

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

November 16, 2011
1.3

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR THE POLICE COMMISSION UNIT CITATION

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners award the Police Commission Unit Citation for Outstanding Service to:

Sergeant Teresa Akune, Serial No. 26183, Pacific Area – LAX Substation
Sergeant Jacqueline Boyer, Serial No. 24829, West Traffic Division
Sergeant Richard Duran, Serial No. 23274, Hollenbeck Area
Sergeant Irma Krish, Serial No. 30315, Training Division
Sergeant Jason Liguori, Serial No. 36091, Information Technology Bureau
Sergeant Marianus von Korff, Serial No. 25306, Central Traffic Division
Sergeant John Russo, Serial No. 27640, Office of Administrative Services
Sergeant Thomas Tavares, Serial No. 23736, Central Traffic Division
Sergeant Amy Wong, Serial No. 31005, Mission Area
Detective Elizabeth Alvillar, Serial No. 35070, Harbor Area
Detective Sharon Brady, Serial No. 35337, Pacific Area
Detective Kimberly Jones-Harris, Serial No. 25140, Commercial Crimes Division
Detective Rose Angel-Rummer, Serial No. 30866, Central Area
Detective Ysabel Villegas, Serial No. 26919, Central Area
Police Officer Rosalind Curry, Serial No. 31058, Employee Assistance Unit
Police Officer Petrona Cummings, Serial No. 25249, Hollywood Area
Police Officer Gloria Garces, Serial No. 31563, Hollywood Area
Police Officer Shawn Hetherington, Serial No. 32657, Air Support Division
Police Officer Sean Laule, Serial No. 35221, West Traffic Division
Police Officer Julie Munson, Serial No. 33868, Community Relations Section
Police Officer Gina Onweiler, Serial No. 26742, Officer Representation Unit
Police Officer Robert Paterson, Serial No. 34151, Juvenile Division
Police Officer Karen Rayner, Serial No. 31527, Public Information Office
Police Officer Scott Vostad, Serial No. 37766, Valley Traffic Division
Police Officer Chun Yim, Serial No. 34902, Detective Support and Vice Division
Reserve Officer Vance Bjorklund, Serial No. R6318, Office of Administrative Services
Reserve Officer Robert Eisman, Serial No. R2832, Training Division
Reserve Officer Deborah Nichols, Serial No. R6308, Office of Administrative Services
Specialist Volunteer Lloyd Glick, Serial No. R2935, Work Environment Liaison Section

DISCUSSION

It is recommended that the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners award the Police Commission Unit Citation to the Los Angeles Police Department Honor Guard (LAPD HG) for the period of November 1, 2003, through June 3, 2011, for outstanding service to the Department and the City. As the City's only dedicated ceremonial honor guard unit, this relatively small group of officers has served to honor our community and country in a profound and meaningful way. For the past decade, the LAPD HG has projected a positive and lasting image of the Department both locally and nationally. Honor Guard members have distinguished themselves by their service to the City, their commitment to their fellow officers, and their unwavering faithfulness to the rich historical traditions which our nation has come to cherish.

During the first quarter-century of the unit's existence, the number of events at which they appeared rose slowly, but steadily. Throughout the 1990s, the LAPD HG performed at 20 to 50 events per year. Over the past decade the number of requests for the LAPD HG has soared to 120 details per year (an increase of over 500%). A review of the number of appearances individual Honor Guard members have made since 2003 revealed that the LAPD HG has collectively logged over 2,500 details.

As the Department's official ceremonial unit, the LAPD HG is consistently asked to provide a wide range of ceremonial functions at Department, City and civic events. Multifaceted, the LAPD HG is capable of performing routine duties, such as traditional color guard functions, as well as coordinating the intricate details inherent to military style funerals for officers killed in the line of duty. Whether the event is attended by a small group of onlookers or viewed by a national audience, the LAPD HG is responsible for ensuring no detail is overlooked.

While the LAPD HG is most visible at high profile events (i.e. Line of Duty funerals), the unit's attendance at most Department or civic functions is now almost commonplace. Sadly the events which go largely unnoticed are the sparsely attended funerals for retired officers. The services are often held at remote cemeteries throughout Southern California, invariably on a Saturday or Sunday. Sacrificing time away from their own family and friends and often at the expense of preplanned engagements, LAPD HG members will unfailingly attend the service to present a flag to a grateful surviving family member. For far too long the passing of active civilian employees or retired career civilians often went unnoticed. In order to recognize their commitment to the Department and City the LAPD HG now routinely attends the funeral services for civilian employees to formally present an encased City flag to the deceased's loved-one.

By most standards the ability to keep pace with such a challenging operational tempo would be considered laudable. When one takes into account that membership in the LAPD HG is an ancillary duty performed by an all-volunteer unit comprised of officers from throughout the Department, the ability to maintain this demanding schedule is even more remarkable.

Today the Chief of Police, Police Commissioners, City Council, Mayor's Office and a variety of City agencies and civic entities have all come to rely on the LAPD HG to fulfill a host of ceremonial duties. Due to the increasing range of official functions the LAPD HG is expected to fulfill, individual members must be proficient at a variety of skill sets and must possess the ability to perform choreographed movements regardless of the operating environment. Cramped locations, low ceilings, uneven terrain, pouring rain, extreme heat and bitter cold are just some of the environmental factors which the LAPD HG must contend with. The relative ease in which the LAPD HG appears to perform its duties often overshadows the immense physical and in many cases the intense emotional toll inherent to most details.

As the ceremonial unit for the nation's third largest police department, and arguably one of the world's leading law enforcement agencies, expectations are always exceedingly high. The expertise and professionalism displayed by the LAPD HG has garnered an exceptional reputation among its peers nationwide. The following is a representative sample of events the LAPD HG has been assigned as the lead entity representing the Department or has served in an advisory role providing training or assistance:

- 2011- National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, Washington DC
- 2011- California Peace Officers Memorial, Sacramento, CA
- 2011- Funeral service for Police Officer Ryan Stringer Alhambra Police Department
- 2011- Funeral service for Police Officer Kevin Sandoval, South Pasadena Police Department
- 2011- Funeral service for Police Officer Andrew Garton, Hawthorne Police Department
- 2011- Swearing-in Ceremony for Councilmember Tom LeBonge, Fourth District
- 2010 - Funeral services for Police Officer Joshua Cullins, LAPD
- 2010 - Funeral Services for Retired Chief of Police Daryl Francis Gates, LAPD
- 2010 - Funeral service for Officer Philip Ortiz, California Highway Patrol
- 2010 - California Society of Municipal Finance Officers Annual Conference
- 2010 - Dedication, Police Administrative Building Memorial Wall
- 2009 - Grand Opening, New Police Administration Building
- 2008 - Funeral services for Police Officer Randy Simmons, LAPD
- 2006 - 23rd Annual National Tactical Officer's Association Conference
- 2005 - Official Ground Breaking Ceremonies, L.A. Regional Crime Laboratory
- 2003 - Funeral services for Retired Chief of Police Edward Davis, LAPD

