to work in partnership with the community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our city.
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February 2004

As Mayor of the City of Sacramento, I am honored to be part of the Sacramento Police Department’s annual report. This report serves as a tribute to the men and women of the Sacramento Police Department, for their professionalism and dedication to the city and its residents.

The City of Sacramento was met with unprecedented challenges in 2003: the USDA conference, homeland security, State budget cuts, and employees called to serve in Iraq. These challenges were met with the resolve and perseverance expected only from the best in law enforcement.

It is a privilege to be working with the men and women of the Sacramento Police Department as they serve the people of Sacramento.

Sincerely,

HEATHER FARGO
MAYOR

HF/cv
As Police Chief for the City of Sacramento, it is an honor and a pleasure to present the 2003 Annual Report on behalf of the Sacramento Police Department. We have accomplished a number of important goals and achieved many first-time milestones during the past year. 2003 has been a landmark year that will stand out in the long and proud history of the Sacramento Police Department.

Last year, the nation entered into war. As a result, for the first time ever, we had to prepare a concerned community and ourselves against the threat of high-level terrorist attacks in Sacramento. At the same time, we had to ensure that our community was safe and no single group was ostracized or fell victim to hate crimes. In addition, many members of our law enforcement family were sent into harm’s way as they were called to serve overseas.

Despite the enormity of it all, we protected and guided our City through Sacramento’s first, highly volatile and controversial, large-scale, international conference. We surpassed all expectations and kept freedom of speech alive, while at the same time we protected all of those living and working downtown. While thousands of protestors marched through the streets and staged a series of disruptive and potentially violent events, we still kept a perspective balance about our jobs, and maintained our professionalism.

At the Sacramento Police Department, we continue to enhance and preserve the neighborhoods by working in partnership with the entire community to resolve crime-related problems. We have enormous challenges ahead of us in the coming year, but we are approaching those challenges with the same commitment, courage and integrity that have been our hallmark in 2003.

Sincerely,

ALBERT NAJERA
Chief of Police

The mission of the Sacramento Police Department is to work in partnership with the Community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our City.
MISSION

The Mission of the Sacramento Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our City.

Office of the Chief

The Office of the Chief is responsible for planning, organizing, directing, coordinating, and administering all Department activities, and for developing and communicating the vision of the Department. One captain oversees the Internal Affairs Section and the Professional Standards Unit. The other captain oversees two civilian administrative managers, one in the Chief's office and the other in the Fiscal Section. This captain also oversees the Criminal Intelligence Unit, Public Information Sergeant, Administrative Staff, and Economic Development Section.

Office of Operations

The Office of Operations is responsible for Patrol, Problem Oriented Policing, and specialty units such as SWAT, Air Operations, Traffic, Canine, Bicycles, Marine, Mounted, EOD (Bomb Squad), School Resource Officers, and Reserves. This office has three captains who are responsible for the six patrol sectors and the Metro Division. It makes up the largest segment of the Sacramento Police Department with more than 500 sworn positions.

Office of Investigations

The Office of Investigations is responsible for developing information leading to the arrest of criminal offenders, preparing cases, recovering stolen property, crime scene investigations, drug enforcement, tracking and investigating gang-related activities, locating missing persons, and addressing family violence issues. This office has two captains who oversee the Detective and Special Investigations Divisions, and one civilian administrative manager in the Forensic Identification Section who reports to the captain of the Detective Division.

Office of Technical Services

The Office of Technical Services is responsible for the auxiliary functions that support the Police Department's line units. This office has three captains, six civilian administrative managers, and one Information Technology Manager. The office is organized into the Personnel and Training, Communications, and Technology and Information Services Divisions.

Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security

The Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional office that is responsible for coordinating Homeland Security grants, conducting regional threat and vulnerability assessments, developing regional and agency terrorism response plans, coordinating and conducting regional interdisciplinary terrorism response training, and designing and coordinating training exercises. A captain and lieutenant manage this office. The office is also a major portion of the Sacramento Terrorism Early Warning Group that is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of information related to terrorism.
### Employee Demographics

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<td>Male</td>
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Count of employees, not FTE

### Percentage of Filled Strength

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<td>0.00</td>
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### Employee Demographics

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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>275</td>
<td>381</td>
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Count of employees, not FTE
Community Involvement/Giving Back

1st Annual Community Celebration

The Sacramento Police and Fire Departments co-hosted the 1st Annual Community Celebration. The open house event was packed with safety information, police and fire displays, demonstrations, a community business fair, and children's activities that attracted hundreds of citizens and businesses from both neighboring communities and throughout the greater Sacramento area.

The Total Christmas Experience

Acting as Santa's helpers, Police and Community Service Officers delivered trees, decorations, presents and Christmas dinner to families, providing them with the "Total Christmas Experience." More than $3,000 was raised through donations and contributions from area businesses, community members, and Department employees.

Project Outreach and Return to Residency

Programs Aid Homeless

Officer Leo Holland, and social workers from the County of Sacramento, assisted mentally ill homeless individuals with housing, job training, counseling, and medication through Project Outreach. The program aided approximately 1,000 individuals, 336 of whom were personally assisted by Officer Holland. In addition, the Return to Residency Program provides individuals the opportunity to reconnect with family support by providing free bus transportation home.

Bike Unit Forms Partnerships to Provide Training to Area Businesses

The Bike Unit partnered with city, county and state agencies to provide training to businesses in the downtown area. The training included safety, report writing, laws of arrest, search and seizure, crime prevention, and general security for buildings and citizens. Participants included the Downtown Guides, Westfield Downtown Plaza, and the Old Sacramento Merchants Association.

School Resource Officers

Provided Training to School Districts

The School Resource Officers (SRO), firefighters, and 15 administrators from Sacramento City Unified and Natomas School Districts attended the Federal Emergency Management Agency's school disaster training in Maryland. As a result, the Sacramento City Unified School District is implementing a policy in multi-hazard school planning. The SRO Unit also partnered with the Gang Unit and the Village Project to train more than 300 educators in gang awareness.

The Forensic Identification Section Opens the Door to Area Students

The Forensic Identification Section (FID) opened the door to area students by providing training and internships. Training classes ranged from basic Identification Technician duties to Crime Scene Investigation. Classes were held at elementary and high schools, California State University, Sacramento, and the California EPA Academy. FID also provided mentoring for students pursuing their master's degree in Forensic Science as well as internships for University of New Haven students.
Recruitment & Training

The Sacramento Police Department (SPD) continued its "Call to Serve" recruitment campaign through employment ads, and joint police and fire exams.

Dedicated to hiring a workforce that reflects the community in which it serves and providing a high level of training, the Department conducts its own academies for police officers, community service officers, dispatchers, and records assistants.

Last year's two 23-week POST-certified police academies were attended by 64 SPD and 20 outside agency police officers. After graduating from the academy, police officers are assigned to one of 65 Field Training Officers (FTO) who constantly supervise and evaluate them. The Community Service Officer academy had 18 SPD and 4 outside agency attendees. The Public Safety Dispatch Academy held two academies, graduating 13 SPD dispatchers. In addition, dispatchers from 37 different agencies attended the 3-week POST-certified portion of the academy.

Emergency Vehicle Operation Course

The Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC) provided instruction to 932 individuals, including Department staff, academy recruits, and other city and county personnel. Instruction includes pursuit and Code-3 response techniques, wagon and command post training, POST-contracted simulator training, and EVOC instructor training. In conjunction with the EVOC training, Media Services produced the training video, Unmarked Code 3 Response, for police and fire personnel.

Sacramento Police Department Takes an Active Role in Being Prepared

The Sacramento Police Department continues to take an active role in providing anti-terrorism and preparedness training to the community and law enforcement personnel.

The Regional Community Policing Institute (RCPI) and the Sacramento Police Department co-hosted 8 Community Preparedness Safety Forums, providing Sacramento residents with practical information on preparing for terrorist events and disasters. State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training sessions were also co-hosted by RCPI and the FBI for 300 law enforcement personnel throughout Northern California.

