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# DISPATCHER

The Official Publication of the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs Incorporated (ALADS)

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# UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION AND BE ENTERED TO WIN A \$50 GIFT CARD!

Two winners will take home \$50 gift cards. The gift cards will be selected by ALADS and will not be interchangeable. To be entered in the drawing you must update your contact information with ALADS.

ALADS does not share information with the Sheriff's Department. So if you have moved, or changed your phone number or email address, be sure to update your contact information with ALADS and be entered to win a \$50 gift card.

To update your information with us, you can:  
Call ALADS at (323) 213-4005 or update your profile  
by logging into [www.alads.org](http://www.alads.org)  
Via Mail: Send in the form printed in the  
ALADS Dispatcher



**ISSUE #1 WINNERS:**



**QYLAN SALAZAR AND MICHAEL GAISFORD**

Office Use Only

Date Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

### ALADS CHANGE IN PERSONAL INFORMATION

To process a change to your personal info, it is necessary that you complete and sign this form and return it to the ALADS office.

To change your home address with Anthem/Blue Cross Insurance, please contact Sheriff's Personnel Services at (323) 526-5500.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Unit of Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status (Circle One):    M       S

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ALADS DISPATCHER

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[www.alads.org](http://www.alads.org)

Please update your phone book if you have not already done so.



# ALADS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



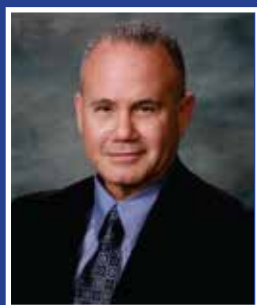
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## 2023 ALADS AWARDS BANQUET NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Nominations for the 2023 ALADS Awards Banquet are open now. Please go to [www.alads.org](http://www.alads.org) or email [info@alads.org](mailto:info@alads.org) to make your nomination(s).

ALADS members and supporters are

encouraged to send nominations that highlight the outstanding work and bravery of deputy sheriffs and district attorney investigators. There is no higher honor than being recognized by your colleagues.

### NOMINATION CATEGORIES:

- Medal for Bravery
- Exemplary Performance
- Life Saving
- Rookie of the Year (Patrol, Custody and Special Assignments)
- Commendable Restraint

Go to [www.alads.org](http://www.alads.org) or email Jeffrey Monical at [jeffrey@lavell.net](mailto:jeffrey@lavell.net)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2023 ALADS AWARDS BANQUET**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023**

**HILTON PASADENA**

168 SOUTH LOS ROBLES AVENUE  
PASADENA, CA 91101

# IMPORTANT DATES & ALADS SPONSORED EVENTS

## MARCH

### **ALADS Board Meeting**

Friday, March 17, 2023  
9:30 AM

### **Cesar Chavez Day**

Monday, March 27, 2023  
ALADS Facility Closed

### **Baker to Vegas Challenge Relay Cup (4/1 & 4/2)**

Friday-Monday,  
March 31, 2023 – April 3,  
2023 Las Vegas, NV



## APRIL

### **ALADS Hospitality Suite Rio Hotel, IBAR Ultra Lounge**

Saturday, April 1, 2023  
8 PM - Midnight

### **Homicide Bureau, ALADS, PPOA Barbecue**

Sunday, April 2, 2023  
11 AM - 3 PM  
Sunset Parkway Business  
Center  
3301 West Martin Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89118

### **ALADS Unit Representative Meeting**

Wednesday, April 5, 2023  
11 AM

### **ALADS Board Meeting**

Friday, April 7, 2023  
9:30 AM

### **Body Scan International House Call**

Truck behind the ALADS  
Facility  
Monday – Friday,  
April 10-14, 2023

### **ALADS Board Meeting**

Friday, April 21, 2023  
9:30 AM

## MAY

### **ALADS Unit Representative Meeting**

Wednesday, May 3, 2023  
11 AM

### **ALADS Board Meeting**

Friday, May 5, 2023  
9:30 AM

### **California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony**

Sunday – Monday,  
May 7-8, 2023  
Sacramento, CA

### **Body Scan International House Call**

Truck behind the ALADS  
Facility  
Monday – Friday,  
May 8-12, 2023

### **National Peace Officers' Memorial Week**

Wednesday – Wednesday,  
May 10-17, 2023  
Washington, D.C.

### **ALADS Board Meeting**

Friday, May 19, 2023  
9:30 AM

### **Memorial Day**

Monday, May 29, 2023  
ALADS Facility Closed

# WATCH YOUR EMAILS!

# ALADS

## ANNUAL LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

This year's Leadership Assessment will be conducted online. The results will be reported in collective form only. A complete set of results will be presented to the Sheriff and published in the *ALADS Dispatcher*.

Your ratings and your narrative comments will be the basis of comparing the Sheriff's Department's and District Attorney Office's Captains. Elected officials and the public deserve to know they are working effectively and efficiently in the interest of public safety.

We look forward to receiving your response!

## ALADS

### INSURANCE TRUST SECURE BENEFITS WEBSITE

The enhanced ALADS Insurance Trust (AIT) secure benefit website is your one-stop resource for any ALADS benefit-related needs as of **January 1st, 2022!**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:**

- Access Anthem ID cards
- Access gym membership ID cards
- Link to LiveHealth Online
- Access to personalized plan information
- Links to plan-specific provider search tool
- Link to gym locator tool
- Secure login for all enrolled members and dependents over 18 years old
- Accessible across all devices and platforms (no updates required)

**REGISTER TODAY**

To get started, ALADS Anthem Blue Cross enrolled members and dependents over age 18 can register separately at [www.mybenefitchoices.com/ALADS](http://www.mybenefitchoices.com/ALADS).

**QUESTIONS?**

Should you have any questions on the AIT's new website, please contact the ALADS Benefit Service Center at (800) 842-6635 or [alads@mybenefitchoices.com](mailto:alads@mybenefitchoices.com).

