



# RPD Happenings

Issue 11

March - April 2013

## Riverside Police Department



### Message from Chief Sergio Diaz

As the entire community of Riverside knows by now, on Thursday morning, February 7, 2013, the Riverside Police Department suffered incalculable pain when we lost our brother, Patrol Officer Michael Crain in a cowardly ambush attack which also gravely injured his partner, Officer Andrew Tachias. The facts of that attack and the subsequent events and the resolution of that crime have been exhaustively covered in other communications. I want to take this opportunity and this medium

to speak directly to the community about what our loss means to me, to the members of the RPD and to our City.

I hope that all of you avail yourselves of the opportunity to learn more about the extraordinary character of Mike. His was truly a life well lived. He was a classic, American hero. A quiet and soft-spoken man, Mike embodied the character traits that decent people would like to see in themselves, and most importantly, in their children. Mike served our country with distinction in the United States Marine Corps. He returned to Riverside and joined the RPD in 2001. Since his earliest days in the police department, Mike distinguished himself with his police skills, his courage, his dedication to the community and with the decency that marked his conduct in his work and his personal relationships.

You may notice that I use the words “decent” and “decency” repeatedly. I can think of no higher praise to describe another human being. We live in a time in which, sadly, we tolerate too readily the lack of decency in ourselves and in others. Frankly, I don’t have **Con’t PG 2**

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### Awards Presented at Chief’s Breakfast

BY: Supervisor Karen Haverkamp

On Thursday, March 7, 2013, the annual Chief’s Breakfast was held at the Mission Inn to a sold out crowd. Foundation Board Member Virginia Blumenthal was the emcee for the fundraising event. The Riverside Police Foundation hosts the breakfast to provide Chief Sergio Diaz the opportunity to provide status updates and to raise awareness and funds for the Foundation’s many youth programs. **Con’t PG 3**

## Message from the Chief Continued...

the time, nor the space, nor the words to adequately praise Mike's many positive traits, but those traits, and his conduct over a life that was too short, can best be summed up with the concept of decency. When we examine the record that he left, we can't help but note that in his department, his words and his deeds, Mike gave all for others. Even discounting the ultimate sacrifice that he made, Mike gave more than he received to his country, his community and his family. And he always did it with class and (yes, there's that word again) Decency.

In the days, following Mike's death, you, the community of Riverside, showed your character. I have no words to express how humbled and grateful I am to our community for your countless expressions of sorrow, mourning and thanksgiving. Individuals, businesses, churches, government organizations and private associations have contacted me and others in your police department with your condolences and material contributions, and most importantly, with your prayers. Please know that we feel the power of your prayers and the entire RPD takes strength from those prayers.

Don't stop praying. Please pray for us and especially for Mike's family.

The RPD will move on from this loss and we will continue to do our duty on your behalf, following the example that Mike left for us. The loss to his family is, as hard as this is to accept, infinitely more painful and significant to his wife, his parents, his siblings, and most especially, to his children. Daddy can't come home. His physical body will be absent from all the important milestones in the lives of Ian and Kaitlyn. He will have to watch from heaven the dance recitals, the sports celebrations, graduations, weddings and births of grandchildren. The RPD family will do what we can to support the family in their needs, but ours will necessarily be a poor and unsatisfactory substitute for Mike's presence. In the end, though, that is all we can offer.

In closing, I can only promise the community of Riverside that your police department will continue to strive to be worthy of your support and your trust in us. The memory of Mike and of all of RPD's fallen heroes who have given their all for our City will guide us forward.

Thank you and God bless you.

Sergio



## Community Event Calendar March & April, 2013

March 22, 2013 - Memorial Dedication - Magnolia Station 9am

March 27, 2013 - 10th Annual Senior Conference - Janet Goeske Center -  
5257 Sierra Street, Riverside 8am - Noon

March 30, 2013 - Easter Egg Hunt - White Park 9am - Noon

March 31, 2013 - Happy Easter!