In addition, the Department's Public Safety Dispatch Academy certified and presented Terrorism Training for Dispatchers. The focus of the class was identifying and responding to terrorist activity, and protecting and serving the public and law enforcement in the event of terrorist activity.

Other preparedness training included the Meadowview Light Rail Station Hostages/Emergency Drill video produced by Media Services and a POST Crime Scene Video class hosted by the Forensic Identification Section.

Did You Know?

Sacramento Police Academy was part of a special feature in a Berkeley newspaper detailing the excellent training that Berkeley police officers received from our Academy.

John F. Kennedy Magnet School Academy won the Criminal Justice Challenge.

Sacramento Police Department implemented a trial part-time work program for Dispatcher II, CSO and Police Officers classifications.

Sacramento Police Department co-hosted the Law Enforcement Volunteers of California Conference. Attendees included 402 participants from 57 different agencies.

Crime Prevention and Problem Solving

SPD Alcohol Beverage Control Officers Curtail the Sale of Alcohol to Minors

SPD Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) officers and local ABC investigators joined forces to conduct "Minor Decoy" operations to investigate the sale of alcohol to minors. A total of 80 licensed establishments were investigated, resulting in citations to 15 businesses. Officers also utilized "Impact Inspections" with ABC investigators to check businesses for proper licensing and other related violations as well as "Shoulder Tap" operations where minor decoys ask adults to purchase alcohol for them. Officers visited 37 licensed establishments and issued 32 adult citations for furnishing alcohol to a minor.

Conflict Resolution Action Plan Implemented at Hiram Johnson High School

The Sacramento Police Department developed a one-year pilot conflict resolution action plan for Hiram Johnson, John F. Kennedy, and C.K. McClatchy High Schools. School Resource Officers have already implemented the program, SPIRIT (Student Problem Identification Resolving It Together), at Hiram Johnson High School, bringing approximately 80 student leaders from various backgrounds to prioritize problems and find solutions. Successes have already been realized in the willingness of students to participate and seek non-violent alternatives to solving differences. Implementation of the program at John F. Kennedy and C. K. McClatchy High Schools is scheduled for 2005.

Did You Know?

The Marine Unit provided weekly boating safety inspections at boat ramps, conducted DUI checkpoints, and media ride-alongs in an effort to promote boating safety.

DUI checkpoints conducted by ABC Officers and the SPD Traffic Section resulted in 14 DUI arrests, 3 misdemeanor arrests, and 140 traffic citations with 105 vehicles towed.
Enforcement

Regional Transit Police Services Unit
Reduces Riders' Concerns

The Regional Transit Police Services Unit (RTPS) handled more than 8,400 RT and 714 non-RT calls for service. As a result of the unit's high visibility and enforcement strategy, more than 125 felony and 300 misdemeanor arrests were made. Large-scale fare blitzes, plain-clothes deployment, and creation of specialized positions such as School Resource Officers and Bike Officers have helped reduce many of the riders' concerns.

Problem Oriented Police Officers Receive Thanks for "Reclaiming the Neighborhood"

Problem Oriented Police (POP) officers partnered with apartment owners, managers, and community residents to address problems with calls for service resulting from poor tenant screening and management. POP officers attended neighborhood watch and association meetings to identify resident problems such as drug-related activities. With the assistance of the Special Investigations Division, Metro and SWAT, an aggressive abatement program was launched to address future problems. Officers received appreciation from residents for their work in "reclaiming the neighborhood."

Progress Made in Managing High-Risk Sex Offender Population

Operation Boo is a yearly operation that is conducted on Halloween night by SPD detectives and California State Parole agents. Sex offenders who are on parole are not allowed to hand out candy, open the door to anyone except their parole agent, or leave the residence on Halloween night. If they do open their door to children, they are arrested for violating the terms of their parole. Another successful program is Operation Let Us Know. Three arrests were made of high-risk offenders who were found to be out of compliance with their registration requirements.

