



April 2016

The
BACKUP
Newsletter

The Official Publication of the California Reserve Peace Officers Association

Chief Executive Officer's Report

THE ULTIMATE FOOT PURSUIT

The 32nd running of the Baker-to-Vegas Challenge Cup Relay is in the record books. The 120-mile run has 20 legs, from four to ten miles each, with an elevation change of nearly seven thousand feet. A total of 270 law enforcement teams from across the nation and as far away as Belize participated this year making the race truly an international event.

The race was the vision of LAPD coppers Chuck Foote and Larry Moore and is now run under the auspices of the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, Inc. (LAPRAAC).

The first Challenge Cup Relay start line was located on CA 127 at Baker High School. The finish line was on NV 160 at the intersection of Blue Diamond, 119 miles away and 13 miles short of Las Vegas.

At the conclusion of the first race all 19 teams gathered at the finish, about 400 people standing around in the desert, with LAPD Chief Daryl Gates presenting the awards.

Over the years since then, hundreds of thousands of cops have run across the desert. The original ideals of the race continue: teamwork, camaraderie, physical fitness and competition. The event has seen explosive growth. The number of teams has increased from the initial 19 in 1985 to the logistics-limited 270 today. Entry categories have also expanded to be more inclusive.

Teams are scheduled to run in flights, depending upon their projected finish times, starting hourly at 0800 hours.

The race is an opportunity to bond, fraternize and have some fun, and gives those of us who run one more reason to maintain a physical fitness program.

Stay fit stay strong - and stay safe out there.

Kevin Bernzott is the Chief Executive Officer of CRPOA and a Reserve Sergeant for the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. Kevin welcomes your questions and comments. Email him at bernzott@crpoa.org



2016 CRPOA Awards

Nomination Announcement

By Nancy Elam,
Awards Committee Chairman

The California Reserve Peace Officers Association is proud to announce the Annual Awards Program for 2016. We invite you to nominate a deserving member of your organization for one of several recognition awards. Awards are presented to reserve peace officers, search and rescue members and volunteers in policing as well as reserve coordinators.

The awards will be presented at our Annual Awards Luncheon to be held at 12 noon on Friday, August 12, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego, CA. The luncheon is held in conjunction with ARPOC2016, the Annual Reserve Peace Officers Conference, which offers 28 hours of POST approved training.

Do not miss out on an opportunity to honor a deserving individual within your organization.

Review the award nomination information to determine which award is best suited to your nominee. Along with the [Award Nomination Application](#), a letter of nomination **must** be submitted detailing the nominee's qualifications and accomplishments. Documentation supporting the nomination letter should be included. Questions can be forwarded to nancy@crpoa.org. Nominations must be submitted no later than June 23, 2016.

We look forward to receiving your nomination.

Nancy Elam



2016 CRPOA Award Nomination Criteria

California Reserve Peace Officers Association

Please note, in 2013 the CRPOA Board of Directors voted to modify the time restriction on awards to three years. You may now submit nomination for events which occurred up to three years ago. The Board will also consider exceptions for older events on a case-by-case basis.

Award for Valor

For an act of conspicuous bravery in the line of duty, performed in conscious disregard of peril to the officer. To be awarded, all of the following criteria must exist:

- ◆ The bravery exhibited must be above and beyond that expected in the line of duty.
- ◆ Failure to take such action would not justify censure.
- ◆ The risk to the officer's life actually existed and the officer was able to perceive the risk and disregard it.
- ◆ The objective was of sufficient importance to justify the risk.
- ◆ The officer accomplished the objective or was prevented from accomplishing it by incurring serious injury or death.

- *The criteria for this award include consciousness of the peril and the disregard thereof. Thus, merely finding oneself in the middle of a perilous situation and having to take action to get out of it would not qualify.*
- *There is no limit to the number of qualifying awards.*
- *May be awarded to a reserve peace officer, search and rescue member or volunteer in policing.*
- *The nominee does not need to be a CRPOA member.*
- *The act must have occurred between June 1, 2013 and May 31, 2016, inclusive.*



Award of Honor

Presented to the family of a reserve peace officer, search and rescue member or volunteer in policing whose life was given in the line of duty due to the action of a third party.

This award recognizes supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. It does not require that the officer knowingly placed himself or herself in a perilous situation nor does it require an act of heroism in order to be awarded.

It does require the action of a third party in causing the death.

Notes: There is no limit to the number of qualifying awards. In an appropriate case, an Award for Valor and an Award of Honor could be made for the same action.

- May be awarded to a reserve peace officer, search and rescue member or volunteer in policing.
 - The decedent need not have been a CRPOA member.
 - The death must have occurred between June 1, 2013 and May 31, 2016, inclusive.
-

Reserve Officer of the Year, Search and Rescue Member of the Year,

and /or Volunteer in Policing of the Year

Awarded to the nominee excelling in all the qualifications for the Meritorious Service Award which place the reserve officer/search and rescue member/volunteer in policing clearly above all other candidates.

Notes: Only one qualifying award shall be made each year for each of three categories: reserve peace officer, search and rescue member and volunteer in policing.