## 2023 ALADS MEMBERS RETIRING

Fayon D Tillman	Timothy M Owens
Mark A Carrillo	Joseph A Rosalez
Gerhaldt W Groenow	Raymond E Tabua
Alexander O Ayala	Joanne M Yonan
Cesar C Barragan	Laurence E Zimmerman
Lisa A Joyce	Mark A Erbacker
Ramiro Juarez Jr	Tracy H Wright
Eric A Matias	Diana M Petty
Steven J Vranek	Robert J Lewis
Shawn C Horning	Dina M Black
John C Mosquera	Gary B Lee
Julie P Renteria	Miguel A Ortega
Robert A Shortridge	Myrna J Parino
Donovan H Gabbedon	John E Racz
Elliott M Uribe	Paul Di Gaudio
Roberta J Cohen	Gregory A Emerson
Ernest V Magana	Joseph L Emmert
Jason E Bazyoros	Carlos D Moran
Robert A Amaya	Maria C Reily
Mark P Barretto	Michael A Strickland
Gary D Butts	Ji Y Yu
Peter Robert T Callado	Eduardo Y Labayna
Lorena M Cardenas	Robert Anderson
Ernesto Carrasco	James Wheeler
Richard A Gomez	
Jaime N Gutierrez	
Eugene G Hatch	
Jesse C Melgoza	

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## CLOSING OUT MY 34-YEARS OF SERVICE, THANK YOU AGAIN AND GOODBYE FOR NOW.

Board service is demanding and arduous; Mr. Wheeler took on the role with dedication, grace and determination. He forged partnerships with the community, stakeholders, and legislators to ensure that Los Angeles County would be safer through the work of the thousands of peace officers who provide critical services for millions of residents.



**James Wheeler, President**

After almost 34 years serving on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, it is time I say goodbye. I started my career in June of 1989 as an off-the-streeter at the Hall of Justice. In August of that year, I attended the North Academy class 258 at College of the Canyons. Graduating in December, I was assigned to NCCF, and

in 1995 went on to Lennox Station for patrol. Over the next 12 years, I served at PDC South, Palmdale, and Compton Crime Impact Team, before making it to the Special Enforcement Bureau for 12 years.

In 2017, I ran for the ALADS Board of Directors and won the election. From 2017-2023, I have humbly served the men and women of this great department as a Director, Vice President and finally as the President of Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS).

I have spent well over half of my life as a deputy sheriff, and worked with some of the greatest policemen in the world. I have been fortunate to have had great partners, mentors, and supervisors throughout my career, for whom I'm forever grateful and will never forget the impact they had on my life.

I have developed lifelong friendships starting with the academy, to every station, custody assignment and specialized unit I've worked for. I have seen the best and worst of mankind, and along the way mourned the loss of our fallen. Luckily,

the good times have far outnumbered the challenging times, which kept me going throughout my career.

In closing, I just want to say thank you to everyone, on or from the Sheriff's Department, civilian and sworn, for all that you do. I'm grateful to have served with you. To the ALADS staff and Board of Directors, thank you for supporting and serving the members of ALADS. Without all of you, ALADS would not be the great organization that it is today. Additionally, thank you for helping me lead ALADS. I could not have done my job without your partnership.

To all of our members, especially those who are just starting your service, don't worry about the things you can't control. Focus on the things you can control. And remember, the overwhelming majority of people in Los Angeles County admire and respect the great service and sacrifice you give every day. You are all doing the Lord's work!



*"During Jim's tenure, ALADS has seen enormous growth. His leadership provided valuable direction during tumultuous times. He always thought of the membership when making decisions. We will be sad to see him go but will always remain thankful for all he has done."*

**Anthony Meraz,  
ALADS Director**

*I have spent well over half of my life as a deputy sheriff and worked with some of the greatest policemen in the world...*

*—I just want to say thank you to everyone, on or from the Sheriff's Department, civilian and sworn, for all that you do. I'm grateful to have served with you.*

# VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## SOMETIMES YOU WONDER WHETHER LAW MAKERS ARE CONSIDERING THE IMPACT TO PUBLIC SAFETY WHEN THEY'RE TRYING TO PASS THESE LAWS!



**Richard Pippin, Vice President**

The work of protecting our communities continues to be an uphill battle; elected officials in Sacramento are laboring toward ending our ability to conduct pretextual traffic stops, without regard for the potential effect on the violent crime rate. It seems like attacks on the Peace Officers Bill of Rights and qualified immunity have become something we can just expect to see annually from politicians seeking ways to attack cops who are performing their duties. Now they're comparing hard working deputy sheriffs to gang members, something that's awfully hard to stomach for people who have dedicated their professional lives to combatting crime and criminal street gangs.

Given the current political environment combined with the ongoing budget shortfall and staffing crisis, it's easy to see why we are having trouble retaining people. At last count, we have 1,122 sworn vacancies, on top of 1,070 civilian vacancies, and people continue to leave left and right. If I ask myself why I've stayed, there are a number of reasons, but the biggest might be the men and women with whom I've worked. During my nearly 34 years on the department, it's been my privilege to work alongside and forge friendships with some truly great people. A couple of them, Jim Wheeler and Robbie Anderson, are retiring this month and I'd be remiss if I didn't take the opportunity to say a few words about them.

I've known Jim "Bumper" Wheeler for a long time, going back to our custody days at NCCF when we used to play beer league softball together. He's the kind of guy you want as a friend—always willing to go above and beyond. He has served as the ALADS President since 2020, giving his time and effort to supporting the members whenever he was needed. I've also always known Bumper to have an infallible moral compass. He's the kind of person who is going to make sure the right thing is done or die trying. You can't train that; it's just built into some people—the best kinds of people. It's been an honor to work with him, and he'll be sorely missed.

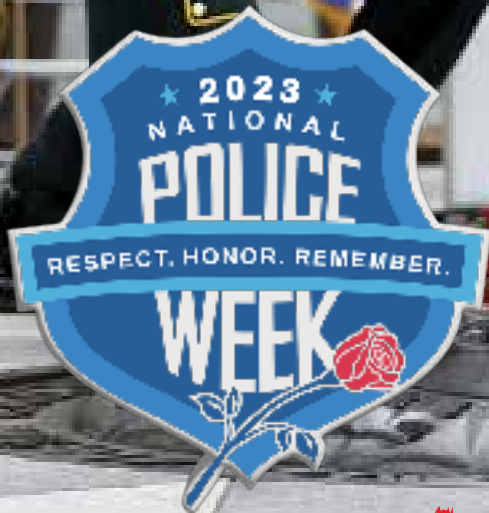
I've worked with Robbie Anderson for over 30 years. Simply put, he is, in my opinion, the best partner anyone could ever ask for. If I were tasked with building a team of deputies for a project, he'd be the first person I'd choose. It wouldn't matter what the project was. He's always been the ultimate team player, putting others ahead of himself and picking up the slack to make sure the job got done, even if it wasn't his job in the first place. Rolling around with him in a two-man car was the best time of my career. If I ever look back and ask if it was all worth it, my friendship with him alone is reason enough to say it was more than worth it. I hope that each of you have this same opportunity to develop lifelong friendships because in a job where your well-being is at risk each day, the camaraderie we build with each other allows us to cope with the stress and challenges associated with this profession.

