



# RPD Happenings

Issue 12

July - September 2013

## Riverside Police Department



### Message from Chief Sergio Diaz

As many of you already know, crime rates are on the rise across the state as well as the nation. With the rapid pace of technology comes an increase in thefts of these technological devices.

Today's criminal knows that almost everyone carries a cell phone or other electronic device that can be sold on the black market or in legitimate retail business. One segment of our community that has been recently targeted by criminals is the college student population. Students at our educational institutions are almost certain to be in possession of a cell phone, laptop, or electronic tablet. Apple products seem to be the target of choice and the criminals typically refer to thefts of these products as "Apple picking".

Thefts of these devices can occur in many forms, including thefts directly from one's person, as well as burglaries from vehicles, homes and businesses. Please follow these safety tips to reduce your chances of becoming a victim:

#### Protecting Yourself in Your Home or Apartment:

- ◆ Lock your door, even when you intend to return home shortly or even if you are just going down the hall. It takes a thief only seconds to enter an open room and steal your property.
- ◆ Keep your garage door closed at all times except when you are actually going in and out of the garage. Lock or secure doors and windows when you are alone or asleep.

Do not leave messages on your door indicating that you are away and when you will return. Do not prop open outer doors.

*Cont. PG 2*

#### Inside this issue:

Community Events	3
Division Reports	4-6
Golden Badge Awards	8
National Night Out	10-11
RPD in the Community	12-13
Purple Ribbon Month	14

### New Non-Emergency Phone Number

BY: Interim Communication Manager Patty Tambe

The City of Riverside's approximately 50 Public Safety Dispatchers moved to the Magnolia Police Station, located at 10540 Magnolia Avenue, in April 2013. The renovated space within the Magnolia Police Station provides a more spacious environment with state of the art equipment. The new center features a new 911 answering system, improved radio technology, and new ergonomic furniture and chairs.

*Cont. PG 3*

## Message from the Chief Continued...

- ◆ If someone asks to use your phone for an emergency call, offer to make the telephone call for them instead of allowing them access to your home.
- ◆ Know your neighbors and watch out for each other.
- ◆ Do not leave keys in hiding places. Thieves will find them. Carry your keys or make sure that anyone who truly needs them has their own copy.
- ◆ Call the police to report suspicious persons or activity in or around your neighborhood. If you are in immediate danger, call 9-1-1; stay calm and get away at the first opportunity.

### Protect Yourself When Walking

- ◆ Be attentive and alert! Avoid using your cell phone or music player while walking. Wait until you are in a safe, well-populated area to use your cell phone or other devices.
- ◆ Try to avoid walking alone at night. Keep to well-lit, commonly traveled routes and avoid shortcuts through dark or isolated areas. Let friends and/or family members know where you are going and when you will be returning. Walk purposefully, know where you are going and project an alert and no-nonsense image. Have your door keys ready; carry them in your pockets, not buried in a purse.

### Protect Your Automobile, Bicycle or Moped

- ◆ Always lock your car. (One in five stolen cars was left with keys in the ignition.)
- ◆ Lock bikes to immovable objects with hardened alloy locks and chains or U-shaped locks.
- ◆ Do not leave tempting valuables or property visible inside the car. Lock these items in the trunk or leave them at home. (Ideally, you should lock items in the trunk before you arrive at your destination. A criminal in the parking lot may be watching what you put away).
- ◆ Lock mopeds as you would bikes.

### Protecting Yourself and Your Property

- ◆ Never leave valuables unattended.
- ◆ When using an electronic device in a public place such as a coffee house, avoid sitting near entrances and exits where a criminal can quickly grab your property and flee.
- ◆ Look into your car before getting in. Lock your car doors and keep your windows rolled up.
- ◆ Never pick up hitchhikers.
- ◆ Drive to a police or fire station or open place of business if you feel you are being followed.
- ◆ Do not stop to help occupants of stopped or disabled vehicles. Call 9-1-1 to get assistance for stranded motorists.
- ◆ Most thefts are crimes of opportunity. Criminals exploit our lack of attention and care to take what is not theirs. You can increase your chances of holding on to what belongs to you by practicing situational awareness and common-sense precautions.

Be safe and take care of each other.

Sergio

## Community Event Calendar Summer 2013

August is Purple Ribbon Month - Never leave a child in a vehicle.