In the wake of both local and national exposure, the LAPD HG has become a sought after resource for agencies who either wish to establish an honor guard or who want their honor guard members to receive enhanced training. Notably, over the past five years the LAPD HG has provided training to the following agencies:

- 2011 - Hawthorne Police Department
- 2010 - Huntington Park Police Department
- 2008 - Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- 2007 - Vernon Police Department
- 2006 - El Cajon Police Department

Historically, the LAPD HG has assisted other departments by providing military style honors for fallen officers:

- 1994 - Palos Verdes Estates Police Department-Captain Michael Tracy and Sergeant Vernon Vanderpool
- 1994 - Manhattan Beach Police Department-Officer Martin Ganz
- 1994 - Orange County Sheriff's Department-Deputy Darryn Robins
- 1993 - Oxnard Police Department-Officer Jim O'Brian

Due to the numerous requests the LAPD HG receives to train other agencies each year, the Department created an Honors and Ceremonies lesson plan, which is on the verge of being certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

In summary, the LAPD HG reflects the highest standards of the Los Angeles Police Department and the City of Los Angeles. The attached letters, commendations and certificates document in human terms the contribution the LAPD HG has made to strengthen the bond between the community and Department and speak volumes regarding their selflessness, dedication and professionalism.

Awarding the Police Commission Unit Citation would serve to formally recognize the members of the Honor Guard for their service to the City of Los Angeles.

Should you have any questions, please contact Assistant Chief Sandy Jo MacArthur, Office of Administrative Services, at (213) 486-8410.

Respectfully,



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

Attachments

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

16

DATE 08/25/2011	
RANK	DIVISION ASSIGNED VARIOUS
LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE Various	DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE Various
DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE 11/01/2003 1500	

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
 Los Angeles Police Department Honor Guard

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

ARREST REPORT
 SERGEANT'S LOG
 NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
 CRIME REPORT
 SCALED DIAGRAM
 PHOTOGRAPHS
 OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Page No. 2

4637
RECEIVED
 SEP 06 2011
 PERSONNEL GROUP

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT	REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) John A. Russo, Sergeant II, 27640	CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) William Fierro, Commander, AD-OAS
RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS	REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) <i>John A. Russo</i>	CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) <i>W. Fierro</i>
BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD	BUREAU CO (Signature) <i>St. Mac</i>

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)	INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)	UNIT
<input type="checkbox"/> Medal of Valor	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Distinguished Service Medal	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Unit Citation
<input type="checkbox"/> Police Medal	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Service Medal	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Unit Citation
<input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal	<input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal	
<input type="checkbox"/> LAPD Purple Heart	<input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation	

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: 10/11/11 - RECOMMENDED POLICE COMMISSION UNIT CITATION	COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i>
ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS	COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i>

COMMENDATION REPORT CONTINUATION SHEET

Officers to be Commended:

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COMMENDATION REPORT CONTINUATION SHEET

"Show me the manner in which a nation or community cares for its dead, and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender sympathies of its people, their respect for the laws of their land, and their loyalties to high ideals."

William Edward Gladstone, a Prime Minister of Great Britain

From November 2003 through June 2011, the members of the Los Angeles Police Department Honor Guard (LAPD HG) have distinguished themselves by their service to the City, their commitment to their fellow officers and their unwavering faithfulness to the rich historical traditions which our nation has come to cherish.

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The LAPD HG reflects the highest standards of the Los Angeles Police Department and the City of Los Angeles. The attached letters, commendations and certificates document in human terms the contribution the LAPD HG has made to the City and speaks volumes regarding the selflessness, dedication and professionalism of the members.

If warranted, it is respectfully requested that the Awards and Decorations Committee forward the attached correspondence to the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners to allow the members to consider awarding the Police Commission Unit Citation. This high honor would serve to formally recognize the members of the Honor LAPD HG for their service to the City of Los Angeles.

COMMENDATION REPORT CONTINUATION SHEET

Addenda

Citizens Letters:

- June 28, 2010 - Michael Fitzgerald (son of Retired Sergeant W.E Fitzgerald)
- March 10, 2010 - Olga Pena (widow of Retired Lieutenant Manuel Pena)
- January 19, 2007 - Bob Helvin (brother of Detective John Helvin)
- January 17, 2007 - Heather Hardee (daughter of Retired Officer Douglas A. Dreyer)
- May 27, 2004 - Vickie L. Adams-Richards (daughter of Retired Officer Donald White)
- April 11, 2004 - Robert S. Gray (brother of Retired Officer Richard L. Gray)

Government/Outside Correspondence:

- July 15, 2010 - Craig W. Floyd, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund
- May 28, 2010 - Tom LaBonge, Los Angeles City Council, Fourth District
- February 24, 2010 - Joya C. De Foor, Los Angeles City Treasurer
- April 24, 2008 - Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- November 13, 2007 - Greig Smith, Los Angeles City Council, Twelfth District
- November 23, 2004 - Julie Butcher, City of Los Angeles Quality and Productivity Commission
- July 8, 2003 - Tom LaBonge, Los Angeles City Council, Fourth District

Outside Departments:

- May 3, 2010 - City of Huntington Park Police Department
- July 13, 2007 - City of Vernon Police Department
- February 17, 2006 - City of El Cajon Police Department
- January 20, 2005 - Patrick J. Mallon, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

Department Correspondence:

- February 26, 2010 - Lieutenant Joe G. Losorelli
- February 11, 2011 -Deputy Chief Kirk Albanese
- April 15, 2010 - Captain John F. Egan
- September 21, 2006 - Commander (then Captain) Scott C. Krober
- July 1, 2004 - Deputy Chief (then Captain) Patrick M. Gannon

ADDENDA

3/10/10

(2)

Dear Sgt. John Russo:

Thank you so very much
for leading the Honor Guard
and your so very kind words
to me at the moment of

need. Your duty is so important
to us and you do your duty so well.

