



**WILLIAM J. BRATTON**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

## CHIEF'S MESSAGE

One of the most difficult jobs of any law enforcement organization is to build trust with a skeptical and often times antagonistic public. By its very nature, policing is a job of enforcement. Cops are

*Continued on page 2*

## 41<sup>st</sup> Medal of Valor Ceremony

On September 6, 2006, thirteen police officers will receive the LAPD's highest honor, the Medal of Valor. The award celebrates bravery and heroism beyond the call of duty. The 41<sup>st</sup> Medal of Valor Ceremony, expected to draw more than 500 guests, will be held at the Sheraton Los Angeles Downtown Hotel. Honorees include:

West Valley Area Officers Edwin Marron and Mark Mireles who in January 2006 rescued a suicidal woman suspended from a sixth-floor balcony. The 200-pound woman, a

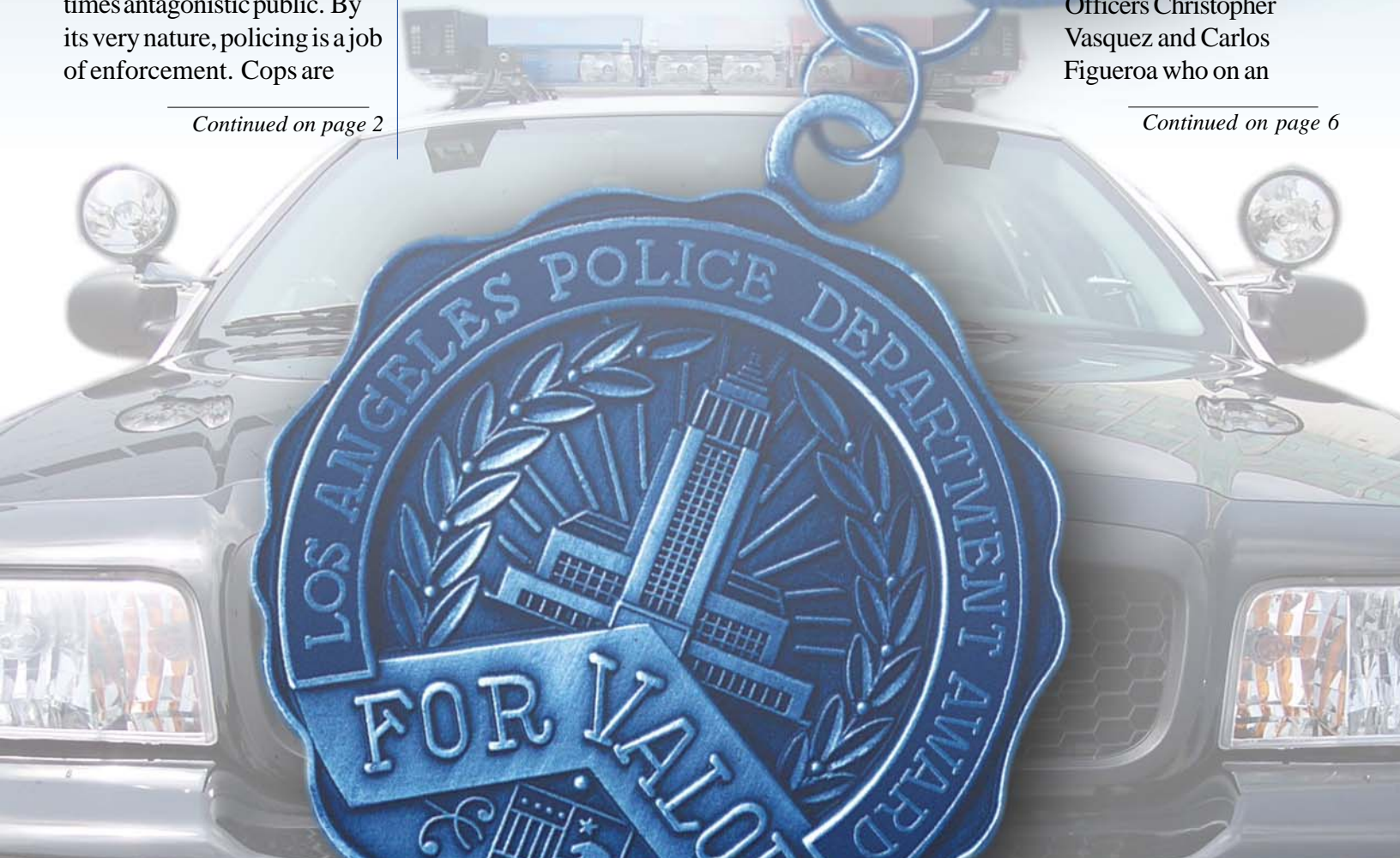
psychiatric patient, struggled violently as the two officers labored furiously to keep her from making the fatal plunge.