Los Angeles County is a really difficult place for cops to work, but our shared experiences provide a solid foundation that allows all of us to work together to overcome the difficulties. If you are looking for a reason why you should continue to stay in this job, look around at the people who have your backs every day. Some of them will be your friends for the rest of your life.

*Given the current political environment combined with the ongoing budget shortfall and staffing crisis, it's easy to see why we are having trouble retaining people.*

# ALADS

*Supports...*



*Honoring Our Fallen Heroes...*

**ALADS Supports the 2023 Police Unity Tour and the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund.**

**LASD Personnel to be honored on the National Memorial Wall:**

**Sergeant Christopher Bracks**  
East Patrol Division  
- Walnut/ Diamond Bar Station  
EOW: May 10, 2022

**Sergeant Jamie Arakawa**  
Countywide Services Division  
- Community College Bureau  
EOW: February 8, 2021

**Sergeant Armando Meneses**  
Court Services Division  
- Court Services Central  
EOW: February 16, 2021

**Deputy Anthony N. Bautista**  
Countywide Services Division  
- Community Partnerships Bureau  
EOW: August 18, 2021

**Deputy Andrew Myers**  
South Patrol Station  
- Norwalk Station  
EOW: October 20, 2021

**Deputy Pedro "Pete" Romo**  
North Patrol Division  
- Santa Clarita Valley Station  
EOW: February 14, 2021

**Deputy Timothy Tellez**  
Countywide Services Division  
- Parks Bureau  
EOW: December 23, 2020

**Detective Amber Leist**  
West Hollywood Station  
EOW: January 12, 2020

**Motor Deputy John Mercer Black**  
EOW: November 22, 1929

**Motor Deputy Wyatt Honeycutt**  
EOW: December 22, 1928

## What is National Police Week?

National Police Week occurs every May, and in 2023 we will be commemorating it with live, in-person events. The National Law Enforcement Memorial and Museum will hold ceremonies, including the [35th Annual Candlelight Vigil](#), to honor the [fallen officers](#) whose names have recently been added to the Memorial.

The 35th Annual [Candlelight Vigil](#) will be held on Saturday, May 13.

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those [law enforcement officers](#) who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to [honoring](#) America's law enforcement community.

*(Information from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund).*



Matt Siverling • Legislative Advocate ALADS

# COMING THIS TERM:

## WE ARE CAREFULLY TRACKING LEGISLATION THAT MAY AFFECT LAW ENFORCEMENT

The 2023-24 Legislative Session is underway with the new class sworn in and the first proposals of the year crossing the Desks in each House. By the time the dust settles on February 17, the Legislature will introduce around 3,000 proposed changes to law. Of those, historically, only around 1,000 will navigate all the way to the Governor's Desk.

In preliminary review of the measures that are "in print," there is a noticeable batch of public safety bills that trend toward reform of past progressive efforts like Prop 47 and Prop 57. Not surprisingly, the authors of most of these early-year bills are Republicans, but there are also some bold measures submitted by moderate Democrats that were previously non-starter issues for the majority party.

There are at least a dozen different bills addressing the undeniable issue of fentanyl in our schools and streets. They range from task forces to sentencing reform to mandates on public agencies like schools and libraries to equip themselves with lifesaving measures in the event of an overdose or exposure. Most interesting is a measure reintroduced in the Assembly and the Senate that will require a disclosure to first-time convicted dealers that their actions may lead to death; opening up the potential that they may be charged with voluntary manslaughter or murder. This measure was held in the Assembly Public Safety Committee last year. This year it is Authored by a freshman Republican (Joe Patterson) and a senior Democrat, Senator Tom Umberg (Chair of Judiciary). It will be interesting to watch the action on SB 44 (Umberg) if and when it is heard in Senate Public Safety.

Several measures have been introduced in response to the highly visible uptick in retail theft that has been playing out on the news and social media. The long-running debate has been the argument as to whether the brazen events are driven by the lack of a significant penalty, if caught, due to the increase on the threshold from a misdemeanor to a felony for theft (up to \$950 is classified as a misdemeanor). Again, attempts to "fix" this "loophole" have been rejected or tabled by the Legislature every year since the passage of Prop 47; in most cases the bills do not even receive a courtesy hearing. Some moderate Democrats, including Jim Cooper, pushed to have the matters placed on the ballot in 2018 (Prop 20) but were undercut at every step in the process by the progressive Governor and Legislature.

This year, it appears that the temperature has been shifting to provide the public with some tangible reform to address this issue. Unfortunately, the language of Prop 47 provides limitations on what can be amended or altered by the Legislature (without returning to the ballot), but it is nonetheless refreshing to see some Democrats pushing forward some significant changes to law to attempt to solve this snowballing issue.

Several bills have also introduced in an effort to reclassify crimes from non-violent to violent for the purposes of eligibility for early release. Human trafficking, domestic violence and others have been frequent targets for reform, but have all met stiff resistance in the Legislature.

We have also been carefully tracking legislation that affects law enforcement and peace officers. There is a growing theme in

a bill package from progressive Democrats to reassign work that is traditionally done by peace officers to other public sector employees, or in some cases to non-sworn civilians. Measures have been proposed to prohibit consensual searches (Assembly Bill 93, Bryan) unless there is probable cause of a criminal act; peace officers would be unable to stop vehicles for "low level infractions" including unpaid registration, tinted windows, headlights, taillights, and issues with bumpers, for example. The measure would also severely restrict the reasons for stopping a bicycle without a concurrent suspicion of criminal activity. Senate Bill 50 (Bradford) would also put into place a process for mailing the citation to the individual to maintain the laws against the infractions, but eliminate the interaction.

Lastly, a bill has been introduced to prohibit the use of a police dog for the purposes of apprehension, pursuit or crowd control. Other purposes, such as search and rescue as well as identifying drugs and contraband would be allowed. We anticipate a fierce fight on this issue due to the preamble of the bill, which claims a disproportionate use of K9 deployment by race.

In the coming weeks, these, and many other, bills will come into focus and give us a clear idea of how challenging 2023 will be for ALADS. While we observe a clear swing in the legislative pendulum related to certain criminal justice reform issues, there are familiar fights on the horizon over frequently debated issues such as use of force, personnel record confidentiality, and efforts to "defund the police" that simply aren't going away. We aren't surprised and are prepared to advocate on your behalf.

Until next time, stay safe!