April 13, 2013, Heroes Day with UCR - Riverside Sports Complex 6pm

April 13-14, 2013 - Baker 2 Vegas Law Enforcement Run

April 18, 2013 - Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner - Pechanga Casino  
[www.riversideleac.org](http://www.riversideleac.org) for more information

April 20, 2013 - Teen 2 Teen Pancake Breakfast - Applebee's Riverside  
3820 Mulberry, Riverside Contact Supv. Haverkamp for tickets 826-5644

April 24, 2013 - Administrative Professionals Day

## Chief's Breakfast Continued...

This year Chief Diaz also used the event to give special thanks to the two Riverside citizens who acted courageously at the ambush that took the life of Officer Michael Crain and seriously wounded his partner, Officer Andrew Tachias.



## Special Operations Division



**Captain  
Mike Perea**

In October of 2011, the Public Safety Realignment Plan (AB 109) became effective creating historic changes to the criminal justice system in the State of California. Among other things, AB 109 changed the definition of a felony as it relates to sentencing, shifts prison housing for “low level offenders” from prison to local county jails and transfers the supervision of many parolees from the State’s Department of Adult Parole and Board of Prison hearings to the County’s Probation Department and the Court.

In response, the Riverside Police Department took decisive action to diminish the potential negative impact those who have been recently released from State Prison or County Jail by re-instituting the Police and Corrections Team (PACT). Sergeant Denny Corbett leads the PACT unit, which is made up of RPD officers, an RPD detective, a Corona officer, and an ATF agent. The RPD PACT also continues to work closely with their colleagues at Probation & Parole, in order to maintain what has been a productive partnership in providing for the safety and well-being of our Riverside neighborhoods.

During the course of the last year, PACT gathered intelligence and tracked the hundreds of released inmates. Many of the released inmates *Con’t PG 6*

## Field Operations Division



**Captain  
Ed Blevins**

The outpouring of care from the Riverside community has been overwhelming. We are particularly grateful for the many expressions of gratitude we have received in the last few weeks. The division loved getting cards and goodies from everyone who visited us, especially the Girl Scouts who distributed cookies to every mailbox in the break room and the In-N-Out Burger truck that visited the station and distributed double-doubles to everybody in the parking lot!

On February 21, Patrol Officers Joe Robinson, Vince Thomas, North NPC and CIB personnel received a Public Safety award from the Riverside Downtown Partnership for some great teamwork in identifying and arresting several suspects in a robbery series downtown.

Several of Riverside’s finest were recently recognized for their hard work and efforts to keep DUI drivers off the roads in 2012. RPD officers stood alongside the top achievers from all of the Riverside County Avoid the 30 agencies and received individual awards *Con’t PG 7*



## Support Services Division

### Training Update:

The Training Bureau is actively recruiting Field Training Officer Sergeants and Field Training Officers to fill current vacancies and in anticipation of future hires this year. The current Riverside Sheriff's Basic Academy started March 11, 2013, and the Riverside Police Department will have three new Police Officer Trainees attending; ***Edward Blevins, Jr., Brittany Reimer, and Stanley Hua.***



**Captain  
John Wallace**

In March 2013, the majority of Lieutenants will have completed ICS 300, which is the Intermediate Incident Command System training required for all management personnel in the State of California. Supervision personnel that have first responder field duties are also required to have ICS 300 training. Future ICS 300 training classes will include the Sergeant rank. The Training Bureau will begin to schedule more field Sergeants for the ICS 300 training when these courses become available.

***Con't PG 6***

## Special Investigations Division

The Riverside Police Department is pleased to announce the formation of the 290 Compliance Team and congratulate Officer Kevin Runstuck on being selected for the position of 290 Compliance Officer.

Officer Runstuck has five years law enforcement experience and comes to the 290 Team from Field Operations Patrol. Officer Runstuck brings a wealth of knowledge and motivation and said, "I'm excited about my new responsibility and I hope to bring 100% compliance among 290 sex registrants."

