

County DIGEST



APRIL 1998

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

An Overview

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which operates on an annual budget that exceeds \$1 billion and consists of over 13,000 sworn and civilian employees, provides complete law enforcement services to approximately 2.5 million persons living in an area of 3,200 square miles. Sheriff Sherman Block, who is the elected head of the Department, is the chief law enforcement officer of the County, and, as such, is responsible for general law enforcement services in all unincorporated areas of the County as well as in 40 incorporated cities in the County.

The Sheriff's Department is divided into six divisions and three field operations regions, each commanded by a Division Chief or Civilian Director who reports to one of two Assistant Sheriffs, the Undersheriff or the Sheriff himself. The three field operations regions are responsible for performing patrol services in the contract cities and unincorporated County areas. The six divisions, which include Detective, Professional Standards and

Training, Court Services, Custody, Technical Services and Administrative Services, provide investigative, technical, logistical, administrative and operational support to law enforcement operations at the station level.

Along with providing law enforcement services, the Sheriff's Department also maintains the largest County jail system in the United States, with a daily average inmate population exceeding 20,000 individuals. It operates an extensive inmate transportation system, which shuttles inmates between custody facilities, courts and state prisons. The Department also is responsible for serving and enforcing civil and criminal process, and for providing bailiffs and other security measures for all Superior and Municipal Courts in Los Angeles County. Furthermore, the Department provides police services to the Metrolink commuter rail system, Green Line and Blue Line commuter light rail systems and transit buses in the unincorporated County areas and contract cities.

While Station Detectives investigate local crimes, the centralized Detective Division, which is comprised of a variety of specialized Bureaus, supplements Station Detective activities and directly investigates crimes involving homi-



cide, narcotics, arson and vice, among others. Each Station is usually commanded by a Captain who, acting for the Sheriff, fills the role of Chief of Police for the contract cities and unincorporated areas served by his or her station. It is the Captain's responsibility to maintain a close relationship with the local city officials and to ensure that their needs are being addressed.

The Sheriff's Department offers a broad spectrum of support services which are available from local Stations and various other specialized units. Uniform operating procedures, common radio frequencies and a unified command structure enable the Department to function as a highly efficient law enforcement agency when handling local emergencies and Countywide disasters.



see *Sheriff* next page



April Retirees



Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of Los Angeles County:

CHILDREN'S SERVICES: Miriam Dauteuil, James W. Jenkins

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Phillips W. Mueller, Jon E. Stanley

FIRE: Wayne Brooks, Russell S. Robinson, Lawrence S. Simcoe, Horst W. Zimmermann, Theodore E. Giba, Michael J. Minore, Peter J. Andruska, Bruce D. Collings, Frederick P. Rhoads, Robert G. Underwood

HEALTH SERVICES: Jessie L. Cunningham, Robert R. Dominguez, Carolyn W. Hendricks, George M. Perteet
HUMAN RESOURCES: Joseph M. Cavataio

INTERNAL SERVICES: Robert J. Ashby, Sue Isbell, Utelous Jackson, Ken H. Louie, Pete W. Popoff, Jr., Judy K. Schlador, Ronnie D. White

MENTAL HEALTH: Iris Salter, Nolan Stewart

MUNICIPAL COURTS: Richard N. Haines, Doris Williams

PARKS & RECREATION: Lazaro M. Olivas, Victor Stratman, Robert M. Tomilowitz

PROBATION: Maggie B. Blount, Stephen R. Speck

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Randy P. Klopffleisch, Lynn D. McCune, Donald G. Rogers, John L. Sanford, David A. Vogel, Judith M. Vogel, Velma Washington

PUBLIC WORKS: Harold P. Battle, Jr., Joyce J. Cooper, William A. Haglund, Tom S. Lundy, Guy O. Newman, Edward S. Pacheco, Robert D. Pedigo, Roslyn Robson, Robert W. Underwood, Petrus M. Van Der Goot

SHERIFF: Sarah L. Blanche, Stephen C. Curry, Dave Hill, Jr., Phillip A. Little, Lee K. Long, Joseph R. Manusia, James Thomas, Gary E. Thompson, Leonard M. Tyko, Rousseau Martin

SUPERIOR COURTS: Judith Call, Anne M. Kawashima, Jean Saeki

Congratulations to the following employees who are retiring after serving the people of Los Angeles County for more than 25 years:

CHILDREN'S SERVICES: Roberta S. Haines

HEALTH SERVICES: Pradina Bazan, Barbara J. Bowman, Myrna D. Carpio, Helen J. Davis, Ward L. Dotson, Minoru Fujita, Josephine Harris-Tharp, Faye E. Hughes, Lona Landowski, Sul J. Lee, Grace Legaspi, Juanita M. Lopez, Charlotte L. Lynch, Mary L. Martinez, David Ransfer, Dong S. Shin, Blanca I. Valentine, Stan White