# REFER A NEW MEMBER, GET \$50!\*

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\*Current member and referred new member must be 18 or older. Referred new member must: (1) establish a new membership with LAPFCU; and (2) within 90 days of account opening: (a) open a new checking account, (b) complete one or more direct deposits or ACH credits of \$250 or more per month, and (c) enroll in e-Statements and e-Dislosures. The current member will receive a \$50 Visa Reward Card and the referred new member will receive a \$100 Visa Reward Card. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery of your Reward Card after completing all requirements of this offer. For the referred new member, the \$100 is considered dividends and will be reported on the IRS Form 1099-DIV. Restrictions apply. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Please refer to [referlive.com/lapfcu](http://referlive.com/lapfcu) for complete details. 0123-110



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**Jennifer Lincicum**

• ALADS Insurance Consultant

# STAY HEALTHY WITH PREVENTATIVE CARE

Did you know that ALADS members have coverage for in-network preventive care services under the Anthem Blue Cross Medical Plans at no cost share? Preventive healthcare, including services like annual physical exams, checkups, immunizations, and health screenings are an important part of staying healthy. It helps your doctor keep track of your normal baseline and any significant changes that may have occurred. Annual exams and screenings are also an effective way to catch any potential medical conditions early. As members hit milestones, such as turning a certain age or becoming pregnant, there are guidelines for additional preventive care you should discuss with your provider.

## Some Important Preventive Exams to be Aware of:

Most women over the age of 21 should receive breast exams and cervical cancer screenings every 3 years.

Most women over the age of 30 should begin to receive tests for HPV every 5 years as an additional way to check for cervical cancer.

Most women over the age of 40 should receive a mammogram once per year.

Most men over the age of 50 should receive a colorectal exam as well as a prostate cancer exam.

Most people over the age of 45 should receive a colonoscopy every 10 years.

Please note, the frequency and timing of preventive examinations can depend on your age and risk level. There also may be additional preventive care services that your doctor suggests based on your family history and medical conditions, which is why it's important to see them regularly.

ALADS understands that members and their families may have postponed some of their preventive care over the last few years as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, many facilities and provider offices continue to have precautionary measures in place to help reduce exposure to COVID-19 and other viruses. Additionally, for members who may be immunocompromised, we invite you to explore the Anthem Blue Cross app, LiveHealth Online. You'll be able to interact with providers and have access to information without ever leaving your home!

## The ALADS Body Scan Benefit

In addition to routine preventive care services, the ALADS Anthem Blue Cross medical plans also include no cost Body Scans for enrolled members and one spouse/dependent every 24 months. The

Body Scan is a 3-dimensional non-invasive preventive care scan that provides early disease detection and an overall health consultation. A screening through the Body Scan can help detect heart disease, kidney stones and gallstones, osteoporosis, and many other diseases. For more information and to schedule an appointment please contact Body Scan International (BSI) at (877) 274-5577.

The health and well-being of members and their families is very important to ALADS. Through access to no cost preventive care services, ALADS wants to keep their members happy and healthy!

Through your Anthem Blue Cross CaliforniaCare HMO plan and Anthem Blue Cross PPO plan, you and your family have access to the finest doctors and one of the most extensive networks in the state. With CaliforniaCare, you can build a relationship with your own network doctor with almost all benefits including doctor visits, hospitalization, well baby care, surgery, eye and hearing exams, for little or no out-of-pocket cost.

With the Anthem Blue Cross PPO plan, you have the freedom to choose medical services from within Anthem Blue Cross' expansive PPO provider network, or from a non-PPO provider.



# Endorses...

L A C o u n t y S u p e r v i s o r

*Kathryn Barger*

Supervisor Kathryn Barger is an exemplary leader who has championed for public safety and partnered with law enforcement throughout her tenure.



## LASER VISION CORRECTION

INCLUDED IN ALADS ANTHEM BLUE CROSS HMO AND PPO NETWORKS  
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### RANCHO LASER VISION CENTER

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**Dr. Ron Holman**  
• Holman Group President

In recent years, death by suicide has ranked 10th overall as a cause of death of individuals in the United States, and unfortunately, law enforcement officers are no exception. The data suggests death by suicide claims more lives in law enforcement than felonious killings and accidental deaths in the line of duty combined. The nature of the position, easy access to firearms, and the strain it puts on an officer's mental health can be attributed to this concerning statistic, but The Holman Group is here to help.

It all begins with awareness. If you or someone you know starts feeling hopeless, making a plan, withdrawing, saying goodbye and giving away important possessions, or begins increasing their alcohol use, get help as soon as possible. If we can identify these behaviors as they happen, we can get members and families the vital help and resources they need to recover and continue forward with their lives.

Take action for yourself and your colleagues. Trust your instinct. Ask the question. Get help immediately.

If you would like to speak with a counselor, remember The Holman Group is here to help. As part of your Anthem Blue Cross benefit, ALADS has contracted with The Holman Group to provide confidential counseling services for you and your family members. Counseling sessions are strictly confidential and are provided in a therapeutically supportive environment to help establish peace of mind. Issues are discussed, feelings expressed, and resolutions explored. To schedule an appointment or to talk with a licensed counselor, please call 1-800-321-2843. A Care Access Specialist will help get you into the right hands.

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## BENEFITS CENTER



**Scott Freeman**

• ALADS Benefit Service Center

# USING HOME DELIVERY SERVICE FOR THE GREATEST PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS AND SERVICE

If you are like most people, your day-to-day routine can be packed to the brim with work, errands, chores, kid's activities, caring for your pets, and your own pursuit of relaxation and recuperation from the day. The last thing anyone would want to do at the end of your day is stand in line at the pharmacy to pick up prescriptions. Your healthcare shouldn't add an extra errand to your "to-do" list. We all need to find ways to minimize the tasks in life that pull us in different directions.

Allow me to introduce you to Anthem's **CarelonRx** (previously known as *IngenioRx*), the service that brings convenience and efficiency to your front door.

**No delivery fee:** When using CarelonRx Mail, your prescriptions are delivered to your home at no cost within 5 days after your order is processed. If you need your prescriptions more urgently, they also offer faster delivery for a small delivery fee.

**Lower cost:** Prescription copays are \$5 for both generic and brand name drugs when using the home delivery pharmacy. When picking up at a pharmacy in person, the prescription copays are \$5 for generic brands and \$15 for brand name drugs.

**90-day supplies:** Ask your doctor for a 90-day refill and you can receive your 90-day supply at the \$5 copay amount. When picking up at a pharmacy in person, you would pay the \$5/\$15 copay per 30-day supply.

