

THE SACRAMENTO POLICE FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE  
SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT'S

2009 Commendation  
**Awards**  
DINNER AND CEREMONY



*honoring*

THE COMMITMENT

BRAVERY





On behalf of the Sacramento Police Foundation, Steven Moore, immediate Past President, and I extend the warmest of welcomes to you at tonight's annual Commendation Awards Dinner and Ceremony!

We would like to congratulate and express our most heartfelt "thank you" to tonight's honorees for their sacrifice and commitment to the community. Steve and I also send our sincere appreciation and thanks to the men and women of the Sacramento Police Department who help keep our community safe every day.

As the current president, I am very proud to be a part of the Sacramento Police Foundation Board. The Police Foundation raises funds to enhance the Police Department's ability to provide special programs and services that fall outside of the city's budget. Some of these programs include the Criminal Justice Magnet School Academy, the Holiday Giving Program, and various officer and employee teambuilding and recognition events. These programs build social capital in the community and allow our officers to go beyond the call of duty.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to our sponsors and the Board of Directors who take the time to support our mission and programs. I encourage you to be a part of making our community strong by supporting the Sacramento Police Department and the Sacramento Police Foundation.

Enjoy the evening!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Kay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

John Kay  
President, Sacramento Police Foundation

2009 Commendation  
**Awards**  
DINNER AND CEREMONY



DEPARTMENT OF  
POLICE

CHIEF OF POLICE  
RICK BRAZIEL

DEPUTY CHIEFS  
SAM SOMERS, JR.  
BRIAN LOUIE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

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SACRAMENTO, CA  
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Dear Family and Friends

Welcome to the 2009 Commendation Awards Dinner and Ceremony! This annual event allows us the opportunity to show our gratitude to the men and women who have gone above and beyond their call of duty. I would especially like to thank tonight's honorees for their continued commitment and dedication to both this organization and the community in which they serve.

Tonight, we have the honor of recognizing 26 individuals. Their unparalleled courage, valiant life-saving efforts, and innovative contributions exemplify the excellent service we strive to deliver each day.

Thank you for joining us this evening as we celebrate and congratulate these extraordinary individuals. And to our evening's honorees, I commend you on a job well done!

Sincerely,

Rick Braziel  
Chief of Police

# *bravery* commitment

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Sacramento Police Foundation and Sacramento Police Department would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following for their role in helping to make this evening's event a success!

**OFFICER MARK PARISIUS**

**OFFICER BOB MUELLER**

**OFFICER MICHELE GIGANTE**

**MISS LAUREN REDD**

**SENIOR CHAPLAIN MINDI RUSSELL**

**SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD**

**SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA SERVICES**

**COMMERCE PRINTING SERVICES, KELLIE MELBY**

2009 Commendation  
**Awards**  
DINNER AND CEREMONY

**WELCOME**

OFFICER MARK PARISIUS, MASTER OF CEREMONIES

**PRESENTATION OF COLORS**

SACRAMENTO POLICE HONOR GUARD

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

MISS LAUREN REDD

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

**OPENING REMARKS**

VICE MAYOR LAUREN HAMMOND

MR. JOHN KAY, PRESIDENT

SACRAMENTO POLICE FOUNDATION

**INVOCATION**

SENIOR CHAPLAIN MINDI RUSSELL

**DINNER IS SERVED**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

CHIEF RICK BRAZIEL

**PRESENTATION OF COMMENDATION AWARDS**

CHIEF RICK BRAZIEL

DEPUTY CHIEF SAM SOMERS

DEPUTY CHIEF BRIAN LOUIE

**CLOSING REMARKS**

OFFICER MARK PARISIUS

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## A SPECIAL THANKS TO

### HOST SPONSOR



### GOLD SPONSOR



### TABLE SPONSOR



ARMROD FOUNDATION

COUNCILMEMBER ROB FONG

JOHN KAY/GOLDEN PACIFIC BANCORP

ERIC R. SOLIS OF WELLS FARGO ADVISORS

### TABLE SPONSORS HOSTING RECIPIENTS



Commitment.  
To you, your people, your enterprise.

