

POA Golf Tournament
Pages 14 and 15

JOURNAL

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President's Message

It Just Never Ends

By Gary Delagnes,
SFPOA President

The past few weeks have given us three of the greatest examples on record of a Police Commission out of touch with reality, an OCC completely out of control, and a member of the Board of Supervisors out of his mind.

If there are three better illustrations why our officers are demoralized, why they have lost faith in the system, or why they have questioned becoming police officers in San Francisco, I can't imagine what they might be.

Recently, an extremely important ruling came down from the California Supreme Court. What it said, in essence, was that police officers' disciplinary cases can no longer be made public, or held in a public venue, nor could police officers' names be released to the public regarding any disciplinary hearing.

This ruling was in response to a case filed as "Bradshaw vs. LA", (1990) that determined police officers' confidentiality is not protected under the applicable Penal and Evidence codes.

In the "Copley Press vs. The Superior Court of San Diego" case the California Supreme Court has now ruled that under 832PC an officer's

privacy rights are indeed applicable, and all disciplinary cases must be closed to the public. This decision was reaffirmed by San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera.

This ruling would also mean that police commissioners could no longer grandstand and pontificate to the

would overturn "Copley Press." You must remember that many of these supposed progressive San Francisco politicians and commissioners only support Supreme Court rulings that fit their political agenda.

After realizing that strategy was going to run into a political dead end,

The past few weeks have given us three of the greatest examples on record of a Police Commission out of touch with reality, an OCC completely out of control, and a member of the Board of Supervisors out of his mind.

vocal, demonstrative constituency whom they most often seek to appease. In other words, they lose their dandy little "Theater of the Absurd." The very notion of not being able to "perp-walk" our officers in front of that gang of tongue wagging cop-bashers to publicly flog them has just about sent the honorable Commishes off the proverbial deep end.

First, the Commissioners passed a motion to strongly urge the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to petition for new state legislation that

the Commissioners are now poised to try an end run around the legal ruling. They have proposed a dubious legal process by which any officer who willingly accedes to a disciplinary ruling (in other words, an offer) would be required to accept his or her punishment in the public forum, before the Police Commission, so that the usual drooling mob of Cop Watch, the ACLU, the National Lawyers Guild, et al, could all get their symbolic taste of the pilloried officer's blood.

I have four words for the Police Commission: DON'T EVEN TRY IT!

Now, let's move on to the Susan Leff melodrama.

Ms. Leff is, of course, one of the lead attorneys for that dynamic, professional organization known as the Office of Citizen Complaints. You may remember that we caught Ms. Leff sev-



President Gary Delagnes

eral months ago drumming up business by soliciting citizen complaints via E-mail, even urging people to make anonymous complaints if they were not comfortable leaving their name. This was the same objective Investigator who spoke at a seminar entitled "Dirty Cop's" whereat she named several SFPD officers who she considered inherently evil. We asked the Police Commission to look into the issue, but of course the commission is not nearly as interested in transparency when it involves an OCC investigator.

On October 6th, several officers responded to a possible burglary at the OCC office. One of those who responded was Officer Kevin Martin, who also happens to be the POA Vice President as well as one of our best representatives at OCC.

Following the call, Ms. Leff filed for a Temporary Restraining Order against Officer Martin for allegedly attempting to run her vehicle off the road as she left the OCC. Inexplicably, a TRO

see PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, page 6

POA Grieves for Slain Deputy

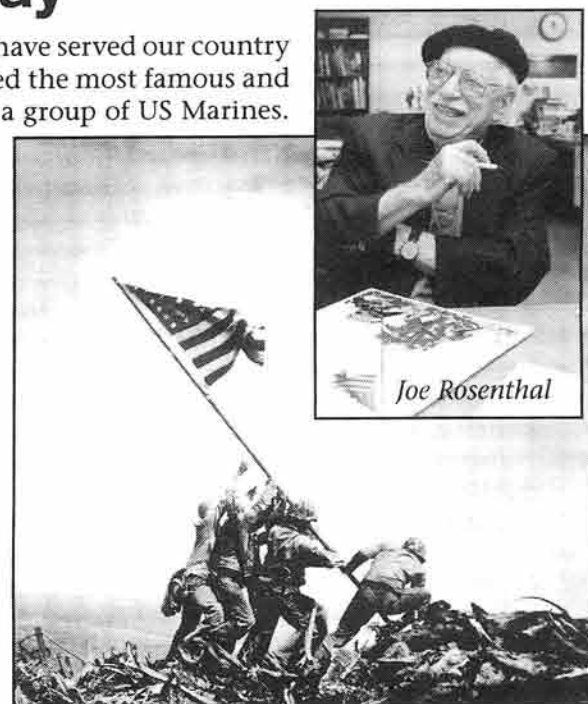
The men and women of the San Francisco Police Officers Association extend condolences to the family and friends of Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputy Jeffrey Mitchell who was slain by a gunman on Friday, October 27, 2006. He was 38, and a nine-year veteran of the Sheriff's Department. He is survived by his wife and a 6-year-old child.

November 11 is Veteran's Day

This year, the San Francisco Police Officers Association pays tribute to all of America's men and women who have served our country in uniform. We also pay special tribute to San Franciscan Joe Rosenthal, the combat photographer who snapped the most famous and most moving image of WWII – the flag raising on Iwo Jima by a group of US Marines.

Joe Rosenthal was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for capturing this moment in history, but he always remained a modest and unassuming man. "I took the picture," he said. "The Marines took Iwo Jima." After the war, he returned to San Francisco and He spent the rest of his career as a workaday photographer at the San Francisco Chronicle. He retired in 1981. Joe Rosenthal died of natural causes on August 20, 2006 at the age of 94.

Also pictured on this page is a gravestone marking the resting place of Army Captain William Davenport. Davenport was a Captain in the 26 Colored Regiment during the Civil War. The grave is located in the Civil War Section of the Mountain Cemetery in Oakland off of Piedmont Ave. Sergeant William Grangoff of the East Bay Regional Park Police snapped the photo. Sergeant Grangoff was a life-long friend of SFPD Captain William Davenport who is a direct descendant of the veteran soldier lying beneath this tombstone. Sadly, Police Captain Davenport died prematurely in 2004 at age 48.



POA Board of Directors Meeting October 18, 2006

Meeting called to order at 1300 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call of the Board of Directors.

SFPD Wilderness Program

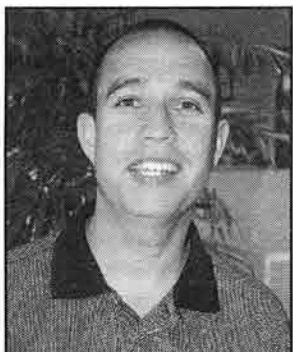
Officer Mike Rivera from the SFPD Wilderness Program addressed the Board of Directors regarding further donations which will be for the purpose of purchasing new passenger vans. Mike further explained that the program currently uses 15-passenger vans to transport the kids and their equipment for their trips. State law requires that the program is not allowed to use 15-passenger vans and in order to gain compliance; they need to purchase 8-passenger vans. Mike has done some preliminary research which shows the cost of new 8-passenger vans is approximately \$29,000.00 each. To be effective, the program needs to purchase three vans. Mike fielded several questions from Board Members and the request for further monies was taken into submission.

Approval of Minutes

Dean Sorgie (Co. G) made a motion that the September 2006 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Ed Browne (Co. A) And passed unanimously by way of voice vote.

Awards

As past practice, the POA has honored retirees with plaques for their dedicated service to the POA and the



Secretary Tony Montoya

SFPD. This month, the POA presented plaques to retired Sergeant Nelson Lum (Co. A) And retired Officer Bill Cook (Co. A). Bill was not able to attend the meeting, so Nelson accepted his own and Bill's on Bill's behalf.

President's Message

President Delagnes announced that John Tennant will officially start at the POA November 1, 2006. The POA looks forward to a long and beneficial relationship with John.

President Delagnes also announced that the POA needs volunteers to distribute door hangers for the Supervisors Races in Districts 4 and 6. We will most likely be distributing the hangers on November 6th or the early morning of November 7th. The POA will distribute a bulletin announcing location, date and time. If you can assist, please contact the POA or your respective representative.

President Delagnes advised the Board of Directors that the trial for Officer Tony Nelson was scheduled to start on October 19, 2006. Members will be kept informed of future hearing dates and the status of the trial.

Longevity Pay

A few months ago, the city gave the POA a proposal regarding increasing longevity pay in an attempt to retain members. The city agreed to increase longevity pay by 4% for members who have completed 30 years. The 4% is included for retirement purposes if the

member agrees to work at least 1700 hours during their last 12 months of employment. That means a member can only take 38 days off (not including H days) based on a 2080 hour work year. Whether or not the member chooses to have the 4% pensionable; they still get the 4% once they have completed their 30th year.

During discussion, Board Members argued that the city should have offered more money, the pay only affects members who have more than 30 years, and the city should make the pay effective immediately, not at the end of the contract. In particular, "Board Member Joe Engler asked whether the 4% longevity pay increase might pose any adverse ramifications in upcoming contract negotiations, insofar as a contractual item was being negotiated prior to the commencement date of formal negotiations. In response; it was discussed how the benefit arguably serves as an immediate retention tool for the city insofar as members might be encouraged to wait until July 1, 2007 to retire, thereby justifying the expense to the city. That expense should be minimal, and the POA intends to resist any use by the city of such a minimal expense at upcoming negotiations. President Delagnes will be sending a letter to the city to that effect".

Bottom line, the city came to the POA with the offer and not the other way around. It is also apparent there are no downsides to accepting the offer.

President Delagnes made a motion that POA accept the offer presented by the city in regards to longevity pay. The motion was seconded by Joe Engler (Inv.) and a roll call vote was conducted. The results were the following Board Members voting "yes"; Browne, Rosko, Roualdes, Nevin, Miller, Rodgers, Burke, Sorgie, Yin, Walsh, Scully, Kato, Moorehouse, Callaghan, Mack, Madsen, Sawyer, Martinez, Engler, San Giacomo, Chapman, Allen, Breen,

Halloran, Montoya, Martin, Delagnes. The following Board Members voted "no"; Flaherty, Van Koll, Dacre. Final vote was 27 "yes" and 3 "no"; motion passed.

Endorsements

Parliamentarian Mike Hebel addressed the Board of Directors regarding the endorsement of Herb Meiberger for CCSF Retirement Board. Mike reminded the Board that the POA has endorsed Herb in the past and he is seeking the POA's endorsement for his re-election. Dean Sorgie (Co. G) made a motion that the POA endorse Herb Meiberger for CCSF Retirement Board. The motion was seconded by Pete Dacre (Co. F) and passed unanimously by way of voice vote.

Financial News

Treasurer Halloran provided each Board Member with a printed copy of the POA's year to date budget. Treasurer Halloran then advised that the Executive Board approve the following donations; John Chiang for State Controller (\$500), Phil Ting SF Assessor (\$500), John Garamendi for Lt. Governor (\$500) and Michaela Alioto-Pier for Supervisor (\$500).

Mike Nevin (Co. B) made a motion that the POA donate \$1000.00 to support the group "MOMS" (Mother of Military Service Members). The motion was seconded by VP Martin. The motion went a voice vote and passed unanimously.

George Rosko (Co. A) reminded members that the Cathay Post will be hosting its annual police appreciation dinner on 11-3-06. Members wishing to purchase tickets should contact Central Station, ASAP.

Meeting was adjourned at 1430 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tony Montoya
POA Secretary



Co. A reps George Rosko (l) and Ed Brown (r) pose with retired Co. A Sergeant Nelson Lum and Gary Delagnes.

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Co. E	Tim Flaherty, John Van Koll	AIRPORT BUREAU	Robert Belt, Bob Chapman
Co. F	Patrick Burke, Peter Dacret	RETIRED	Ray Allen

ASSOCIATION OFFICE: (415) 861-5060

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Members or readers submitting letters or articles to the editor are requested to observe these simple rules:

- Address letters to the Editor's Mail Box, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.
- Letters must be accompanied by the writer's true name and address. The name, but not the street address, will be published with the letter.
- Unsigned letters and/or articles will not be used.
- Writers are assured freedom of expression within necessary limits of space and good taste.
- The editor reserves the right to add editor's notes to any article submitted, if necessary.
- Articles should be typed, double-spaced, or submitted via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word.

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POA Election Notice

For Station and Unit Representatives to the Board of Directors

At the December 13, 2006 POA General Membership Meeting, nominations will be accepted for the following offices:

Two Representatives to the Board of Directors
from the following units

- Co. A

Co. B

Co. C

Co. D

Co. E

Co. F

Co. G

Co. H
- Co. I

Co. J

Co. K

TAC

Investigations Bureau

Administration Bureau

Narcotics Division

Airport Bureau
- One Retired Member Representative to the Board of Directors
- Note: Representative Offices are two-year terms.

Board of Directors Meeting Roll Call
Wednesday, October 18, 2006

President	Gary Delagnes	P	Co. G	Dean Sorgie	P
Vice President	Kevin Martin	P		Dominic Yin	P
Secretary	Tony Montoya	P	Co. H	Jennifer Marino	E
Treasurer	Marty Halloran	P		Mike Walsh	P
Sergeant-At-Arms			Co. I	John Scully	P
	Chris Breen	P		Jody Kato	P
Editor	Ray Shine	E	Co. K	Don Moorehouse	P
Co. A	Ed Browne	P		Corrado Petruzella	E
	George Rosko	P	Hdqtr.	Dennis Callaghan	P
Co. B	Mike Nevin	P		Neville Gittens	E
	Bill Roualdes	P	Narcotics	Larry Mack	E
Co. C	Mike Moran	E		Lynne Atkinson	E
	Derrick Jackson	E	Tactical	Mark Madsen	P
Co. D	James H. Miller	P		Jason Sawyer	P
	Matt Rodgers	P	Invest.	Pierre Martinez	P
Co. E	Tim Flaherty	P		Joseph Engler	P
	John Van Koll	P	TTF	Gavin McEachern	P
Co. F	Patrick Burke	P		Theresa San Giacomo	P
	Peter Dacre	P	Airport	Robert Belt	E
				Bob Chapman	P
			Retired	Ray Allen	P

Nominations
As per Section 3, Article VI of the POA Bylaws, nominations for officers and representatives to serve on the Board of Directors shall occur at the December membership meeting. That meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 13, 2006**. The meeting will be convened at the POA building in the Layne Amiot Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, 800 Bryant Street, at **1300 hours**.
As per Section 4, Article VI of the bylaws, nominations may be made from the floor at the December membership meeting. Although not specified in the bylaws, past nominations have been received in writing prior to the December meeting. Written nominations should be forwarded to the POA, attention General Election Committee. The bylaws do not require that a member be present at the December membership meeting in order to be nominated.

Election
As per Section 4, Article VI of the bylaws, the election shall commence at 0800 hours on the fourth Monday of January – which will be Monday, January 22, 2007 – and continue until 2400 hours on the second Friday in February – which will be Friday, February 9, 2007. Members shall cast his or her votes on ballots mailed to each member. Completed ballots must be received by the General Election Committee via US Mail.

Candidate Statements, Letters of Endorsement, and Photographs
Candidates may submit written statements, letters of endorsement, photographs, or other graphic for publication in the *POA Journal*. Any two or more candidates may submit material that identifies them as a slate of candidates, and request a layout of submitted materials that depicts them as a unified slate. Deadlines for submission of material directly related to the election are as follows:

- For publication in the *December Journal*, the deadline is **November 15, 2006**
- For publication in the *January Journal*, the deadline is **December 20, 2006**

Submit all material and layout requests to Editor Ray Shine at the POA. Editor Shine can also be contacted by email at journal@sfpoa.org. Editor Shine can be contacted by cell phone after obtaining the number from POA office staff.

Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars for the following meetings and events by the POA and its friends and supporters. All dates and times are subject to last minute changes, so always contact the event coordinator to confirm dates and times. If you have an event you would like posted on our calendar, contact the editor at journal@sfpoa.org.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings or Events

Event	Location	Date & Time	Coordinator
Meeting, Veteran Police Officers Association	3255 Folsom, SF	Second Tues. of Every Month, 11:00 AM	Larry Barsetti (415) 566-5986 larry175@ix.nexcom.com
Meeting, Widows & Orphans Aid Association	Ingleside Police Station, Community Rm	Second Tues. of Every Month, 2:00 PM	Mark Hurley (415) 681-3660
POA General Membership Meeting	POA Building	Third Wed. of Every Month, 1:00 PM	POA Office, (415) 861-5060
Meeting, Retired Employees of CCSF	Irish Cultural Center	Second Wed. of Every Month, 1:00 PM	Sara Johnson (415) 681-5949
Retiree Range Re-qualification	SFPD Pistol Range	First Fri. of each Month, 0730-1130	Range Staff (415) 587-2274

Specially Scheduled Events

POA Sports Hall of Fame Induction Dinner	Italian Athletic Club, SF	Friday, November 10, 2006 6:00 PM	POA Office (415) 861-5060
Charity Challenge Boxing –SFFD vs SFPD 7300	Kezar Pavilion	Sun, Dec 3, 2006, (subject to change)	Jason Garden, Co. J (415) 345-
Co. D Christmas Dinner Party	Sinbad’s on the Wharf, Pier 2	Saturday, December 9, 2006, 6:00 PM	Officer Bell, Co. D
Co. F Christmas Dinner Party	O’Reilly’s Holy Grail, Polk at Bush	Thursday, December 14, 2006, 6:30 PM	Geralyn Kavanagh, Co. F (415) 242-3000
POA/SFPD Blood Drive	“Old” POA Building, 510 7th Street	Wed. December 13, 2006 11 AM – 8 PM	Mark Hawthorne (415) 553-1506
Co. K Christmas Dinner Party	The Olympic Club	Saturday, December 16, 2006, 6:00 PM	Joe Mayers (415) 553-1398
Benefit Reception Bernie Sullivan Relief Fund	Don Ramon’s Restaurant 225 11th St., SF	Wednesday, January 17, 2007 6:00 PM	Corrado Petruzella (415) 850-9742
NorCal Retiree Luncheon	Michele’s, 7th & Adams, Santa Rosa	Tuesday, January 23, 2007	Al Richterman alandot@sbcglobal.net

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' Aid Association

PO Box 880034, San Francisco, CA 94188-0034
Established 1878 ♦ Telephone 415.681.3660

October 10, 2006

The regular meeting of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association of the San Francisco Police Department was called to order by President Mike Kemmitt at 2:05 PM in the Conference Room of Ingleside Station.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Mike Kemmitt.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Present: President Mike Kemmitt, Vice President Rene LaPrevotte, Treasurer Jim Sturken, Secretary Mark Hurley. Trustees: Matt Gardner, Joe Garrity, Fred Pardella, and John Centurioni. Excused: Dave Fontana.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING: Motion by Gardner, seconded by Garrity that the minutes be approved as published. Motion carried.

