

County DIGEST



APRIL 1999

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

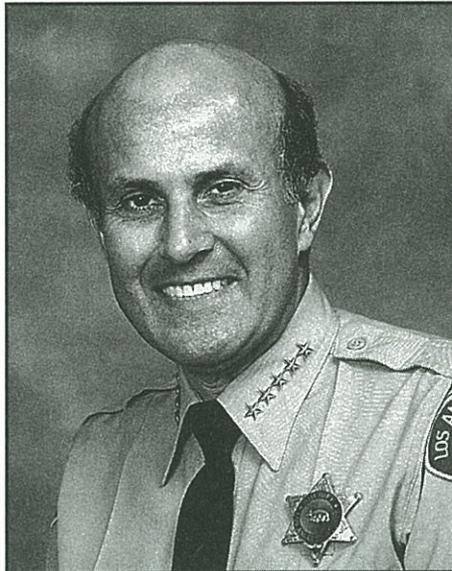
Sheriff Leroy D. Baca Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

On Monday, December 7, 1998, at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, in front of a standing room only crowd numbering in the thousands, Leroy D. Baca was sworn in as the 30th Sheriff of Los Angeles County. The event culminated a 32-year career in the Sheriff's Department -- a career which had fairly humble beginnings.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Leroy D. Baca was born in East Los Angeles on May 27, 1942. He attended school locally, eventually graduating from Benjamin Franklin High School in 1960. By his own admission he was not a very good student, yet he worked a variety of jobs to support himself while attending East Los Angeles College. Believing strongly in education, Sheriff Baca continued his studies and graduated in 1993 from the University of Southern California with a Doctorate of Public Administration, earning a life membership in the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi - USC Chapter.

Early on in 1964, he entered the United States Marine Corps Reserves, eventually leaving the Marine Corps Reserves in 1970 with the rank of Sergeant. Sheriff Baca began his law enforcement career on August 23, 1965 when he was sworn into the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy Sheriff Trainee. Sheriff Baca worked through the early portion of his career in custody, recruitment, on patrol on the streets of East Los Angeles and as staff instructor at the Sheriff's Academy. Paul Myron, a 34-year department veteran and now the Undersheriff, recalled working with Sheriff Baca as a drill instructor at the Sheriff's Academy.

"He was probably a combination of a fine athlete and what I would call a typical Marine: totally squared away," Undersheriff Myron said. "He made military bearing. He defined it."



Sheriff Baca continued to rise through the ranks, and in 1981 was appointed to the rank of Captain by then Sheriff Peter Pitchess. He was selected to command Norwalk Station, where he served as the station commander for five years.

In 1986, Sheriff Baca was again elevated to Commander by first-term Sheriff Sherman Block. Sheriff Baca again excelled as the Area Commander of numerous stations, as well as Aero Bureau and Special Enforcement Bureau. On January

21, 1992, Sheriff Block again promoted Sheriff Baca, this time to the rank of Chief.

As the Chief of Court Services Division, Sheriff Baca directed the strategy that led to the merger of the Sheriff's Department with the Marshal's Department. The merger saved the taxpayers of Los Angeles County \$14 million per year. For his efforts Sheriff Baca received the Department's Distinguished Service award.

Sheriff Baca commands the largest Sheriff's Department in the world and supervises more than 13,000 sworn and civilian personnel. He is responsible for court security, running the county jail system and providing police services to the unincorporated areas and 40 contract cities within Los Angeles County.

Sheriff Baca strongly believes in the concept of mentoring. He has provided leadership, management and direction to thousands of deputy sheriffs, police officers and civilians throughout his career. He continues this tradition within the Department and as an Adjunct Professor of Public Administration at the University of La Verne. Sheriff Baca said he hopes to expand anti-gang and anti-drug education programs for youth, create literacy programs for jail inmates and develop a leadership institute for deputies. Sheriff Baca has completed a "needs assessment" of the Sheriff's Department in which he visited over 70 commands and sub-units of the Department. He is now in the process of implementing some of the many ideas he garnered during his visits.