You can also take control over your prescriptions by registering for an account with Anthem at [anthem.com/ca](http://anthem.com/ca) and keeping up with:

Access your prescription history, order status, and manage refills  
View and pay your account balance  
Manage your communication preferences

Still not sure if **CarelonRx** is right for you? Have a specific question or want to discuss this service with a specialist? The Anthem Blue Cross Pharmacy Member Services team is available 24/7 to provide more information about your home delivery prescriptions at 1-833-261-2466.

To get started with CarelonRx, fill out the form located at [mybenefitchoices.com/alads](http://mybenefitchoices.com/alads) under the Resources page and mail it to:

**CarelonRx Home Delivery**  
**PO Box 94467**  
**Palatine, IL 60094-4467**

As the administrator for your ALADS Anthem Blue Cross plan, Benefit Service Center is always excited to share helpful tips to plan members so they can maximize their benefits. We hope you utilize this benefit available to you with the ALADS Anthem Blue Cross Plan. And, as always, the ALADS Benefit Service Center is here to provide exceptional customer care to you and your family. We look forward to serving you.

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# LANCASTER VICE MAYOR MARVIN CRIST CONTINUES STRONG SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



**Marvin Crist**  
• Lancaster Vice Mayor

Lancaster Vice Mayor Marvin Crist is currently in his thirteenth year on the Lancaster City Council. First elected in 2010, he was overwhelmingly re-elected in 2014, 2018 and 2022.

An Antelope Valley native, Vice Mayor Crist is a graduate and member of the Palmdale High School Hall of Fame. He served as Fire Captain and President of the International Association of Fire Fighters at U.S. Air Force Plant 42, in Palmdale.

Later, he left the Fire Department to open his own business, an affiliate of New York Life Insurance Company, where he specialized in providing benefits to first responders and their families as well as a marketing and advertising company.

Public safety and supporting our deputies has been a priority of Vice Mayor Crist long before he was elected. In 2002, Crist was recruited to join the Lancaster Sheriff's Boosters. At the time, it was a small, but successful organization raising \$25,000 a year, mostly from direct contributions from local business owners.

As Crist became more involved, in 2004, he was asked to become President of the organization. Building on the old saying, 'no one can do everything, but everyone can do something,' we brought in more people from the community. When I joined, there were 7-8 Board Members. We needed to increase that," explained Crist.

In addition to those who could write a check to the organization, Crist recruited those who could donate items that could be auctioned or raffled

off. For many businesses, this was much easier than making a monetary contribution. For others who love auctions and special events, Sheriff's Boosters fundraisers became some of the most popular and well-attended events in the community.

In recognition of his efforts on behalf of law enforcement, Crist was appointed Chairman of the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission in 2008, and two years later recruited to run for City Council.

The Boosters continued to grow, eventually rebranding to serve the entire region as the Antelope Valley Sheriff's Boosters, supporting both the Lancaster and Palmdale Sheriff's stations. Signature events include their annual Casino Night which raised over \$600,000 last year, as well as the Fallen Heroes Ride, a motorcycle poker run raising funds specifically for the families of fallen first-responders, an annual Golf Tournament that has gone from raising a few thousand dollars to over \$80,000, as well as hosting the station's annual holiday parties each December. The Boosters also sponsor the Baker-to-Vegas run, and purchase a variety of equipment each month for the Palmdale and Lancaster stations. They also led the fundraising effort for the Fallen Heroes Memorial located at the Antelope Valley Mall.

Over the last few years, the Antelope Valley has been especially hard hit by illegal, organized crime run cannabis grows. In the summers of 2021 and 2022, the Sheriff's Department led a massive two-week effort to root out hundreds of illegal grows with the assistance of the DEA and National

Guard. When the County of Los Angeles wouldn't allocate public works staff and equipment to assist, the City of Lancaster sent their staff and equipment miles outside of their city limits to provide support.

Vice Mayor Crist and Boosters volunteers personally delivered thousands of dollars in meals and refreshments each day for the hundreds of law enforcement personnel working in the desert heat.

"These grows are absolutely an existential threat to our quality of life. They were outside our city limits, but affecting the safety of every resident. Unfortunately, despite 270 arrests by deputies, the District Attorney didn't file one prosecution related to the grows," explained Crist. "Despite that, we're sending a message that we won't allow this in our community and are grateful for each and every deputy in our community."

Vice Mayor Crist continues to make public safety a top priority and has spoken with those in other parts of the county about replicating the Antelope Valley Sheriff's Boosters model. "It's not easy, but when you bring the right people together you can accomplish great things," concluded Crist.

1. If you are notified that you are a subject of an investigation...
2. If you are notified that you are a witness in an investigation...
3. If you are called into a supervisor's office and you feel you may be under investigation...
4. If you are involved in a significant use of force,  
*(There will be an investigation)*...
5. If the department looks at you funny...
6. If you have any questions...

C A L L   A N Y T I M E   2 4 / 7



D E F E N S E   R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S



**Boris Nikolof**  
bnikolof@alads.org



**Mark Sanchez**  
msanchez@alads.org



**Doris Tseng**  
dtseng@alads.org

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# Happenings...



Etch & Catch Catalytic Converter Marking Event  
Toyota of Pasadena hosted the catalytic converter etching event w/Altadena Station and the Pasadena Police Department.



Class #466 Orientation. ALADS President James Wheeler met with Class #466 on January 19 at the STARS Center. There were 35 Deputy Sheriff Trainees (DST) in the class. Class #466 is a North County class.



Havana Nights! ALADS was a platinum sponsor at the "LAS4D Spouses' Havana Nights Fundraiser" for Class #464 which was held at the Desi House in Eastvale.



City of Walnut Class #464 Fundraiser for Trainee Derek Perez



Class #464 Fundraiser at MCJ



# Remembering Our Fallen Heroes...



Special Victim's Bureau Detective Steven Lim, a 26-year veteran of the Sheriff's Department, passed away while driving home from his work assignment on January 15, 2023.

## DETECTIVE STEVEN J. LIM

Sheriff Luna called Detective Lim, "an exemplary detective who handled the most severe child abuse cases."

The Safe Team said of Deputy Lim:

"On Sunday, January 15, we lost our friend and partner, Det. Steve J. Lim. Steve will be missed greatly. He could always be counted on in a time of need. If you were having a bad day, Steve's silly laugh and positive attitude could make that bad day a little better. We will miss him greatly. Steve

served the children of Los Angeles County for over 15 years and the department for over 26 years,"

Upon being advised of Detective Lim's passing, ALADS C.A.R.E.S. offered support to his family. From January 18 – February 17, ALADS C.A.R.E.S. also ran a fundraiser for the Lim family. Detective Lim leaves behind his wife and five children, as well as his parents and sister.