GEORGE & PATTI LYTAL

S.J. GALLINA

# THE CLASSES OF AWARDS

## **GOLD MEDAL OF VALOR**

This medal shall be awarded only in exceptional cases when a hazardous act is performed by employees who risk their lives. The act must be of such extraordinary nature that the employees expose themselves to peril above and beyond the call of duty.

## **SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR**

This medal shall be awarded for outstanding service and conspicuous bravery in the line of duty. This award would be considered when the circumstances do not fall within the provisions required for a Gold Medal of Valor.

## **BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR**

This medal shall be awarded for bravery in the line of duty when the circumstances do not fall within the provisions required for a Gold or Silver Medal of Valor; however, bravery was of such magnitude that the recipient is worthy of the Bronze Medal of Valor.

## **PURPLE HEART MEDAL**

This medal shall be awarded when employees sustain a serious wound or great bodily injury by a hostile person.

## **LIFE SAVING AWARD**

This medal shall be awarded to employees who were directly responsible for the saving of a human life or for the performance of emergency medical aid to prolong a human life.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

This medal shall be awarded to personnel who have performed effective, efficient, and valuable service to the Department. Such service may be a specific instance or it may be an outstanding performance of general duties over an extended period of time.

## SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

### 2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR

LUKE MOSELEY

#### BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

JEFFREY CARR

ADAM WILSON

#### LIFE SAVING AWARD

WILLIAM CONNER

LYLE DONNELSON

JENNIFER FIEGUTH

JOSHUA FREY

MICHAEL HIGHT

NOU KHANG

GERALD LANDBERG

BRANDON MULLOCK

MATTHEW NICHOLS

MARK SCURRIA

DAVID SMART

TIMOTHY STRAUTMAN

DAVID TOPAZ

ETHAN ZEEK

#### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

EDWIN ASAHARA

ALANA HENLEY-COURVILLE

KATHERINE HUTCHISON

HOLLY KINNEY

JUDY KOVANDA

KURT MCCRAY, SR.

SHANNON PRICE

PAMELA SEYFFERT

TAWNYA ZUCKSWERT

# DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

**ALANA HENLEY-COURVILLE**

**KATHERINE HUTCHISON**

**HOLLY KINNEY**

**JUDY KOVANDA**

**KURT MCCRAY**

**SHANNON PRICE**

**TAWNYA ZUCKSWERT**

Community Service Officers (CSO) Alana Henley-Courville, Katherine Hutchison, Holly Kinney, Kurt McCray, Judy Kovanda, Shannon Price, and former CSO Tawnya Zuckswert are being recognized for their dedicated and valuable service to the Sacramento Police Department. Assigned to Crime Prevention, these CSOs have dedicated themselves to providing not just crime prevention services to the community, but to being a vital public relations liaison between citizens and the Police Department as well. Although each CSO individually provides crime prevention presentations, environmental safety surveys, and other public relations related duties, the program in which they have excelled as a team has been the annual Holiday Experience project, a giving program which they created.

Each year during the holidays, the Crime Prevention CSOs dedicate countless hours of time, energy, and effort toward making the holidays special for those chosen families who would have otherwise gone without during the holiday season. They solicit our officers and their law enforcement partners for names of needy families; screen the families to ensure the need; coordinate with both internal and external donors; shop for the families to fulfill their wish lists; and coordinate volunteers to help wrap the hundreds of presents to be delivered. Then on delivery day, they execute the game plan that they've created with officers, donors, and citizens in tow to provide for the families. Their efforts on this annual project have been invaluable. Not only have these CSOs provided a sense of holiday for these families to share with each other, they have made a very positive impact with these families that might pay dividends for our Department in the future. In the last four years, over 100 families have been touched by this program.