Phoenix Park Experiences a Decrease in Calls for Service

For the third year in a row, Phoenix Park (formerly Franklin Villa) has experienced a drop in calls for service and reported crime. Reported crime decreased by 13 percent and calls for service decreased by 5 percent.
Felony Assault Unit Solves “Bike Basher” Case

The Felony Assault Unit solved a number of significant cases. Among them was the “Bike Basher” case. This individual was responsible for physically assaulting more than 20 women in the downtown area. Investigators worked for weeks before tracking the suspect to Iowa where he was arrested and brought back to Sacramento to stand trial on more than a dozen criminal charges.

Robbery/Burglary Unit Solves Bank Robbery Series

The Robbery/Burglary Unit investigated and solved a number of serial crimes ranging from armed commercial robberies to residential burglaries. One such incident involved a serial bank robber who had robbed seven banks in 2001 and then disappeared. He reappeared in July and August of 2003 and robbed six banks in the Sacramento area. The suspect and his accomplices were pursued into the City of Fair Oaks. The suspect was arrested and is being prosecuted as a career criminal. He is facing 60 years in prison.

Sacramento Police Department Employees Called to Serve Their Country

With the war in Iraq, the Sacramento Police Department saw many of its dedicated men and women and their family members called to protect and serve their country. During 2003, 5 Department employees, 3 retirees, and approximately 11 family members were deployed to Iraq. Others were called to protect the homeland and other parts of the world. The Sacramento Police Department is especially proud of these men and women.

Did You Know?

The Reserve Unit and VIPS worked some of the largest special events in the Sacramento region, including the California International Marathon and American Cancer Society’s Breast Cancer Walk. From 3,000 to 13,000 people participated in each event.

The Communications Emergency Response Team (CERT), implemented in July, assists incident commanders and hostage negotiators with gathering, documenting, and disseminating information. The 10-person CERT team is available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year to respond to incident scenes.
Technology and Equipment

Mobile Incident Command Vehicle Voted “Best in the West”

Voted “Best in the West” as the top command vehicle in the state for 2003, the Department’s new Mobile Incident Command Vehicle (MIC) offers state-of-the-art communications, a video downlink from the SPD helicopter, high-end radio and computer equipment, and direct contact with the entire force via the Mobile Data Computer system. The MIC updates and enhances the Department’s ability to respond to contingencies and emergencies anywhere in the community.

Bait Car Test Run Proves Successful

The Department launched a public awareness campaign of its bait car program through local news broadcasts and staging a reenactment video for educational and public use. The program utilizes bait cars to deter criminal activity in Sacramento area communities. A three-week test period resulted in detainment of eight suspects. Monitored with GPS tracking, the bait car ensures safe and secure capture of suspects by providing the ability to disable the fuel injection systems and limiting the RPM in each bait car. The bait car doors can be locked and the engine turned off by remote control.

Did You Know?

The Crime Analysis Unit has developed and implemented two new sex assault/offender databases to track related crimes or occurrences. Detectives can query current reports using limited information such as vehicle or suspect descriptions.

The Digital Mug Shot System allows Department personnel to create photo lineups from anywhere in the Department. The Department of Justice (DOJ) Cal-Photo program can also be accessed.

Major Crimes worked with Data Services to develop a “Leads Management” software program to track and manage large amounts of incoming information regarding high profile incidents such as child abduction.

The Automated Manual System includes general orders, department manuals, and some reference materials. The automated system saved SPD thousands of dollars in printing costs.
New Facilities

Groundbreaking Held for New Communications Dispatch and Training Facility

On November 17, 2003, Sacramento Police Department employees, community members and honored guests attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Communications Dispatch and Training Facility. The facility will include space for 9-1-1 and non-emergency dispatch, a dispatch training academy and daycare center.

Sacramento Police Department Completes State-Of-The-Art Fitness Center

With completion of a new state-of-the-art fitness center at the Public Safety Center and one-on-one health/fitness programs provided by fitness coordinator, John Hansen, employees now have easy access to a health and fitness program that will improve their overall well-being and productivity.