I thank you,
Alga Pina & family

January 19, 2007

Serial # 27640

entered in DECS
on 10-11-07

Chief William Bratton
Los Angeles Police Department
150 N. Los Angeles St.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90012

Dear Chief Bratton,


On January 9th, I lost my brother after his courageous three year battle with colon cancer. His name is John Helvin and he served with the Los Angeles Police Department from 1961 to 1984. His serial number was 10735. John was a career detective and in his last 13 years on the job he was assigned to Robbery-Homicide Division.

A memorial service was held for John on January 12th in the filled-to-capacity Sky Rose Chapel at Rose Hills Memorial Park here in Whittier. The LAPD family rallied in support of all of us in my brother's family. The services were conducted by retired LAPD Chaplain Jerry Powell and a great percentage of those in attendance were retired LAPD officers of many ranks from Police Officer to Deputy Chief.

The final portion of the service provided ^{# 27640} the most poignant moments. An LAPD Honor Guard comprised of Sgt. John Russo and Officer Shawn Hetherington entered the chapel and presented a folded American flag to John's wife of 44 years, Eleanore. Their appearance and precision were impeccable. They performed their duty with sincere reverence for a fallen brother officer. After they silently marched out of the chapel, Officer Lloyd Glick, standing near the chapel's entrance, played Taps on his bugle. Everyone in the chapel was struck by the emotions of those moments. I can feel my emotions rise even as I write this letter.

I am writing this letter to you to express my appreciation on behalf of our entire family for the presence of Sgt. Russo, and Officers Hetherington and Glick as the LAPD Honor Guard. They are to be commended for their professionalism in how they carried out their duties that afternoon. I had a strong sense of pride in our Department, as did all of the other retired officers. Many non-police friends and family members offered their praise and appreciation for the LAPD Honor Guard.

Sincerely yours,


Bob Helvin
LAPD Retired D-III #17304
Whittier, California

Honor
Guard

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2007

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OFFICE OF SUPPORT SERVICES

MONTEREY COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DEAN D. FLIPPO
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2007

Office of Support Services



Office of the Chief of Police
Chief William J. Bratton
150 North Los Angeles St. Rm #619
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

January 17, 2007

VSB

Dear Chief Bratton,

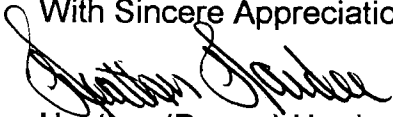
My Father, Douglas A. Dreyer was a 28-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department who passed away on January 1, 2007. Words cannot begin to express my family's feelings of loss. Because of my father's service with LAPD, it was extremely important to my family that his service with LAPD be honored one last time. On behalf of my family, I contacted the Employee's Assistance Unit and spoke with Officer Rod LaValle. Officer LaValle showed compassion and moved quickly to putting us in contact with two of LAPD's Finest, Sergeant Vance Bjorklund and Officer P2 Shawn Hetherington, both from your Honor Guard Unit. Officer LaValle facilitated this meeting in a very short period of time, with a great sense of compassion, and is to be commended for his assistance during this very difficult time.

Sergeant Bjorklund and Officer Hetherington appeared at my father's Memorial Service on January 6, 2007 in uniform. Both men are a tribute to the professionalism and compassion I remember to be LAPD. Chief Bratton, these men expressed sincere emotion that was felt by all who attended the service. Sergeant Bjorklund announced an end of watch broadcast to those in attendance identifying my father's years of service with LAPD. This broadcast was poignantly emotional and very beautifully done. This was a powerful tribute to my father who gave so much of himself to LAPD and the City of Los Angeles. There was a heartfelt moment of compassion and tears that Sgt. Bjorklund showed to my mother, Judith Dreyer, as he presented her with the U.S. flag and then saluted her. This was a moment which will never be forgotten by my mother, who was married to my father for 49 years, or my family, or anyone else who was in attendance there that day. It was such a beautiful and loving tribute to my father who gave so much of himself to LAPD, an agency he loved so well.

Words cannot begin to express the feelings of emotion, appreciation and gratitude that my family has for LAPD, and for these fine men, Sergeant Bjorklund and

Officer Hetherington. They are a living tribute to all that have served LAPD and the City of Los Angeles with distinction an honor. I felt privileged to have these men present to honor my Father, and I sincerely "Thank-You" for their service. I ask that Sergeant Bjorklund and Officer Hetherington be commended for their service, and that they accept my family's sincere gratitude and appreciation for the time they took to honor my father.

With Sincere Appreciation,



Heather (Dreyer) Hardee
District Attorney Investigator
Monterey County DA
(831) 647-7725

Cc: Sgt. Dan Putz / Employee Assistance Unit

May 27, 2004

Chief William Bratton
c/o LAPD
150 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90011

RE: Officer Sean Laule

Stanford 6-18-04

Dear Chief Bratton,

We experienced the distinct honor of meeting Sean Laule when he volunteered as Honor Guard for the occasion of our father's funeral on May 7, 2004. His sole presence added significance to the celebration of our father's life. His flawless execution of the duties of honor guard gave credence to the service. The flag ceremony was carried out with precision, with great attention to detail. We feel blessed to have experienced Sean's efforts. He exhibited professionalism as he represented the LAPD in the time of our loss. Dad would have been proud.

Although Donald E. White retired in the mid 70's, he was honored and remembered by the LAPD. For this, we are thankful.

Respectfully,

Vickie Adams Richardi

Vickie L. Adams-Richardi
1111 South Coast Drive, B 202
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

RECEIVED

JUN 02 2004

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

TO OCB/CENT

DECS - CTD
chris 06

OFFICER'S COPY

RECEIVED

BY MAILING COPY

APR 16 2004

Handwritten initials

POB 153
Freeland, WA.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

OHR

April 11, 2004

William J. Bratton
Chief of Police
Los Angeles Police Department

Information Only
Approp. action, retain & file
Reply to correspondent by you
Copy to COP
Fact sheet to COP
Invest. reply COP signature
resulting documentation to COP

3.5

Dear Chief Bratton,

cc: P10

The purpose of this letter is to commend members of your Department.

Comm

My name is Robert S. Gray and I live in Washington State. My brother, Richard L. Gray, was a retired member of the Los Angeles Police Department and he lived in Santa Clarita, CA. He was a 1976 recipient of the LAPD Medal of Valor. He succumbed to a viral heart disease on 11 March 2004.