Rampart Area Officers Ralph Camarillo, Osvaldo Delgadillo, Laurissa Hulsebus, Abel Muñoz, and Carlos Ocegueda who responded to a pre-dawn fire of a 60-unit building in December 2005. Fighting heavy smoke, the officers saved the lives of two wheelchair-bound tenants and ensured the safety of many other frightened

residents. The five officers persisted with their rescue efforts until the fire department arrived.

Northeast Area Officers Christopher Vasquez and Carlos Figueroa who on an

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## Chief's Message *Continued from page 1*

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Chief of Police

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considered bad guys because they force people to follow the law. While what we do doesn't always make for good public relations, our job is vital to preserving a free democratic society.

Everyday you, the men and women of this Department, are working hard to foster and gain the trust of the communities we work with. Through a commitment to transparency and positive institutional change the Department continues to restore community confidence in the LAPD and markedly reduce crime. These changes would not have been possible without a workforce comprised of civic-minded individuals committed to best practices in policing.

But to truly fulfill our vision to make LA the safest big city in the nation, I need more of you—talented, hard working, dedicated cops. Over the past several years my goals for the Department have remained the same—reduce crime and the fear it instills, fully implement the Consent Decree, and prevent and respond to acts of terrorism. Now, I'm adding recruitment as my fourth goal.

Over the next five years, the LAPD will be hiring 1,000 recruits, beginning with 650 new hires in fiscal year 2006/2007. In the past, LAPD employees, sworn and civilian, have recommended the best recruits. I encourage you to seek prospective applicants among your family, friends, and civilian colleagues. Additionally, you stand to benefit from the Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program. Current and retired City employees can earn up to \$1,000 when a recommended candidate graduates from the Police Academy.

As we work to achieve recruitment and other Department goals we must

remember that community partnerships built on trust will effect long-term social change in this city. It is my belief that transparency in our day-to-day operations inspires public support. But transparency goes both ways. We need to know, in a way that is not filtered through the media, what the public thinks about the job we are doing.

A few months ago the Department launched a new web-based tool to serve as a window into the LAPD. The LAPD Blog ([LAPDBlog.org](http://LAPDBlog.org)), an online, interactive journal used to deliver real-time, unfiltered information, does a number of things to promote transparency. It allows us to respond to criticism or misrepresentations without having our responses edited; it lets us gauge the public's pulse; and it encourages that two-way communication.

Since its May launch, the blog has had over a 100,000 visits, averaging almost 2,000 daily. In its brief existence, more than 500 comments have been generated in response to Department postings. The Department reviews comments to ensure that they do not contain inappropriate remarks or profanity and they do not appear on our web log until approved.

At the outset, the blog's primary purpose was to engage a local audience in open dialogue about current events. It has done that and more. Throughout the country and around the world—from the United Kingdom to Mexico—bloggers are blogging

In May, for instance, a major counterfeiting-operation shutdown in Downtown Los Angeles prompted a

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## Chief Bratton Names New Assistant Chief



*Assistant Chief  
Earl Paysinger*

In July, Chief Bratton announced the promotion of Deputy Chief Earl Paysinger to Assistant Chief.

The LAPD's highest-ranking African-American police officer, Deputy Chief Paysinger will replace Assistant Chief George Gascon, who has accepted the position as Chief of Police for the Mesa, Arizona Police Department. Deputy

Chief Paysinger's appointment was effective, upon Assistant Chief Gascon's departure.