The 290 Compliance Team is a component of the Centralized Investigations Bureau, Sexual Assault Child Abuse (SACA) Unit. The Team is comprised of an officer, a police records specialist and is supported by six SACA Detectives. The unit is supervised by Sergeant Jeff Spencer and operates out of the Magnolia Police Station.

Today there are at least 600 registered sex offenders within the City of Riverside; a few of those are considered violent offenders. Numerous sex registrants regularly venture into the City of Riverside from neighboring jurisdictions and many are transient. Violent sex offenders must register every 90 days, transient sex offenders register every 30 days and

***Con't PG 7***



**Captain  
John Carpenter**

## Special Operations Division Continued...

had serious violent felony convictions including murder and sexual assault crimes.

PACT identified high risk re-offenders and conducted investigations into subjects on parole, probation or Post Released Community Supervision (PRCS). PACT's investigations resulted in 347 arrests, 270 of which were felonies. Many of the arrests involved significant investigations of sexual assaults, property crimes, identity theft, narcotics, gang related crimes and homicides.

PACT seized 87 firearms, obtained term violations of 163 probationers / parolees and/or PRCS subjects and completed over 740 searches and compliance checks. These significant numbers of seizures, violations and arrests occurred during a one year period. Several of the subjects were convicted felons in possession of firearms and had re-offended by committing other significant crimes. Through the hard work and combined efforts of all the agencies involved, PACT was able to file six of these cases federally. These high risk re-offenders are now facing 20 years to life in prison without the possibility of parole, and will no longer be a risk to the

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## Support Services Division Continued...

### **Communications Update:**

The new dispatch center at the Magnolia Station is starting to take shape. The office furniture and dispatch consoles have been installed. Currently, one console has been installed to test the computer equipment and software set up. Steve Powell has been working diligently on the install of the new 9-1-1 system and new radio control interface. In the month of March and April, dispatch supervisors and dispatchers will be out at Magnolia training on both of these new systems. The Communications Division is looking forward to moving into this beautiful new facility. The transition date is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2013.

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## Special Investigations Division Continued...

regular sex offenders register annually.

To date, the Department has accomplished the task of registering sex offenders by utilizing Records Bureau personnel. In keeping with best practices, increase effectiveness and safety, the task is being taken over by the SACA Unit. By adding the component of sworn personnel, department oversight of registrants will increase, the process is made safer, violation cases are more prosecutable and public education is enhanced. The 290 Team is task to manage this population by increasing the oversight and accountability of sex registrants, conduct periodic compliance checks and prepare cases for prosecution for registrants found to be out of compliance and provide training for patrol personnel. The 290 Team will increase public awareness by ensuring that the Departments website is upgraded to provide appropriate links that will educate and inform the public.

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## Field Operations Division Continued...

from Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the California Office of Traffic Safety.

Please take the opportunity to congratulate these employees for their outstanding work and keep up the spirit of competition to make our streets safer and prevent DUI driving.

Officer Genaro Escobedo – 104  
Officer Jorge Sepulveda – 52  
Officer Vicente DeLaTorre – 52  
Officer Michael Foster – 47  
Motor Officer Juan Munoz – 37  
Officer Jeffery Derouin – 32  
Officer Jeffery Putnam – 26  
Officer Timothy Jensen – 25  
Officer Craig Reeves – 25



## Teen 2 Teen Program Receives Donation from Police Foundation



At the Riverside City Council Meeting on February 19, 2013, Riverside Police Chief Sergio Diaz and Riverside Police Foundation Board Member Jack Clarke Jr. presented a \$5,000 donation to the Teen 2 Teen program. This donation will allow the reinstatement of a study tour to Sacramento for the teens.

The Law and Protective Services Academy (LAPS) at John W. North High School is a California Partnership Academy. The academy exposes students to potential career routes in the field. The Riverside Police Department has enjoyed a long partnership with the LAPS academy and has been involved since 1996, the first year of the academy. This program has allowed RPD personnel to connect with students and provide experiences within the law enforcement career.

