they “are the exact bridge this community needs during an unprecedented time.” Deputy Chief Chow noted, “They come from all walks of life.” Reserve Motors were also on scene.

The Melrose corridor was the focus of a reserve detail in Wilshire Area on August 23.

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See “Reserve High-Visibility Patrol”





RESERVE HIGH-VISIBILITY PATROL - CONTINUED FROM PG 19





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See "Reserve High-Visibility Patrol"

RESERVE HIGH-VISIBILITY PATROL - CONTINUED FROM PG 21





continued on pg 24
See "Reserve High-Visibility Patrol"

RESERVE HIGH-VISIBILITY PATROL - CONTINUED FROM PG 23

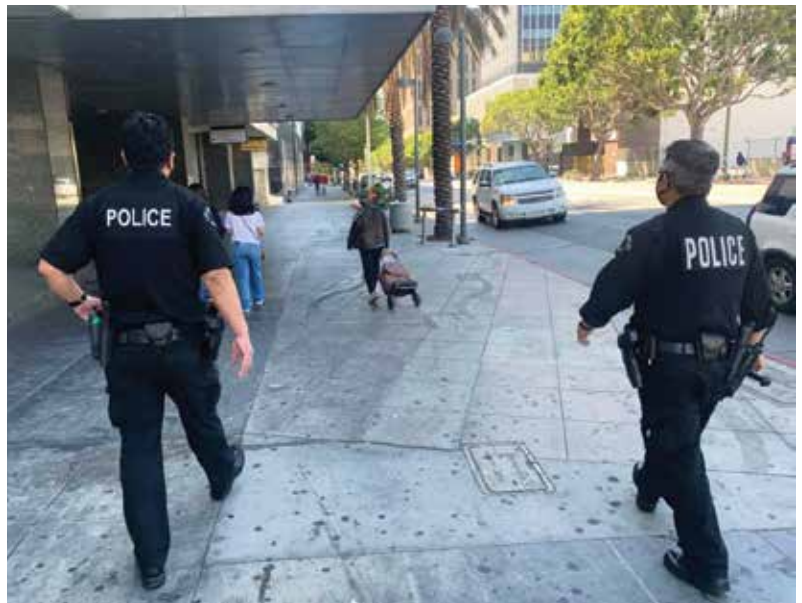




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See "Reserve High-Visibility Patrol"

RESERVE HIGH-VISIBILITY PATROL - CONTINUED FROM PG 25





On August 28, reserve officers worked foot beats at the Wilshire/Vermont corridor in Olympic Area.

On October 7, Chief of Police Michel Moore

referred to these reserve high-visibility patrols in an interview with KTLA News. Two days later on Facebook, LAPD HQ posted about an Olympic Area Task Force that included reserve officers: “From Valley Bureau to South Bureau, from Central Bureau to West Bureau, the LAPD’s citywide Violent Crime Task Force, such as these

LAPD Olympic Division (full-time) Officers and reserves, is taking an effective two-pronged approach to reducing crime: high-visibility foot beats and community engagement.”

During Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this year, reserve officers provided extra patrol at synagogues and the local areas (see page 29). 🌐

¹ <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-09-18/melrose-strip-gun-crime-wave-microcosm-of-firearms-holdups-citywide>

LABOR DAY



On Labor Day, LAPD reserve officers, Chief of Police Michel Moore, Deputy Chief Blake Chow and Commander Billy Brockway conducted a foot beat in Venice Beach.

YOM KIPPUR



Reserve police officers with Operations-West Bureau and Operations-Valley Bureau worked extra Patrol and Synagogue Detail on Yom Kippur.

TASER TRAINING



On a wet Saturday morning (October 23), a day that started at 5:30 a.m., reserve officers attended perishable skills training and Taser 7 certification. Photos by Reserve Officer Joseph Avalos.

NEW TAIRA PLAQUE AND RESERVE MEMORIAL GRANITE DEDICATED

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars (Retired)

Chief of Police Michel Moore began his remarks on June 26 by noting that the reserve police officers looked sharp on that beautiful morning at the Elysian Park Academy: “Thank you for those Class A’s, for that bit of extra shine ...”

The occasion was the dedication of the new plaque honoring Reserve Police Officer Stuart S. Taira. In attendance were Taira’s twin brother, Steve, and younger brother, Ricky. The plaque is larger than the one that was lost during reconstruction of the Academy in the mid-2010s. It reads:

“Stuart S. Taira

Born: December 25, 1954

End of Watch: March 1, 1983

Reserve Police Officer Stuart Taira was killed in the line of duty as he was attempting to rescue his partners in a police helicopter crash.