I was concerned that his widow would be overwhelmed by the complexities of dealing with pension and health insurance matters and because I am located so far away felt somewhat frustrated by not being able to help her deal with the matters.

I called the assistance number on your department website and, after explaining the situation, was given the name and number for ~~Officer Holly Capra~~ of the Employee Assistance Unit.

Handwritten note: R 32524

Officer Capra was sympathetic and consoling. She is knowledgeable about necessary paperwork and reports. She contacted my brother's widow, Rosemarie Gray, and consoled her and offered her assistance. Officer Capra published an obituary notice, sent a package of the appropriate papers to the widow and coordinated with the family regarding Department participation in the memorial service held on 25 March 2004.

Officer Capra made herself available for advice and assistance throughout the days following my brothers death. Her assistance and sympathy gave truth to the sense of family in the Department.

I would also like to mention the ~~two officers of the Honor Guard~~ who participated in my brothers memorial. Unfortunately I failed to get their names. They were dignified and professional and made me proud of my brothers association with the Los Angeles Police Department.

Yours truly,
Handwritten signature of Robert S. Gray
Robert S. Gray

Sergeant John Russo #27640 *(Handwritten initials)*

P-2 Elizabeth Moore #35070

RECEIVED

APR 16 2004

Office of Human Resource

cc: Holly Capra, R.N.
Police Officer, LAPD
Employee Assistance Unit

RECEIVED

APR 20 2004

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE SERVICES



National Law Enforcement Officers
MEMORIAL FUND

Thank you for all you do for the entire Law Enforcement Community. SJM

RESPECT. HONOR. REMEMBER.

July 15, 2010

RECEIVED

AUG 02 2010

Office of Administrative Services

Sgt. John A. Russo
Los Angeles Police Department
100 West First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Officers

Craig W. Floyd
Chairman & CEO

Robert H. Frank
Frank & Company
Treasurer

Suzanne Sawyer
Secretary

George W. Mayo, Jr.
Hogan & Hartson Counsel
U.S. Rep. Mario Biaggi (Ret.)
Founder

Board Member Organizations

Concerns of Police Survivors
Federal Law Enforcement
Officers Association

Fraternal Order of Police
Fraternal Order of Police
Auxiliary

National Association of
Depts of Police

International Brotherhood of
Police Officers

International Union of Police
Associations/AFL-CIO

National Association of Police
Organizations

National Black Police
Association

National Organization of Black
Law Enforcement Executives

National Sheriffs' Association

National Troopers Coalition
Police Executive Research
Forum

Police Foundation

Police Unity Tour

United Federation of Police

Dear Law Enforcement Honor Guard Units:

On behalf of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund board and staff, and the more than 22,000 people who attended our 22nd Annual Candlelight Vigil, thank you very much for volunteering your time to help make this event the great success that it was! It was, by far, one of the best in terms of program quality, weather and media coverage.

Clearly, you understand just how much this ceremony means to the law enforcement community and, in particular, to the survivors of the fallen officers. Simply put, we could not have done it without you.

Again, thank you for all you did to help pay tribute to the 324 officers whose names were dedicated on May 13th and to all those, past and present, who are sworn to serve and protect. It is an honor to work with you and I certainly hope you will consider joining us again next year!

Sincerely,

CRAIG W. FLOYD
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

LYNN LYONS-WYNNE
Senior Director of Memorial Programs
NLEOMF National Police Week Coordinator

Enclosure

Detective III Kimberly Jones-Harris, Serial No. 25140
Sergeant II Vance Bjorklund, Serial No. 21982
Sergeant II John Russo, Serial No. 27640
Sergeant I Richard Duran, Serial No. 23274
Police Officer II Robert Paterson, Serial No. 34151
Police Officer II Scott Vostad, Serial No. 37766





TOM LaBONGE
Councilmember
Fourth District

May 28, 2010

Sergeant Vance Bjorklund
Los Angeles Police Dept. Color Guard
100 West 1st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

VSB #21982

Dear Sergeant Bjorklund,


Thank you for joining me for the 3rd Annual City Employee Memorial at Fire Station 27 to remember those who gave their lives in service to the people of Los Angeles.

Los Angeles is a great city, thanks in no small part to the many great public employees who have done so much to ensure that Angelenos have always had quality water and power, public safety, and city services since its founding 229 years ago.

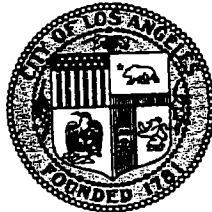
As we remember each Memorial Day those who served our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice, let us also never forget those who so bravely served us here in the City of Angels.

Again, thank you for participating. Your presence was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


TOM LABONGE
Councilmember, 4th District

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



JOYA C. DE FOOR, CTP
City Treasurer

CRISTA BINDER, CTP
Assistant Treasurer

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

200 N. SPRING ST.
ROOM 201 - CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(213) 978-1700

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
MAYOR

*John Vance
Once again, thank
you both for all you
do. SJ*

February 24, 2010

Charlie Beck
Chief of Police
Los Angeles Police Department
100 West First Street, Suite 1072
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RECEIVED

MAR 03 2010

OL'S
Support Services

Dear Chief Beck:

On behalf of the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO), I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Los Angeles Police Department's Honor Guard.

The CSMFO held its 2010 Annual Conference at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel from February 16 through 19, 2010. As Co-Chair of the Conference Host Committee, the Mayor and other elected officials were in attendance at our opening ceremony. The professionalism and attention to duty displayed by the Honor Guard did not go unnoticed. Please offer my personal thank you to:

- Sergeant II John A. Russo, Serial No. 27640
- Sergeant II Vance Bjorkuland, Serial No. 21988
- Police Officer II Shawn Hetherington, Serial No. 32657
- Police Officer II Robert Paterson, Serial No. 34151

(P) 2/23

We truly appreciated their participation in this event.

Sincerely,

Joya C. De Foort
JOYA C. DE FOOR, CTP
City Treasurer

JCD:rmf

c: Jeff Carr, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Sandy Jo MacArthur, Assistant Chief, Police Department
Chron File

DECS 2/23



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

5/2/08 ENK... DECS
db

Metro

RECEIVED

MAY 02 2008

Office of Support Services

April 24, 2008

Chief William Bratton
Los Angeles Police Department
150 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

VS

Reference: Letter of Appreciation for Sgt. Vance Bjorklund and Sgt. Marianus vonKorff

Dear Chief Bratton:

I wanted to take this opportunity to express the sincere appreciation of all of us here in the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), Transit Security Department (Metro Transit Security) for the exceptionally kind and gracious assistance provided to our department by LAPD sergeants Vance Bjorklund and Marianus vonKorff. One of our officers unexpectedly passed away on April 13th while off duty. Our officer suffered a massive heart attack while at home and two of our patrol officers discovered his body during a welfare check at the residence. Needless to say, this was a very traumatic time for our staff.