CAD/RMS Training Room Completed

The new CAD/RMS training room was completed on December 15th. This classroom is the Department's first multi-use, professional computer classroom designed to support the needs of its more than 1,100 employees.
$99 million Operating Budget

Office of the Chief $7.8 million
Office of Operations $49.6 million
Office of Investigations $17.2 million
Office of Technical Services $24.3 million

$11.5 million in Grants

Did You Know?

SPD's Regional Community Policing Institute, Sacramento, will be entering its sixth year of grant funding by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services U.S. Department of Justice in 2004. RCPI is one of a national network of 31 institutes. Responsible for California's northern 48 counties, RCPI has designed and provided valuable training for more than 4,400 individuals.

STATISTICS

City of Sacramento 2003 Universal Crime Reporting

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Murder</th>
<th>Forcible Rape</th>
<th>Robbery</th>
<th>Aggravated Assault</th>
<th>Burglary</th>
<th>Larceny-Theft</th>
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<td>56</td>
<td>143</td>
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<td>1,438</td>
<td>4,805</td>
<td>14,761</td>
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<td>1,520</td>
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<td>5,068</td>
<td>15,977</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>184</td>
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<td>1,581</td>
<td>5,065</td>
<td>15,542</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>187</td>
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<td>1,560</td>
<td>5,606</td>
<td>15,374</td>
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Communications

Received a total of 1,080,833 calls for service, including:
186,365 9-1-1 calls received
616,656 7-digit emergency and non-emergency calls received
202,671 calls dispatched • 142,812 officer-initiated calls
277,812 related outgoing calls

Property

Booked 66,673 items of property/evidence, including:
6,724 narcotics related items
1,381 money items, totaling $540,579.83
1,157 firearms
Destroyed 941 lbs. of seized narcotics
Destroyed 840 firearms

Records

21,581 arrests processed
119,712 police reports processed
26,196 of the above reports taken by report writers
6,211 of the above reports were online reports

K-9 and Explosive Ordinance Detail

K-9 deployed on 532 incidents
EOD deployed on 140 related incidents
EOD responded to 10 SWAT call-outs (6 robot missions, 1 pinhole camera deployment, and 3 explosive breeches

Did You Know?

Traffic Enforcement implemented random enforcement at intersections where there were high numbers of accidents and calls for service. More than 20,000 citations were issued. Accidents in the targeted areas were reduced by 6.4% while the decrease in calls for service ranged from 25% to 70%. The overall average decrease in calls for services was 42% in the targeted areas.

Court Liaison Unit processed more than 26,800 subpoenas.

Missing Persons Unit handled more than 400 missing person cases per month.

Supplemental Off-Duty Employment program invoiced a total of 30,222 hours of security for private functions.

Parole Intervention Team
542 total arrests
411 parolee arrests (76% of total arrests)

Air Operations
Logged 1,401 flight hours of helicopter patrol
Averaged a 1.6 minute response time
Assisted on more than 4,200 calls for service

School Resource Officers
Policed approximately 23,000 students from 18 different schools
Responded to 893 calls for service
Made 200 felony arrests
Made 443 misdemeanor arrests
Returned 1,017 truants back to school
Processed 310 gang violations
2003 Employee Recognition and Awards

**Bronze Medal of Valor**
Patrick Higgins  
Jason Morgado  
Andrew Petitt  
Aaron Thompson  
Chou Vang  
Michael Wood

**Lifesaving**
Peter Brindley  
Paul Brown  
Thomas Curtin  
Rajinder Dosanjh  
Robert Jocoby  
Robert Lindner  
Carlos Martinez  
Pamela Seyffert  
Art Smith  
Natalie Wilson

**Distinguished Service Awards**
Mark Bateson  
J. Patrick Bibica  
Mark Harri  
Floyd Harvey  
Felix Luna  
Michael McCarthy  
Andrew Newby  
Ron Olsen  
Kenneth Stuber  
Thomas Turay  
Geoffrey Winford