- The nominee must be a general member of CRPOA on the date the nomination is received.
 - The qualifying actions must occur prior to May 31, 2016.
-

Meritorious Service Award

For especially meritorious service to the department in a duty of great responsibility. The duty may be either assigned or self-initiated. Superior performance of the normal duties of the position will not alone justify the award.

Considerations for the award include all areas of:

- ◆ Outstanding performance of the officer's duties either in a single act or over time
- ◆ Extraordinary level of assistance to the reserve unit and/or the department
- ◆ Extraordinary level of service to the community;
- ◆ Training or teaching within the department
- ◆ Longevity with the department.

Notes: There is no limit to the number of qualifying awards.

- The nominee must be a general member of CRPOA on the date the nomination is received.
 - The qualifying actions must occur between June 1, 2013 and May 31, 2016, inclusive.
-

Distinguished Service Award

For distinguished service by a reserve officer, SAR member or volunteer in policing.

Considerations for the award include one or more of the following:

- ◆ Distinguished service either in a single act or over time
- ◆ Substantial assistance to the reserve unit and/or the department
- ◆ Substantial service to the community
- ◆ Training or teaching within the department
- ◆ Longevity with the department

Notes: There is no limit to the number of qualifying awards.

- The nominee must be a general member of CRPOA on the date the nomination is received.
 - The qualifying actions must occur between June 1, 2013 and May 31, 2016, inclusive.
-



Award of Appreciation

For distinguished service to the members of the California Reserve Peace Officers Association.

Considerations for the award include:

- ◆ Distinguished service to the Association either in a single act or over time
- ◆ Substantial assistance or contribution to the Association

Notes: There is no limit to the number of qualifying awards.

- The qualifying service must occur between June 1, 2013 and May 31, 2016, inclusive.

Coordinator of the Year

Presented to the coordinator of reserve peace officers, search and rescue members or volunteers in policing who excels in:

- ◆ Displaying a strong commitment to the unit
- ◆ Dedication to the enhancement of the professionalism and training of the unit members
- ◆ Promoting a positive image of unit members within the department and the community
- ◆ Demonstrating efforts to use unit members in non-traditional roles or assignments

Notes: The nominee must be a full-time employee of the department in which he or she serves as the coordinator of a reserve peace officer, search and rescue or volunteer in policing unit.

- The nomination must be made from within the unit supervised by the nominee.*
 - It may not be made by the department or by another full-time employee of the department.*
 - Supporting letters from the department are encouraged.*
 - Only one qualifying award shall be presented.*
 - The qualifying service must occur prior to May 31, 2016.*
-

General Notes: for Award Nomination Application

Important note to nominators: Nominators for any CRPOA award shall be:

- A chief executive of a law enforcement agency; or,*
- A full-time officer who serves as a reserve coordinator; or*
- A General Member of the Association.*

When submitting a nomination please review the awards criteria thoroughly to assure that your nominee meets the criteria. You may submit a nomination for the highest possible award for which you believe your nominee meets the criteria. The Awards Committee may determine that your nominee qualifies for the category nominated or may select the nominee to be recognized in a different category. For example, a candidate nominated for Reserve Officer of the Year might receive that award, or may be honored with the Meritorious Service Award or other qualifying award.

Nominations packets must include:

- 1) An application, completed and legible.
- 2) A letter of nomination summarizing the qualifications of the candidate for a specific award.
- 3) Documentation supporting qualifications, such as awards, certificates, commendations, letters.

Nominators must also assure that information provided for contact for award notification is current.

Note - nominations may be sent to the Awards Committee at:

- California Reserve Peace Officers Association, P.O. Box 5622, San Jose, CA 95150-5622
- Or scan and e-mail your nomination packet to nancy@crpoa.org.
- If you do not receive confirmation of receipt of the nomination packet by the Awards Committee within 2 weeks of mailing or emailing documents, contact Nancy Elam by email or phone immediately.

**Any questions about the nomination process can be forwarded to Nancy Elam, Awards Committee Chairman
by email at nancy@crpoa.org or by phone at 408-309-8756.**

The deadline for the receipt of nominations is June 23, 2016

ARPOC 2016

August 10 - 13, 2016

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

San Diego – Mission Valley

Hope you are planning to attend ARPOC 2016 August 10th-13th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego - Mission Valley. We are excited to return to San Diego and are really looking forward to the new convention site.



Near the Riverwalk Golf Club, the Fashion Valley Mall and many great restaurants, the Crowne Plaza's guest rooms and conference rooms have recently been totally refurbished. Our conference rate is \$139 per night including parking (with in and out privileges). You can make reservations now by calling (888) 233-9527 and using the conference name "ARPOC". To register online or for more details about the [hotel click here](#):



Making A Difference - think about it

*"Do the right thing. It will gratify some people
and astonish the rest."*

--Mark Twain, American author



Truckee Police Dept. Department Awards Ceremony



Chief Adam McGill presented the 2015 Volunteer of the Year award to VIP Al Salas. Al has over 10 years of service with the Truckee Police Volunteer Program. During this time he has been a rock solid contributor to various aspects of the program. He can be counted on for Truckee Thursdays, (Artisan Fair, Farmers Market and Food Court held Thursday evenings mid-June thru



August), call-outs for snow patrol, moving vehicles in the right of way, and assisting motorists with snow related problems. If someone needs assistance, he is always available. He works any assignment with any volunteer seamlessly. The Chief added it is a pleasure to have him as a member of the volunteer team.