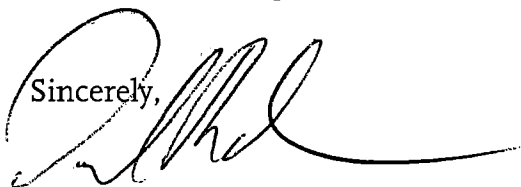
Because we are a small department, and fortunately we have not had any recent deaths within our staff, we were not prepared to provide the kind of first class funeral honor guard that a large department could routinely provide. We did want to make the funeral as nice as we could to support the family and show our proper respect for our fallen brother but we were at a loss as to the particulars of a marshal funeral.

Without hesitation, LAPD stepped up and offered to assist and guide our funeral preparations and honor guard details. Sgt. Vance Bjorklund, who works with us daily as the LAPD Liaison Officer to the MTA offered to provide any assistance we might need. Vance is a member of the LAPD's Honor Guard so he was certainly an ideal person to guide our efforts. Your excellent sergeants certainly went the extra mile to ensure that this funeral was first rate. They provided training for our honor guard detail, pallbearers and the firing squad detail. The LAPD also generously provided the rifles and other necessary equipment. Lastly, both Sgt. Bjorklund and Sgt. vonKorff performed the functions of honor guard OIC and rifle detail OIC during the funeral ceremonies. They clearly went well beyond the call of duty in supporting our department.

The efforts of Sgt. Vance Bjorklund and Sgt. Marianus vonKorff reflect the very best of professional police service and are a credit to the fine tradition of the LAPD.

Please accept our sincere appreciation for the support of the LAPD for our small department during a time of need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cowden', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Captain Daniel R. Cowden
Director of Security
Metro Transit Security Department

cc: Jack Eckles
Assistant Chief Sharon Papa
Deputy Chief Mike Hillmann
Sgt. Vance Bjorklund
Sgt. Marianus vonKorff

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NOV 15 2007

Office of Support Service

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMEMBER
GREIG SMITH
TWELFTH DISTRICT

November 13, 2007

Sgt. John Russo
Los Angeles Police Department
150 North Los Angeles Street, Room 608
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Sgt. Russo:

Thank you for your participation in presenting the colors at the Twenty-Eighth Annual Police Officers, Firefighters and Paramedics Recognition Luncheon held on October 4, 2007.

Enclosed are photographs and a copy of the narration performed by Jimmy Weldon.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

GREIG SMITH
Councilman, 12th District

GS:dk

Enclosures



1-21-05 original in Personnel Packag



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION



200 North Spring Street
Room 346, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4190
Telephone (213) 978-7673
Fax (213) 978-0720
Website: www.lacity.org/quality

Commissioners:

Julie Butcher, President
Carlos E. Alfaro, Vice President

Jack A. Baylis
Diann Cortal
Howard L. Ekerling
Michael A. Enomoto
Loren Gonzalez
Jon V. Hovsepian
Ann T. Jackson
Jovita Jenkins-Bnafa
Laura Balverde Sanchez
Dr. Gregory Thomas-Roos
Anh K. Truong

Marilyn F. Seltzer
Executive Assistant

November 23, 2004

VSB

Sgt. Vance Bjorklund
Los Angeles Police Department
BSS Section
977 N. Broadway,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Sgt. Bjorklund,

RE: Quality and Productivity Award Ceremony and Luncheon-October 14, 2004

On behalf of the Commission, I want to thank you once again for your participation in the Honor Guard at the 2004 Quality and Productivity Awards Ceremony and Luncheon held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. Opening the ceremony with the Honor Guard and the Pledge of Allegiance made this a truly special event for the guests, dignitaries and, most importantly, the award winning employees.

The Commission truly appreciates the time you took from your demanding schedule to make a valuable contribution to this celebration of employee innovation and productivity.

Thank you so very much for your support.

Sincerely,

Julie Butcher
President

cc: Bill Bratton




CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TOM LABONGE
COUNCILMEMBER 4TH DISTRICT

ROOM 480, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
(213) 485-3337
FAX (213) 624-7810

July 8, 2003

DECS


Sgt. John Russo
Los Angeles Police Department
150 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Sgt. Russo:

Thank you for making my swearing-in ceremony so memorable. This was a wonderful day for my family and me – and it surely would not have been the same without your joyful presence and participation.

I am grateful to each and every person who helped organize, participate and execute this event. Throughout my 28 years of public service, I have come to know hundreds of dedicated Angelenos who love this city as much as I do and work tirelessly to make it a better place to live and work.

My intent is to make each day better than the one just past for my constituents and all Angelenos. Your support in this effort is appreciated. We share a mutual desire to serve the people of this great city. You are an angel in the City of Angels. If there is anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Thanks again for your support, friendship and participation in my swearing-in ceremony. Let's continue to love and enjoy the great City of Los Angeles!

Sincerely,



TOM LABONGE
Councilmember, 4th District



City of
HUNTINGTON PARK California
POLICE DEPARTMENT

6542 MILES AVENUE, HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA 90255-4386
TEL. (323) 826-6600 • FAX (323) 826-6680

PAUL WADLEY
CHIEF OF POLICE

May 3, 2010

Charlie Beck, Chief of Police
Los Angeles Police Department
100 West First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012


Dear Chief Beck:

On January 2, 2010 our colleague and friend Lieutenant Arthur Lee DeClercq, a 30 year veteran lost his battle with cancer. The family requested a full honors police ceremony, and although we do have an outstanding Honor Guard, they lacked the experience in performing this type of ceremony.

We immediately reached out to the Los Angeles Police Department for assistance in training and guidance. The response we received from your agency was absolutely incredible and heart warming. With limited time your personnel trained, assisted, provided guidance, and even accompanied our Honor Guard on the day of the service. We were assisted by Sergeant II Vance Bjorklund Serial no. 21982; Sergeant II John Russo Serial no. 27640; Detective II Charles Scott Walton Serial no. 25930; Police Officer II+VI Adam Greenberg Serial no. 27515; Police Officer II+VI Victor Pappas, Serial no. 34661 and Reserve Police Officer Lloyd Glick Serial no. R2935.