Deputy Jessica Swanson passed away on January 17, 2023, after a hard-fought battle with breast cancer. She served on the department for 16 years and her last assignment was as a SVB Detective.

## DEPUTY JESSICA SWANSON

Deputy Swanson's father wrote the following on their GoFundMe page:

Jessica was a straight A student who always knew what she wanted to do. She was tenacious, but very loving to everyone she came in contact with. Many of her friends can attest to this. She started out in the L. A. County Sheriff's Academy and was very well liked. She moved quickly, always wanting to be in a position of serving others and was extremely proud of her service. When things were difficult, she has always taken the lemons she was handed and made lemonade. Many of her friends, and I mean MANY, have made comments recently about her character, which was NEVER in question. She always put others first!

I can't say horses were a hobby, but more of a passion! Her success as a barrel racer and overall knowledge of horse care speaks volumes. She married Kyle Swanson on March 3, 2009. She has 2 children, Brendan (18) and Luke (12). Brendan (U.S. Marine) and Luke both were involved in Jiu Jitsu for years and are very good at it. If I were to sum up Jessica's character in one word, it would be "Passion." She did everything with a passion and tenacity that was most admired. Her mother and I will miss her immensely and already realize the Grand Canyon-sized hole that will remain for the rest of our lives!

# DEPUTY JONATHAN BUCHAN

By Detective Eric Espinoza

Many of you may have worked with Deputy Buchan during the past several months since he arrived here at Century Station, maybe as a partner, or as a sister car, or maybe just speaking with him while grabbing chow or debriefing a call. Whatever the case, I'm sure it was evident to you that he was a very humble man, a partner you could count on, a quiet professional. I want to share with you the Jonathan Buchan I know, the Jonathan, at one point in my life, I fought alongside, faced evil with, the man I trusted with my life, the man I depended on. Jonathan Buchan, the man, on numerous occasions ensured myself and other Marines, made it through the mission and eventually home to our families.

I'm sharing this with you because it's been weighing heavy on my heart these past couple of days and I don't want his great character, accomplishments and life to be overshadowed by the way he chose to leave.

In 2010, I was activated to deploy to Afghanistan. I was part of a Marine Anglico Fire Support Team. I was the team Forward Observer. It was myself, a radio operator and a team leader, Officer Watson, who was Gunny Watson at the time. In early June of 2010, my Anglico team was attached to Bravo Company, 1st Recon Bn to provide fire support for a mission that would insert us into a place called Trek Nawa, a Taliban stronghold just east of Marjah in Helmand Province. It was called Operation Cobra. The mission objective was to disrupt, attack and kill the enemy who were continuously

attacking the Marines, ISAF personnel and civilians in Marjah.

We were inserted by helo in the predawn hours of a warm quiet Afghan morning, and as each wave of helos touched down, all hell broke loose. For the first 30 days we were strictly foot mobile, we took over compounds and dominated key terrain, disrupting, neutralizing and killing the enemy. Of course it wasn't without risk and danger. During this mission, part 1 and part 2, we were targeted, ambushed, RPG'd, and IED'd.

This is when I met Jonathan, a Marine we all depended on. The Marine that always helped you up when you fell, the giant Marine that would be waiting on the other side of a wide canal, ready to catch you when you leaped across for dear life. Jonathan, the Marine who boosted your morale when things quickly became kinetic and you saw him next to you engaging the enemy with supreme accuracy.

The Marine that is responsible for ensuring many of us made it back home to our families. Jonathan and his Recon brothers were absolute warfighters, the epitome and definition of what it means to be a Gung Ho Marine, men you would go anywhere with. Jonathan with the spirit of the Old Breed fought courageously both day and night. Not once did he ever complain about the 130 degree + weather, thirst, hunger and especially the burden of the 80 + lbs. of gear and ammo he humped. In fact, from the look of it, he appeared as if he welcomed it. Jonathan, a dependable Marine who always covered your six, was unselfish, extremely disciplined and humble, and always displayed Esprit de Corps.



That is the Jonathan I know. That is the Jonathan I will always remember and hold in my heart. That is the Jonathan I am indebted to. Jonathan, the giant warrior who walked among us.

His death is tragic, and for reasons we may never know, or understand, he left. This tragic loss is a reminder that, as active and reserve military, military veterans and law enforcement officers, we may not be able to change how society perceives us today, and it's clear this world is rapidly changing. Remembering the one thing that should be constant, and never change, is our ability and desire to stand with each other, and to support and stand with the families of our fallen.

So let's stand in solidarity with the Buchan family. They have my love and appreciation for allowing me the honor and privilege of knowing the man who was Jonathan.

***Deputy Jonathan Buchan passed on the morning of January 20, 2023. Deputy Buchan was assigned to the Century Station and joined the department in 2019 after serving two tours in Afghanistan. Detective Eric Espinoza worked alongside Deputy Buchan at Century and served in Afghanistan with him in 2010.***



# R.F.D. SOCIAL CLUB LASD RETIRED FEMALE DEPUTIES

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RoseMarie Johnson, RFD Treasurer, 3480 West Our Road, Pahrump, NV 89060-3637

(775) 751-8451 [nvwrene@aol.com](mailto:nvwrene@aol.com)

Please confirm Luncheon /Reception Reservations by

April 25, 2023



# SAVE THE DATE

## THE DEVIL PUPS PROGRAM



For the 2023 Program, there will be ONLY ONE SINGLE ENCAMPMENT, and it will take place at Camp Pendleton from July 13 - July 22. Unlike past years when we had two smaller encampments, this coming year will be a single large encampment. We made this change primarily to establish a one-time frame that will hopefully avoid family conflicts around the July 4th holidays as well as accommodate those youngsters

## EARLY NOTICE

who start athletic practice towards the latter portion of July.

We will start the application and processing in early March and hope that this "Save-the-Date" early notification will be helpful to families who are now planning for summer activities.

## Essential Qualifications & Attributes:

- Boys & Girls 14-17.
- Good Health & Physically Fit.
- Great Attitude & Desire to Attend.
- No Need for Medication While Attending Camp.
- We will also be accepting applications from recent former Devil Pup graduates to participate as "Eagles" to assist the regular camp staff.
- Detailed application information will be provided and available at the beginning of March.