BILLS: Treasurer Jim Sturken presented the usual bills. Motion by Pardella, seconded by Centurioni that the bills be paid. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Donation by Dan and Susan Hallisy of \$100 in memory of John Maring.

WE HAD THREE DEATHS THIS PAST MONTH:

GEORGE J. PARAS, 84 YEARS. George was born in San Francisco and raised in the South of Market Area. He attended Balboa High School and proudly served our country during WW II as a member of the Army in European Theater. He returned to San Francisco after his discharge and was employed as a grocery clerk before he entered the Police Academy in 1947. His first assignment was Ingleside Station for one month. He then was assigned to the Solo Motorcycle Detail of Traffic. In 1973, he made Sergeant and remained on the bikes. He remained there for his entire 30-year career. He rode his beloved Harley with his other retired Solo's into his eighties. It was a fitting tribute to George and his family to have his fellow active Solo's give him a great send-off. It was very much appreciated by his wife and family and other retired cops.

EDWARD R. JOHNSTON, 65 years. Ed was born in San Francisco and raised in Noe Valley. He attended Mission High and served our country in the Air Force. He worked as a store clerk before he entered the Police Academy in 1962. His first assignment was Central Station. Six years later, he was assigned to B.S.S. In 1975, he was appointed to the Bureau and worked Vice Crimes and Narcotics. He found out he had a heart problem and was restricted to working the streets and was assigned to Investigations in room 400. He remained very close to his long-time partner Howard Bailey, who he worked with in the prostitution and gambling detail. Ed retired in 1992 and shortly after that he suffered a fall directly related to his heart problem. He lived with assisted living working to get his memory back until his death.

JOHN" JACK" FORBES, 76 YEARS. Jack was born Oakland, California. He served our country in the Navy during

the Korean Conflict. Upon discharge, he moved to San Francisco to raise his family. He worked as a shipping and receiving clerk and also at Get's gas station. At he age of 34, he entered the Police Academy as a member of the famed "Fighting 99th". His first assignment was Potrero. A few years later, he was transferred to Southern, then a year on the Crime Prevention detail before going back to Potrero. His next assignment was Taraval. He made Sergeant and was assigned to Mission. A year later, he went back to Taraval where he remained until he retired in 1992. Jack was awarded with two Bronze Medals of Valor. One for the arrest of an armed robbery suspect who robbed a jewelry store, Jack pursed the suspect and forcibly removed his .38 cal revolver. Another was for disarming a man with a knife who was fighting with another man. Then quieting an angry crowd that threaten to take prisoner from officers. He was awarded a Silver Medal of Valor for taking a large butcher knife from a suspect who threatened to kill his mother. A wild struggle in which suspect attempted to stab him and his partner. The suspect was subdued. Jack had a classic line towards the end of his career. When he got his time in, he already had the age, and was asked, "When are you going to retire?" He would reply, "I can quit in the middle of a sentence."

SUSPENSIONS; Pursuant to Section 3 of Article III of the Constitution. Not paying dues for six months. Elizabeth Loew. And pursuant to Article III, Section 3, of the by-laws. Did not complete probationary period. Murtazah, Edward To and Kent Chiu. They were dropped from the rolls of membership as ordered by President Mike Kemmitt.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES: Our advisors from Wells Fargo Bank gave a report on the condition of our account. Mr. Jerome Paolini. In August and September our Large Cap portion of our account had a very good run. Feds. Might even start lowering rates. World tensions really take a bite out of stocks but the lower price of oil is helping to get us on track. Mr. Paolini wants to take some profits and reinvest in an Endowment Fund. He will take between \$480,000 and \$500,000. And start the fund. Motion by Trustee John Centurioni that after three months of study into endowment funds to accept their recommendation. Seconded by Joe Garrity. Motion carried. We have been with Wells Fargo Bank for ten months and in that period our account is up 8.5%.

ADJOURNMENT: President had a moment of silence for our departed members and members of our military serving our country. He set the next meeting for Tuesday November 14, 2006 at 2 PM in the Conference Room of Ingleside Station. Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Fraternally,
Mark Hurley, Secretary

GENERAL COUNSEL'S CORNER

By John Tennant,
SFPOA General Counsel

State Supreme Court Vindicates Officers' Privacy Rights

In a sweeping victory for police officers, the California Supreme Court ruled on August 31st that records of administrative proceedings involving police officers, e.g., civil service commission hearings, are protected from disclosure by the Penal Code. It is hard not to argue that the case, *Copley Press v. Superior Court (County of San Diego)*, amounts to the single strongest vindication of officers' privacy rights in at least a generation. In *Copley*, the State Supreme Court held that the San Diego Civil Service Commission's records of disciplinary appeals, including the officer's name, are confidential and cannot be disclosed to the press, even when requested per the California Public Records Act.

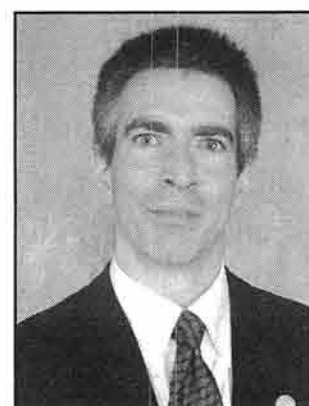
For almost seventeen years, a veritable Sword of Damocles has been held over the heads of police officers in the form of an abominable case from the Second District Court of Appeal, *Bradshaw v. City of Los Angeles* (1990) 221 Cal.App.3d 908. In *Bradshaw*, the appellate court ruled that none of the confidentiality protections for police officers in the Penal and Evidence Codes (often referred to as the *Pitchess* statutes) prevented former L.A. Police Chief Daryl Gates from releasing to the press sensitive information gleaned during a supposedly confidential IA investigation of an officer. The court reasoned that the Penal Code's use of the term "confidentiality" was linked expressly and solely to the context of a "civil or criminal proceeding." The upshot of *Bradshaw* was that outside of a court proceeding, a public agency retained unbridled discretion to release police personnel records to whomever it pleased. The confidentiality protections of the *Pitchess* statutes were reduced to almost nothing.

In San Francisco, the City Attorney has concluded that hearings by the Police Commission of police discipline cases must now be closed to the public if an officer refuses to waive his/her privacy rights.

While a number of other appellate courts took exception to *Bradshaw* in the intervening years, the California Supreme Court stayed mum on the subject until the recent *Copley* decision. At last the High Court has soundly rejected *Bradshaw*: "Bradshaw's narrow interpretation of [the *Pitchess* statutes] would largely defeat the Legislature's purpose in enacting the provision[s]. . . . We therefore reject Copley's argument that [Penal Code] section 832.7 does not apply beyond criminal and civil proceedings and we disapprove

Bradshaw v. City of Los Angeles [citation omitted] to the extent it is inconsistent with this conclusion." *Copley*, at p. 12.

The effects of *Copley* are POA General Counsel John Tennant



akin to a thunderclap that is now being felt statewide. In San Francisco, the City Attorney has concluded that hearings by the Police Commission of police discipline cases must now be closed to the public if an officer refuses to waive his/her privacy rights. In Berkeley, attorneys for the Berkeley Police Association are using *Copley* to close down the public hearings of the Police Review Commission. Both the San Francisco and Berkeley civilian review boards have too often seen their proceedings used irresponsibly as platforms for extreme and inflammatory rhetoric against police officers.

But perhaps what resounds most in *Copley* is the High Court's rejecting a constitutional challenge to the *Pitchess* statutes based on language that we helped draft, amending the California Constitution. In 2002-2003, members of the press had pushed forward an amendment that would make California the equivalent of an open records state. While some had advocated that we should oppose the press's move altogether, wiser heads prevailed in realizing that transparency in government is essential to democracy and that we would lose the overall debate in the all-important court of public opinion. Thus, I and leaders of both the San Jose and San Francisco POAs worked with representatives from the press and from former state Senate President Pro Tem John Burton's office to craft the following exception to the constitutional amendment:

"Nothing in this subdivision . . . affects the construction of any statute . . . to the extent that it protects th[e] right to privacy" guaranteed by article I, section 1 of the California Constitution, "including any statutory procedures governing discovery or disclosure of information concerning the official performance or professional qualifications of a peace officer."

That language was the cornerstone of the Supreme Court's rejection in the recent *Copley* decision of the constitutional challenge mounted against the privacy protections of the *Pitchess* statutes. The Court's ruling in this regard is all the more gratifying in that, procedurally, the Court need not have resolved the constitutional issue (the parties had failed to contest the matter in lower court proceedings) but felt obliged to put the constitutional issue to rest.

Moreover, our victory shows the wisdom of exercising reason and restraint in working with others to balance competing interests in achieving what is right and good not just for police officers but for American society as a whole. As the rhetoric at civilian review board hearings too often sadly demonstrates, extremists will never fail to overreach. We should never make the same mistake, and the California Supreme Court certainly seems to have understood as much in its recent *Copley* decision.

"Roll the Union On . . ."

Vice President's Message

Passing Thoughts

By Kevin Martin
SFPOA Vice President

Only a few months ago, I wrote an article about how members of the P.O.A. Executive Board were just as vulnerable as you are when it comes to trouble and danger while in the course and scope of our duties on the streets of San Francisco. These thoughts and words reverberated through my mind over the past ten days as I was involved in a serious legal challenge. To say this experience was a nightmare is an understatement. Although I am precluded to discuss the matter, suffice it to say I am very happy and grateful that this episode is over. By now, many of you know that the TRO was dismissed with prejudice and to the satisfaction of both parties involved. I believe the resolution speaks for itself.

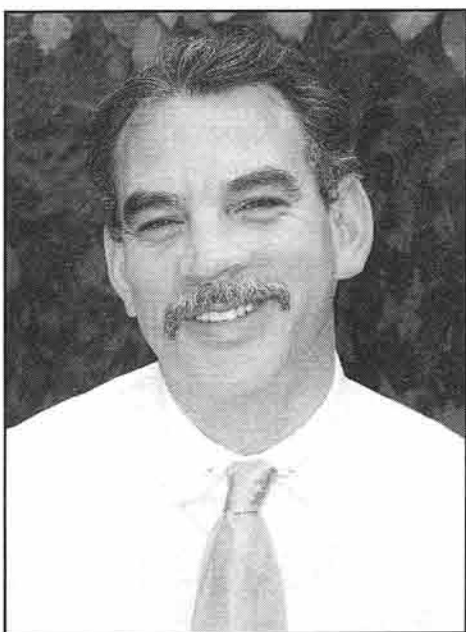
I was so genuinely touched by the overwhelming amount of support and prayers received during this ordeal. My family and I will be eternally grateful for such kindness and consideration. Many, many thanks are owed to all of you, both in the department and in the community that came to my aide. Thank you seems too small a word to accurately describe my gratitude for such a show of support. Please rest assured that your kindnesses are not lost on me or my family. I wish I could list individually all those who wished me well and offered words of encouragement in this article but space will not allow.

To my dearest and loving wife Ellen Marie, thank you for standing by my side during this entire event. You continue to be the best part of me. Thanks to my son Patrick and daughter Gracie for their prayers, love, encouragement and humor.

My deepest thanks to Mr. James Lassart for his legal counsel, intelligence and guidance. I also acknowledge the legal assistance of Mr. Adrian Driscoll and the staff of Mr. Lassart. My gratitude in no small part to Captain Denis O'Leary and Lt. Jim Spillane of Southern Station who were with and by me during this incident. I will always have a soft spot for these gentlemen as they had to be the ones to relieve me of my gun, star and department issued identification card. I am saddened that you had to be part of this event and hope that you are not put in that situation again. I trust that once is enough.

I acknowledge the Executive Board and the Board of Directors of the P.O.A. for their unwavering support. Gary, Marty, Tony and Chris were just wonderful in my time of need, as were Sgt. Bill Roualdes, Mike Nevin and all the members of Southern Station. I also acknowledge my last partner and dear friend Kevin Lyons for all that he has done for me as well as Mr. Patrick Moriarty for all his generosity.

Special thanks to Lt. Anna Brown, who was very instrumental in the process of having my gun, star and id returned to me in a very timely manner. My thanks to Chief Fong and her command staff for their support, especially that of Deputy Chief David Shinn whom I have known and have been friends with since our days at Sacred Heart High School. (The little



Vice President Kevin Martin

cop factory on Ellis St.)

Thanks to Sgt. Mike "bugsy" Moran and his crew from Bayview Station for their visit with the children at U.C.S.F. on Wednesday October 11, 2006. I really appreciate the time and effort displayed by George Ferraez, Brett Bodisco, Eric Chiang, Feliks Gasanyan and Edie Lewis. Due to a critical incident in the Bayview at the same time of the hospital visit, other officers were unable to attend. My thanks for their efforts.

Not too long ago, I witnessed an event that deserves mention. I was working a detail in the Northern on a Saturday Night near the Bill Graham Auditorium. Among the crowd hanging out in front of the auditorium was a woman with her young daughter. It did not take long to see that the woman was in an altered state and her actions were unsafe for the child. At one point the woman almost dropped her young daughter of maybe three years. Enter officers Kim Overstreet and Will Conley. These officers went to the aid of the child and in doing so prevented a likely dangerous accident. I was impressed with both Kim and Will as they handled a delicate situation. Kim was able to secure the child from the mother while Will attended to the legal aspects of the mother's mental state and actions. Although the child naturally became upset, it didn't take long for Kim to reassure the child and comfort her. The child took to Kim in no time at all. This little episode certainly would not have made it to the Chronicle, but their actions and compassion towards the child certainly merit mention in this paper. I spoke to Kim and told her that I admired the actions of her and her partner but Kim played their roles in this matter down. Kim and Will, thanks for a job well done. You are truly representative of San Francisco's finest.

I close this article by once again thanking one and all for their encouragement and support. May God Bless and look after you and all your loved ones.

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

By Al Casciato



...Name Change:

The way things are going on the streets we should change "Night Differential" to "Combat Pay". If you are out there you understand the "why". If not. You just won't understand...

...128th Recruit Class:

Members of the 128th Class will celebrate 30 years of service on March 14, 2007. Commander Steve Tacchini (553-1527) and Officer Cynthia Kulstad (553-1537) are coordinating the event and ask all 128th members to contact them...

...Births:

Mission Station's Brian & Jami Greer are the proud parents of Laura Jaye Greer 7 lbs 11 oz born September 26, 2006 a very happy family.

Daniel & Tina Chui, Mission Station, proudly announce the birth of their daughter Emma Lilani Chui at 1630 hours September 29, 2006 at California Pacific Medical Center. Dan, Tina and Emma are doing well. Our best wishes to all and may the future bring nothing but joy...

...Wedding Bells...

Congratulations to Southern Stations' Officers Michael Petuya and Chaigne Stokes who got married on 10-7-06. Chaigne is the daughter of retired SFPD Officer Jim Stokes and Michael is the son of retired Sergeant Frank Petuya.

...Welcome Back:

Retiree, Mike Huddleston (Hondas) writes that his son Sgt. Robert

J. Huddleston a member of the 101st Airborne has returned back to the States after two tours of Iraq. Robert celebrated both his 19th and 21st birthdays in Iraq and will be mustering out of the Army in December and will be putting in his application for the SFPD. Our best wishes go out to Robert and the fellow members of his unit which suffered quite a few casualties. We look forward to him becoming a member of the SFPD...

...Fundraiser:

Retiree, Ted Schlink, now residing in Phoenix, Arizona writes that as a member of the Knights of Columbus he is coordinating fund raising efforts by running a concession stand at the Arizona Cardinal home games in Glendale. To read a full write up about the Knights stadium fund raising efforts visit www.catholicsun.org. Ted encourages others to follow their model...

...Combined Charities:

This year's Combined Charities drive has seen an upswing in donations to schools and churches by members who are either members of a particular congregation or have children attending a school that is a designated 501c3 non profit. It works this way. If you have a required pledge or tiding you fill out the combined charities payroll deduction or one time contribution form and then take the pink slip to the charity selected. For example; submit a copy to the school and they will know exactly how much will be given to them via combined charities for calendar year '07, then store your copy in your tax file to take as a deduction at filing time. Donating this way gets everyone credit for donating at work, school and house of worship at one time and record keeping is easy and documented should the IRS call...

...Massage Parlors:

Recently the Chronicle ran a series on massage parlors. I found it curious that they never mentioned the efforts of the permit bureau to license masseuses. If I remember correctly the bureau proposed licensing criteria that involved a background, anatomy test and a demonstration of English language proficiency. Probably an idea that was ahead of its time...

Announcements, notices or tidbits can be e-mailed to alfrmsf@aol.com, faxed to 552-5741, or mailed to Around the Department, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Floor, SF, CA 94103.

Novato and Sonoma

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I was sitting in the mortuary staring at Dad, my best friend. A steady stream of people kept arriving at his casket. I heard a commotion and turned to see an army of Hell's Angels. They reverently approached Dad then came to my Mother, sister, and me. The president introduced himself, as did all the rest. They expressed their admiration for Dad and their respect. Dad often spoke of the Angels and his respect for their brotherhood. The President grabbed my hand and whispered "If we find them first, you'll see them hanging from the telephone poles on Castro Street." Their presence meant more to me than any politicians'. It confirmed the kind of cop he was.

Respect all people and stay safe.



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President's Message

continued from page 1

was issued that not only forced an earnest, hard-working cop off the streets for an entire week, but also sullied his fine reputation.

Fortunately, POA attorneys representing Kevin were able to have the TRO recalled. As part of the order, neither party to it – which does not include the SFPOA or me – can disclose details of the adjudicated agreement. But, in my view, this was clearly a calculated attempt to discredit Kevin and the POA, and it further illustrates why there can be no positive dialogue with an organization that connives so unprofessionally to obstruct the process of due rights with what amounts to a common and silly hissy fit.

Now, to the most irrational lunatic in city government, which, in San Francisco, is really saying something.

District 6 Supervisor Chris Daly, the trust baby who has twice won his office by garnering a dedicated group of just 6600 voters (that would be less than 1% of San Francisco's population), has taken personal offense to the fact that we have endorsed his opponent Rob Black in the District 6 election. Over the past few years Daly has done the following:

1) Physically assaulted a San Francisco Police Officer.

2) Accused our department of perpetrating a "Reign of Terror" on the citizens of San Francisco.

3) Stated that the reason our officers don't want to walk foot beats is because we are "lazy."

4) Referred to me as a common "thug."

5) Stated that the SFPOA has a right wing agenda, whatever that might be.

6) Has proposed not once but twice to merge the police and sheriff's departments and in the process eliminate the rank of Chief of Police.

7) Stood by while his district has deteriorated into a cesspool of drugs, homelessness, and despair while doing nothing to encourage police presence in the area.

8) Has held up funds that would partially go to his district for increased police presence.

People at City Hall often ask me why police officers are unhappy, and why we are having trouble recruiting and retaining qualified officers.

Well gee, that is a head-scratcher!