VIP Al Salas has been a member of the California Reserve Peace Officers Association since 2010.



On March 24, 2016, the Truckee Police Department held its first ever awards ceremony. They recognized some current and former employees who have gone beyond the call of duty during their careers with the department. Since the inception of the department in 2001, Truckee police officers have encountered many unique and dangerous incidents where their courage and commitment were tested. The department completed a comprehensive study of incidents of the last 15 years that potentially rose to this level, attempting to determine which warranted special recognition.

WELCOME NEW CRPOA MEMBERS

Between 3/16/2016 and 4/15/2016

Alan Skobin Los Angeles SD
Gregory Garrison Kingsburg PD
Ryan Dulin Walnut Creek PD
George Gomez Kingsburg PD
Jeremiah LaRue Siskiyou Co. SO
Nissi Robledo Kingsburg PD

Obeer Qazi Los Angeles SD
Lanny Edwards Walnut Creek PD
James Ramirez Kingsburg PD
Thomas Davis Walnut Creek PD
John Douglas Palos Verdes Est.s PD

Jon Pino Kingsburg PD
Keven Pendley Kingsburg PD
Dan Estrella Walnut Creek PD
James Smith Kingsburg PD
Michael Paisley Tehama SO
Gary Ross Irvine PD



Notice of Election by Acclamation

At the close of business on March 31, 2016, there were three qualified candidates for three vacancies on the Board of Directors. In accordance with the By-laws, if the number of qualified candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Board, those candidates are declared to be elected by acclamation. There will be no election by ballot. Members Jim Lombardi, Pete Downs and Frank Barnes are reelected to serve three year terms ending in 2019. Below are the Candidates Election Endorsement Statements.

Jim Lombardi LAPD Reserve ELECTION ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT

The next two years will be extremely important for CRPOA. A strong anti-gun movement is gaining support in the Legislature. CRPOA is a highly recognized law enforcement association, and we must enthusiastically oppose restrictions being placed on peace officers, particularly reserve officers, with regard to weapon and ammunition purchases and use. Reserve officers should have the same protections afforded full-time officers while on or off duty and also during retirement.

We have been successful in the past with our legislative endeavors, and I plan to personally represent you in Sacramento if I am re-elected. I am asking for your vote to the board of directors for the upcoming term.

Thank you.

Jim Lombardi, President CRPOA

Pete Downs Sonoma Co. Sheriff - VIP

My name is Pete Downs. I have served as a Volunteer in Policing at the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office for 15 years and have been a CRPOA member since 2001. My past full-time experience was representing a large winery as Senior Vice President for Governmental Affairs in Sacramento, Washington D.C. and internationally. I have served as Vice President for Legislative Affairs and am the current Chair of the Law and Legislation committee at CRPOA. My focus at CRPOA is to track and evaluate legislation of interest to CRPOA members, and to educate and build working relationships with legislators and their staff.

We are currently tracking over four dozen bills in this second year of a two year session. To help us support and oppose bills, as recommended by our Law and Legislative committee, and as directed by the Board, I have secured the services of a large advocacy firm in Sacramento, at no cost to CRPOA. Among my goals for the future is to form and retain strong alliances with other law enforcement organizations in Sacramento for the betterment of our members.

I ask for your vote for a term as one of your directors. Thank you.

Frank Barnes LA Sheriff Dept. Statement of Candidacy

I have had the pleasure of serving on your Board of Directors for several years. I continue to advocate for legislation that benefits reserve peace officers. But, more important, I strongly urge all reserves to be ACTIVE in the California Reserve Peace Officers Association. Your association is the ONLY organization that represents and serves the needs of reserves. Please invite your colleagues to become active members of CRPOA. More members means more clout. Please help your Association.

I seek your input to improve our association. Your suggestions and ideas are important to the continued growth of CRPOA. Please feel free to contact me at barnes@crpoa.org I look forward to hearing from you.

I ask for your vote so I may continue to advocate for and support CRPOA in its service to all reserve peace officers. But, whether or not you vote for me, PLEASE VOTE.

Thank You.

S/s Frank Barnes

CRPOA member since 1978

Notes from Legal Counsel

By Howard Ekerling

When I began as a reserve, probably 459 reports were the most frequent call. But now that is probably superseded by family disturbance and/or domestic violence calls. Here are a couple of scenarios that started as domestic violence and ended in another crime that you and your full-time partners might find interesting. Consider whether crimes have occurred in the following cases.