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## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

### **PAMELA SEYFFERT**

Sergeant Pamela Seyffert is being recognized for her dedicated and valuable service to the Sacramento Police Department. Assigned to the Vice Unit from 2006 to 2008, Sergeant Seyffert and an FBI partner ascertained that there were a high number of juvenile girls being exploited by adults in the sex-trade industry. Recognizing the importance of protecting the region's youth, Sergeant Seyffert and her team partnered with the FBI to create the Safe Streets Task Force to focus primarily on the FBI's Innocence Lost Initiative. Sergeant Seyffert led the task force through numerous child prostitution, sexual exploitation, and child pornography investigations in hopes of reducing the number of young girls being exploited in this industry.

Sergeant Seyffert became familiar with the many issues that lead juveniles to become victims in this trade. Her dedication resulted in victims being reunited with their families, enrolling in school, and recognizing the value of their own lives for the first time. As a result of Sergeant Seyffert's commitment, the task force recovered 59 juvenile victims and arrested 36 pimps and offenders who had exploited these victims. Because many of the juveniles were recovered after they had posted ads on MySpace, the task force began discussions with the website's administrators which resulted in the site's implementation of new rules with the intent of reducing the possibility of people using their site for these illegal purposes.

In addition to leading the task force to success, Sergeant Seyffert also took a personal interest in helping one particular victim who, after her pimp was arrested, still returned to life as a prostitute. Recognizing that the "system" had failed this juvenile the first time, Sergeant Seyffert dedicated numerous hours to personally try to help turn this young life around. She found appropriate housing for the juvenile and helped her enroll in school. She even bought her shoes for her homecoming dance and gave her a ride to the dance.

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## **EDWIN ASAHARA**

Officer Edwin Asahara is being recognized for his dedicated and valuable service to the Sacramento Police Department. He has been assigned to Regional Transit (RT) Police Services since 2002. In 2006, after working several years and seeing numerous robbery cases go unresolved, he saw a need to assist in addressing the robbery issues that affected RT riders. Officer Asahara voluntarily took it upon himself to perform the extensive task of coordinating investigative follow-up on RT Light Rail robberies. He developed an intensive follow-up process that has had a significant effect in the identification, and or, arrest of numerous criminals. While undertaking this project, Officer Asahara has developed personal expertise above and beyond that required for his assignment. He has conducted follow-up on approximately 106 robbery cases and has conducted at least 90 mugshot viewings from a mugshot book that he created. He has also done successful follow-up and identification on cases with unknown suspects that would have not otherwise had any further investigation by detectives. His direct efforts have resulted in the identification of 53 suspects, some responsible for multiple robberies, and the arrest of 29 of them. Overall, his follow-up efforts have resulted in over 159 suspects arrested by law enforcement agencies.

Officer Asahara's efforts have significantly improved the overall efficiency and productivity of the Sacramento Police Department. His superior quality of work coupled with his high level of productivity is recognized by the investigative divisions of both the Sacramento Police Department and the Sacramento Sheriff's Department.

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## LIFE SAVING AWARD

### **LYLE DONNELSON JENNIFER FIEGUTH**

In the early morning hours of January 3, 2008, Officers Lyle Donnelson and Jennifer Fieguth responded to the Tower Bridge regarding a mentally unstable subject who was planning on committing suicide by jumping from the bridge. Upon arrival, they saw that the subject was hanging onto the railing of the bridge with one hand, suspending himself over the river. Officer Fieguth immediately engaged the subject in conversation to determine his mental status and to convince him to voluntarily come back over the railing. Due to the recent rain and time of the year, the river was extremely cold, swollen, and moving rapidly. Knowing that a rescue by the officers would be impossible if the subject jumped, Officer Donnelson requested the D.A.R.T. team be alerted. As Officer Fieguth spoke with the subject, both officers moved as close to the subject as he would allow, positioning themselves just outside of arms reach of him. After a short conversation, the subject stated, "My hand is slipping."