Philippine National Police Tour Hosted by SFPOA, APOA

By Eric Quema
Bayview Station

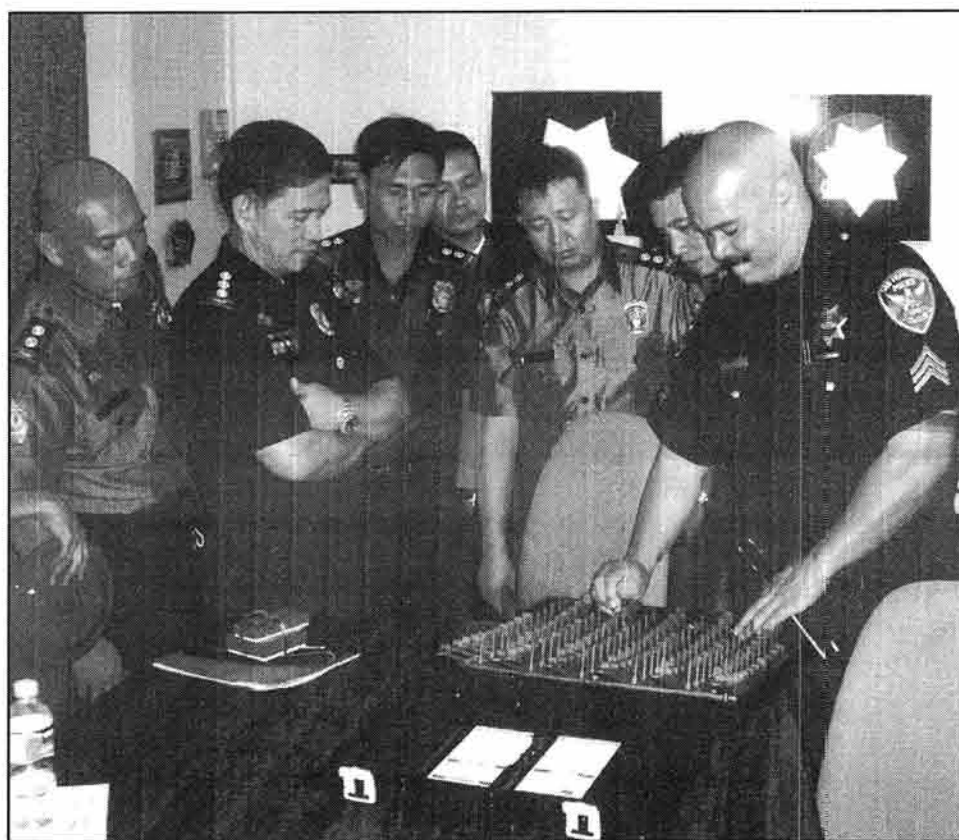
On October 8, 2006, sixty Police Superintendents from the Philippine National Police were scheduled for a weeklong seminar with a federal law enforcement agency in San Diego. Two days prior to departing for the United States, the seminar was abruptly canceled. It was too late to get a refund on their airfare and accommodations. They were then advised that a two-day seminar on bio-terrorism would be given in San Diego. Upon arrival in the United States on Sept. 15, 2006, they were told the two-day seminar was also canceled on the spot.

Having traveled thousands of miles and at great personal expense they were very disappointed. For the majority of the group, this would be their first and only trip to the United States. An important part of their management course was to interact with a foreign law enforcement agency.

other refreshments during their stay. The visiting law enforcers were moved by the generosity of our police unions as they are prohibited from forming any such associations.

The University of San Francisco also contributed funds for a hosted lunch during a tour of the campus. Dinner for their last night was hosted by Rene's Fine Dining in Daly City, arranged through the efforts of the Daly City Police Officers association. The Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs and the San Francisco Consul General of the Philippines attended this dinner.

The average salary for a Philippine Police Superintendent is about 34,000 pesos a month, which is equivalent to about \$650 (U.S.) There is no medical or dental plan, and absolutely no compensation for working mandatory overtime. Lawsuits require they seek and pay for their own legal defense. There are no free range practices as there is no spare ammunition to use. A



On Sept. 25, 2006 thirty-five members of the group made their way to San Francisco. Needless to say, the S.F.P.D. came through for them. On short notice, a two-day seminar was prepared, taking them to the Academy, Lake Merced range, Building 606, Hall of Justice, and a visit to the Golden Gate Bridge. They were highly appreciative of the reception and professional courtesy they received from every SFPD member they encountered.

The P.O.A. and the A.P.O.A. were very supportive contributing funds providing for meals, materials and

large majority of PNP officers can only afford to live in the poorest areas of their cities. Disability pay for on duty injuries is non-existent.

Despite these difficult working conditions and the inherent problems that face police officers all over the world, members of the Philippine National Police continue to hold their heads up high as they carry out their duties.

Being part of the SFPD- PNP exchange training program for the past six years has made me appreciate the conditions and protections that we enjoy as American Police Officers. To be sure, we in the SFPD have legitimate issues to complain about, but we are in a position where we can initiate change or improvement.

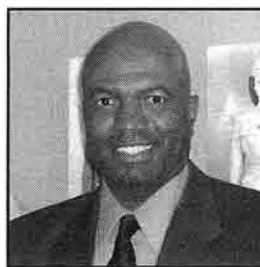
My first hand exposure to the harsh working conditions of our brother and sister officers in the Philippines was a compelling factor in my continued participation in this program. Over the years, many SFPD members of all ranks, races and ages have given assistance or support in various ways and continue to do so. Words in any language are not enough to express the appreciation and gratitude of the members of the Philippine National Police.

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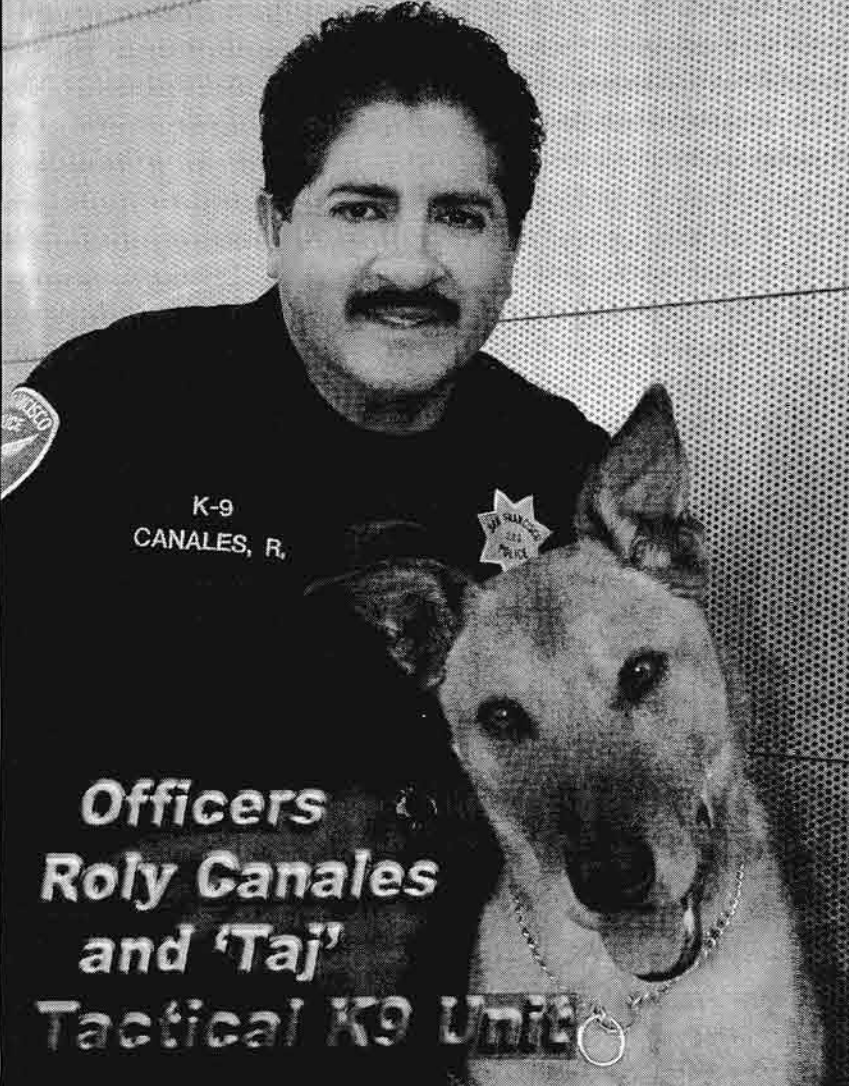
Patrol Officers of the Month



SAN FRANCISCO
SF POA POLICE DEPARTMENT
SAN FRANCISCO
POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION




OFFICER OF THE MONTH




OCTOBER 2006

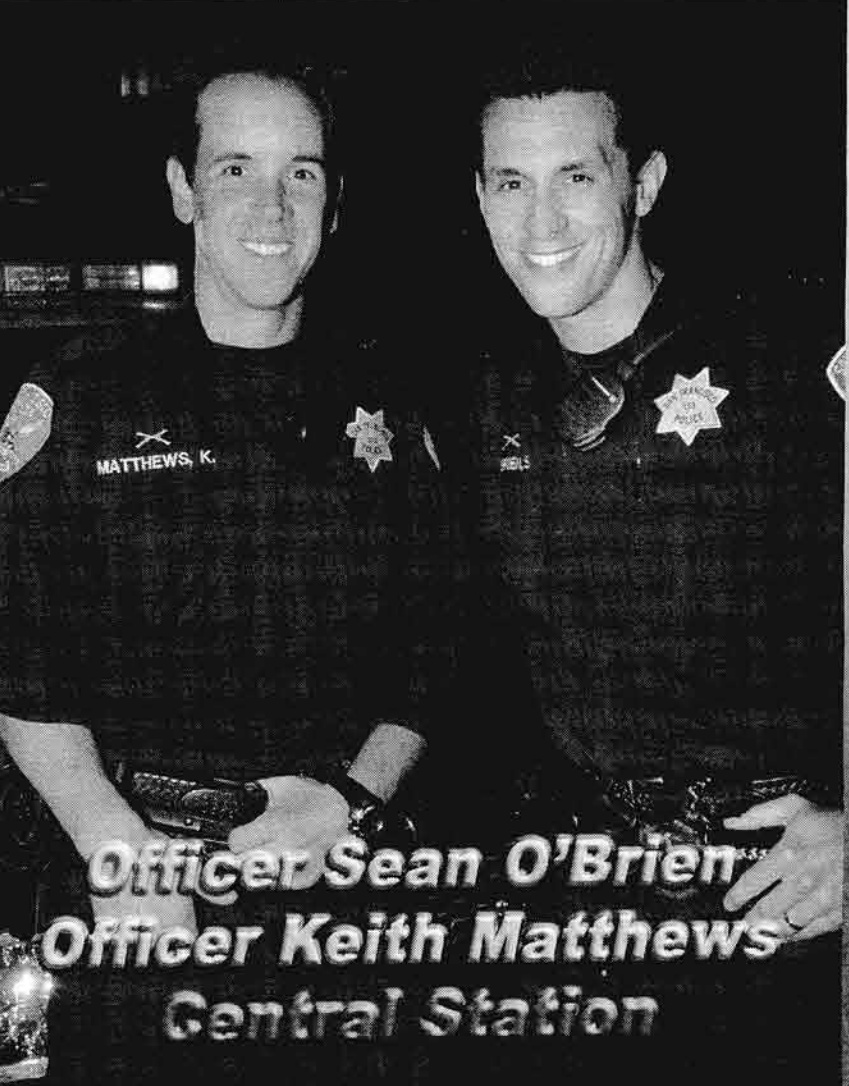
Officers
Roly Canales
and 'Taj'
Tactical K9 Unit



SAN FRANCISCO
SF POA POLICE DEPARTMENT
SAN FRANCISCO
POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



OFFICER OF THE MONTH



NOVEMBER 2006

Officer Sean O'Brien
Officer Keith Matthews
Central Station

By Ray Shine,
Editor

Seeking to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of San Francisco police officers, Police Chief Heather Fong established the San Francisco Police Department's Officer of the Month, a program that recognizes individuals who personify the admirable qualities common in all of San Francisco's finest.


The selection of a single officer, or team of officers, for this honor will prove to be an unenviable task. It will, after all, be very difficult to single out one or

two officers from among so many, all of whom are as focused on their duty; every one as unassuming as the next; all as worthy and deserving.


The San Francisco Police Officers Association applauds Chief Fong and the Administration for recognizing the officers who proudly serve this city.

The Association also congratulates Officer Roly Canales, along with "Taj" of the Tactical K9 Unit for being chosen as the October 2006 Officer of the Month; and Officers Sean O'Brien and Keith Matthews, November's honorees. As with all such honorees, the selection of these officers serves to exemplify the strength of character, compassion, and commitment to community that is embodied in all of the men and women of the SFPD.


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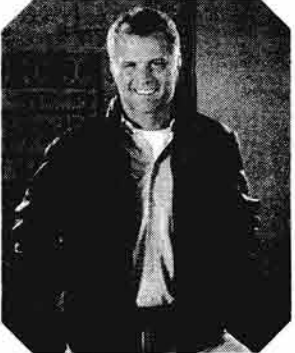
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IAWP Conference A Huge Success

By Robin Matthews
EEO Unit

This year's International Association of Women Police (IAWP) Conference was held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on September 17 - 21, 2006. The theme for the conference was "Policing Tomorrow's World." Although the weather was not particularly cooperative - lots of rain and temperatures stayed in the low 40's a good portion of the time, prompting yours truly to head off to the nearest mall to buy a Columbia jacket to get through the week - the training was fantastic and the connection with the 575 women (and some men) from law enforcement agencies from around the world was phenomenal.

Inspector Milanda Moore from SID was honored with this year's IAWP Community Services Award during a very moving Awards Luncheon. Milanda's husband and their two sons accompanied Milanda to Saskatoon to be there when she received her award. Besides those of us who attended the conference, I'd like to give a very special thanks to Deputy Chief Morris

Tabak from the Investigations Bureau. Chief Tabak flew up to Saskatoon the day before the Awards Luncheon specifically to be there in support of Milanda when she received her award. Dr. Cydne Holt from the Crime Lab also flew up to support Milanda.

The San Francisco Police Department has been very fortunate over the years to have a number of our members receive awards during the annual Awards Ceremony, however, this was the first time that I'm aware of that anyone from the Command Staff has come to a conference to support one of our award winners. Thanks Chief. It was very much appreciated by everyone, and really makes a statement to all of those in attendance when someone from a Department's Command Staff is there in support of one of their members who is being honored.

Next year's conference will be in Denver September 23 - 27, 2007, and should be another great one. Start making your plans now. I'll be talking more about the Denver Conference in future *Journal* articles.

Retirements

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association congratulates the following POA members on their recent retirement from the SFPD. We are always disappointed when old friends move on, but it must be agreed that each of these members is deserving of a long and healthful retirement. They will be difficult to replace, as they take with them decades of collective experience and job knowledge. Listed alphabetically by last name, the most recent service retirees are:

Officer Arthur Conger #1172 from Central Station
Officer Brian Darcy #1745 from Tactical Hondas
Officer James Hickson #2044 from Traffic Company, Solo Motorcycle Detail
Commander Michael Puccinelli #1894 from FOB
Sergeant Jerry Salvador #1338 from Homeland Security
Inspector Earl Wismer #1562 from Fraud Detail



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Thanks again for the great turnout. Please let us know you are coming to the lunch 4 or 5 days in advance. It was great to see all of you.

Remember to e-mail Al Richterman with your response.

Alandot@sbcglobal.net.

INCOME TAX!

Duane Collins
(SFPD Retired)

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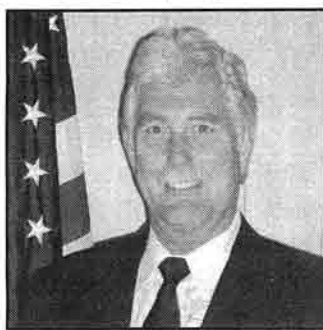
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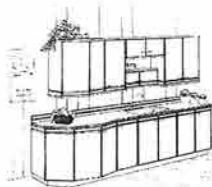
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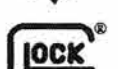
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Heroes & Hearts

Wanted: A Few Good Men and Women

The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation is once again sponsoring its Heroes & Hearts Luncheon in Union Square on February 14, 2007. This event is an opportunity to honor those within the community who have demonstrated exceptional and inspirational behavior. Our goal is to salute these special individuals by telling the city their stories.

Do you have a co worker or colleague who has given above and beyond to the citizens of this great city? Have they implemented an idea or program that makes San Francisco a better place to live? Have they saved a life, wiped a tear or provided a needed hug. Did they help restart a life, make a difference to a family in stress? Have they made the workplace a better place to be? Please help us identify the police officer, the firefighter/paramedic, SFGH employee and the community member that has made a difference.

Guideline for nominations:

- A Nominee must reside and /or work in the city of San Francisco
- A Nominee must have rendered noteworthy service to an individual or the community as a whole (e.g. has demonstrated exceptional or inspirational behavior either through direct action such as saving a life, or through a creative idea that has extraordinary benefits)
- Nominations can not be considered for posthumous awards
- All nominations must be received by Monday, December 11, 2006

For additional information, please contact:
Katherine Moe at Katherine.Moe@sfdph.org or 415-206-4478

To review past recipients or download nomination forms: www.sfgfh.net

Donate to BALEAF During The Combined Charities Drive

By Robin Matthews
BALEAF Treasurer

Greetings!

By the time this issue of the *Journal* comes out, the Combined Charities Drive will almost be over. For those of you who chose the Bay Area Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (BALEAF) as your charity of choice this year, thank you very much. For those of you who may not have chosen to donate yet, or who may have donated to one charity already but might consider donating to an additional one, whether as a payroll deduction or a one-time donation, I hope that you will consider BALEAF for your tax deductible donation.

BALEAF can be found in the Combined Charities listing under Local Independent Charities (LIC), Code Number L2027. Donating to BALEAF through LIC is important because LIC

has the lowest operating expenses of any of the charities – a mere 2.9% – which means that more of your donation will go directly to BALEAF. 100% of all donations made to BALEAF go directly to providing support to the law enforcement family who have had members killed in the line of duty, have been seriously injured, or who have experienced a catastrophic event. All operating expenses incurred are paid for by the organization's Board of Directors.

Once the Combined Charities Drive is over, donations to BALEAF can still be made by sending a check made out to BALEAF to P.O. Box 31764, S.F., CA 94131-0764. An acknowledgement of your donation will be sent to you. With the holidays fast approaching, a donation to BALEAF in honor of, or in memory of someone, is a touching tribute and a nice way to remember a fallen officer or a family member no longer with us.

Thank you for your consideration. Stay safe.