**Volunteer Total Hours of Service Awards**

**1200 + Hours**
Ophelia Chavez  
Gene Geraty  
Henry Kim  
Elmer McCleary  
Janice McCleary  
Howard Payne  
Marion Ratcliffe  
Bob Shook  
Sally Yonenaga

**600 + Hours**
Eldon Craig  
Shigekko Tanaka  
Rick Treater  
Augusta Wagstaff  
Penn Yee

**300 + Hours**
Amy Johnson  
Eleanor Larson  
Charlie Orrell

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**Recognition & Awards**

**Congressional Commendation** – presented to the Sacramento Police Academy staff from Member of Congress Doug Ose for their tireless devotion, hard work, and dedication to the people of the Sacramento region.

**Certificate of Excellence and Exceptional Professional Commitment in Law Enforcement** – awarded to Identification Technician Barbara Anderson by the Ben Ali Shriners.

**Western States Police Canine Association’s Canine Trials** – 4th Place for the Year awarded to Officer Mark Chapman and canine partner Hawk; 7th Place for the Year awarded to Officer Hanspeter Merten and his canine partner Taz.

**Volunteer of the Year Award** – presented to Marion Ratcliffe by the Rotary Club of North Sacramento.

**Certificates of Recognition as Outstanding Volunteer for the North Area Neighborhood Accountability Board** – presented to Elmer McCleary, Janice McCleary, and Marion Ratcliffe by the State Assembly.

**Best in the West** – awarded to Sacramento Police Department’s MIC (Mobile Incident Command) vehicle.

**Merit Award in the Black and White, Full Page Category** – awarded to SPD for its recruitment ad campaign by the Employment Management Association.

**Webby Award** – awarded to SPD for its innovative and excellent website, www.sacpd.org, by BSA Advertising, Inc.

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**Did You Know?**

Sacramento Police Department raised $6,000 for the Special Olympics of Northern California in 2003.

Gone But Not Forgotten, a made for television, mini-series, starring Brooke Shields, Lou Diamond Philips, and Marilu Henner was shot here in Sacramento and featured some of our Reserve Officers.

Sacramento Police Department’s volunteer program was featured on a half-hour City Beat show and in local news media stories.

Sacramento Police Department’s oldest volunteer is 84 and the youngest is 14.

The Bike Unit was invited to make a presentation in Washington, D.C., at next year’s 2004 Law Enforcement Expo.

CSI met with Government Ministers from Thailand regarding CSI deployment and duties.

Identification Technician Carla Murray entered SPD’s first palm print through the Department of Justice Palm System.

SPD is one of the two pilot sites for DOJ’s new Archive Retrieval System that allows access to the DOJ fingerprint database.

The project of recovering fingerprints off human skin was implemented for the first time with the assistance of Identification Technicians Kathy Modeste, Tanya Atkinson, and Barbara Anderson.

Captain Ernie Daniels was featured in the Observer’s Special Collector’s Issue, Colorful Reflections: A Salute to 50 Leaders Who Have Made a Difference, A Look at the Sacramento African American Community Over the Last Four Decades.
Sacramento Police Department Begins 2003 With A New Chief of Police

The Sacramento Police Department began 2003 with the retirement of the Chief of Police and the installation of a new Chief. A native of Sacramento and 31-year veteran of the Sacramento Police Department, Albert Nájera rose through the ranks to become the 43rd Chief of Police for the Sacramento Police Department, first as the interim, then permanently appointed to the position in October.

Chief Nájera began his law enforcement career as a Community Service Officer in 1971. Since then, he has served in many assignments including Patrol, Homicide, SWAT, and Internal Affairs. Prior to his appointment to Chief, he managed the Offices of Operations, Investigations, and Technical Services as Deputy Chief.

Chief Nájera and his employees are ready to meet the opportunities and exciting challenges that 2004 will provide.

United States Department of Agriculture Conference Comes Off Without A Hitch

The Sacramento Police Department was well prepared for the USDA Conference that represented Sacramento's first major international conference. The event brought together more than 1,400 international ministers and their staff from 180 countries.