**CONTACT: COLONEL KEITH BUSHEY: [KDBS255@AOL.COM](mailto:KDBS255@AOL.COM)**

## Relocating to Idaho

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**IF YOU REQUIRE DEFENSE REPRESENTATION, CALL ALADS AT (323) 213-4005**

**\*CONTACT ALADS FOR WHICH COVERAGE APPLIES.**

## \$125,000 BASIC LIFE INSURANCE

The PORF benefit is the result of union negotiation and provides County-funded Basic Life and Long Term Disability (LTD) Insurance. All full-time, Active sworn peace officers, belonging to Bargaining Unit 611, are automatically enrolled in PORF upon graduation from the Academy or being hired laterally as a Deputy Sheriff.



*All full-time, Active sworn peace officers, belonging to Bargaining Unit 611 Have \$125,000 of Basic Life Insurance at no cost.*

### Long Term Disability (LTD) Monthly Benefit\*

The LTD benefit provides up to 60% of your base salary, to a maximum of \$10,000 per month, after 90 consecutive days of injury or sickness. The benefit can continue up to Social Security Normal Retirement Age (SSNRA) and applies to both off- and on-duty disabilities; however, it will be offset by workers' comp, retirement income, and any formal salary continuance plan, excluding sick time.

### Basic Life Insurance Benefit

Eligible members receive \$125,000 of basic life insurance coverage without a medical examination! You will need to designate a beneficiary under the plan.\*\*

### Accelerated Death Benefit

If you are diagnosed with a terminal illness, with a life expectancy of 12 months or less, you may be eligible for a reduced living benefit of 75% of your basic life amount, up to a maximum of \$93,750.\*\*\*

### Dedicated Benefit Support and Member Advocacy

The PORF Benefit Service Center, staffed by Benefit Professionals, can assist you in filing LTD claims, assist your beneficiary in filing a Basic Life claim, help you understand your benefits, and designate or update your beneficiaries.

Please note, this is only a brief summary of benefits. \*Since the Long Term Disability premium is County-paid, your monthly benefit may be subject to federal income tax. \*\* Please call 800-842-6635 to receive a beneficiary designation form. \*\*\*You must be covered for at least 60 days and your doctor must be able to provide a certification of your terminal illness.

# *Congratulations* *Class No. 462*

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# SENATE BILL 2 (SB 2) CREATES POLICE DECERTIFICATION PROCESS AND EXPANDS CIVIL LIABILITY EXPOSURE

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW...

Senate Bill 2 ("SB 2") was signed into law in 2021 with most of the significant provisions taking effect on January 1, 2023. It also amended Civil Code section 52.1, known as the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act. SB 2 significantly affects law enforcement agencies across the state with the stated intent to increase accountability for misconduct by peace officers and makes five significant changes:

- ▶ Creates a process for the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training ("POST") to revoke certifications for peace officers such that those individuals will be disqualified from peace officer employment in California;
- ▶ Requires law enforcement agencies to investigate all complaints or claims of serious misconduct by peace officers regardless of whether the subject officer(s) is still employed by the agency;
- ▶ Expands the list of circumstances that will disqualify a person from employment as a peace officer;
- ▶ Requires law enforcement agencies to report to POST all complaints, claims, allegations, and findings of serious misconduct;
- ▶ Removes some immunity provisions for peace officers and their employing agencies in civil rights lawsuits brought under the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act.

### **SB2 CREATES THREE DISTINCT BODIES THAT INVESTIGATE SERIOUS MISCONDUCT AND PROSECUTE ACTIONS TO REVOKE OR SUSPEND PEACE OFFICERS' CERTIFICATION:**

#### **PEACE OFFICERS STANDARDS ACCOUNTABILITY DIVISION:**

- ▶ Reviews investigations of peace officers by the employing law enforcement agency and other bodies and conducts additional investigations, as necessary.
- ▶ The Division may also initiate its own investigations
- ▶ Determines whether a peace officer committed "serious misconduct" and presents findings and recommendations to the Advisory Board the POST Commission for suspension or revocation.

#### **PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS ACCOUNTABILITY ADVISORY BOARD:**

Primary objective is to "make recommendations on the decertification" to the POST Commission.

- ▶ Made up of nine (9) members: two (2) current or former peace officers; other seven (7) consists of - 2 members of the public with experience in police accountability issues working at nonprofit or academic institutions, one of which is appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly; 2 members of the public with experience in police accountability issues working in community-based organizations, one of which is appointed by the Senate Rules Committee; 2 additional members of the public with "strong consideration"

given to individuals who have been subject to wrongful use of force by a peace officer or surviving family members of a person killed by wrongful use of force by a peace officer; one attorney with professional experience involving oversight of police officers.

•If the Board finds there is clear and convincing evidence of serious misconduct, it may make a recommendation to the POST Commission for the suspension or revocation of a law enforcement officer's certification.

## **POST COMMISSION (POST):**

Reviews the Board's recommendation and can adopt only upon a two-thirds majority vote. POST identified 15 factors to guide its decision, including:

- ▶ harm caused, peace officer's prior discipline, likelihood of recurrence, and other aggravating or mitigating factors.
- ▶ If the Commission decides to take action against a peace officer's certification, the matter is referred to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for a formal hearing governed by the Administrative Procedures Act.
- ▶ This hearing is a full-blown evidentiary hearing where POST bears the burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence.
- ▶ The final decision by the Commission can be appealed to Superior Court.

## **HOW THE COMMISSION RECEIVES COMPLAINTS OF "SERIOUS MISCONDUCT" AND COMMENCES AN INVESTIGATION:**

Under SB2, the Commission can receive complaints directly from members of the public. Moreover, effective January 1, 2023, the employing agency must begin to report to the Commission within 10 days all of the following:

- ▶ Any complaint or allegation made against an officer that could result in suspension or revocation of an officer's certification.
- ▶ Any finding or recommendation by a civilian oversight entity, including a civilian review board, civilian police commission, police chief or civilian inspector general, that an officer engaged in conduct subject to suspension or revocation.
- ▶ The final disposition of an investigation that determines an officer engaged in conduct that could result in suspension or revocation of certification, regardless of the discipline imposed.
- ▶ Any civil judgment or court finding against a peace officer, or settlement of a civil claim against a peace officer or an agency based on allegations of officer conduct that could render a peace officer subject to suspension or revocation of certification.
- ▶ Further, by July 1, 2023, an employing agency must report to POST these same categories of "events" dating back to January 1, 2020.
- ▶ POST may take action against a peace officer's certification for any act of serious misconduct committed after January 1, 2022 or in cases where the act of serious misconduct was committed before January 1, 2022, the employer made a final determination after January 1, 2022. Lastly, for acts of serious misconduct consisting of dishonesty, sexual assault and use of deadly force that resulted in death or serious bodily injury, POST can take action without limitation as to when the act occurred.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

Mike Rains is a founding principal of RLS. He has represented peace officers for over 40 years in some of California's highest profile criminal cases. Mike is former Santa Monica police officer and graduated from LASD academy class #166. Robert Wexler is a partner in RLS's Southern California practice and has nearly 30-years of experience representing some of the largest law enforcement associations. In 2011, Rob was given the distinction of being named a Super Lawyer.