Letters to BALEAF

Dear Members of BALEAF,

Thank you so much for your generous gift. The funds were used to help cover the costs of Lloyd's funeral and burial. The family and I appreciate your help and the help you give to other families like ours. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Lori Ritter

Dear Members of the BALEAF Organization,

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Gratefully,
Mary Alice Musante
(Sister of Lloyd Ritter)

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The Zebra Murders: An Alternative Perspective

Kevin J. Mullen

In his 1968 book, *The Police Establishment*, ex-FBI Agent William W. Turner made the point that police departments around the country were unable or unwilling to handle racial matters fairly and effectively. To make his case regarding San Francisco, Turner cited the Police Commission's treatment of an African American officer assigned to the minority oriented Community Relations Unit.

In an off-duty fracas in October 1966 in Oakland, the officer had been fired upon by one of two men engaged in a dispute with a streetwalker. Hailed before the police commission on a charge of conduct unbecoming an officer, the officer resigned from the department. According to most in the minority community, says Turner – a position in which he seems to concur – “an indiscretion (on the officer's part) ordinarily punishable by a reprimand and transfer, had been magnified into a cardinal sin in order to put the Community Relations Unit on trial.”

As things turned out, the officer, who had been in a relationship with the prostitute for several months, was waiting in her nearby automobile while she serviced tricks. It was after one of the johns demanded his money back that the officer got involved and the shooting resulted. Moonlighting as a pimp by a sworn police officer has always been considered something more than an indiscretion, yet Turner viewed the legitimate attempt at discipline as an affront to the African American community.

The curse of racism and its varied consequences have in some way infected just about every aspect of American life for centuries. In the last 50 years or so these issues have profoundly influenced the external relations and internal operations of many of the nation's police departments. This has given rise to a literature, as represented by Turner's book, that tends to view the world through a lens of racial injustice.

Now comes *The Zebra Murders: A Season of Killing, Racial Madness and Civil Rights*, in which retired African American San Francisco Police Chief Prentice Sanders and his writer, Bennett Cohen, make their contribution to the genre. As suggested by its title,

the book deals largely with that part of his career in which Sanders was involved in the investigation of a series of black on white homicides which terrorized San Francisco in the early 1970s. The Zebra killings were the most atrocious manifestation of a phenomenon which began in the 1960s when homicide rates soared in urban America generally. By the late 1970s, San Francisco's homicide rate was 18.5 per 100,000 population, up from 5.9 in an equivalent period in the early 1960s. Much of the increase was driven by a rise in black on white killings. It was in this climate that the Zebra killings occurred.

There is an earlier published account of the case, Clark Howard's 1979 *Zebra: The true account of the 179 days of terror in San Francisco*, a workmanlike job which covers much of the same ground and more. But what Sanders can bring to the subject, of course, is an insider's view of the case. The book is written from his point of view, as well it should be. The question becomes, however: how does that point of view square with objective reality?

Sanders starts with a description of his attendance at the autopsy for the first victim, Quita Hague. Hague had been seized with her husband while walking on Telegraph Hill on October 19, 1973 and taken to an isolated area of the Potrero District where she was brutally butchered. Her husband survived. The case differed from the other 73 homicides preceding it that year only in its brutality and seeming senselessness. When 28 year old Frances Rose was shot by a black man who invaded her automobile on October 28, there was no reason to connect it to the Hague murder, other than the race of the perpetrator.

The killing of Saleem Erakat in his market on Turk Street on November 25 might have been a typical robbery murder except that the killers took the trouble to bind the victim and shoot him execution style. On December 11, Paul Dancik was killed while approaching a street phone booth. Police found that both Erakat and Dancik were killed by the same .32 caliber weapon, an uncommon size for such crimes. A week or so later three more white victims were shot down in the street without provocation in the space of a few days, all with the same

weapon.

Realizing that they had a terror spree on their hands, department officials formed a task force under veteran homicide detectives Gus Coreris and John Fotinos. Two robbery detectives, Jeff Brosch and Carl Klotz, were assigned to assist the two lead detectives. Other homicide detectives were to continue taking cases in rotation as was the standard procedure, but under the coordinative supervision of Coreris and Fotinos. For a time the killings seemed to stop. Then they resumed in late January when four whites were killed and one wounded in a two hour rampage. Again there was a brief break in the killings until April 1st when Thomas Rainwater was killed in the street. On April 16, 1974, the last victim, Nelson Shields was killed with three shots in the back.

A simple recitation of the murders

solution seems to very much less than is suggested in the book.

The book is littered with errors and misstatements, too many to catalogue in a single review. Examples will have to suffice. If Sanders is the hero of the story, he also provides a set of villains. In his version of events, that role is played by an amorphous band of what he calls a “white Irish old-boys network.” “In 1973,” he claims, “only one man who wasn't Irish had the rank of captain or higher in the SFPD.” As a simple matter of fact, at the time of which Sanders writes, the chief and almost all his top staff were demonstrably non-Irish. The Homicide Detail was riddled with Irish old-boy operatives as well, according to Sanders, from Charles Ellis, the detail's commander, on down. Retired Captain Charles Ellis will doubtless be surprised to find out that he has been

A simple recitation of the murders fails to convey the effect of the reign of terror on the city at the time. City residents were terrified at the seeming randomness of the attacks.

fails to convey the effect of the reign of terror on the city at the time. City residents were terrified at the seeming randomness of the attacks. The streets were deserted at night, and intense pressure was put on the police to bring the case to a successful conclusion. In the course of the investigation, investigators became convinced that the Nation of Islam, the black separatist group, was involved. In the absence of any hard information, almost in desperation, the department established controversial procedures to stop and question all young black men found out at night. Finally in mid-1974 the killings came to an end after 15 whites had been shot or hacked to death on the city streets and several more were seriously wounded.

Promotional material provided by the publisher of the Sanders/Cohen book describes the Zebra case as a “riveting story, told by San Francisco's first black police chief, of the racially-motivated serial killings that terrorized the city in the winter of 1973-4, and how it was solved by black detectives.” Even allowing for the customary hyperbole to which publishers are inclined, that statement is over the top. The case was eventually solved, after a massive amount of leg work by a large number of detectives – not just Sanders and his partner – when one of the killers decided to claim the \$30,000 reward offer and contacted the police. Wisely, when the book came to print, the version claiming exclusive solution by Sanders and his partner dropped out of the story.

Still, as some reviewers have noted, we are led to believe that Sanders and his partner were personally and intimately involved in just about every aspect of the investigation from beginning to end. The reviews so far have been mixed, ranging from the fawningly adulatory: “The Real Deal” and “Stunningly Researched” to severely critical: “Not the Real story” and “You've got to be kidding.” Sanders and his partner, Inspector Rotea Gilford were in fact assigned to three of the 14 cases credited to the Zebra killers but their involvement in the

transformed into an Irishman. The fact of the matter is that Irish-named detectives were a decided minority in the detail at the time.

A more egregious mischaracterization is Sanders' discussion of an attempt by adversarial forces to find out where the man who had given up the suspects was being housed for his own safety. By Sanders' account, the president of the OFJ – who also happened to be a member of the Nation of Islam, the very group of which the killers were members – approached the lead investigator in the case and asked him where the principal prosecution witness was being sequestered. Sanders more or less brushes off that overture as an innocent act, saying, “It's more than possible that someone in the Nation (of Islam) told him (the officer) they were afraid Harris was being held against his will, and all they wanted to do was ‘talk’ to him.” Yes. And John Gotti had someone ask the FBI for Sammy “The Bull” Gravano's address in the Federal Witness Protection Program so that he could update his Christmas card list. In the end, it is for Sanders' colleagues in the Homicide Detail at the time to report on just how involved Sanders was in the final resolution of the case.

While the story of the horrendous spate of murders serves to hook the reader into the book, its underlying purpose – the real purpose it would appear – is to provide a platform for Sanders to vent about what he sees as a career's worth of complaints about his victimization by racist forces, both during the Zebra investigation and otherwise. To that end he recounts the efforts of the Officers for Justice, an association of largely black officers, against what they saw as discrimination in selection, treatment and promotions of minority police officers. In 1973 the OFJ filed a lawsuit in Federal Court in which Sanders played a prominent role, claiming discrimination in hiring and promotions and petitioning for relief in the form of preferential treatment in future hiring and promotions.

According to the Sanders/Cohen




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formulation "It was proven that some of the tests given to minorities were statistically more difficult than those given to whites." (This sentence doesn't make sense. They probably mean to say that the statistical difference in results between whites and minorities proved that the tests were biased against minorities, a very different thing.) In any event, the statistical disparity was seized upon by the court in 1973 in a preliminarily finding of disparate treatment. The judicial proceedings which followed were intended to test the validity of that finding. After years of legal wrangling, the case finally came to trial before Judge Robert Peckham in November 1978. The plaintiff's first witness – and only witness as things turned out – was Homicide Inspector Prentice Sanders.

It was brought out on cross examination that for all the discrimination he claimed, only one other member his academy class had advanced farther in the department by 1978. And it was pointed out that good things had come to Sanders sooner than most. While his academy classmates were settling into their final patrol assignments, Sanders was assigned to the much coveted Robbery Detail, a promotion his fellows could not hope to make for several years more at least. And at the time the OFJ case was filed, he was assigned to the Homicide Detail, the most prestigious non-management assignment in the department.

His claims of humiliation by whites were put to the lie when the defense introduced a set of photographs showing that Sanders had willingly decked himself out in racially offensive primitive African garb. At the close of Sanders' testimony, the judge commented "This man has not been discriminated against," and informed plaintiff's attorney that they had better get a better witness if they hoped to prevail. The court then adjourned until December.

It was during this period, on November 28, 1978, that former Supervisor Dan White entered City Hall and assassinated Mayor George Moscone and County Supervisor Harvey Milk. When the court reconvened on December 5th, the judge, alluding to the Moscone/Milk murders – and with a non-sequitur worthy of inclusion in a course on legal logical fallacies declared: "Before the resumption of the trial with all its unavoidable divisive and embittering consequences, I desire to continue the trial for one additional week and request counsel for all parties to meet and confer." What the OFJ case had to do with the Moscone/Milk killings is still not clear. In the following months, the city "preemptively surrendered," to borrow a phrase from Thomas Sowell, and what resulted was a consent decree by means of which appointments to and promotions within the department were governed

for years to come.

Since the question of whether the examination process discriminated was never really put to the test in an adversarial judicial setting, this would be as good a time as any to explain why minorities did not do as well statistically as whites in the civil service promotional process. Why did the minorities fail? Why couldn't Sanders, who placed third on his entrance test, pass promotional examinations without special help from the courts? The answer lies not in discriminatory practices but in the culture of the examination process itself as it then existed in San Francisco. Simply put, those who scored highest on the examinations were those who studied the hardest. Truth to be told, the actual examination was more of an obstacle course, designed to exclude those who had not studied rather than as an instrument for determining the best candidates for promotion. That said, neither was it designed to exclude any group based on race or ethnicity. The process was objective and fair, and discriminated only against those who did not study. The same cannot be said about the process which replaced it.

In an ironic way, the department, in its stumbling efforts to accommodate itself to minority demands, may have in fact put black officers at a disadvantage when it came to civil service promotions. It was evident at the time to anyone paying attention, that the department officials put black officers in "plum" jobs as soon as they could. Witness Sanders' speedy ascension to the Inspectors Bureau. Other minorities were assigned to high visibility non-uniformed day-watch positions in the Hall of Justice as well. That practice, whether done for altruistic or political reasons, backfired in a way that made minorities less likely to pass the regular civil service tests.

The officers who tended to do best on the promotional exams, whatever their ethnicity, were the men working nights in the outlying district stations – switching back and forth weekly from an evening to a midnight watch – looking for a way out and up. Who – white or black – wanted to give up a clean, dry day job in the Hall of Justice to go back to work as a street sergeant on a midnight watch in the fog belt? And with the best and brightest of the minorities in plum jobs, the pool of likely successful minority candidates was accordingly reduced.

There may be another explanation for poor minority showings at that time as well. As the trial date neared in 1978, the city's attorneys began deposing the plaintiffs. Before the plaintiff's attorney got the court to shut off pre-trial discovery preemptorily, assistant city attorney Ken Harrington was able to get the president of the OFJ to admit under oath that he and other OFJ members discussed the possibility of deliberately doing poorly on the 1976 sergeant's exam to strengthen their

court case. He also admitted that he had read only three of the ten books on the scope announced prior to the test.

Perhaps the above factors were not the sort of thing that the court wanted to entertain, but that's what the situation was, and, more to the point, they offer an explanation for disproportionate minority failure without degenerating into racist formulations on either side of the equation. Furthermore, they may help to explain in part the mystery why Sanders, who was smart enough to pass third on his entrance examination, turned up 190th on the 1976 sergeant's list, and was unable to attain a later promotion to lieutenant without help from the courts. The prize went to those who studied. It was that simple.

At one point in the Zebra investigation, Sanders had an epiphany which tied the killings to the OFJ suit. "That's when it hit me," he says. "The same thing that sparked the killing was getting in the way of solving it. As hateful as the killers were, it was racism that lit the fire that burned inside them. And it was racism that kept the department so white we didn't have enough black officers to infiltrate a group like the one we were after." Sanders ends his book with a suggestion that more minorities be hired so that better intelligence inroads can be made into minority communities.

It's generally conceded that a diverse department is a good way to better relate to disparate ethnic communities. (There is also abundant evidence that top-heavy minority departments can sometimes be worse than that which they replaced. Witness the debacle in New Orleans). And the received wisdom that minority officers would be better able to obtain intelligence from the communities of which they are a part would seem to be beyond doubt. Experience has shown, however, that that isn't always the case. In the Zebra case investigation, the best efforts of Sanders and other black officers to turn up information in the black community came up empty. And remember, at that time, in the heyday of what he calls a "white Irish old-boys network," the detectives turned up evidence to solve 75 percent

of the homicides. More recently, with blacks in top command positions and presumably situated throughout key positions in the department, the solve rate is 43 percent.

In the end, what grates on the officers who knew and worked with Sanders is his obviously opportunistic ingratitude. The man was pampered and advanced by the department at every step along the way. By his own account he was assigned to Robbery Detail with only two years in the department. A few years later he was assigned to the Homicide Detail. There he remained for 25 years until promoted to lieutenant over dozens of others who had bested him in the civil service examination. After serving a short stint in the Records Division he was appointed assistant chief in 1996. And in 2002 he was appointed chief of police.

All along the way, his career was accompanied by a background noise of controversial and questionable activities which, it is doubtful, others would have survived (and which are too extensive to detail here). Yet he goes on, as he has forever, complaining of how he has been used and abused by the very organization which made him what he became.

It's disgraceful.

Retired San Francisco Deputy Police Chief Kevin J. Mullen is the author of several books about San Francisco's criminal justice system, all of which he wrote himself. The most recent is The Toughest Gang in Town: Police Stories from old San Francisco. See www.sanfrancisco-homicide.com

1. A curious feature of the book is that while Sanders is billed as the lead author, he is referred to throughout the text in the third person. One wonders whether Cohen is playing a subtle joke on his "co-author."

2. Does he not remember Police Chief Donald Scott, Deputy Chief William Keays, Supervising Captain Jeremiah Taylor, Director of Criminal Information Louis Feder, Director of Traffic Ignacio Zaragoza, and captains Charles Korelec, Hugh Elbert and Harry Nelson among others, none of whom were Irish?

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Former San Francisco Police Officer
Former San Francisco Assistant District Attorney (1979-1997)

Catastrophic Illness Program Needs Hours

The S.F.P.D. Catastrophic Illness Program currently has six recipients with possibly two new recipients to be approved soon. The San Francisco Department of Health is the *approving authority* for all recipients of the program. In order to be approved by the Department of Health, the applicant must have a "life-threatening illness or injury".

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Brian Barron #1804

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When Someone You Know Has Cancer

How to Help Them Cope

Submitted by Sergeant Mary Dunnigan B.S.U.

When a friend or relative has cancer or other serious illness, it's perfectly normal to feel worried and uncomfortable. However, if you are not careful, your feelings could change the way you relate to your loved one. It's important to remember that your friend or relative is still the same person. Only now, that person needs extra support - especially during periods of medical treatment and hospital stays. You can play an important role in making life as normal as possible in a world that has been turned topsy-turvy. Here are some ways:

Listen - People with cancer basically need someone to listen to them talk about their current fears and their future plans. They don't necessarily need you to "do" anything. It's not always easy to be a silent refuge from a day of chemotherapy or a night of sleepless panic - but it can be more helpful than you may think.

Beware of conflict - The period right after diagnosis is often a time of anger, fear and confusion. People with cancer might lash out at you in an attempt to find a target for their frustration. Don't take these outbursts personally, and try to respond with patience and compassion if you can.

Be Yourself - Many people think they don't know how to act around people with cancer. Just do what you normally do, and don't try to be someone you're not. People with cancer need their family and friends for a sense of normalcy. They have to deal with enough changes in their life without having to adapt to a new you.

Keep looking for hope - While cancer is undeniably a major illness, it is not necessarily fatal. Many cancer patients have been treated successfully, and many others live a long time after the diagnosis. It is hard not to think about the person dying, but it's more important to focus on living. Staying positive will encourage people with cancer to do the same.

For those with cancer, surviving the disease can be a difficult task. But you can give them positive support and let them share their difficulties with you. Facing cancer together makes it easier to endure the hard times, and to look forward to brighter days ahead.

Sometimes life can feel overwhelming. If you find that you are having trouble doing daily tasks or that problems are affecting your relationships with friends and family, you should consider seeking professional counseling. Asking for help is never a sign of weakness or failure, especially in situations too difficult to handle alone.

Tips for helping someone cope with cancer -

1. Let the person with cancer start talking. You can't make people talk about their feelings before they are ready, but you can be ready to listen when they are.
2. Show your support. "I'm here" can be the most reassuring words you can say.
3. Share your anxieties and uncertainties with the person, if appropriate. You both can support each other

and give and take strength as you are able.

4. Don't give false assurances by saying, "Don't worry," or "Everything will be all right." Try to lift spirits without denying the truth. It can be as simple as doing fun things you both enjoy.
5. Don't assume the worst. Even if the future is uncertain, you can still look forward to the possibility of a positive response to treatment, as well as spending good times together.

What do you say when you don't know what to say?

The following are some ideas for how to offer help.

1. Don't start the conversation with, "How are you?" When you ask the question right away, the person may not know whether you really want an answer or are simply being courteous. Engage in some small talk for a few minutes before asking how things are going. Be sure you have time to listen before you ask the question.
2. Drop the person a note. A simple message like, "I've been thinking of you and wondering how you are doing" lets the person know you care. It can make a big difference. You might suggest getting together for lunch in a few days. Be sure to follow through with the plans you make.
3. Be aware of times of stress. For example, if you know when the person is going to the doctor for an appointment or treatment, call a few hours later to ask how it went. Your caring act may help the person cope with any bad news.
4. Reinforce trust. Let the individual know that you will keep any personal information to yourself, even if the person doesn't specifically ask you to.
5. Don't speak. Sometimes a hug or an arm around the shoulder can say more than any words.
6. Be honest. It's okay to tell the person, "I don't know what to say. I just want you to know that I'm thinking of you." The person with cancer doesn't need advice or words of wisdom, just your caring and your presence.