Planning for the event began in early February with receipt of intelligence information that there was a high probability demonstrators would attempt to disrupt the conference in a manner similar to the 1999 WTO Conference in Seattle, Washington. Specialty units within the Department continued to gather information and perform threat assessments.
The Sacramento Police Department was well prepared for the USDA Conference that represented Sacramento’s first major international conference.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary, Ann Veneman, gave Sacramento a strong endorsement, stating in a media briefing, “This has been an extraordinary effort on the part of the city, of law enforcement officers, and everyone....
Volunteers contributed a total of 11,132 hours during 2003.

Community Preparedness Safety Forums Ease Concerns

With the country on the brink of war, the Sacramento Police Department began preparing itself and the community for any terrorist events that might occur in and around our City. Eight separate community preparedness safety forums were held throughout the City to address concerns about terrorism and emergency preparedness. Residents were provided practical information by a variety of presenters on preparing for terrorist events or natural disasters.

The Police Department and City officials also met with the leaders of area Middle Eastern groups to discuss concerns about protecting mosques and keeping the community safe and secure. Chief Albert Nájera ensured Muslim, Arab, and Sikh leaders that every effort would be made to deter acts of injustice due to prejudice and discrimination.

The forums brought leaders and community members together to build relationships and to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding the war. Both Police Chief Nájera and Fire Chief Smith stressed the importance of community involvement as the “first line of defense.” These forums were invaluable in helping to establish positive and ongoing relationships with our diverse communities.

Amber Alert

The Public Safety Communications Center is responsible for activating the area’s Emergency Alert System. Communications and Major Crimes Divisions developed the Department’s Amber Alert response plan. Protocols were established and training was conducted to educate and prepare Department employees on the importance of a rapid response and timely dissemination of information to the CHP, media and investigators.

Sacramento was the only city in an eleven-county region to coordinate with local media and establish procedures for activation. SPD Dispatcher, Katie Ridenhour, played a major role in coordinating the efforts and was the only dispatcher invited to participate in the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children’s investigative program held in Minnesota.

Volunteers Provide Valuable Service to SPD and the Community

Patrolling the city in their P.T. Cruisers, VIPS assisted the Department and the community with 4,104 patrol hours and 1,500 hours at events including DUI checkpoints, traffic control, parades, marathons, vacation home checks, safety fairs, and the MIC vehicle.

The Volunteer Recognition Dinner in April 2003 celebrated contributions made to the Sacramento Police Department and community by all the Department volunteers. Volunteers contributed a total of 11,132 hours during 2003. Their recognized combined years of service for 1, 3, 5, and 10 years totaled 52 years.

Operation Sandbox

As war in Iraq began and the nation drew together, many of us were looking for ways to do our part and help members of our SPD family that were called to serve their Country. Detective Terri Castiglia provided the spark that mobilized the troops. Information was distributed and generous donations began to pour in from all fronts.

The armory looked like Santa’s Workshop on the eve of Christmas. The usual toys were replaced with miscellaneous toiletries and other supplies, including flea collars to ward off sand fleas. Items were boxed and carefully addressed according to strict military guidelines. Soon word arrived that our co-workers and extended family members had suddenly become very popular as military personnel received their welcome gifts and shared the bounty with their fellow service personnel. Knowing that we had been able to brighten their day left all of us with a good feeling.
DEDICATION

The 2003 Annual Report is dedicated to all
the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.
The Sacramento Police Department recognizes
the sacrifices you and your families have made and
would like to express our heartfelt thanks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Sacramento Police Department and 2003 Annual Report Committee
would like to thank all employees who contributed to the report.

2003 Annual Report Committee
Chair/Editor: Lu Tang
Advisor: Tammy Jones
Contributing Editors:
Mike Carlson, Beverly Coleman, Brian Foley,
Audrey Lee, Luann Lee, Mary McFadden, Joan Parris

For more information about the Sacramento Police Department
and the material in this report, please contact:

Sacramento Police Department
Office of the Chief, Economic Development Section
(916) 433-0800