At this point, Officers Donnelson and Fieguth reached over the railing and grabbed hold of the subject to keep him from falling into the frigid river. They took hold of the subject's belt and lifted him over the railing and onto the bridge where he was safely detained.

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### **GERALD LANDBERG**

On the morning of February 22, 2008, Officer Gerald Landberg and another officer responded to the San Juan Road overpass at Interstate 80 regarding a subject who was sitting on the edge of the guard rail. Upon arrival, contact was made with a 16-year-old boy who was sitting, facing towards the freeway traffic, with both legs hanging over the edge. The young man was sobbing, obviously distraught, and unable to engage in any type of conversation with the officer. All that was comprehensible was that the subject wanted to jump from the overpass.

As Officer Landberg arrived to assist, the young man was staring at the traffic on the freeway. Officer Landberg made contact with him and told him that he was going to

walk to the other side of the overpass to talk to his friend who was standing nearby. As Officer Landberg walked behind the young man, Officer Landberg wrapped his arms around the him and pulled him off the rail and onto the ground. The young man was safely detained without further incident.

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### **ETHAN ZEEK**

On the morning of March 26, 2008, Officer Ethan Zeek was working within the crowd at a large demonstration on the corner of 10th and I Streets. A citizen ran up to Officer Zeek and reported that an elderly male in the crowd had suddenly collapsed and was not breathing.

Officer Zeek located the victim who was being helped by a concerned citizen who was attempting to unsuccessfully drag the frail man out of the crowd. Officer Zeek immediately requested medical aid on his radio. He observed the elderly man's limp posture and pasty skin as being consistent with a heart attack. He asked the citizen to lower the victim to the ground and checked for a pulse and breathing, but found none. Officer Zeek began performing chest compressions as a CHP officer arrived with a CPR mask. A female citizen made her way through the crowd and identified herself as an EMT and took over preparing the mask for use. While Officer Zeek performed chest compressions, the victim suddenly began to wheeze and then breathe again on his own. The EMT continued to monitor the male subject until Fire personnel arrived and transported him to the hospital.

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### **MICHAEL HIGHT MARK SCURRIA**

On the evening of April 30, 2008, Officers Michael Hight and Mark Scurria responded to the area of Basler Way on the bike trail for a subject who had been stabbed. Upon arrival, they found a male subject lying on the ground with a citizen applying pressure to a stab wound.



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## LIFE SAVING AWARD

Officer Hight made his way through the chaotic scene to check the victim's vitals. He located a faint pulse and then lost it. The victim had a stab wound on the left side of his chest, his eyes were wide open, he had no movement and appeared not to be breathing. Officer Hight advised Officer Scurria to get a CPR mask. As the two began CPR, Fire Department personnel arrived to assist and continued CPR with Officer Scurria, who applied chest compressions. Officer Scurria continued performing CPR for a few minutes before Fire Department personnel arrived and transported the victim to the hospital.

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### **DAVID TOPAZ**

On the evening of May 22, 2008, officers were dispatched to Arrowrock Road regarding an assault that had just occurred. It was reported that the victim had been stabbed in the neck and was bleeding profusely. The caller advised that the victim had gotten into a car and drove away. There were several reports of hit and run collisions in the immediate area and the suspect vehicle matched the stabbing victim's. The victim had driven himself about a mile before finally stopping at Taylor Street and Hayes Avenue.

Officer David Topaz and his trainee were the first to contact the unconscious victim. He appeared to have lost a large amount of blood. Officer Topaz immediately put on his rubber gloves and applied pressure to the victim's neck in attempt to slow the bleeding. Fire personnel arrived approximately five minutes later and transported the victim to the hospital. Although the victim's condition appeared to be life threatening upon the Fire Department's arrival, the victim survived his injuries.