For further United Behavioral Health information you can log onto <http://www.liveandworkwell.com/>. Our access code is "SFPD". The "Health and Wellness" section offers educational articles on dealing with the stress of cancer and other chronic illnesses.

WebMD: http://www.webmd.com/diseases_and_conditions/cancer.htm
The site's Cancer Health Center contains information and tips on coping with several types of cancer.

Please don't hesitate to call the Behavioral Science Unit for referrals and support as well as information regarding the Catastrophic Illness Program. (837-0875) S.F.P.D. sworn members are eligible for free counseling through your UBH benefit and may be authorized by calling 1-800-888-2998.

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Saturday, December 9, 2006

6:00 – 7 pm No Host Cocktails

7 pm Dinner

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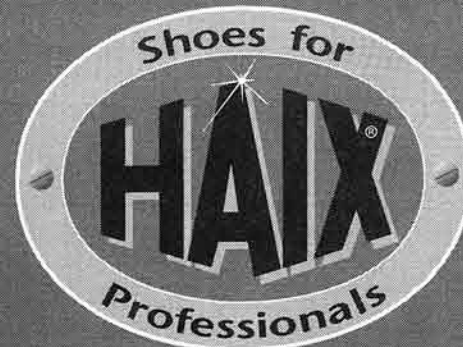
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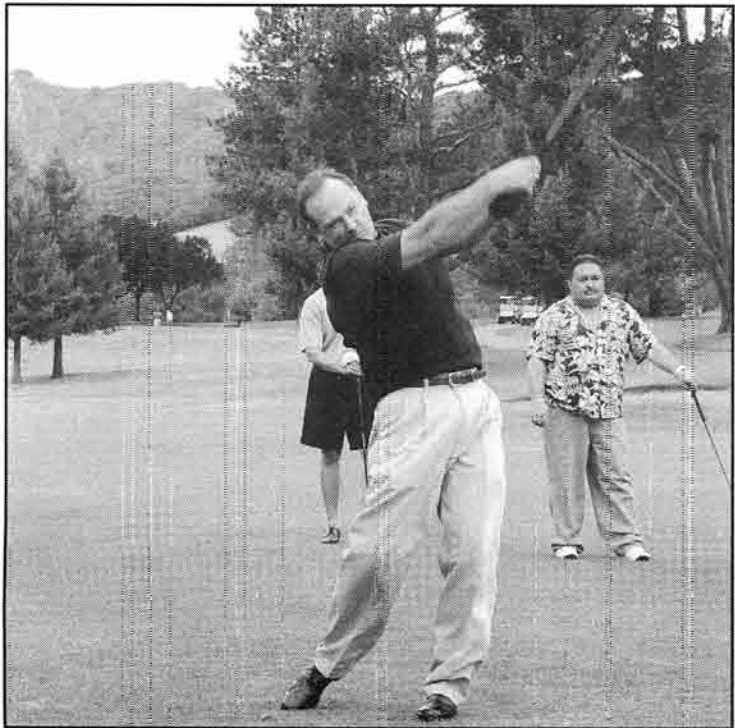
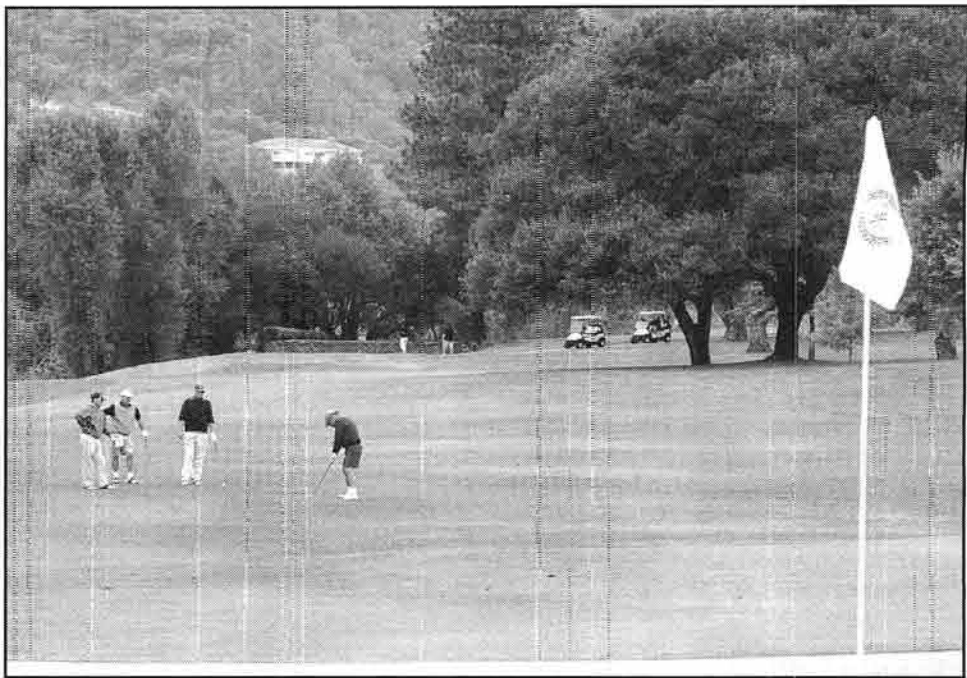
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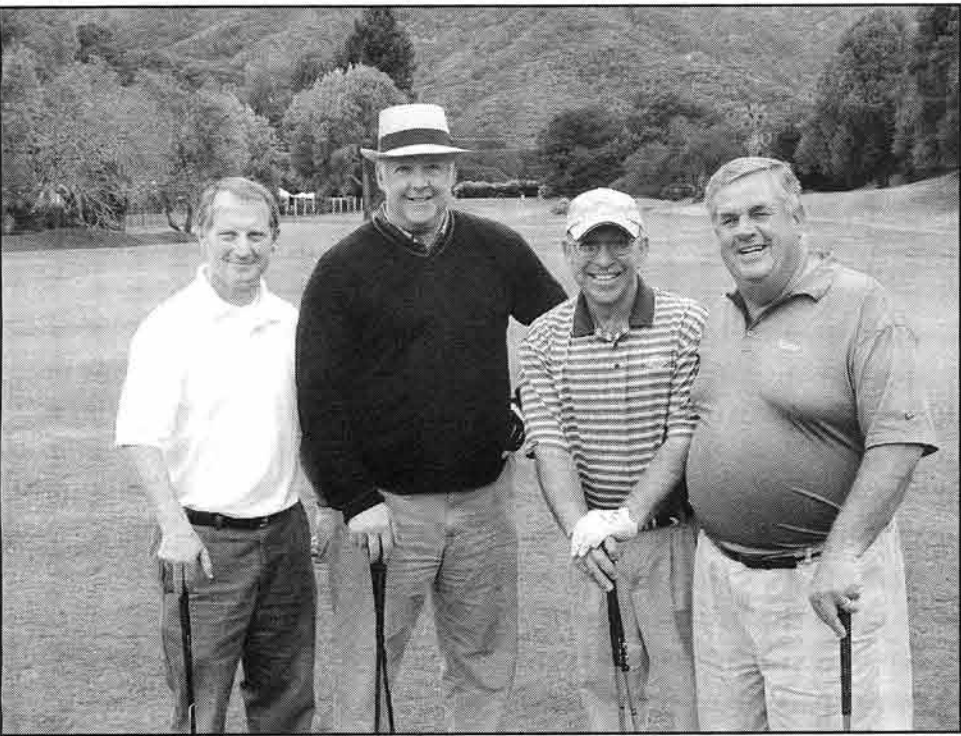


The 15th annual POA Golf Tournament was played on Monday, October 2, 2006 at the prestigious Marin Country Club in Novato. It was an early sell-out, and a great success. The money raised at the tourney goes to the POA Scholarship Fund that provides much needed financial assistance to the sons and daughters of our members pursuing college educations.

We are very grateful to our donors and sponsors, all of whom are listed on this page. Thanks, too, to Co-Chairs Tim Hettrich and Gary Delagnes, as well as to the volunteers and staff who worked so hard to make this event as enjoyable and memorable as it was.

Marty Halloran, Chair
SFPOA Scholarship Committee

PHOTOS BY STEVE MOONEY



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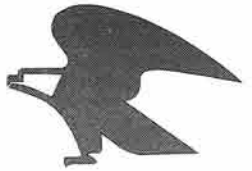
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POA MAIL



Dear Editor,

I have something to say about the constant police bashing that goes on with the Chronicle. Perhaps if the SFPD had the support of its Mayor, Chief, Police Commission and Supervisors the Chronicle would be writing about all the good the San Francisco Police Department does opposed to all "the bad". As the wife of an SFPD officer, I am a little tired of picking up the Chronicle and reading how our officers are so forceful, so prejudice, and so out of touch with their community. I cannot recall one article that actually praises our Police Department. Unlike the rest of the country, a police officer is guilty until proven innocent. A cold-blooded killer who shoots a cop is innocent until proven guilty. Now that is irony.

Let's take a step back. The article that put things in perspective for me was the article written on Oct 15th, 2006 comparing our police department to other police departments regarding force allegations. The Chronicle stated that 535 allegations were documented. The Chronicle also stated that there are 2,177 officers in the department. That means one in four police officers are considered "forceful". I think NOT.

I like the way the Chronicle picks the "selected West Coast police departments". Does that make their argument stronger because the numbers are lower? We should be compared to Los Angeles, Chicago, New York City, and Detroit to get an accurate comparison. San Francisco's demographics are not the same in Seattle, San Jose, San Diego and Oakland. San Francisco is a Metropolitan city where your District Attorney will not commit a cop killer to the death penalty, where a felon who raped a juvenile can kill a cop with an automobile and where police officers are accused of eating fajitas and kicking an innocent bystanders butt and then are brought up on charges by the District Attorneys Office.

I find it extremely coincidental that "force allegations" increased in 2003, after the Alex Fagan Jr. debacle occurred. I also find it interesting that Proposition H "aimed at reorganizing the city's Police Commission and giving more power to a civilian-run watchdog agency" is sponsored by the Northern California branch of the American Civil Liberties Union and is supported by Supervisor Tom Ammiano is put on the November 2003 ballot and PASSES.

In today's world a San Francisco

Police officer can do no right. They can only do wrong according to the Supervisors, the Police Commission, the Mayor and the Office of Citizens Complaints. It's easy to make a complaint against a police officer. You can walk into OCC with a star number and make up a story and say that there was "alleged force". Perhaps if the Chronicle spoke with the Police Officers Association and actually got the "facts" they would find out that some of those complaints against Police Officers are unfortunately not an actual officer but a dog. Yes, a police dog. Stories are made up every day by the citizens of San Francisco because they can.

As the wife of a police officer, my husband comes home everyday and tells me about his day. He is aware of how to do his job correctly but that does not matter to the citizen that wants to make a complaint against my husband for no reason. The citizen can make that complaint because there is someone to listen to him. The Office of Citizen Complaints should not just be citizens because they cannot understand what it is like to walk into a domestic violence situation. They cannot relate to arriving on a scene of a bar fight and trying to get the story of what really occurred and having bottles broken on their head or punched in the face. They cannot relate to arriving to a horrific car accident. They cannot relate to a fellow officer calling for help, for back up, because shots are fired. Until then, until they have been through those situations and can relate to my husband and his fellow officers, the emotions, the reactions and can truly look at the story of what really happened, then they can be in the Office of Citizens Complaints.

Because the Chronicle has bashed the Police Department so badly that allows for the negativity that is abundant in San Francisco. I bet you any amount of money in the world that if you started a series of "the good of San Francisco Police Department" that your OCC complaints would be half of what they are now. But would that sell? Would the Chronicle make money on that Series because it's not all doom and gloom and load of crap that people want to hear? Change the mindset of the people and perhaps it would until then I will not purchase the Chronicle. And I am hoping that my fellow spouses of police officers will follow suit, and their families and so on.

Print the positive. Ask the Police Officers Association and the Captains of each department for the heroic stories or the stories of busting the bad guys with guns, call it the t4Streets of San Francisco"- Make it that the police are the friends of the citizens. They are not the bad guys, they are only trying to get the bad guys. I am proud of my SFPD husband, and I hope someday the citizens of San Francisco can say the same thing.

A.C. Carew
Proud SFPD Officer's Wife

Dear POA -

Thanks very much for your thoughtfulness with the beautiful floral arrangement at Jack's funeral services. The gesture was appreciated greatly.

My dad had a great run. He told me "No regrets." He was very grateful of the continued raises that almost came like clockwork. Remember he came from the period of six-day work weeks and straight time. 32 years on the job, 32 years retired. Beautiful!

Thanks again from all the Payne family.

Warmest regards,
John and Monica Payne

Dear POA -

Thanks so much for your donation to The Sixth Annual OMI International Family Festival! Such talent as School of the Arts Jazz Band, Phantom City Band, Korean Martial Arts, and Spirit of Polynesia were some of the acts that made our festival such a success!

We had over 1500 people attend this years' festival and couldn't do it without your support!

Thanks again and we hope you can participate again next year!

Sincerely,
Maria Fe Picar
OMI Cultural Participation Project

Dear Mr. Halloran and P.O.A. Membership--

I feel so blessed and I am very proud to be the recipient of the \$500 scholarship from the Police Officers Association.

My parents, Sam and Angela Martin - both P.O.A. members -- have also been smiling proudly since the announcement arrived at our home. The bursar at my new school, Texas Southern University, has posted the scholarship to my account. So, I can guarantee you, that even as I write to you, the money is being put to good use.

I am very grateful to the Scholarship Committee and to the membership of an organization that has supported my parents throughout the years. That same organization is now helping me to make my dream of a college education come true.

I thank you with all my heart.

Sincerely,
Sarah Alycee Martin

Dear Mr. Delagnes -

Someone recently sent me the clip of you addressing the media regarding the death of Officer Nick Birco.

I wish more people had the balls to stand up and tell it like it is, as you did that day. Truly our country has gone insane when criminals are the protected and the police are the criminals. It is seen much too often all over this country. I admire you, and hope you do pursue the judges who were responsible for letting a cop killing scumbag like the one who murdered officer Birco wander our streets and put all of us in risk. If our media was not so slanted to the left and we could actually hold the judges accountable for their decisions, we might be able to take our country back. In the meantime we have folks like you with the guts to say it like it is. Thanks for a breath of fresh air.

Tom Hatfield
Smithville, Texas

Dear SFPOA -

Thank you for joining us at the Kick-off Luncheon for the Inaugural San Francisco Bay Area Walk with Us to Cure Lupus walkathon. As you saw, we had a great turnout, and everyone is excited about this year's Walk.

Thank you again for joining us at the Kick-off Luncheon. With your support, I'm certain that we'll reach our \$125,000 goal.

Sincerely,
Joanne Golombos
Walk with Us to Cure Lupus

Dear SFPOA -

On behalf of the San Francisco Police Youth Fishing Program, I would like to thank you your support once again this year. We believe that we have fanned a valuable partnership with the POA as we continue to provide summertime activities for kids from throughout the City. More than 1,000 local youngsters will have had the opportunity to join one of our fishing trips this year. Each of these trips is accompanied by at least one uniformed police officer. In many cases, officers have organized groups from their respective districts, which only furthers our Department's attempts to reach out to the community. This is real "community policing".

Thanks once again for the continued support of our association. In these times of dwindling financial support that many worthwhile organizations are experiencing, we value our association's contributions.

Yours Truly,
Lt. Larry Minasian
Executive Director
San Francisco Police Youth Fishing Program

Dear SF POA -

I wanted to thank you for the scholarship. It is helping me a great deal. Without the scholarship I would not be able to attend Saint Mary's College, so again, thank you, it means a lot to me and my family. I am doing my best to earn BA and contribute in a positive way to the world. I will be forever grateful to you!

Sincerely,
Ariana Pena

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Carol M. Keane, CPA
wife of John Keane,
Narcotics Division, SFPD

Dear Gary –

On behalf of the members of Bayview Station, I would like to thank you for the Police Officers Association's generous donation of \$850. The money will be used to cover the expense of a charcoal portrait and appropriate frame of Officer Nick-Tomasito Birco who was killed in the line of duty on July 26, 2006. The portrait and frame will be similar to the one of Officer Isaac Espinoza that currently hangs in the rotunda of Bayview Station. This donation will make it possible for us to have portraits of both officers on display at Bayview Station.

Sincerely,
Captain Albert Pardini
Bayview Station

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you for awarding me the \$500 through your scholarship program. I am tremendously grateful for this opportunity you have aided me in obtaining. I look forward to using the scholarship to further my education and work towards accomplishing graduation with a degree in Kinesiology.

Thank you again for creating this scholarship and helping others like me pursue this educational goal.

Sincerely,
Ashley Gan

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to win a scholarship. I did receive the scholarship money and some was already used. The money used went towards the Cadet Class in my school, Santa Rosa JC. I am studying to be a police officer, so hopefully I'll be able to work with you in 4 years.

Thank you again,
Carmen Rich

Dear POA –

Thank you for the opportunity to qualify for the scholarships you offered as well as giving me the distinguished honor of receiving such a generous contribution to the betterment of my education.

Thank you,
Kurtis Mori

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you so much for the scholarship of \$500. You have no idea how much your help has been for me. I appreciate the given opportunity. Again, thank you. College is now that much more easier, especially since books won't be a problem!

Sincerely,
Alexis Rich

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you so much for awarding me the generous scholarship towards my education. I appreciate the \$500 sent to Diablo Valley College for me on behalf of the SFPOA.

Thanks again!
Sincerely,
Monica Centurioni

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you for awarding me the scholarship for the amount of \$500. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Ashley Jin

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you so very much for the wonderful gift to OMI. We are all most grateful for your contribution. As OMI prepares for our first graduation class in the spring of 2007, we also face the huge challenge of moving the school to our new home. Your gift will help us transform the site into a usable and attractive environment for our students. Young people truly are affected by their surroundings, and with your gift and others, we hope to create a school facility that will bring the best out in our students.

Our goal at OMI is to help urban youth see themselves as winners, as capable students, as people of positive futures, and as leaders.

Sincerely,
Bruce Holaday, Superintendent
Oakland Military Institute

Dear SFPOA –

Thank you for the donation of \$1,000 to the Oakland Military Institute (OMI).

OMI has been successful in providing cadets with an atmosphere where honor, camaraderie, and patriotism are unquestioned values. I know that with the coming years, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of these cadets.

I deeply appreciate your support.
Best regards,

Jerry Brown, Mayor
City of Oakland

Dear Gary –

On behalf of the Greater Bay Area Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, and the Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf, we want to personally thank you for your generous support of our First Annual Knuckles Historical Sports Bar's Golf Tournament. Despite a little rain, the event was a success as a result of your commitment to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Cordially,
David L. Lewin
General Manager

Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport

Dear San Francisco Police Officers Association –

I am honored to have received third place in your essay contest.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to take part in this contest, and for the \$1,000 scholarship.