Scenario 1: While driving her Corvette down the street, Karla saw her husband's Mercedes parked at the curb in front of another home. She knows the home to be that of a lady friend. When she could not gain the entrance to the home, she went to a nearby bar and bought a bottle of beer. She went back to the Mercedes Benz and tossed the bottle of beer from her Corvette through the rear window of her husband's Mercedes, shattering it. You get the call. Man-woman dispute. Karla was charged with vandalism in violation of Penal Code section 594. Crime or no crime?

Scenario 2. Joe and his wife Angie are at a baptism party. They have been married for about six years and have two children. As the party ended, Joe and Angie got into an argument. Joe was upset that Angie had obtained a restraining order against him several days earlier. Angie ran away to her car. The defendant caught up with her, put his hands around her neck, and demanded that she give him her cellular telephone. Angie got into the car because she was afraid and locked the door. Joe gained entrance to the vehicle by breaking the window, a struggle ensued, and Joe overpowered Angie and took her purse with the phone inside. Joe was arrested by sheriff's deputies, for robbery while talking on Angie's cellular telephone a block away.

Each scenario resulted in a criminal conviction. Here is what happened in each case.

Scenario No. 1 is *People v. Kahanic*. The Court considered the definition of "vandalism" in the Penal Code, which among other things, make it a crime for one to "destroy any real or personal property not his own" The phrase "not his own" in the definition was the key. "Own" was defined as expressing an ownership interest "to indicate the exclusion of others." The Mercedes was indisputably community property which by definition means that the interests of the married persons are equal interests.

The court reasoned, however, that "It is of no consequence [that] wife may have had a community property right to share possession of the Mercedes..." because "The essence of the crime is in the physical acts against the ownership interest of another even though that ownership is less than exclusive.... Each community property owner has an equal ownership interest and although undivided, one which the criminal law protects from damage or destruction by the other marital partner." The conviction for vandalism was affirmed.

Scenario No. 2 is *People v. Aguilera*. Joe was charged with robbery in violation of Penal Code section 211 for taking a purse and phone from his wife by force and/or fear. In his defense, Joe contended that when one spouse is charged with robbery for taking community property from the other spouse, the spouse cannot be found guilty of robbery if the taking was only a temporary intent to deprive the spouse of it. Joe in effect argued that one could not be convicted of robbing a spouse of their community property.

The court reasoned that whether the property was community property or not, defendant was properly convicted of robbery. The court ruled that a spouse may be convicted of a theft of community property, which requires an intent to permanently deprive the other spouse of the property because such an intent exceeds the taking spouse's right to the property, and thus constitutes a taking of property not owned by the taking spouse. The court held that in California,

a theft occurs when a co-owner takes jointly held property with the intent to permanently deprive another owner of an interest in the property. In affirming the conviction, the Court held "The theft or vandalizing of community property are acts which both exceed the defendant's rights to the property and offend the ownership and possessory interest of his or her spouse." The conviction for robbery was affirmed.

The citations to these cases are *People v. Aguilera* (2016) 244 Cal. App. 4th 489 and *People v. Kahanic* (1987) 197 Cal.App.3d 461

Howard Ekerling is Legal Counsel Officer on CRPOA Board and a Reserve for the Los Angeles Police Dept.

Howard welcomes your questions and comments. You may email him at ekerling@CRPOA.org

Plan Now to Attend

ARPOC 2016

August 10 - 13, 2016

**CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
San Diego – Mission Valley**

Classes for your consideration this August

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

"How Pleasure and Profit Enslave 100,000 United States children each year, forced into sexual slavery, children are seen as disposable by their users, and are easy to obtain. We will raise your awareness about why children are so easy to sexually exploit, learn how to spot the warning signs, and understand how we fit in to the solution".

CSEC is rampant and fast-growing. Three of the nation's 13 high-intensity areas where children are forced into prostitution as identified by the FBI are located in Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego's metropolitan areas.

What are the high risk factors? What red flags or warning signs might indicate CSEC? What would you do?

Tactical Casualty Care Core Skills Course

"This is not a first aid course. This is the most effective type of training where you practice core tactics and core medical skills until they become automatic. Your instructors are licensed tactical paramedics and officers who have actually saved other officers that surely would have died before conventional EMS would have time to respond - utilizing this training and the specific TACMED equipment they carry with them at all times.

The mission of this course is to provide the latest best-practice tactical training to all levels of law enforcement and first responders in order to assure inter-operability of core skills within agencies during "active shooter" incidents routinely occurring in the U.S. or mass casualty terrorism on a scale yet to occur.

"Tactical Casualty Care (TCC)" will be offered twice at ARPOC, with the med equipment for you to purchase.



Note from the General Counsel



The California DOJ's New "Policy" Towards Reserves and Firearms

By Jim René
General Counsel
California Reserve Peace Officers Association
April 2016

We recently learned from one of our members that the California DOJ apparently has implemented a new "policy" (I put this in quotes for a reason – see below) regarding the purchase of assault weapons by reserve peace officers who are authorized by their agencies to acquire assault weapons for law enforcement purposes. We became aware of this when our member contacted an FFL (federal firearms licensee) which sells firearms to law enforcement officers and was told that the DOJ had instructed it that reserve peace officers are not legally eligible to acquire assault weapons even if authorized by their agencies in writing to acquire such firearms for law enforcement purposes. You may recall we faced the exact same problem in 2009 when FFL's were refusing to sell large-capacity magazines to reserves and, ironically, the same DOJ issued a Notice that reserves are in fact legally permitted to acquire large-capacity magazines because they are sworn law enforcement officers and thus meet the categorical exemption set forth in Penal Code Section 32310.