INTERNAL SERVICES: R. B. Bryant, Alonzo K. Mike

MENTAL HEALTH: Ronald B. Adler, Bonnie J. Krudis, Kenneth K. Miya, Areta Crowell

MUNICIPAL COURTS: Sallie A. Hamilton, Ollie Stokes, John D. Harris

PARKS & RECREATION: Floyd Bell
PROBATION: Sharon G. Smith, Robert A. Torres

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Marina Don, Zela Garcia, Christi A. Nejako, Ysidro Pineda, Ralph Russo

PUBLIC WORKS: Herman E. Lewis, Clarence Roberts, Jr.

SHERIFF: Susan B. Tyler, Betty J. Moore, Bryan J. Hatch

SUPERIOR COURTS: Norma J. Kettelkamp

Sheriff

continued from page one



Support services provided by the Department include:

- **Emergency and routine air support (Aero Bureau)**
- **Tactical policing, special weapons teams and emergency rescue services (Special Enforcement Bureau)**
- **Disaster planning services for earthquakes, fires, floods and large scale disturbances (Emergency Operations Bureau)**
- **Crime lab services (Scientific Services Bureau)**
- **Consolidated records, communications and automotive management systems (Technical Services Division)**

Because the field of law enforcement is constantly expanding to meet new demands and encompass new concepts, the Sheriff's Department has implemented various special programs to maintain effective interaction with the community. Some of these programs include the Civilian Volunteer Program, the Community/Law Enforcement Partnership Program, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office (LASO) Foundation and the Sheriff's Youth Foundation. The Department also maintains its own World Wide Web site at <http://www.lasd.org>, which allows persons from all over the world to view newsworthy events featuring the Department, crime and arrest statistics, recruitment opportunities, local station addresses and phone numbers and the Department's "Most Wanted" fugitives.



David P. Middleton

Saving Lives in Many Ways

It seemed like the entire Los Angeles County Fire Department family was present at the Board Hearing Room to join the Board of Supervisors in honoring one of the department's brightest and best.

David P. Middleton, a County employee for 12 years, was honored as the **March 1998 County Employee of the Month**. In receiving his pin and scroll, he did not waste any time in thanking the Board, his mentors, colleagues and the Fire Chief for their belief in and support of him. The admiration for this man was also evident by the presence of his wife and child, his parents, sister and in-laws.

Due to the high frequency of emergency activity and the extraordinary amount of fire prevention responsibilities, Middleton is stationed at one of the busiest fire stations in the County.

At Fire Station 90, he is an engineer with the primary duty of driving a fire engine during both emergency and non-emergency activities, as well as pumping water on fires. In addition, he is one of the department's instructors in Urban Search and Rescue, Swift Water Rescue and Emergency Medical Technician training for Battalion 10. He is also the battalion's Rope Rescue coordinator.

One of his greatest challenges came in 1995 when he was deployed to Oklahoma City as part of the department's Urban Search and Rescue team. For ten days, he and his fellow rescuers reached out to help the people of Oklahoma City.

"It was a very emotional time for everyone, locals and rescuers alike. Some days were harder than others to keep your emotions in control and keep focused on your work," Middleton said.

Middleton was chosen to be part of this effort because of his training and experience. He is a certified California State Paramedic, a certified Level III Urban Search and Rescuer and a certified Swift Water Technician. Moreover, he earned an A.A. degree in Fire Science from Pasadena City College and a Fire Officer's Certificate from the California State Fire Marshal's Office.

He was instrumental in the development of the department's Swift



Water Rescue Program and the furnishing and geographical deployment of the Urban Search and Rescue equipment trailers. He is also involved in the department's Rope Rescue Program.

His involvement in saving lives not only revolves around those in burning structures but also revolves around those who are in need of hope. The honoree is currently vice president of the department's Relief Association and is a mentor in the District Attorney's Rescue Youth Program. In previous years, he participated in the Alhambra Fire Department's Bone Marrow Drive and the Muscular Dystrophy Association's "Fill the Boot" Program. During his off duty time, Middleton has volunteered to staff the department's booth at the Los Angeles County Fair.

He considers his family his greatest accomplishment. In May, Middleton and his wife will celebrate 16 years of marriage. They are blessed with a nine-year-old daughter who delights in having her father be a fire safety instructor in her school.

"The divorce rate for fire fighters is higher than average. I have seen first hand what a career such as this can do to a relationship," Middleton said. "My wife has worked just as hard as I have," he added.