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### **JOSHUA FREY DAVID SMART**

On the evening of May 24, 2008, Officers Joshua Frey and David Smart were on patrol in the Department's helicopter, Air 1. Officer Frey was the Tactical Flight Officer and Officer Smart was the pilot. At around midnight, these two officers responded

to the area of southwestern Sacramento County and southeastern Yolo County to assist ground units in locating a possible assault victim. A cellular 911 call was received from a subject who stated he had been kidnapped, stabbed multiple times and dumped in a field. He had no idea where he was, but was seriously injured. Sacramento Sheriff's Department, Yolo County Sheriff's and Fire Departments were able to obtain GPS coordinates from the cell phone; however, the ground units were without GPS units and were only able to be directed to a general area.

The Air 1 crew was able to navigate to the exact remote location of the victim by using the GPS coordinates. Officer Frey searched the area with the helicopter's Forward Looking Infra Red (FLIR) camera and located the victim who was lying motionless in the field. Several attempts to direct ground units to the victim were unsuccessful. Officer Smart identified a safe landing zone within a short distance from the victim and landed. Officer Frey located the victim, and using his EMT training, quickly identified the victim to have multiple stab wounds to his upper chest and a sucking chest wound. Knowing the victim was in grave condition, Officer Frey used the limited medical supplies that were on the helicopter to perform first-aid. Officer Frey, recognizing the victim was in a severely critical condition, then loaded him into the back seat of Air 1 for transport. Once airborne, Officer Smart made contact with the UC Davis Medical Center via radio and obtained clearance to land on their rooftop heliport. Upon landing, the victim was transferred to doctors who were awaiting his arrival. The victim was admitted, treated, and survived his injuries.

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### **BRANDON MULLOCK**

On the night of June 8, 2008, Officer Brandon Mullock and another officer responded to a call of an injury collision. A teenager was riding his bicycle on Greenhaven Drive without a light when he hit a parked vehicle at full speed. The bicyclist's seat dismantled during the collision and a metal prong struck him in the leg, approximately four to five inches deep, cutting his femoral artery. The young man, unaware of the seriousness of his injury, continued to bicycle to this friend's house for help, leaving a thick trail of blood. After riding for about a mile, the subject fainted in the street.



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## LIFE SAVING AWARD

Upon the officers' arrival, they found the subject's leg was squirting blood and he was barely conscious. As the other officer stabilized his neck, Officer Mullock applied direct pressure to the bicyclist's wound to slow the bleeding until paramedics arrived and transported him to the hospital. A doctor at Kaiser South advised that the bicyclist had lost three to four pints of blood, and that without direct pressure applied to his wound, he would have died.

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### **MATTHEW NICHOLS** **TIMOTHY STRAUTMAN**

On the evening of June 24, 2008, Community Service Officer Timothy Strautman was on a call in the area of Meadowgate Drive and Kymper Court when he was approached by a woman who said a 60-year-old client in her group home had just lost consciousness and was unresponsive. CSO Strautman went to the residence and found the female subject sitting upright on the couch. The female did not respond to verbal cues and CSO Strautman was unable to detect any breathing or a pulse on her. He immediately requested the Fire Department for medical assistance.

Officer Matthew Nichols was in the area and heard the call for assistance. Upon arrival, Officer Nichols and CSO Strautman moved the female onto the floor and began CPR. CSO Strautman performed rescue breathing while Officer Nichols applied chest compressions. These two officers continued CPR on the female subject for several minutes until Fire personnel arrived and transported the subject to the hospital.

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### **WILLIAM CONNER**

On the night of August 9, 2008, Officer William Conner was working a supplemental shift at the United Artist Theaters on Center Parkway. While in the lobby, a theater patron ran toward Officer Conner, cradling his five-year-old grandson. He laid the child on the floor and told Officer Conner that the child had been choking on popcorn

for about two minutes. The child was semi-conscious, his eyes were fixed, he was not breathing, and his skin was turning a shade of gray.