Officer Taira was posthumously awarded the Los Angeles Police Department’s Medal of Valor and Purple Heart.

He was a giant of a man. He will be missed.”

Next to the plaque, on the freshly planted flower bed in front of the new classroom building, a memorial granite was also dedicated. The granite is “in recognition of the thousands of reserve police officers and police volunteers who have given so selflessly of themselves in service to the City of Los Angeles.” Below the engraved LAPD badge on the stone, the Los Angeles Police Reserve Corps is listed, along with historical incarnations, the Los Angeles Police Auxiliary, Los Angeles Home Guard and the Los Angeles Rangers. “In memory of our fallen partners who, in the line of duty, made the ultimate sacrifice: Norbert John Huseman, Emergency Policeman, EOW December 31, 1945; George Booker Mogle, Reserve Policeman, EOW August 7, 1946; [and] Stuart S. Taira, Reserve Police Officer, EOW March 1, 1983.”

The ceremony, which started at 10:30 a.m., was officiated by Commander Billy Brockway, who had just been named the new Department

reserve coordinator. The Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums led with a rendition of the “Ian Campbell” musical piece honoring the officer who lost his life in the “Onion Field” incident.¹ An invocation was read by Monsignor Frank Hicks.

After thanking the approximately 80 LAPD reserve police officers, who would later attend in-service training that day, Chief Moore thanked the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation for making the day possible, “not just financially, but with your hearts, and with the dedication to our people.”

Chief Moore said he was a young officer working morning watch at Newton Division following that tragic moment when Reserve Police Officer Taira died. Taira’s Academy class was 10-81R; coincidentally, the Chief’s Academy class was 10-81.

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See “New Taira Plaque”

THE ORIGINAL PLAQUE



The original plaque honoring Reserve Officer Taira, polished for many years by Reserve Recruit Academy classes at Elysian Park. The plaque was lost during the reconstruction. In his remarks, Chief Moore theorized that one day “we’ll find that plaque.”



Dedication of the original plaque. Pictured is Taira’s brother, Steve, and mother, Keiko, with then-Deputy Chief Matthew Hunt.



From left: Chief of Police Michel Moore, LAPRF Co-President Karla Ahmanson, Taira's twin brother, Steve, Commander Billy Brockway, Taira's younger brother, Ricky, LAPRF Co-President Michael Sellars and Reserve Officer Ben Lee.



NEW TAIRA PLAQUE - CONTINUED FROM PG 30



The Chief summarized what happened on that fateful day in 1983. The Southland was experiencing severe weather conditions with heavy rains, flooding and mudslides. A tornado had hit downtown and a command post had been set up at 51st and Broadway, with a landing zone for LAPD helicopters. “Stuart stayed on into the

night. He didn’t have to, the day was long, arduous, but he stayed on because we needed him, and he was going to rise to that occasion.”

The full details of what happened that day are highlighted in *The Rotator’s* Summer 2021 cover story, “Reserve Police Officer Stuart S. Taira, EOW March 1, 1983.”²

“In that sacrifice,” Chief Moore said, “Stuart demonstrated what every police officer knows is the ultimate requirement when you swear to this position. You pray that it never happens. He represents 236 men and women of this Department who have lost their lives in the service to the City. Today is an opportunity to demonstrate

¹ For more information on Ian Campbell and the musical piece in his honor, go to <https://lapespipesanddrums.org/ian-campbell>. According to the site, the tradition of bagpipes being played at LAPD funerals began at the services for Officer Campbell in 1963.

² The issue can be found at <https://laprf.org/wp-content/uploads/rotator-summer-2021.pdf>.



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See "New Taira Plaque"

NEW TAIRA PLAQUE - CONTINUED FROM PG 33

that we will never forget. That we will always remember. And let us always share with the next generation of cops that come in here who have the privilege of wearing this badge, that that sacrifice is real, and that their work each day lives up to that sacrifice by its quality, by its dedication, of the core values of this city.”

In dedicating the new memorial granite, the Chief said that the ceremony was also an opportunity to step back. “Of over 150 years of our existence, we have had other names, if you will, of what it means to be a Los Angeles

Police reserve, what it means to be a volunteer, twice-a-citizen; an individual who works in our community, lives in our community and says, ‘I want to give something back.’”