As far as I can tell, when it comes to reserve peace officers the DOJ is ignoring the categorical exemption for "sworn peace officers" and instead decreeing that unless they can find a specific exemption for reserves, then reserves are not eligible. This is tantamount to saying that reserve peace officers are not sworn peace officers. As self-evident as it seems, let's go through the legal analysis yet again:

California reserve peace officers are sworn peace officers pursuant to California Penal Code Section 830 which provides, in part, as follows:

"Any person who comes within the provisions of this chapter and who otherwise meets all standards imposed by law on a peace officer is a peace officer."

California Penal Code Section 830.6 and 832.6 are the authorizing statutes relative to reserve peace officer. Once appointed to a law enforcement agency, a reserve peace officers becomes an employee and "sworn peace officer member" of his or her agency.

California Penal Code Section 30630 provides as follows:

"30630. (a) Sections 30605 and 30610 shall not prohibit the possession or use of assault weapons or a .50 BMG rifle by sworn peace officer members of those agencies specified in Section 30625 for law enforcement purposes, whether on or off duty.

(b) (1) Sections 30600, 30605, and 30610 shall not prohibit the sale, delivery, or transfer of an assault weapon or a .50 BMG rifle to, or the possession of an assault weapon or a .50 BMG rifle by, a sworn peace officer member of an agency specified in Section 30625 if the peace officer is authorized by the officer's employer to possess or receive the assault weapon or the .50 BMG rifle. Required authorization is defined as verifiable written certification from the head of the agency, identifying the recipient or possessor of the assault weapon as a peace officer and authorizing that person to receive or possess the specific assault weapon."

Because California reserve peace officers are "sworn peace officer member[s]" of their agencies, they fall squarely within the express provisions of PC 30630 allowing them to acquire an assault weapon. Where the California Penal Code expressly provides a categorical exemption for a defined group, such as "sworn peace officers," without any other qualifying factors, there is no legal basis to then conclude that, unless a separate exemption exists for a specific sub-

category (in this case, reserve peace officers) of "sworn peace officers," then that sub-category is not included within the broader category. If the DOJ applied that same logic to full-time officers appointed under PC Section 830.1, for example, then they would not be eligible to acquire assault weapons either because there is no specific exemption for 830.1 officers.

There are approximately 50 sub-categories of "sworn peace officers" defined in Penal Code Sections 830 *et seq.* It is obvious that there is not a separate "assault weapon exemption" for each of those categories (in fact, I know of none). The upshot of all of this is that the DOJ is essentially re-writing the statute when it comes to reserves and to date are unwilling to either explain their view or change it.

So here is my request: if any of you are encountering difficulties acquiring assault weapons, large-capacity magazines or off-roster handguns as authorized by your agencies and for use in your law enforcement duties because FFL's are refusing to sell them to you on the basis of the DOJ "policy," please contact me immediately. We are trying to assess how broadly this problem is affecting our members and what steps we can take to mitigate it.

Stay safe everyone.

If you have a question or comment for Jim, please email Jim at rene@crpoa.org. Jim René is the General Counsel for the California Reserve Peace Officers Association and a Reserve Police Sergeant for the San Fernando Police Department, and previously was an LAPD reserve police officer for 15 years.

San Diego - August 2016 - Things to do

Balboa Park

Over a 1400 acre site with historical buildings, numerous museums, gardens, and green space. The park was created for the Panama California Exhibition of 1915-1916 with most of the buildings in the park remaining from that event.

The predominant architecture is Spanish-Mexican style, low level buildings that blend in with the natural surroundings.

Among the highlights of the park are the Botanical Gardens and lily pond, the Museum of Man, the Museum of Natural History, the San Diego Museum of Art, and the famous San Diego Zoo. Even if you never go into a building the park is simply a beautiful place. Official site: <http://www.balboapark.org/>



San Diego SEAL Tour

Climb aboard a Hydra-Terra amphibious vehicle, the SEAL, and see the city of San Diego from unique vantage points—both land and sea. Start from the Seaport Village, drive along the shores of Big Bay, splash into the waters of the San Diego Bay, and then enjoy a leisurely drive back to the start.

Along the way, take the opportunity to see locations such as the Midway Museum, where the Star of India is docked, Lindbergh Field, Liberty Station, the North Island Naval Air Station, the Point Loma Nuclear Submarine Base, and the Marine Mammal Training Center.

With the help of an entertaining and knowledgeable guide, you get to learn more about San Diego. Why is the airport dedicated to Charles Lindbergh? How is the Naval Air Station one of the largest jet fighter repair stations and the "Birthplace of Naval Aviation?"