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# Unit Representative Meetings



Unit Rep Vania Gevorgiz wins the raffle.



DAI Amber Campana is sworn in as a Unit Representative.



Deputy David Murray of Compton Station is sworn in as an Unit Representative



Attorney Robert Wexler of RLS does a presentation on SB 2 for the unit representatives.

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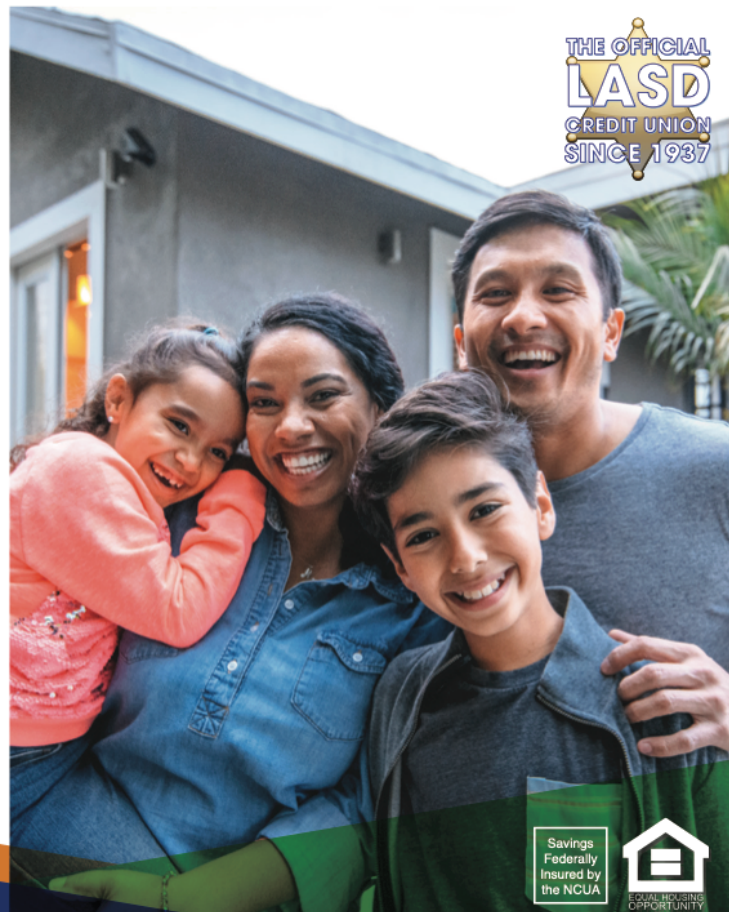


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Antelope Valley Court (Michael Antonovich)  
Antelope Valley Juvenile Court  
Arson & Explosives Unit  
Auto Insurance Fraud (DAI)  
Biscailuz Center  
Biscailuz Range (Closed)  
Civil Litigation Unit  
Civilian Pre-employment Unit  
Community College Bureau - ELA College  
County Services Bureau - North (Antelope Valley)  
Crescenta Valley Station  
Crime Lab - Lancaster

Criminal Intelligence Bureau  
Duarte Sub-Station  
East Los Angeles Court  
East Los Angeles Station  
Edelman Court  
El Monte Court  
Emergency Operations Bureau  
Emergency Vehicle Operations Center  
Field Operations Training Unit  
Fleet Management  
FOSS  
Homicide Bureau  
Homicide Bureau - AV  
Homicide Gang Taskforce  
Human Trafficking Unit  
Intake Specialist Unit  
Lancaster Court Annex  
Lancaster Juvenile Court  
Lancaster Station

Major Crimes - North (Antelope Valley)  
MET - East  
MET - North (Antelope Valley)  
Metrolink - Brackett Field  
Mira Loma Detention Facility (Closed)  
Motorcycle Training Unit  
OSS - ELA/Temple  
OSS - Lancaster/Palmdale  
Palmdale Station  
Parks Bureau - East (Bonelli & Whittier Narrows)  
Parks Bureau - North (Antelope Valley)  
Pasadena Court  
Pomona Court  
Recipient Welfare Fraud (DAI)  
Risk Management Bureau  
San Dimas Station  
Special Enforcement Bureau  
Sherman Block Building

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Temple Station  
Tactics & Survival Training Unit (TAS)  
Training Bureau  
- Recruit Training Unit  
- Force Training Unit  
- Advanced Officer Training  
Transit Services Bureau - El Monte  
Transit Services Bureau - Irwindale  
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Compton Station  
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CSB - MLK Hospital  
CSB - Harbor UCLA Hospital  
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Crime Lab - Fire Arms  
Criminal Courts Building (Clara Shortridge Foltz)  
Downey Court  
Eastlake Juvenile Court  
Hall of Administration  
Hall of Justice  
Hall of Records  
High Tech Crimes  
Industry Station  
La Mirada Sub-station  
Lakewood Station  
Lawndale Substation  
Lomita Station  
Long Beach Court  
LCMC  
Los Padrinos Court (closed)

Major Crimes  
- BRTF  
- CCATS  
- FTF  
- HALT  
- METRO  
- OC  
- PGU  
- SAT  
- VICE  
Marina Del Rey Station  
Norwalk Court  
Norwalk Station  
Parks Bureau - South  
Pico Rivera Station  
Pre-Employment Backgrounds Unit - STARS

Records/Identification Bureau  
Paramount Substation  
Sheriff Information Bureau (S.I.B.)  
South LA Station  
STARS CENTER  
- Coveted Testing Unit  
- Pre-employment Backgrounds Unit  
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Glendale Court  
Hollywood Court (Closed)  
Inglewood Court  
Inmate Reception Center  
Lost Hills Station  
Men's Central Jail

Metropolitan Ct. (& Dept. 95)  
Parks Bureau - North (Castaic)  
Pitchess Detention Center  
- Court Services Transportation  
- East Facility  
- North County Corrections Facility  
- North Facility  
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Santa Clarita Court  
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