Chief Moore noted: “It’s fitting that it’s granite, that it’s bedrock, because the three names that are on, including Stuart’s, is a representation of why we enjoy the freedoms we enjoy in this country, this democracy, because of the willingness of those to make that ultimate sacrifice. The willingness of thousands of men and women that this memorial is meant

to represent, who in this service to the City, as reserves, as home guards, as auxiliaries, is demonstrating that willingness to live for a purpose bigger than themselves. Blessed are the peacemakers.”

The formal police honors at the ceremony commenced: rifle volley, “Taps” with the LAPD Honor Guard, the pipe band played “Amazing Grace,” a moment of silence and then an LAPD Air Unit made a low, thunderous, solemn memorial flyby.

In the closing remarks, the Reserve Foundation Presidents Karla Ahmanson and Michael Sellars gave thanks to those who made this day possible. Sellars said, “This has been a team effort.” He noted the contributions of Reserve Officer Charlie Nicgorski, who had posted in the LAPD Reserve Officers Facebook group asking for a photograph of Taira’s long-lost original plaque, resulting in one of the most engaged posts, and of Reserve Officer and former LAPRF President Mel Kennedy, whose research into the history of the Corps drafted the words on the granite.

For many years, it was a time-honored tradition for reserve recruit officers to keep Taira’s original plaque polished. After the ceremony, veteran Reserve Officer Al Ramos told the story of how a mistake of not polishing the plaque resulted in his class receiving heavy extra P.T. time.

Retired Sergeant Bob Kellar attended the ceremony. He served as the officer in charge of reserve training for 11 years and graduated hundreds of officers. He was instrumental in placing the original plaque.

Lance Odin at Air Support arranged the flyby. President Ahmanson thanked Officer Johnny Gil for the extra efforts he made to make the ceremony a beautiful morning.

On June 30, the granddaughter of Reserve Policeman George Booker Mogle emailed: “Thank you for sending me the photos of the memorial ceremony. My family is very honored with all the attention our grandfather has received. Mom would be so proud. I truly appreciate all that has been done to keep his memory alive. With deepest gratitude, Kathy.”

NATIONAL POLICE WEEKEND



The LAPD Honor Guard ran into retired Reserve Officer Todd Allen Moore during National Police Weekend in Washington, D.C., held October 13–17. The weekend was filled with numerous events that paid tribute to the local, state and federal peace officers who have died, or who have been disabled, in the line of duty.

TRAINING DAY

Following the memorial dedication ceremony, in-service training was offered: Arrest and Control, Building Searches, Firearms/Handgun and Force Option Simulator. In the morning, prior to the ceremony, there was tourniquet training. Also on June 26, there was MACTAC training at the Davis Training Facility, where officers could support and attend the Level I Reserve Class 1-21R.



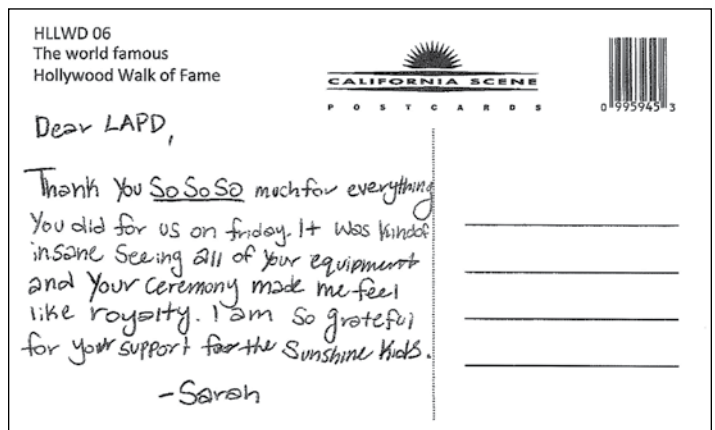
SUNSHINE KIDS

With the Sunshine Kids still under national travel restrictions due to COVID-19, this year's event was different. The LAPD hosted 16 Los Angeles-area kids at the Elysian Park Academy on September 17. Reserve Officer Dave Bush once again took a leadership role organizing the event. He said: "Thank you to all the reserve officers who have supported this event. Without our reserves' continued support, this event would not be possible and would not be at the level it is. We collectively have made a positive effect on these kids."

Thank you to Reserve Officers Roger Andrews, Albert Austria, Virginia Hernandez-Gonzalez and Cheryl Gifis (retired) for the photos.