RPD assists with all grade levels (10th-12th) of the LAPS academy, but the focus is on the Teen 2 Teen program involving the senior class. The seniors are taught public speaking skills and provided with information on issues relating to distracted and impaired driving. The seniors present the information to their peers in hopes of changing behaviors and saving lives. The students participate in events at their school, other schools in Riverside, and at community events.

Providing these funds from the Riverside Police Foundation will greatly impact the program by increasing the ability for students to gain exposure to many beneficial experiences which can help to shape and guide students into their future careers. Specifically, the Teen 2 Teen program is planning to use these funds to reinstate a Study Tour to Sacramento. This trip will provide the students with the opportunity to visit the State Capitol, CHP Academy, California Department of Forestry Academy, Alcatraz Island, and the Vietnam Memorial. In addition, the students are scheduled to have time with Senator Richard Roth to discuss the legislative side of the law.

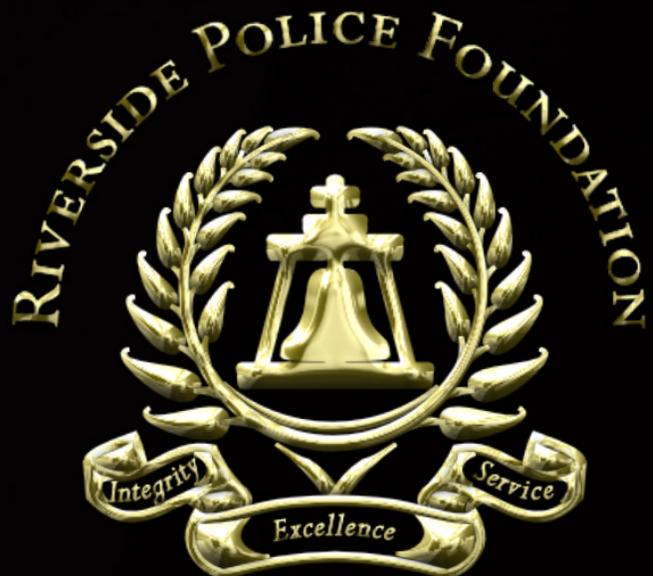
We greatly appreciate the chance to participate with JW North High School in this program and support the students. RPD looks forward to a continued partnership that will allow for future successes for Riverside students.

Attendees include: from left- Foundation Board Member Jack Clarke Jr., Teen 2 Teen Students Axel Garcia, and Schylar Sheer, Academy Advisor Carolina Tamayo, North High Principal Trevor Painton, and Riverside Police Chief Sergio Diaz.



*Save the Date*  
*for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual*  
*Golden Badge*  
*Awards*

*Saturday*  
*September 7*  
*2013*



## RPD IN THE COMMUNITY

Read Across America - March 1, 2013

RPD participated in the Read Across America activities at several schools.



## Riverside Police Department is proud to host the 2013 International Crime Free Conference



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

**July  
15-17  
2013**

### **2013 Crime Free Multi-Housing Program Conference July 15-17, 2013**

**Train-the-Trainer Class — July 14-16th**  
Marriott 3400 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

**Manager and Law Enforcement Break-out sessions**

Sponsorships and Vendor booths are available. Please contact Officer George Anderson for information at 951-826-5147.

Registration is open now!

[www.regonline.com/builder/site/default.aspx?EventID=1144451](http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/default.aspx?EventID=1144451)

# Riverside Police Department

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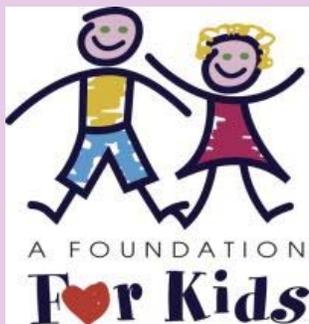
## Easter Egg Hunt



Sponsored by:

Riverside Police Foundation,  
Riverside Police Department  
and Foundation For Kids

Easter Egg Hunt, Photos with Easter Bunny,  
Police Mounted Posse, Raffle & More!



Saturday, March 30, 2013, 9am-12 pm  
White Park - 3936 Chestnut St.  
Children 12 and under