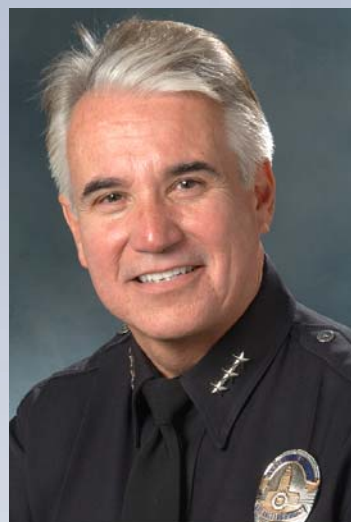
"In a Department that has no shortage of talent, Chief Paysinger has consistently been second to none in his commitment to this Department and to the community he serves," said Chief Bratton. "Earl's pride, compassion, experience and professional skills will serve him well as he assumes his new position. I have the utmost confidence that he will continue and expand upon the exemplary performance of retiring Assistant Chief George Gascon, with whom Earl has worked so closely over the last three years."

Deputy Chief Paysinger is well regarded in the South Los Angeles community for improving the partnership between police and local residents. In his nearly 30 years of service, Deputy Chief Paysinger has been assigned as the Employee Relations Administrator and as Captain for DARE Division and the Newton Street Police Station. Paysinger will be one of three assistant chiefs, reporting directly to Chief Bratton.

"This is a tremendous and exciting opportunity for me and I am grateful that Chief Bratton has placed his faith and trust in me," said Deputy Chief Paysinger.

"LAPD's success lies in its ability to understand the community's complexities and effect positive change," he added. "The race to make LA the safest big city in the nation isn't a 100-yard dash; it's a marathon." □

## LAPD Assistant Chief Bound for Arizona



*Assistant Chief  
George Gascon*

The city manager of Mesa, Arizona, Chris Brady, last month recommended LAPD Assistant Chief George Gascon, 52, for their Chief of Police position.

Assistant Chief Gascon has been Director of the Office of Operations—an office that oversees nearly three-quarters of the LAPD—since 2003.

Assistant Chief Gascon is credited with crime-reducing leadership via a strategic focus on the 10 percent of criminals who are statistically responsible for 50 percent of the crime.

Among his recent innovations was the Real-time Analysis and Critical Response Division (RACR). RACR offers the duty and capability to support patrol and detective operations as incidents are developing in the field. Command post personnel relay real-time information to LAPD managers and investigators.

Over Assistant Chief Gascon's 28-year career, he managed training programs and police stations in South Los Angeles and San Pedro. Assistant Chief Gascon also influenced the use of surveillance cameras, LAPD's smart car, and the field deployment of officers assigned to administrative functions. Assistant Chief Gascon holds a law degree and is a member of the California State Bar. □

## LAPD Canine Handlers Top Dogs

For more than 30 years, bomb-sniffing dogs have safeguarded North American travels. Today, more than ever, we rely on these canines for homeland security.

Recognizing the value of this workforce, the Department has partnered with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) via the National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program (NEDCTP).

In the last 10 months, four LAPD officers have participated in the intensive 10-week course, with three receiving federal recognition. The caliber of this accomplishment speaks to the tradition of excellence upheld by the men and women of the LAPD.

In June 2005, Officer Mark Sauvao was among the privileged few to become a bomb detection canine



*Bomb-Detection Canine Handler Mark Sauvao with K-9 Aya*



*Bomb-Detection Canine Handler Vanessa Keortge with K-9 Rex*

Vanessa Keortge became a bomb-detection canine handler, earning the “Distinguished Handler” award. Similarly, in April 2006, Officer Thomas Davoren excelled in his class,

also earning the “Distinguished Handler” award. Officer Thomas Deluccia, who received the United States Army Bronze Star for combat action in Iraq, also received training as bomb-detection canine handler.

TSA honors one student in each graduating class with the recognitions of “Top Dog Handler” and “Distinguished Handler.” The best canine handler in each class receives the “Top Dog Handler” award, while the “Distinguished Handler” award is given to the top academic performer.

The program, hosted at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, is comprised of police officers, state troopers, and deputy sheriffs from throughout the United States, hand-picked by their departments.