Keep your cameras ready, your eyes open, and look out for chance encounters with the local fauna. The tour often crosses paths with California sea lions and other natural wildlife.

Mike Voorhees Retirement

CRPOA Chairman Emeritus, Past Director and Officer
Reserve Assistant Sheriff, Sonoma County Sheriff's Office
*Over 40 Years of Service
1975- 2016*



** Remarks delivered by Anthony Duckworth on the occasion of the retirement celebration of Sonoma County Reserve Assistant Sheriff Mike Voorhees.**



I speak tonight as the current president of the reserve deputies association. In a sense, therefore, I speak for all the reserve deputies who came before me.

Mike Voorhees is a man of many achievements. It is difficult to capture those things just associated with the Sheriff's department, let alone his many other interests, so please forgive me if I fail in this. As I said to Steve the other week (those of you not as in the loop as me may know him as "Sheriff Freitas") I said, Steve, I simply don't know what to say about Mike at the retirement dinner. Any suggestions? Steve smiled, looked at me and said, "Remind me, who you are and what are you doing on the second floor?"

And so after I dusted myself off outside, I concluded that I can only realistically talk about my experiences with Mike, and what I know.

Mike has told me about his beginnings at the Sheriff's department. While working, and going to law school, he became a reserve deputy sheriff. Of course in those long hours working with Mike in zone two, the cows staring back at us from the reflected headlights, the gentle crackling sounds from the radio as it tried and failed to reach us so we'd turn it off so as not to spoil the mood. Mike would talk of his humble beginnings in the seventies. He would talk of things called "hot tubs" and "discotheques." Well I'd laugh (to be polite) but soon asked him to stop, as the stories were quite boring. Well, he'd laugh and point out the difference in rank, and continue right on. So I learned a lot about Mike in the early years.

He would tell me of the time when reserve deputies could not pull cars over. Even when a clear crime was committed in front of them...

Mike is a firearms enthusiast and early in his career he carried a model 29 Smith and Wesson, a huge monster of a revolver in 44 magnum that would roar and spit flame at the darkened range and terrify the regular deputies armed with their 38's. Compensating for something? I personally would like to think so.

Mike is also somewhat of a motoring enthusiast. I remember a high speed pursuit down 101. I reached speeds of 108 miles per hour chasing the stolen vehicle, which also happened to be carrying drugs. Mike was right behind me, not to be outdone in speed though. When the bad guy stopped unexpectedly Mike screeched past me and the perpetrator down 101, tires screaming to come to a halt some distance down the highway. This confused the bad guy somewhat, he wasn't familiar with the protocol and didn't know whether to chase Mike at this point or give up. He eventually ran the car into a light pole, the bad guy, not Mike.

I remember one of the first arrests I made with Mike, a drunk in who was harassing his estranged wife. After telling us that he paid our salary (well of all the cops in a 50 mile radius that night he got that theory badly wrong) he decided that he wanted to wrestle. Mike valiantly let me take care of this, occasionally shouting encouragement.





After I got the handcuffs on the guy I told the drunk if I'd known you were going to take this so seriously, I wouldn't have arrested you in the first place. Mike didn't like this. He is a believer in formality, that's why my speech is killing him right now.

Speaking of formality, the first time I met Mike was at the interview to be a reserve deputy in 1995. I must admit, my first impression of Mike was of a somewhat pompous, aloof and humorless individual. Yes, I know first impressions can be very wrong.

I remember telling Mike of my first impressions some years later. He laughed, and then put me on tsunami watch at Stewart's point for six months. I think I learned something though I'm not sure what it was.

Of course those of us who know Mike, really do know that he is actually one of the kindest people you could meet. His loyalty to his friends and his reserves has always been unquestioning. I know of countless times that he has gone behind the scenes to try to correct an injustice that he believed had been committed against someone. He has never hesitated to speak truth to power.

I say without exaggeration that I know of no other person with a greater sense of ethics and loyalty to the Sheriff's department, and Mike has always said - If in doubt we act with the best interests of the department, and Mike has always acted with that principal as uppermost in his mind.

But I know Mike. And I know that he has sometimes questioned himself about his work and about his place. Has he done the right thing? Has he done enough? And if I may become a little philosophical here, I would venture that this is the Nature of a good man - to always question whether he has done enough. Whether he has done the right thing. I would humbly suggest that those who do not ask these questions of themselves should not be in law enforcement. For those that are sure of their own greatness and achievements there's plenty of room in the entertainment industry. Or journalism.

So I draw to a close with a question? What is the measure of a man? I don't know the answer. Certainly not in the money one may accumulate, nor the number of cameras on you when coming out of a fancy restaurant, although these are the things that many strive towards. I believe that we have to look at the individuals in our lives who have worked hard for no obvious compensation, and expected no thanks. That set an example for us in our daily lives, in morality and ethics and in service to our community. A point of light.

I know that many people here are people with faith. I'm not a religious man, but in science there is a concept called entropy, all systems tend towards disorder and randomness. Only directed energy can reverse this and bring order to the chaos and push back the darkness a little. In law enforcement we encounter many people who work for the darkness and the chaos.