September 7, 2013 - Golden Badge Awards - Municipal Auditorium  
Tickets information available at [www.riversidepolicefoundation.org](http://www.riversidepolicefoundation.org)

September 8, 2013 - Remember Our Heroes - Fairmount Park 2pm-8pm  
Hosted by Moms of Military

September 28, 2013 - Fireball Run - Downtown Riverside  
[www.RiversideFireball.com](http://www.RiversideFireball.com)

September 28, 2013 - Ready Riverside Emergency Preparedness Fair - 11am-3pm  
Target Parking Lot, 3520 Tyler Street

October 20, 2013 - Riverside Triathlon  
Information at [www.riversidetriathlon.com](http://www.riversidetriathlon.com)



October 25-26, 2013 - Ghost Walk Riverside -  
Downtown Riverside  
[www.crballet.com/site/2011/05/ghost-walk/](http://www.crballet.com/site/2011/05/ghost-walk/)



### Dispatch Move Continued...

With the movement of the Police/Fire dispatcher center, the number for non-emergency police and fire calls has also changed. The city's new non-emergency response number is (951) 354-2007.

### Numbers to know:

**911: Call for safety, fire and medical emergencies.**

**(951) 354-2007:** Call for non-emergency response for events such as a non-emergency car accident or discovery of a break in that may have occurred a few hours or days ago.

## Special Operations Division



**Captain  
Mike Perea**

The 4 NPC's, North, East, Central and West, each have a Police Service Representative assigned to address a multitude of crime and community related concerns. Nancy Castillo is assigned to the North Area, Shene Turner is assigned to the East Area, Irma Ochoa is assigned to the Central Area, and Antoinette Alexander to the West.

Each PSR helps to round out each Area's Community Policing Team. Some of their responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

Providing an initial response to neighborhood concerns when the issue is not critical in nature and a long term solution to neighborhood livability is sought.

Developing Neighborhood and Business Watch Group.

Building partnerships with local faith based organizations.

Providing training and resources to children, youth, and parents about personal safety and crime prevention.

Outreach to our senior population, including homebound residents, and presentations to area senior centers.

Providing parents with child identification fingerprint kits.

*Cont. Pg.6*

## Field Operations Division



**Captain  
Ed Blevins**

At shift change, the Traffic Bureau said goodbye to Sergeant Phil Neglia who returned to Field Operations Patrol after supervising motor officers for the past four years. Sergeant Neglia's commitment to the bureau was not only seen in his supervisory skills and mentorship but also in his dedication to the officers, detectives and civilians he worked with. Sergeant Ben Shafer is replacing Sergeant Neglia. Ben has prior motor and MAIT experience and is expected to acclimate quickly to his new assignment as a motor supervisor. In addition, Lieutenant Eric Charrette was reassigned to the Central Neighborhood Policing Center as the Area Commander. Eric was instrumental with policy drafts and revisions for Lexipol, tow contracts for the police department and the acquisition of traffic related equipment and vehicles. Lieutenant Mark Rossi is now the Traffic Bureau Commander having transferred from Field Operations Patrol, Watch Commander.

The Field Operations Division is host to the Police Clergy Partnership. The Partnership is a collaborative group of ministers, priests and laypersons from local faith based organizations that meets bi-monthly at the Magnolia Avenue Police Station. Its purpose is to discuss issues of mutual concern to better equip the faith based community with information and

*Cont. Pg.6*

## Support Services Division

### Communications

The new dispatch center at the Magnolia Station is up and running. The new 9-1-1 system and new radio control interface has been completed and our dispatches have been working in the new center for a few months. The training on both of these new systems has been completed and the Communications Division is happy with this beautiful new facility. The roof at the Magnolia Station even has a new look to accommodate the wiring and antennas needed to host the Magnolia Dispatch Center.

*Cont. Pg. 7*



**Captain  
John Wallace**



## Special Investigations Division

The Riverside Police Department's Graffiti Unit has relocated to the Special Investigation Bureau under the command of Lt. Mike Cook and direct supervision of Sgt. J. Capen. Detective Kim Gerhardt and Officer Clarence Dodson oversee incidents involving tagging citywide and assist the Gang and Vice Units in special projects as needed. Detective Gerhardt serves as the Secretary of the GTFCA (Graffiti Task Force of Southern California), and Officer Dodson is a Board member. GTFCA is a unit comprised of multi-agency law enforcement and public service (e.g. CalTrans, Railroads) that combine efforts through shared information and training to seek a reduction of graffiti in the Southern California basin.



**Captain  
John Carpenter**

The responsibilities of the Graffiti Unit include, but are not limited to, working in a cooperation with the Juvenile Probation Department (early intervention via "First Offenders Class"), City Attorney's Office (100% success with seeking restitution through Civil Process for damages/expenses incurred by the City due to tagging), Public Works (clean-up of graffiti within a 72-hr. timeframe/24-hr. for profanity or hate crime type), 3-1-1 System (identifying tags and entry into the citywide database; public education with "Smartphone" App), City I.T.