NEDCTP prepares handlers and dogs to locate and identify dangerous materials that may present a threat to transportation systems. Bomb-detection canines, including German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, and Vizslas, are bred specifically for the program.

NEDCTP began in 1972 after a bomb-sniffing dog found an explosive device just 12 minutes before it detonated in an aircraft bound for Los Angeles. Following the event, then-President Richard Nixon directed the Secretary of Transportation to create a force to combat such threats. The result was the inception of a unique federal project, the Explosives Detection Canine Team Program.

To date, some 400 bomb-detection canine teams have been deployed throughout the country as a result of NEDCTP. The teams play an integral part in securing the numerous transportation systems in our country.



## Recent Actions by the Police Commission

- JUNE 6:** Received a briefing from the Co-Chairs of the Pacific Area Community Police Advisory Board.  
Received an update on TEAMS II with the understanding that the entire system will be functional within six months.
- JUNE 20:** Received a briefing from the Co-Chairs of the 77th Area Community Police Advisory Board.  
Approved the development of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Unit.  
Approved the new Hearing Examiner Selection and Appointment Process.
- JUNE 27:** Held a well-attended community meeting at the Prince Hall Memorial Auditorium located in the Southeast Area.  
Councilmembers Parks and Perry both attended.

## Chief's Message *Continued from page 2*

flurry of discussion. During the two-day raid, officers seized \$18.4 million worth of counterfeit designer-brand merchandise.

Regularly monitored by our command staff, sworn and civilian personnel, this blog item prompted our own people to participate in the online discussion. Deputy Chief Mark Leap, Commanding Officer, LAPD Counter Terrorism Bureau, replied to a blogger who questioned the operation's merit. Deputy Chief Leap wrote, "Since September 11th, law enforcement in general, not just the LAPD, has linked counterfeit goods to terrorist funding... [These] investigations have resulted in disruptions of [terrorist activities] and should continue to be the focus of the LAPD."

Another news item that generated many comments was the shooting of LAPD Officer Kristina Ripatti on June 3. Bloggers expressed concern, empathy, and encouragement for Officer Ripatti, who suffered serious wounds after being struck twice by gunfire.

Similarly, a *Los Angeles Daily News* editorial titled, *Lowered Standards*, prompted rapid-fire dialogue. The article referenced a proposal by Councilman Bernard Parks. The policy sought to reinstate a zero-tolerance mandate that would disqualify police officer candidates with any history of drug use.

In this instance, the blog allowed me to comment on the proposed policy and the subsequent *Daily News* article. It gave me the opportunity to explain that our standards have, in fact, increased—in many respects—but that

we have a practical and flexible hiring approach. My response generated almost 30 comments.

The torrent of e-chatter truly testifies to the blog's success. Though the Department reserves the right to withhold comments that contain profanity or other inappropriate material, it does not shy away from posting criticism.

As the blog matures we will continue to expand its content,

including sections for each geographic area. Transparency, whether through television, radio, newspaper, our website LAPDOnline.org or the LAPD Blog, helps us to connect with people in the communities we protect and serve. As we connect we are fostering trust and building the kinds of community relationships and partnerships that we need to be a successful and respected law enforcement organization. □

## Blue Ribbon Panel Presents Investigation Results

In July, the Blue Ribbon Rampart Review Panel, headed by Civil Rights Attorney Connie Rice, presented its findings in a 100-plus page report. The panel found that although improvements have been made, especially in Rampart Area, the potential for a similar outcome remains.

To abate this danger, the Department must grow dramatically, according to the report. An increase in the Department's size would allow officers to replace intimidation-based policing with a more strategic and collaborative approach.

"I am completely supportive of the most significant finding and recommendation for continued expansion of the Department," Chief Bratton said. "It is a critical catalyst to reduce the amount of aggressive policing that is currently necessary in many high-crime, gang-infested areas of the City." Chief Bratton has enacted a five-year hiring plan that will expand the Department by 1,000 officers.

According to the report, LAPD officers currently use a "warrior policing" technique to maintain order. But, the report contends that this technique is counterproductive as it involves intimidation, and alienates the community from its police force.