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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:

BEACHES & HARBORS: Jacquelyn Dumas

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: William W. Boynton, Beatrice De Rusha, Frances B. Kissel, Walter Lippmann

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Frank L. Henderson, Melba G. Knight

FIRE: David T. Barron, Gary K. Bench, Merle R. Horst, James W. Reichle, Barry L. Helsel, Robert A. Kummehne, Richard F. Potter

HEALTH SERVICES: Eugene E. Adams, Roy L. Gibbs, Gloria C. Harrington, Waymon Hope, Jr., Moses Kuo, Ralph S. Lachman, Arthurlene Larry, Gamalier Lesure, Patricia Manning

INTERNAL SERVICES: Wardell P. Molina, Jr., Rafael F. Ortiz, Jan Pollard

MENTAL HEALTH: Wyomia Michael

PROBATION: Raquel A. Armstrong, Gene C. Ellis, Bernard L. Trejo, Richard C. Westlake

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Linda M. Fagernes

PUBLIC WORKS: Bjorn R. Evensen, John F. Merrill, Roberto M. Renteria, William J. Stonecypher

SHERIFF: John M. Bikle, Edward Dahlstrom II, William D. Richardson, Lee G. Smith, Marlin W. Smith, Gary E. Vance, Nila J. West, Eugene C. Peterson, David B. Kushner

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

CORONER: Rose M. Lucero

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Rosalie L. Morton

HEALTH SERVICES: Lydia Y. Bernson, Paula J. Chee, Caridad Contreras, Ramon O. Galvez-Arang, Erma E. Hicks

INTERNAL SERVICES: Thomas C. Hamby

MENTAL HEALTH: Herbert Ruderman

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EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Christina Wilkie

Going the Extra Mile

"Although I work in administration and not in the field, there is a definite understanding that what I do contributes to accomplishing the department's mission to "Protect Lives, the Environment and Property,"" said Christina Wilkie of the Fire Department.



She's right! Her contributions have indeed benefited the department in so many ways. As a matter of fact, she was nominated for the March 1999 County Employee of the Month by the department. Consequently, she was selected and received a scroll from the Chairman of the Board, Supervisor Don Knabe.

Wilkie, a County employee for more than 11 years, is presently an Accountant II in the Financial Management Division's Budget Section. She is responsible for the Salaries & Employee Benefits and the Capital Project Budget and expenditure monitoring and develops billing rates for the department's Contract Cities.

While supervising the General Accounts Receivable Unit, she made a concerted effort along with her staff to clear trust accounts faster and as a result, interest earnings doubled from \$500,000 in 1996-97 to \$1 million the following year.

This is just one of the many accomplishments Wilkie has done and considers rewarding.

"Besides my bachelor's degree, being team captain at last year's WalkAmerica and having the department recognized by the Board and the March of Dimes for our efforts was quite fulfilling," said Wilkie.

In addition to her accomplishments in the Fire Department, she also received recognition from her previous employer, the Internal Services Department (ISD). The KOMAND Project Team which she was a member of received ISD's Director's Award for developing and implementing the single billing system. She also received letters of commendation from various managers including ISD's former department head for her high quality work, her team player attitude and her willingness to go the "extra mile" to provide excellent service to the public and the County.

While working for the County as a student worker assigned to the Accounting Division, "I found the assignments to be interesting and challenging and knew that Business Administration/Accounting would be the career path for me," Wilkie said.

Wilkie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from California State University, Fullerton.

She enjoys spending her free time with family and friends at Pine Flat Lake either relaxing under the sun, boating or water skiing. She also enjoys reading and crafts.





Office of Women's Health



Kathleen A. Torres accepts a scroll from the Board of Supervisors while surrounded by Health Services Director Mark Finucane and Supervisors Yaroslavsky, Molina, Burke and Knabe.

Community leaders and health professionals joined Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke for the inauguration of the new County Office of Women's Health. Supervisor Burke was accompanied by Chairman Don Knabe and Supervisors Gloria Molina and Zev Yaroslavsky. The office, one of the first in the nation to focus on meeting women's needs, is part of the County's Department of Health Services.