We cannot demonstrate in words the gratitude we have for their participation in our final farewell to one of our own. The success of this ceremony was accredited to their professionalism; experience; dedication to service, and above all for the compassion each of them displayed in assisting us with this mission. On behalf of the Huntington Park Police Department, we want to recognize them for all their invaluable assistance and professionalism.

Sincerely,


PAUL WADLEY
Chief of Police


LEE ALIREZ
Assistant Chief of Police

Serial #.
27640

(4)

Entered in DECS
10/11/07



Commendation
for
Sgt. Russo

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Steve Towles, Chief of Police
4305 Santa Fe Avenue, Vernon, California 90058
Telephone (323) 587-5171 Fax (323) 826-1481

July 13, 2007

Chief William Bratton
Los Angeles Police Department
150 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chief Bratton:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and that of the members of the Vernon Police Department Honor Guard to you and the members of your Honor Guard.

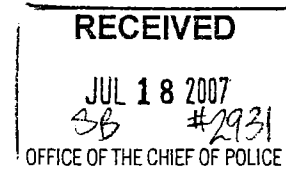
Sgt. John Russo, Officer Rod Levally, and Officer Shawn Hetherington organized and presented eight hours of training at our Department for the 15 members of our Honor Guard. Sgt. Russo went out of his way as an instructor, giving our Honor Guard the necessary start. In addition, Sgt. Russo made himself available to answer any questions that might arise.

It was a privilege for our officers to train with members of such an elite Honor Guard. Please convey my sincere gratitude to Sgt. Russo, Officer Levally and Officer Hetherington. Their efforts were very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT

**STEVE TOWLES
CHIEF OF POLICE**



To: OSS/BSS SB
Date: _____

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JUL 19 2007

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OFFICE OF SUPPORT SERVICES

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CITY OF EL CAJON

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief William Bratton:

The El Cajon Police Department has recently formed an Honor Guard Unit to conduct formal proceedings at ceremonies and funerals. We are in the process of obtaining uniforms and equipment, as well as developing a standard operating procedure. I was tasked with finding formal training and was referred to your agency.

I subsequently made contact with your Employee Assistance Unit and they introduced me to Sergeant John Russo. He immediately recognized our situation and offered assistance. He overextended himself, offering to provide classroom instruction, practical application and your department's S.O.P. as a template.

On February 2, 2006 myself along with three other Honor Guard members met with Sergeant Russo at your academy in Anaheim. He did an excellent job in covering lecture material related to the history, definitions, and manual of arms, flag operations and memorial services. He then put us through a series of practical drills, while being very patient.

Sergeant Russo did an excellent job of providing us with the necessary foundation to develop our Honor Guard Unit. He did his job with professionalism and enthusiasm, and was a pleasure to work with. We greatly appreciate his assistance and you should be proud to have such a fine Sergeant in your department.

Respectfully,

Eric A. Taylor #0157
Honor Guard Member

RECEIVED

FEB 17 2006

Chief of Police

SW/PSB

- Information Only
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- Reply to correspondent by you
- Copy to COP
- Forward to cop

C: P10



County of Los Angeles
 Sheriff's Department Headquarters
 4700 Ramona Boulevard
 Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

PSB



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF
 January 20, 2005

RECEIVED TO IAG

JAN 31 2005 JK

William J. Bratton, Chief
 Los Angeles Police Department
 150 North Los Angeles Street
 Los Angeles, California 90012

DECS

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU
 Logged In/out

Dear Chief Bratton:

On behalf of the members of the Joint Powers Authority for the Los Angeles Regional Crime Laboratory Facility, we extend our personal thanks and recognition for the outstanding efforts of your staff members who assisted with the Official Ground Breaking ceremonies on Friday, January 14, 2005. This event not only commemorates the start of the construction activities, but also the previous 11 years of extensive efforts to plan, design, and finance this state-of-the-art criminalistics laboratory center. The efforts of your staff were integral to the success of this event, which was attended by many elected and important community leaders.

The following is a list of individuals from your organization who assisted by providing their time, efforts, and expertise to this event:

Name	Employee #	Rank	Unit of Assignment
Raymond Maltez	23219	Sergeant	Behavioral Sciences Services
Ernest Avila	23599	Officer	Hollenbeck Division
Jeffrey Quinlan	27153	Officer	Hollenbeck Division
Julie Munson	33868	Officer	Consent Decree Bureau
John Russo	27640	Officer SGT	Consent Decree Bureau
Sandra Escalante	31977	Officer	Media Relations Section
Sara Faden	30761	Officer	Media Relations Section

Please extend our thanks for making this multi-agency celebration possible and a memorable job well-done.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2005

Patrick J. Mallon
 Patrick J. Mallon, Commander (Retired)
 Project Coordinator

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

to OSS;OO;CDB;PIO
 Du _____

- Information Only
- Approp. action, retain & file
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- Copy to COP
- Fact sheet to COP
- Invest. reply COP signature

#192
 #194
 #193
 #195

A Tradition of Service

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

February 26, 2010
4.5.1

TO: Director, Office of Administrative Services

FROM: Commanding Officer, Rampart Detective Division

SUBJECT: COMMENDATORY PERFORMANCE OF SERGEANT II
VANCE BJORKLUND, SERIAL NO. 21982


*Thank Vance
for all you do
for us.
Sandy*

This correspondence has been prepared to cite a member of your command, Sergeant II Vance Bjorklund, Serial No. 21982, for his superlative duty performance and comporment. On February 20, 2010, retired Detective III Salvador Ramos, Serial No. 7562, passed away in Whittier. His son is Detective III Richard Ramos, Serial No. 22575, Rampart Gang Enforcement Detail. The senior Detective Ramos was a World War II Navy veteran, as well as a 30-year Department employee.

On the morning of February 25, 2010, a service was held for the late Detective Ramos, with interment at Resurrection Cemetery in Montebello. Upon the motorcade's arrival at the cemetery, Sergeant Bjorklund, the Honor Guard representative, was awaiting us. He had in his possession the flag to be presented to the widow on behalf of the Chief of Police. He also had made contact with the United States Navy, whose representatives appeared to present the flag which was draped upon the casket, on behalf of the President of the United States.