But we are also fortunate that we work in a field where we see some of the best people who work towards the best end. Who work for the good? Who work for the light? Mike is such a person.

*For the set of friendly headlights sliding up behind my unit while I was on a dicey stop, (numerous times) thank you Mike.
For regularly taking a prisoner off my hands, transporting and booking them so I had a chance of finishing my reports and going home on time, thank you Mike. For taking all of those transports from allied agencies leaving me to my patrol activities, thank you Mike. For belonging to that unexpected set of hands helping me control a combative suspect, thank you Mike. For doing all of the mind numbing administrative work to keep all of the above happening, thank you Mike. For doing all of this and much more for free and in fact spending your own money and time, thank you Mike. You were and are deeply appreciated by many, including me.*

In closing...

Albert Schweitzer said:

Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by another human being. Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light. My friend, my mentor who has helped so many others over his career and has done so much for the Sheriff's Department that thanks seem inadequate. But for myself, for the current and retired reserves, the volunteers in policing and so many others who can't be with us or are no longer with us, thank you my friend.

Chief Financial Officer's Report

March 2016 Financial Condition

It is my pleasure to report that our financial condition remains sound. The current month closed with all of our current obligations met. We added 17 new members that joined from the 16th of last month to the 15th of the current month.

The CRPOA Membership committee has been working on a plan to offer our members the ability to participate in a "Paperless Invoice" renewal system. I'm sure many of you are familiar with similar offerings from mortgage, utilities and credit card companies that you deal with on a regular basis. Our new accounting system offers us the ability to provide you with a secured data environment, where we can store the necessary information required to process annual renewal information that will reduce the need to move personal information through the US Mail. We will be able to notify you by email when your membership renewal or ARPOC payment is due. You will be able to access your invoice online and make a payment commitment at that time. Payment can be made online by credit card or direct deposit. If you are part of "Auto bill Agency" your agency will be able to handle payment using a similar process. We will issue Membership Cards to all members at the time they join. The Membership Card will remain valid indefinitely as long as your membership dues are current. If you need a replacement Membership Card you only need to notify our Membership and Finance Office and it will be sent to you by US Mail.

The success of this new process will require you to make sure that we have a current valid email address on file and that this email is where you regularly check for important information. If you need to update your email address please let us know and we can assist you with this change. The change to this new system will happen over the next several months based on your membership renewal date. We hope that you will find this new process to be more convenient and secure. We also know that some of you may wish to continue to process your membership by check. This option will remain available. You will soon receive a letter that will explain this new process and what you will need to do to participate. In the meantime if you have any questions or comments, please call your Membership / Finance Office at (855) 552-7762 ext. 2.

On a similar topic, and until the "Paperless" system is deployed, I would like to remind you that membership renewal information is currently mailed by US Mail to all members on the 15th of the month prior to the month their membership is due. While we hope that you receive this notification and promptly respond with your renewal payment, we are aware that sometimes this does not happen for any number of reasons. You can help reduce these "reasons" by making sure that your membership record has your current mailing address. We will send you a "late notice" if we do not hear from you by the end of your renewal month. The "late notices" are mailed from the same data file as the original mailing notification was sent.

We are now going to add a third notice if we still do not hear from you. This third notice will be sent to your email address. Your membership is very important to us. With your assistance we will be better able to serve you. Please remember, **OUR organization IS our membership.**

"Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest"

-Mark Twain, American author

Chuck Adams is the Chief Financial Officer for CRPOA. He is also a retired Reserve Commander from Los Gatos Police Department.
Chuck welcomes your calls and emails, you may contact him at 408-371-8239 or chuck@crpoa.org

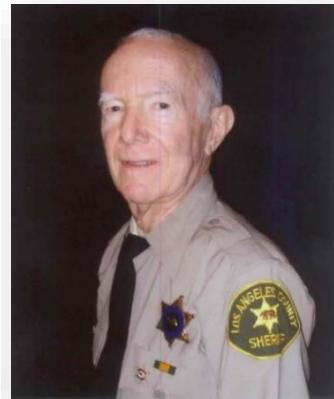


Board Meeting Updates

From Secretary Frank Barnes

March 22, 2016 Board Meeting

Chief Executive Officer Bernzott called the meeting to order at 1835 hours. The following Directors participated: Barnes, Bernzott, Elam, Lombardi, Lucas, Lujan and Torres. Chief Financial Officer Chuck Adams, General Counsel René, Office Manager Janet Adams and Chairman Emeritus Voorhees also participated. Directors Cantrell and Downs were absent.



Minutes of the February 23, 2016 Meeting were approved as corrected.

Chief Financial Officer Adams advised that the March 15, 2016 financial reports had been posted to the SharePoint web site. Adams noted that the Association was in sound financial condition. The February 15, 2016 financial reports were received and filed.

Sr. VP Lucas advised that many dropped members had been called and that their responses were largely positive.

CEO Bernzott led a discussion of the action items.

General Counsel René briefed the Board on legal matters.