Officer Conner called for paramedics and then stood the limp child up. He held the child and gave the child several strikes to his back in attempt to dislodge the popcorn. On the third blow, the child made a small cough. Officer Conner struck the child one more time and was able to dislodge the obstruction. The child was able to regain his breathing before Fire personnel arrived.

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## **NOU KHANG**

On the evening of August 16, 2008, Officer Nou Khang and her partner were dispatched to a single motorcycle collision. Upon arrival, Officer Khang saw approximately 10 citizens standing around the motorcyclist who was lying supine in the street bleeding from his head and ear.

The victim was unresponsive, was not breathing, and had no pulse. Officer Khang made a broadcast on the situation and started CPR. She performed CPR on the victim for approximately two minutes before Fire Department personnel arrived and transported the victim to the UC Davis Medical Center.

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# *bravery commitment*

## SILVER & BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

### **LUKE MOSELEY** SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR

### **JEFFREY CARR & ADAM WILSON** BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

On the late afternoon of December 17, 2008, Officers Luke Moseley, Jeffrey Carr, and Adam Wilson responded to an apartment complex at 842 Rancho Roble Way regarding a subject who had called 911 saying that he wanted to commit suicide by lighting himself on fire. The caller's lower level apartment was one of the four in a cluster of apartments which consisted of two lower and two upper level units with front doors facing a shared alcove. Upon the officers' arrival, the caller's unit was fully engulfed in flames which were spreading into the alcove that was also filling up with smoke. The Fire Department had not yet arrived so the officers began an evacuation and rescue operation.

Officer Carr saw that there were people still in the apartment across from the one that was on fire. Officers Carr and Wilson both attempted entry by kicking the door, but the flames coming from the caller's engulfed apartment were too intense. Officer Carr went around to the patio area to try to get the occupants out through the back sliding door. Seeing that there was a female walking around the apartment, and a large male in a wheelchair who appeared unable to walk, he went back to the front door to attempt entry. He kicked the door again and was successful. He quickly approached the male subject in the wheelchair and pushed him out the front door past the flames to Officer Wilson who was assisting in the rescue effort. Officer Carr returned to the apartment to assist the female occupant out, but observed her going out the through the back door and over the patio wall with the assistance of Officer Wilson. It was later determined that the male in the wheelchair was the original suicidal caller who set his own apartment on fire.

Seeing that there were still occupants in the apartment above, Officer Wilson climbed over the wall onto the patio of the lower level unit in attempt to facilitate their escape down the upper level patio railing. Officer Moseley also came over into the lower level patio to assist after he was unsuccessful at kicking in the front door of that upper level unit. One of the upstairs residents came down the railing, but the other two remaining occupants were reluctant to do so. Officer Moseley then climbed up onto the upper level patio and into the apartment. To prevent smoke inhalation, he covered the faces of the two occupants, one of whom had a broken foot and was clinging onto her cat, and quickly escorted them out the front door and down the burning stairway.

# IN MEMORY

OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

GEORGE C. CHAPMAN .....	April 27, 1858
JOSEPH SCOTT .....	December 12, 1878
ERSKIN FISH .....	August 11, 1935
FRANK MELLO .....	June 30, 1951
FRANCIS REA .....	January 3, 1954
ARNOLD GAMBLE .....	February 15, 1963
EUGENE MCKNIGHT .....	July 23, 1963
BERNARD BENNETT .....	May 13, 1970
ANDREW COLLINS .....	April 19, 1972
DOYLE POPOVICH .....	August 3, 1974
RODNEY BUTTS .....	October 15, 1975
WILLIAM WARNER .....	June 1, 1981
MICHAEL GARTRELL .....	April 25, 1991
EMILY MORGENROTH .....	October 17, 1997
WILLIAM "BILL" BEAN, JR. ....	February 9, 1999

*May They Rest In Peace*



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**SACRAMENTO POLICE FOUNDATION**

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