"For too long the health needs of women have been poorly recognized and little served," said Supervisor Burke, who along with Supervisor Molina co-chaired the County's Women's Health Policy Summit in 1997. It was Supervisor Burke who introduced the motion that created the Office of Women's Health which passed unanimously.

Supervisor Burke also introduced a motion declaring 1999 as "The Year of the Healthy Woman" in Los Angeles County in conjunction with the opening of the office.

"We want to focus on prevention and wellness activities for women since without healthy women it is difficult to have healthy families or children," Burke said.

Supervisor Knabe agreed.

"Fifty percent of Los Angeles County's population is women and 31 percent of these women are uninsured and not getting the care they need."

The Office of Women's Health is charged with developing initiatives to improve women's health including implementing the extensive reforms and changes recommended by the Summit.

Promising to change the face of women's health care in Los Angeles, the Summit made 101 recommendations and paid particular attention to the health threat posed by violence against women and female adolescents and the need for diagnostic tools to identify victims and effective services to treat them.

Supervisor Molina considers access to health care a critical issue.

"Access not only involves having services available for those without insurance but having quality of care, education, transportation and culturally and linguistically appropriate services."

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If you have changed your mailing address, please notify your Personnel Office immediately.

Sheriff

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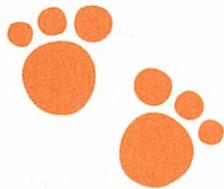
Sheriff Baca serves the community in many different ways. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Optimist Youth Homes and Ranch, Puente Learning Center, Buena Nueva Foundation, EMEK Hebrew Academy and Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law and serves on the Board of Governors of the USC Alumni Association. He has been honored by numerous nonprofit organizations and elected officials for his outstanding service to the public.

County DIGEST

Department of
Human Resources
500 W. Temple Street,
Room 375
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1765
(213) 613-4789 FAX

hr.co.la.ca.us

Calendar of Events



Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits
(323) 934-PAGE
www.tarpits.org

Nature's Original Impressionists
April 10 through September 12, 1999



The Arboretum of Los Angeles County
(626) 821-3222

Baldwin Bonanza Plant Sale
May 1 and 2, 1999
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Chinese Bonsai & Rare Stones Show
May 8 and 9, 1999
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Epiphyllum Show
May 15 and 16, 1999
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Floral Arrangement Show
May 15 and 16, 1999
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
(213) 763-DINO
www.nhm.org

13th Annual Insect Fair
May 15 and 16, 1999
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Munch on Music

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission presents three free concerts on consecutive Wednesdays beginning May 12. Called "Munch on Music - Midday on the Mall," the series provides outdoor lunchtime entertainment for downtown employees, especially those who work in the buildings near the Civic Center.



Blay Ambolley

The concerts run from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. on the mall lawn just south of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration which is across Grand Avenue from the Music Center. For more information, call the Arts Commission hotline at (213) 974-1396.

Three groups are scheduled to perform. They are:

- May 12
Blay Ambolley & His African Highlife Band
- May 19
Johnny Polanco Y Conjunto Amistad with the Albert Torres Dancers
- May 26
King Cotton

"Munch on Music" is part of a year-round free music program operated by the Arts Commission. The County matches funds from the Recording Industries' Music Performance Trust Funds through Musicians Union Local 47 to pay musicians to present more than 100 free performances each year at public sites throughout the County.



Health

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"The Office of Women's Health will focus on implementing the practical solutions to the problems identified at the Policy Summit," added Kathleen A. Torres, Director of the Office of Women's Health.

The office is located at 313 North Figueroa Street, Room 901 in Los Angeles and can be reached at (213) 240-7782.

Retirees

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MUNICIPAL COURTS: Ronald W. Tietz
PROBATION: Sidney V. Ferrell, George J. Johnston, Leevada Moore, Donald J. Denny
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Devonne Marien, Trini Munoz
PUBLIC WORKS: Roger R. Sides, Mutsuo Yoshisato
SHERIFF: Vernon E. Morrison, Jr.
TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Cesario Reyes

Members of the Board

Don Knabe
Chairman
Fourth District

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Michael J. Henry
Director of Personnel

Sandra A. Hoodye
Ombudsman/Community Liaison

John S. Mina
Staff