Approximately 50 officers were present at the interment, and Sergeant Bjorklund was instrumental in smartly forming them into two columns, a task made a bit more difficult than normal because the officers were within a mausoleum. The sergeant assisted me with the proper commands to present and order arms, and also with the protocols for flag presentation. With approximately 250 attendees, the flag presentations were done in a professional and very dignified and moving manner, befitting the late Detective Ramos. The family extended their thanks to Sergeant Bjorklund and us for helping them bid farewell to their loved one. Sergeant Bjorklund played a vital role in the representation of Rampart Detective Division at the funeral, and I commend and thank him.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Lieutenant Wesley Buhrmester, Rampart Detective Division, at (213) 484-3441.


BUHRMESTER (FER)

JOE G. LOSORELLI, Lieutenant
Commanding Officer
Rampart Detective Division

*DECS
1/26/10*

February 11, 2011

1.7

TO: Concerned Employees

FROM: Commanding Officer, Operations-Valley Bureau

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION

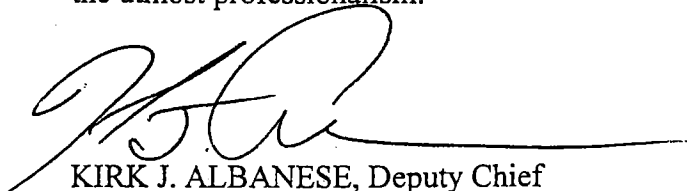
On January 13, 2011, our Department experienced a great loss when Captain Bill Eaton passed away after a long battle with cancer. The loss of this command officer was felt throughout the City. On January 25, 2011, hundreds of people attended his services in Granada Hills.

The loss of a Department employee is always difficult to bear, but more so when you are directly dealing with the deceased employee's family and friends. Nonetheless, you skillfully coordinated the visitation/memorial service, accommodated the special needs of the family, and painstakingly ensured that the services to honor Captain Eaton were a befitting tribute to a truly amazing person.

Either by way of assignments within the Department or by volunteering to assist, all of you in one way or another helped to ease the suffering of his family and loved ones. The circumstances were difficult and challenging, but they were handled with precision and grace.

I sincerely thank you for fulfilling the heavy responsibility of coordinating the funeral/memorial services for Captain Eaton with unselfishness and compassion.

I also commend you for displaying exemplary teamwork and representing the Department with the utmost professionalism.



KIRK J. ALBANESE, Deputy Chief
Commanding Officer
Operations-Valley Bureau

INTRADPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

April 15, 2010
7.5

TO: Director, Office of Administrative Services

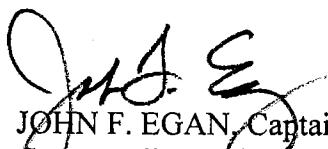
FROM: Commanding Officer, West Valley Area

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN FUNERAL SERVICES OF
RETIRED LIEUTENANT MANUEL PENA

On February 6, 2010, the below listed Honor Guard members and their coordinator represented the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) at the funeral services of retired LAPD Lieutenant Manuel Pena, who dedicated 25 years of his life to this great organization solving untold numbers of major crimes during the course of his long and illustrious career. Lieutenant Pena was a legend on this Department and outstanding example of all of the LAPD's core values. The participation of the honor guards at his services would have meant so much to him as he loved the LAPD and all it stands for.

- Sergeant II John Russo, Serial No. 27640, Office of Administrative Services
- Sergeant II Vance Bjorklund, Serial No. 21982, Office of Administrative Services VB
- Detective III Kimberly Jones, Serial No. 25140, Commercial Crimes Division
- Sergeant I Tere Akune, Serial No. 26183, Pacific Area/LAX Sub-Station
- Police Officer III Petrona Cummings, Serial No. 25249, Hollywood Area
- Police Officer II Scott Vostad, Serial No. 37766, Valley Traffic Division

All of these men and women are to be commended for their dedication to this Department, outstanding performance and commitment to honoring those who have come before us. Their participation in this event made the experience so very memorable for all involved and especially for Lieutenant Pena's family. Many thanks to all of them for their generous commitment of both their time and energy.


JOHN F. EGAN, Captain
Commanding Officer
West Valley Area

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

September 21, 2006

16.3

TO: Commanding Officer, Office of Support Services

FROM: Commanding Officer, Metropolitan Division

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION FOR SERGEANT II VANCE BJORKLUND, SERIAL NO. 21982, OFFICE OF SUPPORT SERVICES

VSB

The Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, and the Burbank Police Department hosted the 23rd Annual National Tactical Officers Association Conference (NTOA) from September 10 through 15, 2006, in the greater Los Angeles area. Over 700 tactical officers throughout the United States and several international tactical teams participated in the conference. The conference provided 29 different training tracks that were specific to the unique mission of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) community and disciplines. This was a huge undertaking for the hosting agencies that began preparation for the conference in October of 2005.

The culmination of the conference was the NTOA Awards Banquet that was held at the Burbank Hilton Hotel on Friday, September 15, 2006. Nearly 800 conference attendees, guests, and dignitaries were present at the banquet. The banquet was the conclusion of a marquis event that truly benefited the training and development of SWAT officers throughout the world. The conference was an enormous success and the NTOA Awards Banquet was as equally successful.

On behalf of the Los Angeles Police Department's SWAT Unit, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Burbank Police Department, and the staff of the NTOA, I would like to personally thank and commend you for your participation at the opening ceremonies of the conference and the Awards Banquet. Without your unselfish contribution the success of the conference and banquet would not have to come to fruition.



SCOTT C. KROEBER, Captain
Commanding Officer
Metropolitan Division



A n: rom.....

CAPTAIN PATRICK M. GANNON
COMMANDING OFFICER, HARBOR AREA

July 1, 2004

Sergeant II John Russo, Professional Standards Bureau

MR

John-

I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for the effort you made to represent the Los Angeles Police Department at the Memorial Day ceremony at Green Hills Memorial Park in Rancho Palos Verdes. This event is one of the largest Memorial Day events in Southern California. As you recall, there were a number of law enforcement agencies represented at this event. As I sat in the audience I was proud to see you there, representing the best law enforcement agency in the nation.

I don't think that enough of our officers appreciate the importance of having a professional Honor Guard representing the Department. Through your efforts you have represented us well and continue to demonstrate what is great about the Los Angeles Police Department.