I understand that \$1,000 is a large amount of money, so I will make sure I put this scholarship to good use by studying hard and by pushing myself to get the most out of all of my classes. Thank you once again for this very generous scholarship, and I will make sure I make the most of this great opportunity I have been given.

Sincerely,
Doug Finigan

Dear SFPOA –

I am writing to each of you regarding the excellent treatment, care, and support you provided to S.F.P.D. Police Officer Eric Batchelder, Badge 1035, and his family after Eric's tragic on-duty motor vehicle accident in San Francisco, late November 2005.

Eric, who lost his left leg below the knee, recently visited me at my bedside at John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek. There he was, on his new leg and foot, standing tall, strong, confident and "all smiles." He was there with his father, Richard ("Batch") Batchelder, an old friend of mine from Walnut Creek Police Department.

Eric related to me how much help and assistance the San Francisco City family had been to him and his family for the past ten (10) months. Eric and his brother, David, are very proud and pleased to serve together at S.F.P.D.'s finest. They are really "gung ho" for their police careers.

Eric and David's father, Richard (known to all as "Batch") served in the U.S. Navy in the Viet Nam waters during the Viet Nam war. He was a U.S. Navy O.C.S. graduate who served in combat as a gunnery officer on a U.S. Navy cruiser. Returning from war, "Batch" joined the Berkeley Police Department later joining Walnut Creek Police Department where he retired. They are a very close-knit, classy family who reside in Clayton (Contra Costa County).

In retirement, "Batch", an expert, experienced private flyer and flight instructor, now serves as the F.A.A. appointed official (tests pilots) and issues pilot's federal licenses at Buchanan Field in Concord.

At work "Batch" approached every "flame" with water or sand, never throwing gas or fuel on the flame. He was the kind of cool officer and personality who could go to a neighborhood riot, and when back up arrived, all of the people would be dancing and singing with "Batch" leading the tune. (Frankly, we had some officers (all police departments do) who could go to a family beef and by the time "back up" arrived the family fight had spilled out into the neighborhood, then WW II.)

"Batch" took good care of people, especially youngsters. He had a ready sense of humor, reducing tension in

a problem and gave others friendly advice.

I am sure Eric and David show "Batch's" class with the citizens they deal with. Eric's mother, Connie, and younger sister, Maria, fill out the Batchelder family tree.

I share with all of my East Bay Police friends and other citizens "The Batchelder Story." To me, it is so impressive how everyone in the "S.F. family" has responded with such assistance, encouragement, love and respect to the Batchelders as they survive this ordeal.

Big City leaders are always or appear to be so "under the gun," their "plate is always over-filled." I commend you for your class and focus. God Bless you!

You're all well aware. I'm sure, that those of us who grew up, were educated, resided, and worked in the smaller communities of the East Bay, cannot always appreciate or understand "The City."

There always appears to be much confusion, many turf battles, too much politics (a Big Mess) in the shadow of the greatness and beauty of "The City." The newspaper and the News Media (I am sure) add to "blowing out" the problem.

I also realize that being a small town and small police department guy, I lack the reality of the big city experience. In fact, each time I drive over the Golden Gate (south), I am always overcome by the beauty of the bridge and the view of the city skyline. No place could be more beautiful. I personally know several San Francisco Police Officers I consider them each to be bright, professional and effective cops. I could very easily work with any of them, anytime, anywhere. I consider Chief Heather Fong to be a personal friend. I befriended my fellow Irishman, the late great Chief Tom Cahill. I have met Fire Chief Hayes-White who is also very impressive.

I am sure that Eric and David will serve long and productive careers at S.F.P.D. and bring honor, providing a high level of service to the community.

Again, I am happy to report to all that "S.F." takes good care of its own. That is class! Thank you for all of your kindness to my friends.

Very best wishes,
John Newton Cashman
Lieutenant (Retired) P-10 (1955-1986)
Walnut Creek Police Department

P.S. Sorry that I wrote you such a long letter, but as our great (the greatest) 19th Century humorist Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) once wrote in a long letter to a friend "I am writing you a long letter, because I don't have time to write you a short one." He also said, "the coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco." Ain't he great!

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Nude Shots Of Police Chief's 300-Pound Wife Lead To His Resignation, Resignations Of Mayor And City Council Member

From The Associated Press, September 9

SNYDER, OK The police chief, the mayor and a councilman in this small town resigned Friday amid an uproar over nude photos of the chief's 300-pound, tattooed wife that she posted on a Web site.

Dozens of residents of the town of 1,500 had demanded Police Chief Tod Ozmun resign, and the district attorney recommended an obscenity investigation, but the City Council decided last week that the pictures were protected by the First Amendment.

On Friday, Ozmun, Mayor Dale Moore and Councilman Clifford Barnard said they were stepping down because they were fed up with the public attention and criticism of the chief. Another council member resigned earlier over the council's support of Ozmun.

"This has turned into a media circus," Ozmun said. "I don't feel like me staying in office is going to benefit my department or my staff. This has turned into a mess. This is ridiculous. Absolutely ridiculous."

"My wife is 6-foot-3 and weighs 300 pounds," said Ozmun, who became chief in January 2005. "If there is somebody that thinks they can control her, have at it."

Ozmun's 43-year-old wife, Doris, told The Oklahoman newspaper that she was removing the photos from the Internet, and they appeared to have

been taken down Friday. "You know what I call this? I call this a witch hunt," she said.

Some of the pictures show her with an American flag draped off her shoulder.

"They have no morals as far as I'm concerned," said Shirley Anderson, who served as mayor in the 1990s and whose husband was mayor before that. "You should have respectable people in office. They need to go somewhere else where this is accepted."

Cristen Edgar, a 16-year-old high school student, said: "I don't think it's right for him to be the chief of police and for his wife to be doing what she's doing."

The police chief defended his wife, saying, "People in this country do what she does on a daily basis."

He said he has had long discussions with his wife about the photos but does not tell her what to do.

"My wife is 6-foot-3 and weighs 300 pounds," said Ozmun, who became chief in January 2005. "If there is somebody that thinks they can control her, have at it. I have tried for 11 years and haven't been able to."

In a statement, Barnard said he didn't want to be associated with the police chief's detractors, "because I've never read anywhere in the Good Book that the Lord wanted us to persecute those that did not hold the same morals or values."

The mayor told The Oklahoman that he believes the way Ozmun has been treated is wrong, and "I don't want to work in a community like this."

District Attorney John Wampler has asked the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to look into the matter.

"In my opinion, the photos that I was shown are obscene based on local community standards," he said. "Whether a court would agree may be a different matter."

California City Raises Pay, Benefits, Sees More Police Recruits And Laterals As A Result

From The Record, September 1

TRACY, CA – The phrase "If you build it, they will come" is often used in sports or entertainment circles.

But the Tracy Police Department has begun to benefit from the Hollywood cliché as well.

By boosting pay and benefits for entry-level and experienced officers, the department has seen an increase in interest from law enforcement personnel throughout the Central Valley, Police Chief David Krauss said.

The chief said that six police trainees and more than 40 officers seeking lateral transfers from other agencies were interviewed last week for 11 staff openings. The backgrounds of six experienced officers will be checked this week, Krauss said, and hiring could be completed in a month to six weeks, he said. "There really has been an unprecedented level of interest that coincides with the new benefits and salary package starting this fiscal year," Krauss said. "It represents a significant spike in people pursuing law enforcement here in Tracy. And that's excellent, because it comes at a time when we need to grow."

Tracy City Council members recently approved a new five-year contract with the Tracy Police Officers Association that includes 26 percent increases in salaries during the term. According to the city's Web site, experienced officers currently earn from \$53,905 to \$65,522 per year. By the end of the contract period in 2011, officers will earn approximately \$15,000 more per year.

In January, the city approved a benefits package that includes a "3 percent at 50" retirement allowance. Tracy officers with at least 10 years of experience in statewide law enforcement will be eligible to retire at age 50. Monthly benefits will be a percentage of an officer's final salary calculated at three times the number of years worked. Upon retirement, officers may earn up to 90 percent of their last wage - a maximum of 30 years at 3 percent per year.

Also in January, the council approved the hiring of 11 new officers.

"We know that it takes a year from the time the City Council gives the go-ahead before someone will be on the street," Krauss said.

Tracy's new pay and benefits structure is highly competitive in the Cen-

tral Valley, Krauss said. According to various city Web sites, Tracy's police officer salary schedule is higher than Modesto, Sacramento, Stockton and Lodi and nearly equivalent to Merced. Manteca, Elk Grove and Fresno pay slightly more than Tracy.

In January, Krauss was given authority to hire 11 new officers, including five officers whose main responsibilities would be to cover vacations, work-related medical leaves and other absences that prevent cops from being on patrol. The process is known as "overhire" and will help keep the department fully staffed, so officers can spend as much as 25 percent of their time on community policing. Currently, Tracy officers spend only 5 percent of staff time getting to know community members, according to Krauss.

Pay increases may give Tracy a jump on many Central Valley agencies, but the department still does not pay as much as those in most Bay Area cities because of housing cost differentials, Krauss said. For instance, Hayward pays from \$70,000 to \$84,000 per year for officers, while South San Francisco pays from \$65,000 to \$86,000 per year.

However, one Bay Area-based police officer, who lives in San Joaquin County, said if pay were better, he'd seriously consider joining a local force and ending his thrice-weekly commute. The officer asked that he not be identified because of the nature of his position.

Marc Bergman, president of the Tracy Police Officers Association, said it will be nice to have a full staff for the first time in many years.

"We're extremely excited about anything that helps bring up the numbers," Bergman said of the new contract. "We knew the city would have to do something, and we are certainly glad they did. It shows a commitment to make this an attractive place to work."

Police officers and city personnel point to a 2005 study by the consulting firm Kirchhoff & Associates that highlighted several ways to improve the Police Department as the impetus for improving wages and benefits. Tracy can afford the higher salaries because of a \$20 million reserve in its general fund. One officer costs the city from \$100,000 to \$120,000 in salary and benefits per year.

Wisconsin Sheriff's Candidate Changes Name To Andy Griffith

From The Chicago Sun-Times, October 19

PLATTEVILLE, WI – A local music store co-owner is putting a touch of Mayberry in the race for sheriff in western Wisconsin's Grant County.

The former William Fenrick changed his name earlier this year to Andy Griffith -- the name of the actor who portrayed the fictional Sheriff Andy Taylor of Mayberry on TV's "The Andy Griffith Show" in the 1960s.

He said his goal was to focus attention to a sheriff's race that otherwise gets little.

"Nobody knows who's running or what the issues are, if there are any issues or how the people differ," Griffith said.

He's running as an independent in the Nov. 7 election against incumbent Sheriff Keith Govier, a Republican who's held the job for 10 years, and Democrat Doug Vesperman, who's worked in the sheriff's department 16 years.

Griffith, 42, said he's worked in the past in private security and knows how to set priorities and make the best use of a limited budget and manpower.

Part of his motivation, he said, came when drug officers acting on an anonymous tip launched a drug raid in Dodgeville last May but went to the wrong address, then picked up some young people in the apartment next door for having marijuana.

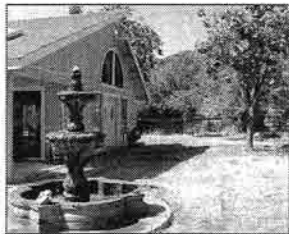
"That's bad priorities, I think," he said.



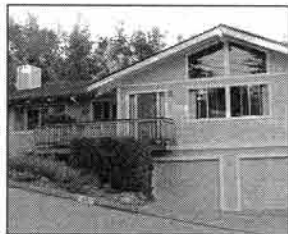
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What You Should Not Know About a Roth IRA

By Lou Barberini

Officer Jones and Officer Smith are sitting in a bar (I mean the library), comparing their retirement accounts. Jones brags, "My deferred compensation plan has grown to \$300,000." Smith, hoisting his beer (I mean book), counters, "I have \$200,000 in my Roth IRA. But, believe it or not, it's worth more than your deferred comp." Is this Austin Powers' math? "Why take \$300,000 when you can have \$200,000?"

What is a Roth IRA? A Roth IRA is like an IRS-approved Swiss bank account. Any contributions you make to a Roth IRA, become permanently invisible to the IRS. Dividends, interest, stock and mutual fund transactions, and money you withdraw when you retire are permanently sheltered from income tax. The Roth IRA decision is not an investment decision, it is a tax decision.

Member Commentary

Here is an example: Suppose thirty year-old, Officer Rookie, contemplates investing \$4,000 annually into either a Roth IRA or our deferred compensation plan. In either plan, he will invest in the same XYZ Fund, which generates a return of 8% per year. When Officer Rookie retires in 30 years, would deferred compensation or a Roth IRA have generated the greater lump sum payment? The Roth IRA would provide Officer Rookie with a lump sum payment of \$471,000, while the same investment in our deferred compensation plan would only spill out, a much smaller, \$306,000. The difference is clear: A first class cruise for two, every year for the rest of your life. How about a down payment for your kid's first house?

You might ask yourself, if the Roth IRA's permanent tax-free compounding works so well, why do the ING and POA representatives not promote the Roth IRA with the same zeal as deferred comp? Does ING even offer a Roth IRA? Yes, ING does offer a Roth IRA. The most ironic aspect of the above hypothetical isn't the 53% superior return from the Roth IRA, the irony is that the calculation was obtained from ING's own website (www.ingretirementplans.com). The reason why the Roth IRA is not enthusiastically marketed in our *Journal* is that it is portable- you would be able to transfer it out of ING at any time. With a Roth IRA, you are a free agent. You can transfer a Roth IRA at any financial institution: Fidelity, Schwab, E Trade, T. Rowe Price, Vanguard, San Francisco Police Credit Union, Wells Fargo, etc. With deferred comp, you are stuck with a seat in the captive audience to ING's monopoly- your account is locked into ING until you depart SFPD. From an ING perspective, the revenue generated from your trapped, deferred compensation plan, trumps making a recommendation to Officer Rookie that might allow him to enjoy a better retirement.

The Roth IRA has been in existence since 1998 and was designed specifically to provide retirement benefits to the middle class- like police officers. If you are single, and make over \$99,000 or you are married and making more than \$156,000, you are not eligible for the full benefits of a Roth IRA.

The Roth format is the future. Congress is already experimenting with Roth 401k's. Why the push towards the Roth format? The old IRA's, 401k's, and deferred compensation plans were created with the "carrot" of tax-deduction-incentives for making a contribution. It was Congress's premise that you would later withdraw from your account in retirement when you were poorer and essentially in a lower tax bracket. Everyone is starting to recognize however, that with our swelling federal deficit and looming social security burden, there exists a gigantic pressure for taxes to rise. Increased from; what are currently, the lowest tax rates in our nation's history. Will Congress be able to defy the gravitational ascent of tax rates? Do you really expect to be in a lower tax bracket when you make retirement withdrawals from deferred comp? An easy answer for city employees: Unlike the private sector, our retirement pay is guaranteed and predictable. In retirement, either your tax rate will be static or climb. It is almost impossible, that when you retire, your tax bracket will be lower. Because there are no income tax consequences to a Roth IRA, rising tax rates won't penalize you.

It is unfortunate that the Roth IRA was created for, and may be the best financial solution, for half our union members. Yet, the subject matter in our *Journal* seems to singularly focus on the commissioned-based- deferred comp. I guess if we hosted a nutrition seminar for our members, we shouldn't expect representatives from *Krispy Krème Doughnuts* or *Budweiser* to spend much time discussing fruits and vegetables. But it is the free promotion of subjective, financial advice in our *Journal* that should concern us. Would it not be a shame, if even one officer is denied an extra \$165,000 in Roth retirement funds because he was blinded by our deferred comp promotion? This article was not written to cause conflict with our union, but to challenge our columnists to present unbiased financial solutions and to reiterate the need for our union to demand an investigation into the improprieties charged against ING by New York and New Hampshire. Our union member's assets should never take a backseat to an outsider's interests.

Back to the bar. Smith's \$200,000 Roth IRA is worth more because the entire \$200,000 may distributed without tax. Jones' \$300,000 deferred compensation will be subject to income tax- perhaps at a higher tax rate than when he got the deduction for putting the funds in. Seek independent advice to determine if a Roth IRA is a better solution for you!!!

In my illustration, I used the same combined fed and Calif. 35% tax bracket through the entire person's life. Even if your tax bracket dropped 10% points in retirement, per ING's website, a Roth IRA would still generate \$100,000 more to you in retirement. A Roth IRA has an annual limit of \$4,000 (\$5,000 if you are over 50). Unlike an old style IRA, there is no age limit on when you can contribute to a Roth IRA. You can contribute to both a Roth IRA and deferred compensation in the same year. You should consult with a tax professional for advice and to run comparisons of each alternative.

"Kids & Cops" Reading Program Returns to North Beach Place

SAFE's Community Policing Program that builds relationships between the kids and the cops!

The "Kids & Cops" Reading Program invites police officers to read with 20 children, ages 5 to 9, on a weekly basis, for ten weeks, in different communities in San Francisco. Formerly called "Cops Read to Kids," the program will return to North Beach Place in the Central Police District on Tuesday, November 7, 2006. Readings focus on community building, crime and violence prevention, emergency preparedness and child safety. Each week has a different reading topic, which is followed by a hands-on activity for the kids in order to maximize their learning experience. Our goals of the program are to increase the kids' desire to read, teach them about crime prevention and public safety, and improve their relationships with the police. In the Central Police District, the "Kids & Cops" program will be implemented at North Beach Place, and SAFE is looking for another location to host the program in the Southern District. Our goal is that 100% of the children will report an increased knowledge of safety, a better understanding of the role of police, and will report a higher likelihood of a personal relationship with the police. At least 50% will also report an increase in their ability to want to read. We expect the program to run from November 2006 through January 2007.

By providing an after-school reading program that focuses on safety and crime prevention, the youth are more able to learn about how to prevent crime, and how to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. In this setting, the police are seen as positive

role models, and can show the kids that being a police officer or leader in their community is a possibility.

The "Kids & Cops" program was made possible by grants from Target and the San Francisco Police

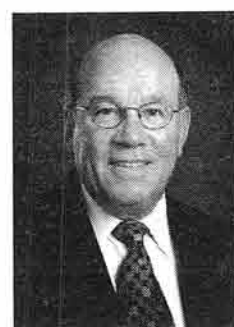
Officers Association. SAFE is also thankful for the time and support provided by the SFPD, Captain James Dudley and the officers at Central Station.

Volunteers are encouraged! If you would to help build relationships between the kids and the cops through reading and hands-on activities, contact Oona Gilles-Weil at (415) 553-1052 or oonas@sfsafe.org.

SAFE is hosting a Sports Memorabilia Sale & Fundraiser - Just in time for the Holidays!

Need a perfect gift for the ultimate sports fan for the Holidays???