*Cont. Pg. 7*

## Special Operations Division Continued...

Participating in Read Across America, Red Ribbon Week, Anti-bullying campaigns, National Night Out events, and the Blue Elf Gift Drive.

In a recent residential burglary event, a member of a local neighborhood watch group became a victim herself. She credited her ability to remain calm and use good reporting techniques, to her exposure and training at her Neighborhood Watch Meetings. Her demeanor and participation as a prime witness in the investigation assisted in closing the case through subsequent identification and arrest of the suspect.

In today's society many seniors fall victim to crime; fraud schemes, identity theft, and elder abuse. All area PSR's contribute to the reduction in these types of crimes by providing crime specific training. When additional resources are needed, the PSR's reach out to investigative experts; they assist in providing the training in an effort to lessen the frequency of senior victimization. Collectively, these combined efforts help to make our seniors safer and more secure in their daily lives.

As a Division Commander at RPD, I am extremely proud and grateful to this cadre of Police Service Representatives for enriching the lives of so many members of our local communities, as well as the internal support they provide to each of their Area Commanders and supervisors.

Please be safe and enjoy your summer.

---

## Field Operations Division Continued...

tools to deal with matters affecting their members and affiliates; and to bring information to the department and to the City to encourage problem solving through teamwork and trust. The Partnership is the brainchild of retired Lt. Robert Williams who saw a void was created when the Cops and Clergy disbanded several years earlier. Lt. Williams was the West NPC Area Commander at the time and conceived the idea of an NPC based group to address issues related to his area. The program was a success and grew into what is now the Police Clergy Partnership.

On March 27, 2013, the Partnership met in the Community Room at the Magnolia Station. This was only days before the celebration of Easter so the attendees were eager to share their plans and schedules with the group. Our guest speaker was newly elected Mayor Rusty Bailey



who spoke for nearly an hour with a question and answer period. He shared a vision for his administration and his desire for a successful relationship with not only the faith based organizations but with the entire community of Riverside.

---

## Special Investigations Division Continued...

(iPhone program for database), RPD Field Ops (follow-up investigation on field report/arrests), and specific community groups (e.g., PEP, PTA, CFMH) to help enforce and educate against tagging. As liaisons in utilizing cameras throughout the city, such as “Omnicast” and “SmartScouter,” the Graffiti Unit assists NPC Area Commanders with the placement in high incident locales, assisting in the identification and apprehension of suspects.

The Graffiti Unit appreciates the tremendous efforts by all, including Field Patrol Officers via their diligence and arrests/great report writing and photographs that are optimal in identifying our repeat offenders.

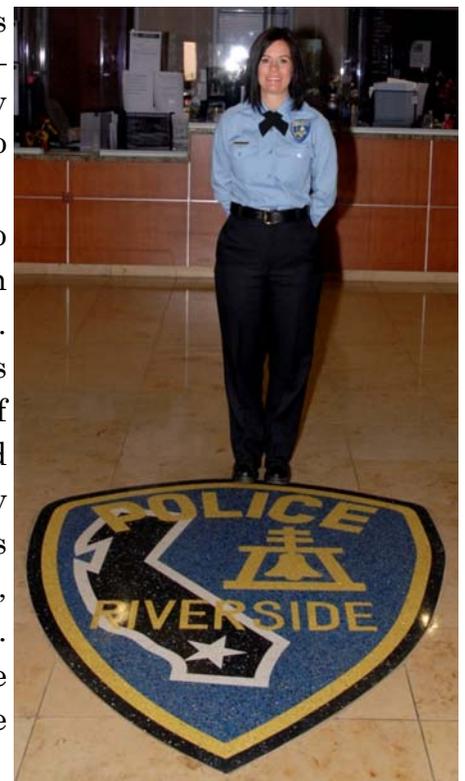
---

## Support Services Division Continued...

Congratulations to Public Safety Dispatcher Tanya Richardson. Tanya has been selected as this year’s California Public-Safety Radio Association (CPRA) Trainer of the Year. Tanya was recognized during CPRA’s 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Telecommunicator Awards Banquet that was held on April 18, 2013, at Knott’s Berry Farm Resort Hotel.

Tanya has been with the RPD since December 21, 2001. She has been a Communications Training Officer (CTO) for the last 8 years. In 2012, Tanya was the CTO for two dispatchers during their Channel 1 radio dispatch phase. This is the most challenging and difficult phase for dispatch trainees. Both dispatchers successfully passed this 16-week training phase. Tanya also is a CTO for Channel 2 – Wants and Warrants and for phones. When she is not actively assigned to a trainee, she is always willing to step in and train to cover for vacations and illness.