Other panel recommendations included using outside groups to investigate future scandals, repairing the police disciplinary system, expanding the Police Commission's Inspector General Office, and starting a task force to further LAPD reform.

Three years ago Chief Bratton appointed the Blue Ribbon Panel to reinvestigate the Rampart corruption scandal. The panel was to build on what previous panels had done, and delve deeper to discover how well the city identified and put to use the lessons drawn from the Rampart scandal. The panel was also to determine whether adequate solutions were in place, and if they were not, how they could be implemented. □

## 41<sup>st</sup> Medal of Valor Ceremony *Continued from the page 1*

evening in May 2005 arrived at the scene of a house fire to find smoke funneling through open windows and a 92-year-old woman screaming for help. Despite imminent danger, the two officers proceeded with the rescue, saving the woman.

77<sup>th</sup> Street Area Officers Mario Cardona and Matthew Cundiff who in November 2004 responded to an assault with a deadly weapon call only to be confronted by hysterical partygoers fleeing a homicidal assailant. After fatally shooting two partygoers, the assailant proceeded to shoot and wound Officer Cardona. The officer returned fire, killing the assailant and ending the shooting spree. Officer Cundiff, a trained Emergency Medical Technician, tended to the

wounded officer, relocating him to safety and administering first aid.

Rampart Area Sergeant Hector Feliciano who in November 2004 ended a hostage standoff instigated by a 19-year-old man. Wielding what looked like a semi-automatic pistol, the man grabbed a female employee at the Mexican Consulate, placing the gun against the back of her head. Fearful that the man would kill the woman or take additional hostages, Sergeant Feliciano—positioned 15 feet from the suspect—aimed and fired one .45

caliber round, striking the man in the head.

Southwest Area Detective Richard Record who in February 2004 was the first to respond when Newton Area Officer Ricardo Lizarraga was shot twice by a barricaded suspect. Though the shooter's whereabouts remained unclear following the incident, Detective Record rushed in to move Officer Lizarraga to safety. Despite Detective Record's valiant efforts, Officer Lizarraga died from his injuries.

### The 41<sup>st</sup> Medal of Valor

Ceremony is sponsored by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the Los Angeles Police Foundation. For more information, contact the Foundation at (213) 489-4636. □



Edwin  
Marron



Mark  
Mireles



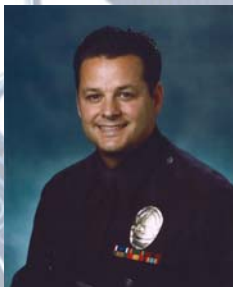
Ralph  
Camarillo



Osvaldo  
Delgadillo



Laurissa  
Hulsebus



Abel  
Muñoz



Carlos  
Oceguera



Christopher  
Vasquez



Carlos  
Figueroa



Mario  
Cardona



Matthew  
Cundiff



Hector  
Feliciano



Richard  
Record

## Northeast Area Crime Spirals Downward with Recent Arrests

Focusing on some of the most prolific criminals in the City, Northeast Area police officers and detectives slashed crime by 16 percent following the apprehension of four career criminals.

The arrests—made over a two-week period—coincided with decreased commercial and residential burglaries, mail fraud, and identity and vehicle thefts, among other prevalent crimes in Northeast Area.

“The hard part is catching these offenders,” said Captain Morris Smith, at a press conference June 6, adding that community cooperation is critical to such instances.

Captain Smith said police officers and detectives concentrate on the perpetrators who comprise 10 percent of the criminal population in Northeast Area, but who commit 50 percent of the crime.

The number of stolen vehicles dropped from 99 to 22 following the apprehension of two of the four men arrested. Northeast Area police officers and detectives recovered \$150,000-worth of stolen property from these suspects.

Similarly, the apprehension of another career criminal coincided with

a 33 percent decrease in residential burglaries. The alleged burglar stole some \$27,000 in property during daytime operations. The suspect apparently traded the stolen goods for drugs, admitted to targeting homes with open windows and doors.

The last suspect to round out the four arrested apparently stole mail from 200 people in communities including Highland Park, Echo Park, Downey, El Monte, Glendale, Hollywood, Monrovia, and Pasadena.