SAVE the Dates!!! On Tuesday, December 12th and Wednesday, December 13th, SAFE will be hosting a Sports Memorabilia Sale from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the SAFE Office located in the Hall of Justice, Room 135. There will be many items available for all types of sports: baseball, football, tennis, golf and cycling - from signed pictures to other memorable items - featuring Barry Bonds, Joe Montana, Lance Armstrong, Tiger Woods, and more! All proceeds will benefit SAFE in our efforts to continue crime prevention education and public safety services citywide. For more information, call the SAFE Office at (415) 553-1984.



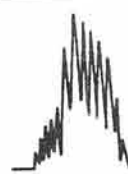
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An Examination Of Police Officer Mental Chronometry: "I Swear...I Don't Know How I Shot Him In The Back"

By Jeffrey B. Bumgarner,
Ph.D. Texas Christian University
William J. Lewinski,
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William Hudson,
Ph.D. Minnesota State University
Sgt. Craig Sapp
Tempe Police Department

Submitted to the Journal
by Mike Nevin, Southern Station

Every year, dozens of suspicious deadly force encounters involving police officers who have shot suspects pit the reputation of well-regarded and highly trained officers against physical evidence which suggests the officers acted maliciously. In particular, suspects are sometimes found to have been shot in the side or back despite the protestations from the firing officers that they had perceived frontal threats from the suspects. While officer malice is one possible (and sometimes probable) explanation for such shooting incidents, other explanations may also exist. This article reports the findings of a 4-experiment study involving 102 police officers in a major police department in the Southwestern United States. The results of the study demonstrate that many variables go into an officer's ability to react to stimuli in a timely manner and that even in laboratory conditions, there is ample time for the threat picture to change before an officer can either turn on, or turn off, a decision to react by firing a weapon.

Background

There has been considerable attention in criminal justice and criminological scholarly and professional literature on the use of force, including deadly force, by police officers. Commonly, the literature has focused on officer misconduct and outright unlawfulness. Indeed, many criminal justice studies exist which examine the reasons behind violence committed by police officers against citizens.

In the landmark case of *Graham v. Connor* (1989), the U.S. Supreme Court declared that the use-of-force by police officers must be objectively reasonable under the 4th Amendment. For many contemporary observers and critics of the police who occupy seats in community organizations and academia, it is difficult for them to find examples of police use-of-force that meet the standard of objective reasonableness; for some, there is an apparent reflex to find the police at fault in almost any circumstance. They apply a standard of what is objectively reasonable to them (the critics) with the benefits of hindsight, unlimited contemplation, and complete information. They do so in spite of the Supreme Court's admonition in *Graham v. Connor* to determine the objective reasonableness of use-of-force encounters by looking through the eyes of a reasonable police officer in the same circumstances and timeframe as existed when the use-of-force took place.

Instead, the standard often applied to law enforcement use-of-force action is to presume impropriety and excessiveness unless the evidence clearly demonstrates otherwise. Consequently, when the physical evidence at first glance appears to contradict the account given by the "offending" police officer, there is almost never an extension of benefit of the doubt to

such officers. Nor is there an assumption that a rational explanation which supports the officer's account might exist and is awaiting discovery.

The Sources of Police Violence

The various academic studies on police violence seem almost universally unaware of alternative explanations for violent acts committed by police officers. The studies tend to approach the broad issue of police violence as always a matter of misconduct and usually a matter of criminality. Some suggest that the para-military structure and culture of modern police agencies contribute to violence perpetrated by police against elements of the citizenry (1-3). They would argue that police agencies must be flexible and adaptive to the changing conditions in the communities they serve and to changing societal norms (4).

A related claim is that police violence can be curtailed through organizational pro-activity via human resource management and policy enforcement (5-7). Smith (8) on the other hand found that personnel and policy variables were poor predictors of police killings. Instead, levels of community violence and community racial composition were positively related to deadly force encounters (8, 9).

Other researchers have claimed that tendencies to use violence to bring about order are inherent in many individuals drawn to police work (10-12). Still another explanation relates generally to the training of police officers. James Fyfe (13) noted that police officers who are properly trained to diffuse potentially volatile situations exert considerably less force than officers without such training.

Many criminal justice scholars are sufficiently concerned about the phenomenon of police violence that they have called for added layers of review. Alpert and Smith (14) suggested that all force encounters between police and citizens should be routinely subject to supervisor review. The supervisor would be obligated to consider the input of not only the officer(s), but also the suspect(s) and any other witnesses. Further, they recommend that panels of "experts" also be regularly convened to determine the appropriateness of any police encounters involving force.

Indeed, scholarly criminal justice literature is saturated with many plausible explanations for police violence, along with many useful (and some not so useful) recommendations to curb it. These explanations and recommendations come from many directions, but virtually all rely on the basic premise that law enforcement needs to fix itself. In other words, the tone and tenor of the explanations and recommendations from academe is that police violence is an avoidable tragedy that can be significantly reduced if police organizations and individual officers would get their acts together.

Although it is true that sociological and organizational variables, including the background and personalities of the officers, the biases of the officers, structural impediments to change, the presence or lacking of viable use-of-force policies, and many other factors may play a role in incidents of police violence, an alternative explanation for some questionable deadly force encounters does exist. The explanation is simply this: many

incidents involving the apparent misuse of force by police officers can be explained by the realities of human psychological and physiological limitations. The nature of any inherent human limitation manifested in the real world is that it must be understood and accounted for because it cannot easily be overcome.

The Science of Human Reaction

The scientific study of how quickly the human mind and body can and do react to stimuli (known as mental chronometry) goes back at least to the middle part of the 19th Century. For example, in 1865 Donders conducted experiments involving a mild electric shock to the right or left foot of his subjects. The subjects would then press a telegraph key with their right or left hands to indicate which foot had received the shock. This experiment involved subjects who knew in advance which foot would be shocked, along with subjects who did not. Donders found a slight difference in response times between the two sets of subjects—approximately 1/15 of a second (15).

Donders also conducted experiments measuring the differences in time between responses to a single stimulus (simple reaction time) and responses involving a choice among multiple stimuli (choice reaction time). Donders postulated that if you subtracted the simple reaction time from the choice reaction time, you would have a measure of the mental process of choice itself (16).

Another pioneer in mental chronometry was Merkel. Merkel's studies on choice reaction time demonstrated that as the number of choices increased, reaction time increased as well (1885). This principle was advanced further by Hick (17) who found that reaction times not only increased when subjects were faced with choices, but that they increased linearly. This has come to be known in kinesiology as "Hick's Law." This axiom states that there is a stable relationship existing between the number of stimulus-response alternatives and reaction time. As the number of stimuli-response alternatives increase, reaction time also increases in a linear fashion (18).

Indeed, from the mid-19th Century until the mid-20th Century, the disciplines of psychology and physiology were dominated by studies and experiments that related to the capacity of human beings to react and perform in the face of stimuli requiring a response. Yet, despite the obvious applicability of such studies to law enforcement use-of-force encounters, relatively few within the circles of criminal justice, criminology, and public policy have bothered to consider the role of human performance capacity generally, and mental chronometry specifically, in the context of police use-of-force and deadly force incidents which are deemed questionable in hindsight.

Smith (19) conducted a study to collect baseline information on officer reaction times with duty handguns. In his study involving over 1,400 officers, he found that it took an average of 0.73 seconds for police officers to react to a visual stimulus by raising their already drawn pistols from a ready position (arms partially extended with firearm above waist level but below eye level) to a firing position and then firing one shot. Further, it took officers an

average of 1.82 seconds to draw their weapons from their holster, bring it to eye level, and fire one shot. It took an average of 2.84 seconds for officers to draw and fire two rounds at a target from 7 yards away.

Tobin and Fackler (20) conducted a study which measured the reaction times of officers in firing drawn sidearms (but with finger outside of trigger guard as per the standard police practice) in response to stimuli, and compared those measurements with the time it takes the person to turn their torsos away (90 and 180 degrees) from officers after posing a threat. They found that it takes officers twice as long to fire their weapons when their trigger finger is outside the trigger guard (0.677 seconds) as compared to having their fingers on the trigger at the time of the stimulus (0.365 seconds). Further, they found that the average individual can turn his or her torso 90 degrees in 0.31 seconds and 180 degrees in 0.676 seconds. In other words, in the time it took an officer with a drawn firearm to fire his or her weapon at a threat, the suspect could already have turned 180 degrees away from the officer at the moment of discharge.

The findings by Tobin and Fackler have been replicated and affirmed in other studies (21-23). In fact, Lewinski (22) demonstrated that suspects can fire weapons at officers, turn and be well into their flight from the officers before the police can react and return fire. A corollary to the plain implications of the time measurements is the difficulty an officer (or any human being) has in "turning off" a reactionary decision made in the moment. In a shooting situation, once an officer decides to shoot at a suspect in response to some threatening stimulus, it is nearly impossible to abort that decision (21-22, 24-25). In fact in over 600 examined cases of officer shooting decisions during a 7-year period, only one officer was identified who was able to keep himself from firing at a suspect who had already been deemed a threat and the decision to shoot had already been made (21).

Methodology and Results

The present study is a compilation of 4 separate experiments conducted with officers of a large police department in the Southwestern United States. The experiments sought to measure the following:

Experiment # 1: Reaction time to a visual stimulus

Experiment #2: Time it takes to stop pulling the trigger

Experiment #3: Simple decision-making

Experiment #4: The role of anticipation

A total of 102 police officers were utilized in each of the four experiments. The officers' participation in the experiments was voluntary.

Experiment #1: Reaction Time to a Visual Stimulus

Experiment # 1 involved the use of a stimulus board that was placed in front of each participating officer. The stimulus board was a 10"x 10" square and displayed a pattern of clusters of light on the face of it. There were 9 clusters of lights on the square board (3 rows containing 3 clusters each) and each cluster contained 3 LED indicators. While viewing the board, officers

were asked to grip a modified Glock training pistol. The Glock was fitted with an electronic device to capture trigger-pull data and record it in a computer. Officers were instructed to observe the light clusters in the upper left quadrant of the stimulus board. They were told to pull the trigger once, as quickly as possible, when a particular green light was illuminated.

The average trigger pull reaction for the 102 participating officers, upon viewing the green light, was 0.31 seconds. Broken down further, it took an average of 0.25 seconds to mentally process that the light was on and decide to pull the trigger; it took 0.06 seconds mechanically pull the trigger.

Experiment #2: The Time it takes to Stop Pulling the Trigger

Officers in this phase of the study were instructed that the researcher was measuring the officer's ability to pull the trigger rapidly. The officer was asked to repeatedly pull the trigger as quickly as possible when the light on the stimulus board came on. However, they were also instructed to stop pulling the trigger immediately upon the light going off. In fact, they were misinformed that any extra trigger pulls after the light stopped illuminating would count against their overall score. As such, this experiment modestly added the elements of on-going attention and motivation.

On average, participating officers stopped pulling the trigger within 0.35 seconds from when the light went off. Approximately 68% of the officers (one standard deviation) fell within the range of 0.1 a and 0.60 seconds to cease pulling the trigger. Many officers did pull the trigger more than once after the light went off. In one example, an officer pulled the trigger three times during the illumination of the light, began a fourth trigger pull as the light went out, and complete. This officer, reacting within a range that is comprised of 68% of the participants, still had two "unjustified" trigger pulls.

Experiment #3: Simple Decision-Making

Through this experiment, an attempt was made to understand the impact of simple decision-making and visual complexity on reaction time. This experiment was an extension of Experiment # 1 in that this experiment added confounding elements to the simple determination of whether a light was illuminated (as was the case in Experiment # 1). The element of a "go/no go" decision requirement was one such addition.

In Experiment #1, the illumination of the green light in the upper left corner (the only light to be illuminated) was all one needed to pull the trigger. In Experiment #3, officers were instructed that cluster of lights may be illuminated anywhere on the top line of the board. Further, they were only to pull the trigger when all three lights in a cluster were illuminated. They were not to pull the trigger if only two lights of a cluster came on.

The requirement of go/no-go decision-making in this experiment essentially doubled the reaction times found observed in Experiment # 1. This is consistent with other reaction time literature. The average for the 102 participating officers to identify the illumination of 3-light clusters, react to it, and actually pull the trigger was 0.56 seconds. If you back out the 0.06 seconds to mechanically pull the trigger, then the average time to perceive

the light cluster, mentally process it, and decide to pull the trigger was 0.50 seconds (as compared to 0.25 seconds in Experiment # 1).

The range of reaction times (not counting the actual trigger pull) was 0.44 seconds to 0.69 seconds within

Table 1: Average Reaction Times Across the Four Experiments	
Movement	Average Time Needed
Pull trigger after a visual stimulus	0.31 seconds
Stop pulling the trigger	0.35 seconds
Go/no-go decision to pull trigger	0.56 seconds
Pull trigger after anticipation	0.46 seconds

one standard deviation (68% of the officers). The 25% variability with one standard deviation can be explained in part by individual reaction and processing ability, varying capacity to concentrate, anxiety, and other factors. It is worth noting that these same variables exist amongst the same officers in the real world. An obvious implication is that average, comparable officers do not necessarily bring the same baggage or ability to a shooting incident; different officers may bring about different outcomes to otherwise similar circumstances.

An interesting side note of Experiment #3 relates to the so-called "Oops Factor." Of all trigger pulls, 9% occurred when the cluster pattern did not warrant them. Further, 4% of the 3 light cluster illuminations resulted in no trigger pull when there should have been one. While the error rates here are not unfamiliar or even alarming within the context of laboratory experiments, the outside world (including prosecutors, community leaders, academicians, and victims of accidental shootings) are less forgiving of honest errors made in the field.

Experiment #4: The Role of Anticipation

The final experiment of the study measured the influence of anticipation on reaction times. In this experiment, the participants were presented with a variety of lights on the stimulus board. All of the lights illuminated at irregular intervals. The lights, which were yellow, red, and green, would go on and off. Eventually, a pattern of green lights would begin to appear. When the pattern of green lights was complete, the participant was expected to pull the trigger. If the pattern never became complete, then no trigger was warranted and the participant was to wait for the next completed pattern.

Like Experiment #3, this phase of the study required officers to make a "go/no-go" decision. Further, Experiment #4 included greater visual complexity than any of the other three experiments. However, the anticipation of the perceived "threat" in the form of an increasingly complete green light pattern was an entirely new dimension embedded in the officers' reactions.

Interestingly, the addition of an ability (or liability) to anticipate the threat caused the reaction times of participants to drop from 0.56 seconds to 0.46 seconds. Further, anticipation was apparently responsible for reducing the failure to pull the trigger when justified to practically zero. Perhaps somewhat surprising, the element of anticipation also appears to have reduced unwarranted trigger pulls. While some observers might have expected that anticipation would cause officers to 'jump the gun,' in fact, just the opposite occurred. The unwarranted trigger pull rate dropped from 9% in Experiment #3 to 5% in Experiment #4. Quite possibly, the greater level of

concentration devoted to the forming pattern of green lights made it more keenly evident to participants when the pattern failed to ultimately materialize, thereby reducing the number of improper trigger pulls.

The table below summarizes the

reaction times measured in the four experiments.

Discussion

While all four experiments in this study were conducted under laboratory conditions, the implications for police officers on the streets are fairly evident. It does not take a significant degree of imagination to see how variability in officer reaction times under different conditions, as measured by the consummation of trigger pulls, is relevant for assessing police shootings in the field.

As noted earlier, a number of studies have shown that armed suspects can fire upon police officers and begin to run away before the officers can physiologically react and return fire (20,21-23). The 4-part study presented here provides additional empirical evidence concerning the limited capacity of police officers, or any other human beings, to react. Stated simply, reaction takes time; further, reaction is difficult to turn off. "Stopping" is a reaction to a change in stimulus. Like any other reaction, "stopping" is never instantaneous.

While some elements in the community and academe will forever remain skeptical of officers who are involved in a shootings, police investigators and prosecutors should give careful consideration to the findings of this study and others related to it. If an officer with an otherwise exemplary record is involved in a shooting incident, and, despite the officer's insistence that a threat was perceived, the suspect was shot in the side or back, investigators and prosecutors may want to consider that something other than an execution or attempted execution took place.

In fact, the physical and psychological limitations of the human condition do not apply only to law enforcement officers. Detectives called to the scene of a "routine" shooting incident between two civilians may wish to not-so-readily dismiss the claim of the suspect that the victim had posed a threat, despite entry bullet wounds in the victim's back. Obviously, consideration of reaction time doesn't explain all shootings. Common sense, eye-witness testimony, and physical evidence tend to close the cases. But in those instances when common sense suggests the suspect's innocence while the victim's wounds suggest the suspect's guilt, innocence may still be an option.

There are also implications in this study for academe. In particular, more scholarly research should be done on past and potential use-of-force encounters which are suspicious in nature to determine what role human capacity-and especially mental chronometry-play in these incidents. Once again, reaction times do not explain all use-of-force encounters. Further, the existence of some unlawful use-of-force in the law enforcement

community, past and present, is well documented and must be confronted and condemned. However, use-of-force decisions and outcomes which appear unjustified but are actually manifestations of limited human capacity are not unlawful (although they may be mistakes and they may be tragic). Through additional studies, the academic community can not only educate itself in this area, but serve as a genuine partner with law enforcement to develop realistic and useful training and policies that will minimize, where possible, tragic use-of-force and deadly force encounters while still promoting the safety of the officers.

Police officers cannot be expected to defy biological and physical laws as they perform their duties. To require perfect comprehension and instantaneous, flawless reaction of police officers in the field is to require the impossible. And to send officers to prison when they fail to do the impossible is a most grievous injustice. Only through deference to scientific research which uncovers the true capacity (or incapacity as the case may be) of police officers to react to threatening stimuli may we begin to understand how at least some of the deadly force encounters play out between law enforcement and suspects. Certainly it is our obligation as constituents of the criminal justice system to follow truth wherever the science takes us.

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Sports



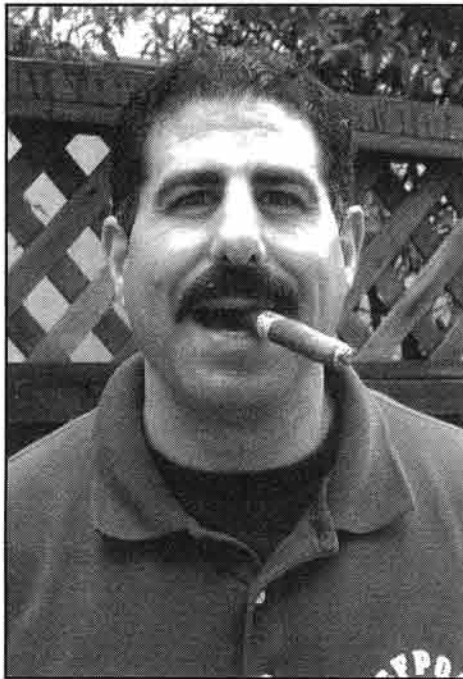
Nick's NOTES

by Nick Shihadeh,
SFPOA Sports Editor

Fleet Week Softball

CHECK IT OUT: With Fleet Week taking place back in October, I along with Navy representatives **Dwayne Oslund** (Alameda), **Linda Diers** (Alameda) and **Lt. Trinidad Magdalano** (San Jose) set-up the annual softball event against the Navy. It was a mini-tournament that involved ball players from the USS Nimitz, an SF Fire Department all star team, and the SFPD all star team that I manage.