Project Linus blankets (see Cheryl Gifis' article in the Summer 2021 issue of The Rotator)



Postcard sent from a Sunshine Kids attendee after the event



TACTICS TRAINING CENTER SIGN HONORS SERGEANT II FRANK MIKA III

On June 2, Captain Peter Casey posted in LAPD Training Division's Facebook group: "The Academy Beautification Projects Continue: Today our Tactics Training Center at EP, new signage went up. The entrance sign is dedicated to the memory of Sergeant II Frank Mika III."

Retired veteran Reserve Officer Joe Fazekas replied: "Sgt. II Mika was a hell of a nice man (in addition to being a tactics and firearms professional of the highest caliber). He spent a lot of time helping reserve officers learn new things including myself. On a Saturday morning when he was a reserve officer himself he spent a lot of time with me and a few other reserves at Hogan's alley showing us how to move and shoot while the target is also moving. It was eye-opening and I'll never forget it. He left a lasting legacy at the Department and a huge impression on hundreds of guys I'm sure!"



FIND THE RESERVE CORPS AND LAPRF ON SOCIAL MEDIA



LAPD Reserve Officers Facebook Group

www.facebook.com/groups/LAPDReservePoliceOfficers

There is now a private/closed Facebook group for active, former and retired LAPD reserve officers. It is an independent forum for reserve officers to communicate and share information. When first joining, you will be prompted to indicate your reserve status (active, former or retired) and provide your serial number. This is done so that your eligibility to join the group can be confirmed.



LAPRF on Twitter

www.twitter.com/laprf_org

On Twitter, the LAPRF engages with local leaders and the community, discussing news and current events that may be of interest to reserve law enforcement officers. The LAPRF thanks Reserve Officer Eric Rose for managing this account. Officer Rose is a crisis communication expert and partner at Englander, Knabe & Allen.



LAPD Reserve on Instagram

www.instagram.com/lapdreserve

On Instagram, the LAPD Reserve account reaches out to potential reserve officer candidates as part of LAPRF's reserve recruitment initiative. As you may know, Instagram is all about pictures, so if you have any cool photos (high resolution), let us know.

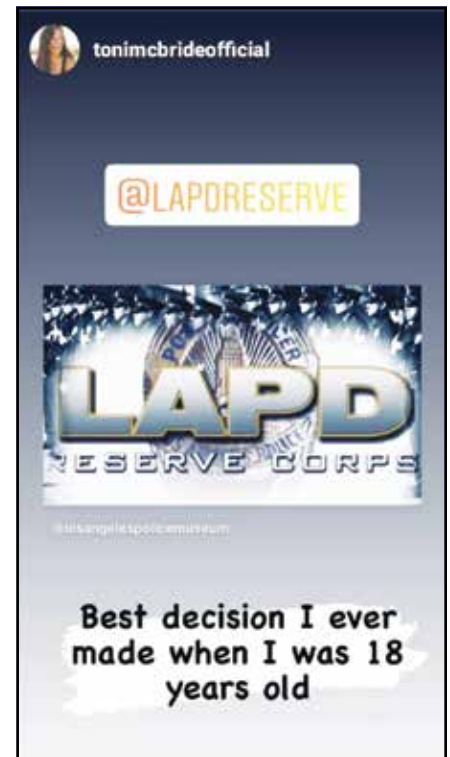
You can also find out more about the LAPRF at laprf.org.



Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation on Facebook

www.facebook.com/LosAngelesPoliceReserveFoundation

The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation (LAPRF) first posted on Facebook in 2011 as part of an initiative to raise awareness and tell the story of the LAPD Reserve Corps and to recruit potential candidates. Today, the Facebook page continues to engage with the community. Photo albums provide an archive of pictures from annual galas, Academy classes, in-service training days and special events like the Sunshine Kids and Special Olympics.



SAVE THE DATE!

TWICE A CITIZEN GALA

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

SKIRBALL CULTURAL CENTER | WWW.LAPRF.ORG

THE ROTATOR IS LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Do you have an idea for an interview, area or officer profile, task force news item, how-to, training summary, historical article or other story? Do you have photos of recent events? *The Rotator* is seeking writers and others to contribute content of interest to reserve officers.

Reach out to the editor at msellars@laprf.org.

SUPPORT THE RESERVE CORPS

Now there is an easy way to support the Reserve Corps, at no additional cost to you! When you register and shop with Amazon Smile, a percentage of what you spend will be donated to the LAPRF. And please tell your friends!



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