It was noted that most California law enforcement organizations have already expressed their opposition to the "Adult Use of Marijuana Act" whose supporters are preparing to solicit signatures to place the initiative on the November ballot. President Lombardi moved that "**the Association go on record in opposition to the "Adult Use of Marijuana Act"**". Sr. VP Lucas seconded the motion. **It was adopted unanimously.**

President Lombardi advised that Assembly member Tom Lackey, a former Highway Patrol officer, had requested our support of his reelection. He moved that "**the Association support Assembly member Tom Lackey in his campaign for reelection**". Secretary Barnes seconded the motion. **The motion was adopted unanimously.**

CEO Bernzott advised that the March 2016 issue of The BackUp had been distributed.

President Lombardi advised that he and Secretary Barnes would attend Law Enforcement Legislative Day presented by the Alliance of California Law Enforcement on April 12th and 13th.

Sr. VP Lucas advised that the membership recruitment and retention modules were in process with 911 Media.

He also noted that he had received the POST report on reserve peace officers.

CFO Adams noted that no nomination forms had been received.

CEO Bernzott noted that the ARPOC 2016 hotel information had been corrected. He also noted that classes were coming together.

It was agreed that the next conference call meeting would be at 1830 hours Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 1923 hours.

If you have a question for the Secretary, please contact him at barnes@crpoa.org

Secretary Frank Barnes is in his 45th year as a reserve deputy with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

In his day job Frank is a transportation engineer with the City of Santa Monica.

The Protection Levels Available in a Bullet Proof Vest

As Law Enforcement Officers, you will be required to deal with some incredibly difficult situations, and some potentially serious threats. It is the responsibility of every Officer to keep her or himself protected first and foremost. Before you are able to protect and serve our communities, you must be able to protect yourself. You will likely already be aware of just how important a bullet proof vest is, and the number of lives body armor has saved. However, too few are aware of exactly what options are available to them.

A bullet proof vest, or [bullet resistant vest](#), is available in a number of styles, different fits, and a variety of protection levels. Each of these has its own advantages and disadvantages depending on the situation and scenario you find yourself in. The most important thing to be aware of is the level of protection that your vest can offer. Many think that it is safest to choose the highest level, in order to be protected against the most threats. However, this can simply increase the weight and bulk of your vest while protecting you against threats you may never face.

A bullet proof vest is available in different [protection levels](#) according to the size, strength, and speed of the ammunition it can protect against. These levels are based on the testing standards set by the National Institute of Justice, which is widely regarded as the world leader in ballistics testing. These 'NIJ Levels' show you at a glance exactly what your bullet proof vest can protect you against. Body armor is available in two types; 'soft' and 'hard'. Hard armor uses rigid plates, whereas soft armor uses flexible Kevlar panels.

Soft Armor is available up to and including Level IIIa, whereas Hard Armor is available at Level III or IV, which is the highest level of protection currently available. Most Officers will not need hard armor, as the bulk and weight it brings will outweigh the protection it provides. Each level of protection is capable of stopping the ammunition outlined at lower levels. While the NIJ Levels begin at Level I, the minimum recommended level of protection is Level IIa.

NIJ Level IIa is capable of protecting against 9mm Full Metal Jacketed Round Nose and .40 S&W Full Metal Jacketed ammunition, which are used in the majority of handguns. It is also capable of stopping similar handgun ammunition, such as the 10mm Auto, .357 SIG, and even .45 ACP.

NIJ Level II [bullet proof vests](#) are capable of protecting against all of the above ammunition, as well as .357 Magnum Jacketed Soft Points and 9mm Parabellum rounds fired at a higher velocity.

NIJ Level IIIa, the highest level available in Soft Armor, can stop all of the above ammunition, as well as 9mm Parabellum rounds fired from a semi-automatic. It can also protect against .44 Magnum Jacketed Hollow Point rounds.

NIJ Level III armor can protect against the 7.62x51mm NATO Full Metal Jacketed round, as well as the 5.56x45mm NATO. It can also stop the vast majority of rifle and automatic rounds, such as the .30-06 and the .308 Winchester, as well as all the ammunition listed in the levels above.

NIJ Level IV is the highest level of protection currently available, and is capable of protecting against all the ammunition outlined above, as well as armor-piercing variants of the 7.62x51mm NATO and 5.56x45mm NATO. For more information on ballistic protection and NIJ Levels, visit [the NIJ's Official Documentation](#).

Our thanks to Chris Taylor, Communications Director at Safeguard Armor for the information about Bullet Proof Vests. You may contact him at ctaylor@safeguardarmor.com
Or see other products on
<http://www.safeguardclothing.com> | <http://www.safeguardarmor.com>



ARPOC 2016 San Diego - Mission Valley

The **New ARPOC 2016 Challenge coin** will be available in San Diego
August 10 -13, 2016

CRPOA and ARPOC 2015 Challenge Coins

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Matt Lujan, Vice President and 2015 Conference Chairman, Reserve Police Sergeant Pacifica P D
You are welcome to contact him at lujan@crpoa.org or call 855-552-7762 ext. 101