To avert victimization, Captain Smith advises that Angelenos “harden the

target.” The idea is to discourage criminal acts by making it “harder” for criminals to strike. For instance, Captain Smith recommends not leaving property exposed, locking doors and windows, and starting a neighborhood watch group.

“We need to keep guys like these in jail,” Chief Bratton said. “The more days they spend in jail, the less time they’ll spend victimizing people.” □



*Northeast Area crime dropped 16 percent following the apprehension of four career criminals.*

## LA Awarded \$80.6 Million Homeland Security Grant

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded the Los Angeles Urban Area, anchored by the City of Los Angeles, \$80.6 million in Urban Area Security Initiative grant funds.

Funds will boost local efforts to better prevent, prepare, respond, and recover from acts of terrorism or mass disaster. The amount awarded will also benefit Long Beach, Los Angeles County and 26 adjacent cities. The amount awarded represents a significant increase over last year’s funding level and places the Los Angeles Urban Area second only to New York in total award during this round of funding.

In the event of a terrorist attack or a mass disaster, law enforcement will be the first line of defense. As a result, these funds will help provide better training and more coordination among jurisdictions that could disrupt an attack or save lives in an emergency. □

### CRIME WATCH CITYWIDE YEAR TO DATE - 7/29/06

Homicide	- 7.4%	▼
Rape	- 3.7%	▼
Robbery	7.4%	▲
Aggravated Assault	- 9.4%	▼
Total Violent Crime	- 1.9%	▼
Burglary	- 9.1%	▼
Burglary/Theft from Vehicle	- 12.5%	▼
Personal/Other Theft	- 13.7%	▼
Auto Theft	- 10.8%	▼
Total Property Crimes	- 11.8%	▼
Total Part I Crimes	- 9.7%	▼

Source ITD, LAPD

## Boy Donates College Money to Officer Ripatti

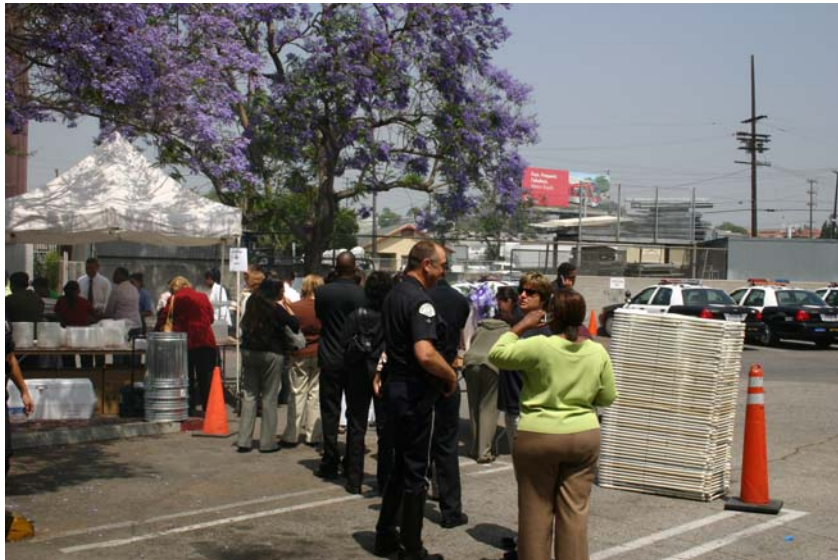
**B**lanketed with community support, Southwest Area Officer Kristina Ripatti continues to recover at an undisclosed spinal rehabilitation facility. An armed robbery suspect shot the 33-year-old officer June 3, paralyzing her from the waist down.

Since the incident, Officer Ripatti has enjoyed an outpouring of well wishes and donations. Among the contributions was an \$800 donation from a Southern California boy. The 11-year-old boy donated what would have been money for his college education.

Though moved by the youth's altruistic gesture, Officer Ripatti wanted to return the money to ensure the boy attends college. The boy's family, however, declined to take back the contribution.

At his parents' request, the boy's identity is being withheld. □

## Show of Support for Wilshire Area Detective . . .



LAPD personnel flocked to Wilshire Area station for a fundraiser June 21 to aid Detective Charlotte Burns. Detective Burns underwent surgery to remove a brain tumor in April. The mid-afternoon event drew about a hundred patrons from various public safety entities, including the Los Angeles Fire Department.

### THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL WERE COMMENDED BY THE COMMUNITY IN THE MONTH OF JUNE 2006

#### SENIOR CLERK TYPIST

Carmela Benavidez

Nubia Matassa  
Oscar Moreno  
Ralph Sanchez  
William Simonoff

#### POLICE OFFICER I

John Frankman  
Barrett Halcromb  
Kimberly Kempton

Abraham Vidriezca  
Mark Wilber  
William Windham  
Jennie Wong

#### POLICE OFFICER II

Arvin Buenaventura  
Stephanie Carillo  
Manuel Esqueda  
Karmen Gutierrez

#### DETECTIVE I

Ryuichi Ishitani  
Dennis McNeal  
Vic Ross

Mark Hodson  
Christopher Hoffman

#### DETECTIVE II

Gilbert Escontrias  
Stephanie Lazarus  
Michael Steward

Laura Jackman  
Miguel Jimenez  
Robert Kolesar

#### SERGEANT I

Robb Berke

Kate Lopez  
Luis Machuca  
Jorge Reyes

#### SERGEANT II

David Demaco  
Ruben Diaz  
Hector Feliciano  
Joseph Kalyn  
Al Labrada  
Tim Swift

Rolando Rodriguez  
Carlos Sanchez  
Sally Santa Maria  
Angel Silvestre  
Richard Sotello  
Edward Yates

#### POLICE OFFICER III

Pedro Barba  
Mauricio Bautista  
Travis Coyle  
Christopher Curry  
Werner Flores  
Christopher Green  
Michael Hammet  
Jedd Levin  
Anthony Marks

#### LIEUTENANT II

William Eaton  
Rick Wall  
James West

#### CAPTAIN II

James Bower

## Reporting for Duty, Sir!

In keeping with his continuing efforts to support LAPD personnel serving in the Armed Forces Guard and Reserve, Chief Bratton will now meet one-on-one with employees prior to long-term military deployment.

Chief Bratton remains adamant about expressing the Department's pride, gratitude, and commitment to the estimated 500 employees actively participating in the war on terror worldwide. Officer Christopher Dorner, Harbor Area, was the first military employee to benefit from this new practice.

Outfitted in his Navy camouflage uniform, Officer Dorner met with Chief Bratton in May. Though already on active military duty, Officer Dorner had returned to Parker Center to take care of unfinished business when he learned of the new protocol. Within 10 minutes of arriving, Officer Dorner was scheduled to meet with the Chief.

At the meeting, Chief Bratton conveyed his appreciation, pledged the Department's backing, and shared information

about the comprehensive support—for employees and their families—available via the Department's Military Liaison Officer (MLO) program. The

new policy, which came into effect in May, is just the latest example of the LAPD's commitment to taking care of our own.

With that said, Commanding officers with employees slated to serve more than 60 calendar days of military service should notify Dennis J. DeNoi, Military Liaison Officer. The MLO will facilitate the meeting with the Chief. Additionally, such meetings will allow employees to address administrative matters, with the MLO's assistance, prior to reporting for military duty.

Recognizing the stressful nature of long-term military deployments, the exchanges with the Chief and MLO are meant to be meaningful opportunities to share comments, concerns, and ideas.

Should employee availability conflict with the Chief's ever-changing schedule, the next senior Chief will meet with the departing employee. The success of this important new protocol begins with the employee informing their immediate chain of command of pending military activation. □



Chief Bratton with Officer Christopher Dorner, Harbor Area.

### ROLL CALL OF EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2006  
11:30 AM**

#### MEDAL OF VALOR CEREMONY

Sheraton Los Angeles  
Downtown Hotel  
711 South Hope Street  
Downtown  
(213) 489-4636

**FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2006  
6:40 PM**

#### MEDAL OF VALOR NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM

Pre-game ceremony  
Reduced ticket pricing for  
Department employees.  
(323) 224-1520

**WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 25, 2006  
WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP  
CONFERENCE 2006**

Hilton Los Angeles  
Universal City Hotel  
(213) 485-1151

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