Tanya is an outstanding, meticulous trainer a solid contributor to the CTO program. She has exceptional job knowledge and has an outstanding ability to share her knowledge with new employees. Tanya is an organized trainer who ensures that her trainees develop into well-rounded dispatchers that are always cautious of officer and citizen safety. Her trainee evaluations are completed on time and they thoroughly document the daily accomplishments and areas noted for improvement. Tanya is always willing to go above and beyond to support her trainees, even well after they have completed the training program. Tanya’s high level of performance and commitment to the Communications Training Program is deserving of the Communications Trainer of the Year Award. Congratulations.



*The Riverside Police Foundation cordially  
invites you to the*

# *Golden Badge Awards*

*Saturday, September 7, 2013, at 5:30 PM*

*Riverside Municipal Auditorium  
3485 Mission Inn Avenue  
Riverside, California*

*Please join us for an evening of dinner,  
awards, silent & live auctions*

*Tickets and sponsorships are limited.  
Please return the enclosed R.S.V.P. card by  
August 30, 2013 or register on-line at  
[www.riversidepolicefoundation.org](http://www.riversidepolicefoundation.org)*

*We Thank you in advance  
for your support!*

*Formal Attire*



## Riverside Police Foundation

The mission of the Riverside Police Foundation is to provide monetary support to the Riverside Police Department in order to enhance youth programs and community outreach. By doing this, the Foundation seeks to promote greater public safety to the City of Riverside.

The Golden Badge Awards and the Riverside Triathlon events help to raise funds to support youth programs.

Please show your support and participate.

---

Save the Date

# Riverside Triathlon

**The Sprint Triathlon: 5K Run, 12 Mile Bike Ride, & 150M Swim**

Participate as an individual or compete as a Relay Team.



Come join us for fun for the whole family!  
For more information or to register - visit  
[www.riversidetriathlon.com](http://www.riversidetriathlon.com)



# 30th Annual National Night Out - August 6, 2013

The Riverside Police Department visited all 50 registered events held to celebrate National Night Out. In addition to the events, there were many community members out walking, many porch lights were on, and the men and women of the Riverside Police Department were excited to be spending time in our neighborhoods. Thank you to all that participated!

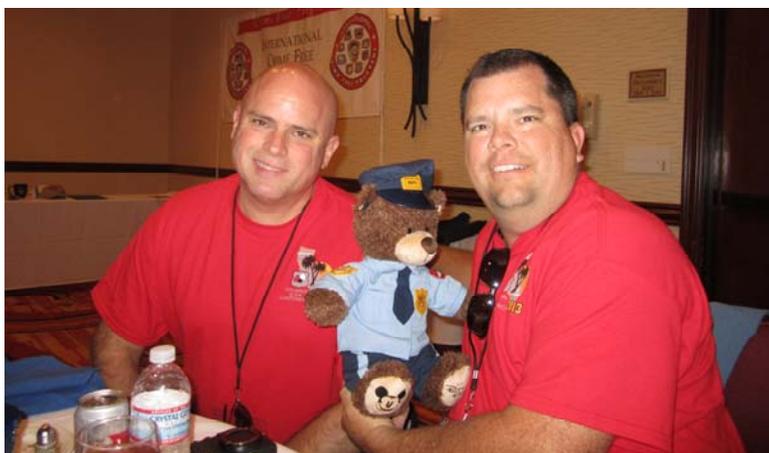




## Riverside Police Volunteer Luncheon



## Riverside Police Department hosted the 2013 International Crime Free Association Conference



# Riverside Police Department

4102 Orange Street  
Riverside, California 92501  
www.rpdonline.org

Editor: Supv. Karen Haverkamp  
Phone: 951-826-5644  
E-mail: khaver@riversideca.gov



Follow RPD on the web at  
rpdonline.org  
www.facebook.com/RiversidePD  
www.twitter.com/Riversidepolice



*Don't miss out! Receive all Press Releases, Community Event Notifications and RPD Newsletters directly to your email inbox...*

*Visit [www.rpdonline.org](http://www.rpdonline.org) to subscribe now!*

## The Littlest Passenger

You wouldn't leave your groceries in the car,  
why leave your child?



R  
E  
M  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R  
  
M  
E

## August is Purple Ribbon Month!

### Remember....

The temperature inside a vehicle can become an oven in minutes. Even on a moderately cool day, the temperature inside your vehicle can exceed 100 degrees within minutes. A child's body temperature increases 3-5 times faster than that of an adult and they can become dehydrated within minutes.

### Kaitlyn's Law

Effective on January 1, 2002, a parent, legal guardian, or other person responsible for a child who is 6 years of age or younger may not leave a child inside a motor vehicle without being subject to the supervision of a person who is 12 years of age or older.