Thank you,

P. Gannon

DECS

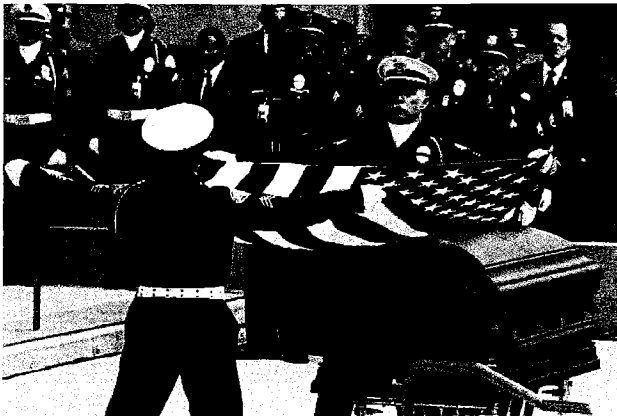
dailynews.com

Ex-LAPD Chief Daryl Gates lauded during funeral tributes

By C.J. Lin and Rick Orlov, Staff Writers

Posted: 04/27/2010 08:38:26 AM PDT

Updated: 04/27/2010 06:37:16 PM PDT



The flag is removed from the casket of Daryl Gates at the formal Honor Ceremony at Our Lady of the Angeles Cathedral tuesday. Former Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates passed away last week after a battle with cancer at age 83. (David Crane/Los Angeles Daily News)

In the weeks before he died, bedridden from fighting a losing battle with cancer, former LAPD Chief Daryl F. Gates was visited by an LAPD helicopter hovering outside his hospital window.

Even though Gates was weak, he got up, put on his SWAT hat and stood at attention. He continued to salute the crew even as the chopper flew away, tears streaming down his cheeks.

It was a moment that spoke to just how dedicated Gates was to the department that he headed for 14 years and its officers, said retired LAPD Deputy Chief Mike Hillmann, speaking at Gates' funeral on Tuesday.

It also spoke to how strongly officers felt about him, even though he had left office nearly 20 years before. A steady stream of officers traveled from all over the state to his bedside to say their goodbyes, in what must have looked like a police convention in the hospital, Hillmann said.

"He was the chief to police officers," Hillmann said. "He was truly America's police chief."

On Tuesday, law enforcement officers from across the nation, as well as firefighters and members of the U.S. armed services, gathered to pay final respects to Gates, who died April 16 at his home in Dana Point.

The morning began with an elaborate procession through downtown L.A. that ended with funeral services at Our Lady of the City of Angels Cathedral.

Under gray skies, dozens of family members, bagpipers and a cortege of officers - on foot, motorcycle and horseback - escorted a black hearse from the new Police Administration Building to the cathedral. Police Chief Charlie Beck and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa followed behind. Officers and military men who were not part of the procession saluted from the sidewalk.


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dailynews.com

The procession passed through an arch formed by the ladders of two fire trucks, from which a large American flag hung.

Officers lined the entrance to the cathedral and saluted as Gates' flag-draped, polished wooden casket was carried by eight uniformed pallbearers inside. The cathedral, which normally seats 3,000, held 3,200 for the nondenominational service as fire marshals made contingency plans to allow officers to stand in the aisles.

"It was a beautiful ceremony for a man who really loved the city," said Los Angeles Sheriff Lee Baca. "Enough cannot be said about Daryl Gates the human being. He was a humanitarian."

The sea of dark blue uniforms gathered outside the cathedral for an honor ceremony afterwards underscored Gates' popularity among the LAPD's front-line officers, who saw in him a defender of their practices and a protector of law enforcement regardless of political or media backlash.

"How is it that this man who was chief almost two decades ago remains so significant?" Beck said.

"It's simple, really. He loved this place. He respected the men and women of this place. He loved them unconditionally.

"And we loved him back."

An honor guard fired a 21-gun salute and four LAPD helicopters performed a "missing man fly over" formation, splitting off in four directions over Gates' casket. Church bells tolled.

The flag draped over the casket was folded by the honor guard and presented to Gates' daughter Debbie by Beck, who kneeled in front of her and placed the flag in her lap.

Three other flags were presented to his other

daughter, son and brother, retired Capt. Steve Gates.

An end-of-watch broadcast echoed over the ranks, listing Gates' career, serial number 6432, and referring to him as "The Chief."

"There will never be another like Daryl," Beck said. "Daryl Gates became the Los Angeles Police Department. And the Los Angeles Police Department became Daryl Gates."

As the 49th police chief, Gates presided over a department that was considered vastly understaffed - 7,400 officers for a city then of more than 2.5 million people - an issue which almost became a point of pride within the department. It was a time when the crime rates were much higher, and homicides were triple the figure of today's rate.

Gates, chief from 1978 to 1992, is credited with creating the SWAT teams as well as the DARE anti-drug program. The hiring of women and minority officers increased under his watch. Most famously, perhaps, was his writing of Special Order 40 - an issue that remains controversial - which prohibits officers from asking the immigration status of crime victims.

"Even if it was a difficult or unpopular decision..."

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Chief Gates worked tirelessly," Villaraigosa said. "He will be remembered as someone who paved the way for the modern police department."

But Gates will also be linked to an era of hostile ties with many in the city - particularly minorities, whose only positive contact with officers might have been a wave from a passing patrol car.

The hostility boiled over following the videotaped beating of African-American motorist Rodney King by four white officers in Lakeview Terrace. Their acquittal on criminal charges sparked four days of riots that left more than 50 people dead and caused an estimated \$1 billion in damage.

When Gates was told that his best course of action was to take a stance against the officers following the public release of the videotape, his response to advisers was "to go pound sand," said Jay Grodin, Gates' attorney and best friend. Gates said the officers were entitled to a fair and impartial investigation, Grodin recalled.

"Daryl was not one of the greatest diplomats in history," said former Gov. Pete Wilson. "But Daryl Gates and the department he molded far exceeded excellent."

Gates was born Aug. 20, 1926, and grew up in Glendale and Highland Park. He enlisted in the Navy and served two years before enrolling at the University of Southern California. He joined the LAPD in 1949 when his wife became pregnant.

Gates moved up quickly through the ranks and became a driver for then-Chief William Parker, a job he later said taught him more about the city and politics than any other position he ever held. During his years as an officer and as chief, Gates saw some of the most controversial crimes and issues in city history. They included the death of Marilyn Monroe, the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, the Watts riots, and the Manson

Family and Hillside Strangler cases.

But it was the King beating and the subsequent riots that gave further impetus to a series of reforms developed by a panel under the direction of former Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Among the changes was limiting the job to two five-year terms, making sure no chief would ever again serve as long as Gates.

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