David P. Middleton enjoys camping, playing with his computer, fishing, reconditioning his 1968 Camaro, spending time with his family and serving the citizens of Los Angeles County in various life-saving capacities.

"Employees who use imagination and bold vision will be able to benefit in ways that they could never do before. Those who believe in government the most and who dedicate their careers to lives of public service have the greatest stake in making it work."

-- Jimmy Carter

The words of former President Jimmy Carter ring true to the more than 80,000 employees of the County of Los Angeles. This year, the County will be celebrating **Public Service Recognition Week** from May 4 through 10.

The week-long observation was first celebrated in May 1985 to educate Americans on the variety of services provided by government. It's also an opportunity to show appreciation to public employees who ensure our government is the best in the world. The Public Employees Roundtable (PER) in Washington, D.C. pays tribute to programs that embody the highest standards of government in the nation with its Public Service Excellence Awards. These awards go to federal, state, city, county, intergovernmental, international government programs and to a community service program. In 1991, PER expanded the program to include regional awards in several locations. Excellence Award winners represent public service at its best. The awards encourage innovation and excellence in government, reinforce pride in public service, call public attention to the broad range of services provided by public employees and provide government at all levels the opportunity to showcase their outstanding programs.

Last year, the Department of Public Social Services received this national award from Vice President Al Gore for its Greater Avenues for Independence Program. County departments vying for the top award have submitted twelve nominations this year.

This year's theme is "WORKING FOR YOU, WORKING FOR AMERICA." Stand up and be counted as one of the nation's greatest public servants. For more information, contact your departmental coordinator or the Countywide Coordinator at (213) 974-1767.

Calendar of Events

The Department of Public Works, a member of the **Mow Down Pollution Partnership**, is promoting grass recycling and several lawnmower exchange events throughout the County. Grass recycling promotes waste reduction and helps reduce our dependence on landfills.

Bring your old gas lawnmower to any of the locations listed below and take home a corded or rechargeable electric mulching mower at a reduced price. Manufacturers' suggested retail prices vary from \$249 to \$449. Save up to \$120 off these prices depending on the brand and model. Lawn Boy, Ryobi and TORO models are available. Event locations are as follows:

April 25

Rio Hondo College
3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier

Federal Building
11000 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles

May 2

Veterans Memorial Stadium
5000 Lew Davis Street, Long Beach

Anheuser-Busch Facility
15800 Roscoe Boulevard, Van Nuys

May 9

El Camino College
16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance

May 16

Los Angeles Zoo
5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles

The events run from **8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** For more information, call the Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3552.

Come one, come all to a **"Be Aware, Prepare for All Hazards" Emergency Preparedness Expo** for civic center employees and visitors to the downtown area. This one-day event, sponsored by the County Office of Emergency Management, will be held on **Wednesday, April 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in the mall area between the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration and the County Courthouse. Displays by County departments, State Office of Emergency Services, DWP, GTE, Pacific Bell, Southern California Gas Company, Edison Company, Salvation Army and American Red Cross will be available for viewing. Emergency supply vendors, live entertainment and a food concessionaire will round up the event. Free emergency and home safety information for all hazards will be available. **Admission is free!** For further information, call the County Office of Emergency Management at (213) 980-2260.



Now in its eleventh year, the **LA County Chess Tournament** is open to all County employees, retirees and student workers. The event will start on **May 7, 1998** and be held every Thursday thereafter until June 11, 1998 from **6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.** in the Conference Room of the **Public Works Building** in Alhambra. For more information, call Norman Cortez at (626) 458-7188 or Lowell Harter at (213) 738-2456. The event is sponsored by the California Association of Professional Employees.

April 19-25 Week of the Young Child

Celebrate the **Week of the Young Child** on **Thursday, April 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** at the **Civic Center Mall** between the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration (HHOA) and the County Courthouse. Representatives from the County employee child care centers and a host of local child care resource and referral agencies, community care licensing office and parent support organizations will be on hand to answer any of your child care queries.



Noontime Parenting Seminars
11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
HHOA Conference Room 739

May 21

"Planning for College Expenses"

June 18

"Swimming Programs"

Members of the Board

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Chair
Second District

Gloria Molina
First District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Michael J. Henry
Director of Personnel

Sandra A. Hoodye
Ombudsman/Community Liaison

John S. Mina
Staff

Send us your comments, story ideas or questions!

Contact us by

Phone: (213) 974-1765
Fax: (213) 621-0387
Attn: County DIGEST
County DIGEST

Mail: Department of Human Resources
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 375
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Due to space considerations, we cannot guarantee publication of submitted articles.