The first game pitted us against the Nimitz and we were able to defeat them by a score of 25-12. The SFPD then played against the Nimitz and that game was also a one sided affair in favor of Fire. What was supposed to be the big match-up of the day (us vs Fire) turned out to be a route once again in favor of Fire. The score was so lopsided that I won't even mention it, but it was a good day just the same with a barbecue celebration after the tournament provided by the POA and the Fire Union. Also, it was a great way to rekindle the positive relationship between the SFPD and the Navy.



I want to also mention our team and thank them for participating: **Ortega** (Mission), **Rochlin** (Northern), **Buhagiar** (Southern), **Fung** (Northern), **Do** (GTF), **Collins** (Mission), **Ferrando** (Central), **Ramos** (Southern), **Worrell** (Central), **Latus** (Marine Unit), and **Hara** (TAC).

Fleet Week Basketball

A basketball game was arranged against the Nimitz as well with a game involving an SFPD all star team actually being played on the aircraft carrier on Mon. Oct. 9th. This was planned

by b-ball commish **Al Honniball** (Burglary) along **Jeff Roth** (Northern), and in this affair the ball players from the Nimitz were able to win one. For more details, take a look at an article and pic in this same sports page by Honniball.

Department Hoops

Speaking about b-ball, the season will have already started this month despite the FBI backing out in the last minute and forcing the schedule to be re-done (you can never count on the Feds). There are ten teams this year in one division with uniforms provided by the league, but; the even better news is that Kezar Pavilion is back in the picture again while St Mary's Gym is on the shelf. Commissioner Honnibal wants to remind team managers to please pay their league fees and to remind the players to not crowd the Park Station parking lot.

Also, I want to mention that Northern Station will have a welcome addition to their team this season, but it's not going to be **Brett "Ogle" Thorpe**. It will be young cop **Tim O'Connor**, who is a hard working lad on the midnight shift. He played high school ball at San Marin in Novato (Class of 2000), and he looks forward to banging the boards with the best of them in his first season in department hoops. I wish him luck as they're a long way from the days of those playoff contending Northern Gnats teams of the 80s.

Hall Of Fame Dinner

By the time this *Journal* reaches you, the POA Sports Hall of Fame Banquet would've probably taken place (Nov.10th). Twenty-two athletes are to be inducted at the dinner taking place at the Italian Athletic Social Club in North Beach. The list of inductees and their impressive sports accomplishments will be included in a feature article with pics included slotted for the December issue of the Journal so try not to miss it.

Articles On Golf

Two articles on recent golf tournaments appear in this same sports section with the first one coming from

Bob Massola of the Airport Bureau. He provided pics and wrote about the 7th Annual SF International Airport Golf Tourney that took place last month at Green Hills Country Club in Millbrae. It's not just for airport cops but also includes civilian employees in and around SFO.

The other article is about the Emerald Society Golf Tournament that took place in late Aug. at Harding Park in The City. Mission Station's **Ed Carew** (current president of SFBAALES) wrote the article about the successful tournament he helps put together along with **Brian Philpott** (new at Tenderloin Station), and the pictures were provided by **Patrick Burke** (Park).

Golf In Afghanistan?

I heard from retired LT. **Jim Speros** who is the Deputy National Police Advisor in Kabul, Afghanistan. He told me that there is a golf course in Kabul that still has an out-of-bounds areas that border Russian land mines. He asks, "Can we pay Chris Daly to come and clear them?" Well, I think he meant to say John Daly but what the heck? Just the same, I imagine Kabul to be a very interesting as well as stressful place to be at this time. Continued good luck over there Jim - stay safe....

More Out Of The Airport Bureau

Last month I wrote about my favorite airport cops **Mike Lynch** and **John "The Astronaut" Glynn** saying that they probably haven't done anything athletically for some time. Well, I might've jumped the gun a little as Lynch was recently seen at the SFO Golf Tournament. Whether he was playing or just volunteering is the question as I know he'd rather be playing tennis than golf and I understand he's not a big fan of tennis either.

As far as Glynn is concerned, I know that he recently took a course through work that was referred to as a "verbal judo" class. Now Glynn can use his mouth as a weapon as his tongue now cuts like a knife. I guess that can be construed as athletic....

That's all for now....So See Ya next month.....



We're moving!

As of November 1, our new location is:
333 Corey Way, South San Francisco, 94080
Phone: (650) PERKINS (737-5467)



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123 S. Van Ness Ave. 66 Page St. 2595 Taylor St.

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A family tradition of four generations



Tour de Cops and International Police Winter Games

By Chris daRoza
Airport Bureau

For all who Snow Ski and/or Snow Board. Canadian Police are hosting an event from January 28th to February 2nd, 2007. These events will be held at Silver Star Mountain, BC. These events include 8 hours of racing and training, dual slalom seed race, giant slalom, super G and a downhill race. Silver Star Mountain is located 20 minutes outside of Vernon, British Columbia, a 5 hour drive from Vancouver. Kelowna

Airport services the Mountain with Limo and shuttle services, therefore there would be no need for a car if you fly into Kelowna Airport. Kelowna Airport is serviced by Horizon Air (Alaska Airlines) or Air Canada.

Also the IPWG will be held at Heavenly Resort at South Lake Tahoe from February 25 to March 3rd, 2007.

If interested you can email Officer Chris daRoza at SFPDSkiTeam@aol.com and he can send you more information

Annual SF International Airport Golf Tournament

By Bob Massola,
Airport Bureau

On October 2, 2005 the 7th Annual San Francisco International Airport Charity Golf Tournament was held at the Green Hills Country Club in Millbrae. Proceeds from this tournament are given to local charities. This year's recipients are The Okizu Foundation for Camp Okizu and The S.F. General Hospital Foundation for the Geriatric Care Unit.

It was a beautiful day at Green Hills with 144 golfers participating in the scramble format golf event. We had two "closest to the pin" contests; Gary Richardson (Morton Foundation) & John Chin (Maita Distributors) winners for the Men and Joni Belknap (United Airlines) winner for the Women. Wes Matsuura (SMSO Detective) won the "longest drive" contest

for the Men and Molly Pengel (SFPD Lieutenant/DV Unit) for the Women. There were no winners for a chance to win a Buick Lucerne automobile for a "hole in one" contest sponsored by Putnam Buick-Pontiac-GMC.

First place team winners were from Matagrano Distributors for low gross score and South S.F. Scavengers for low net score.

Special Thanks to our Gold Sponsors: The Morton Foundation and NECA-IBEW Labor Management Corporative Trust. Our Silver Sponsors: Covenant Aviation Security and Chevron Global Aviation. Our Bronze Sponsors: ING Financial Advisors, Current TV, Klein's Deli and Super 8 Liquor & Food. Big Thanks to all our volunteers.

The day finished off with a nice banquet dinner with raffles and auctions raising funds for the charities.



First Place Low Gross Winners, Matagrano Distributors Team

PHOTOS BY THAO TRAN OF COVENANT AVIATION SECURITY



Timberline Construction Team



A Big Thanks to all our volunteers

Letter to Sports Editor

Dear Fellow Officers,

This year I have taken on the duties of equipment manager for the Antioch East Little League/Softball/Challengers Program. I wasn't sure what the job requirements were, so I asked during an open meeting. I never really got an answer, but I new I was in "trouble" when I was unanimously voted to take this board position.

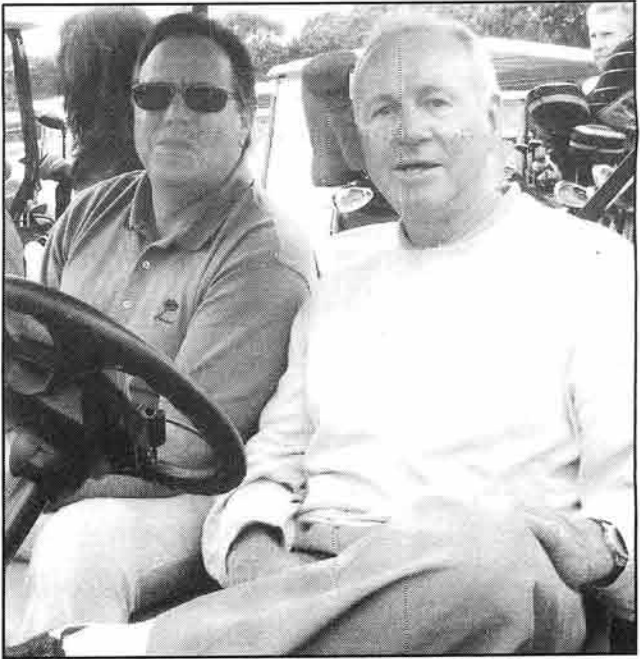
I found out that the league has a small budget set aside for equipment. There is enough in the budget to take care of basic essentials such as, balls and safety equipment. The league owns approximately 20 bats for the kids to use, and I'll tell you, these bats have just as many dents and dings as our patrol cars.

I care about these kids in the program. Many of them don't have their own bats to use, so when I was thinking of how to get some bats and gloves, I thought about you. I am asking for your help.

What I am looking for are gently used (or new) softball/hardball bats, and catchers gloves for both girls and boys, ages 5- 18. Anything you can donate will be greatly appreciated and put to good use. Please bring your donation(s) to the POA office where I will have a bin labeled "Little League."

I thank you in advance for all your support!

Sincerely,
Officer Juan Gala
Taraval Station



Gary Franzella, left, and Jeff Seid, Airport Bureau, wait for the "shot gun" start.

SFPD vs. Nimitz Carrier Fleet Basketball Game

By Alan Honniball
Burglary

On Columbus Day, nine members of our Department along with their families boarded a transport tugboat at Pier 9 and traveled under the Bay Bridge. Our destination was the Aircraft Carrier USS Nimitz, which was berthed in the middle of the bay.

Our primary objective was to play the basketball team of the USS Nimitz carrier fleet. But by the end of the day, all of us felt that we had experienced much more than just a basketball game.

The game was played in the 'Hanger Bay', which extends for most of the ship's length, underneath the flight deck. Alongside the court were several aircraft that were being stored or repaired. Needless to say, these were very different and difficult conditions to play. It's not everyday you get to play basketball on the bay, surrounded by fighter jets.

Our department's team comprised

of Eddie DelCarlo, Jake Fagan, Ricky Guerrero, Brian Schaffer, Rod Tong, Denise Fabri, Eddie Hagen, Mark Williams and myself. The Nimitz team, were twenty young men whose oldest player was 25 years old. Not that we're a bunch of old farts, but they sure made us feel that way as we played them.

The game started off very well as we traded baskets in the opening minutes. Rod Tong and Brian Schaffer were able to use their speed and slashed through their defense to give us the lead through the first 8 minutes.

The Nimitz team quickly pulled away with a 15-2 run. Jake Fagan responded by launching his shots from beyond the arc and rallied our team to a 10-2 run. The first half ended with the Nimitz ahead 42 - 38.

In the second half, the Nimitz went to a man-to-man defense, and shut down Fagan and company. They also hit a couple of three-pointers and slowly pulled away, resulting in a final score of Nimitz 84-SFPD 69.

After the game ended, we were treated to an incredibly personal tour of the USS Nimitz. We met the Captain, Ted Branch, Commanding Officer of the USS Nimitz, along with numerous proud, talented, and dedicated sailors. From the moment we stepped onto the ship, we all felt the aura and intimidating atmosphere of this floating

city. Just to have gone on the tour and getting up close and personal with an F/A-18 Super Hornet was exhilarating enough. But to play basketball on one of the largest and most historic warships in the world was overwhelming and an experience which all of us will never forget.



2006 Max Muscle/ S.F.P.O.A Ironman Competition

Story and photos by Ed Yu
Gang Task Force

This year, the 2006 Max Muscle/SFPOA/Jeff Barker/Isaac Espinoza Ironman competition took place on Wednesday, September 13th at the HOJ police gym. The recent Sergeant exam took the wind out of the sail for many of the competitors of the recent past. Still, there was a good mix of Ironman returnees and newcomers to this competition.

The morning started off with the Bench Press event. In the 100 lbs event, newcomer Anthony Calasanz, Co. I, pumped out an impressive 63 reps. Johnny Burke, Co. H, squeezed out the most reps in this event with 64 reps. The Clydesdale's event of 225 lbs. on the bench press brought out the "Big Boys." Mikial Ali from GTF threw up a most impressive 20 reps on the 225lbs, while Kevin Rightmire, Co. C, silenced the gym with a staggering 24 reps on the 225lbs.

In the pull-up event, Dien Ha, TTF, cranked out the most reps of 45 for the team competition, while 3-time Ironman champ John Burke, Co. H, won this event for the open division with 47 reps. "Old-man" Kevin Dempsey, Co. C, impressed the crowd with 40 reps on the pull-ups to keep his Bayview team in the lead after the first (2) events.

John Burke, Co. H, once again dominated the Sit-Up competition with a mind boggling 200 reps in 3 minutes. Steve Thoma, Co. D, also posted very impressive numbers of 152 reps in the sit-up event.

Our next two events were at the SFPD Range at Lake Merced. In the 50-yard shoot event, the boys from Mission Station put on quite a show. Mat Neves had a score of 875, while Ed

Gaffud posted the best score of the day of 880. Based on SFPD archive Ironman records, the score of 880 and 875 are now ranked #1 and #2 respectively. Insp. Camilleri and Insp. Pelessitti of the Inspectors Bureau held previous record of 860 points. Carrie Lucas also represented Mission station in the Mix-DbI for the shoot. After posting a score of 240, Carrie was noticeably distraught over her score and shooting skill. I had to explain to Carrie that in 1998, an Ironman competitor, who was the commanding officer at Mission Station at the time, posted a score of 35 points on the shoot event. After this discussion along with a couple of chuckles, Carrie was noticeably happier and ready to move on to the next event.

The 4.7 mile run event was the last event of the competition. Denis O'Leary, Co. B, who completed the entire 5 events, finished strong with a time of 33:32 around the lake. Not too shabby for a 47-year-old Captain. The big anticipation before the race was between, McKinney (Co. D), Burke (Co. H) and last year's winner Griffin (GTF). The race was close for the first 2 miles, but with youth on his side, Sean Griffin (GTF) pulled away from the pack and anchored GTF to their 2nd straight Open Team title, with a time of 28:04 around the lake. For the 4th year in a row, John Burke won the men's open title with a total score of 4224 points. The next closest Ironman open competitor was Eric Vintero TTF, with a combined score of 2521. Matt Neves won the over 200 lbs. division with a personal record of 3173 pts. Eric Chiang won the over 40 yrs. 200 lbs. division with a combined score of 1270 pts. The Mix DbI team of Carrie Lucas and Steve Thoma won this division with a combined score of 1761 pts.

A special thanks goes to James Johnson from Max Muscle, who was once again our main sponsor. James provided all competitors with "Cyto-sport" muscle-milk and Creatine nutritional products. Our slick looking T-shirt design was provided by Les Smith of TTF. Thanks, also goes out to "T-shirt fever" for providing us with the T-shirts and "Pollo Supremo" for the catered luncheon. To all future competitors for the 2007 Ironman, "Train hard and most importantly train consistently" throughout the year.



Mission Station (l to r): Ed Garrud, Carrie Lucas, Steve Thoma, Matt McKinney, Matt Neves and Carlos Manfredi



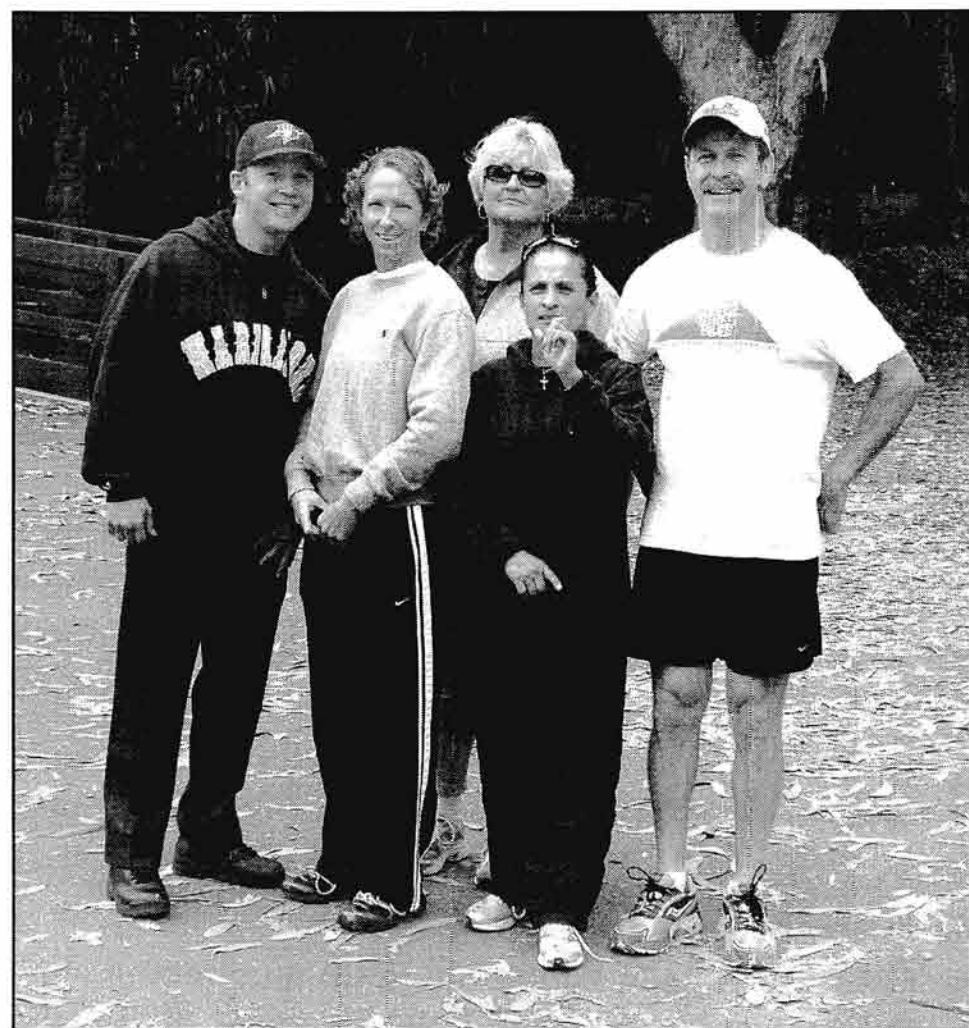
Bayview Station's Nancy Reyes



Ironman Team Champs (l to r): S. Griffin, S. Lau, E. Yu, K. Knoble, M. Ali



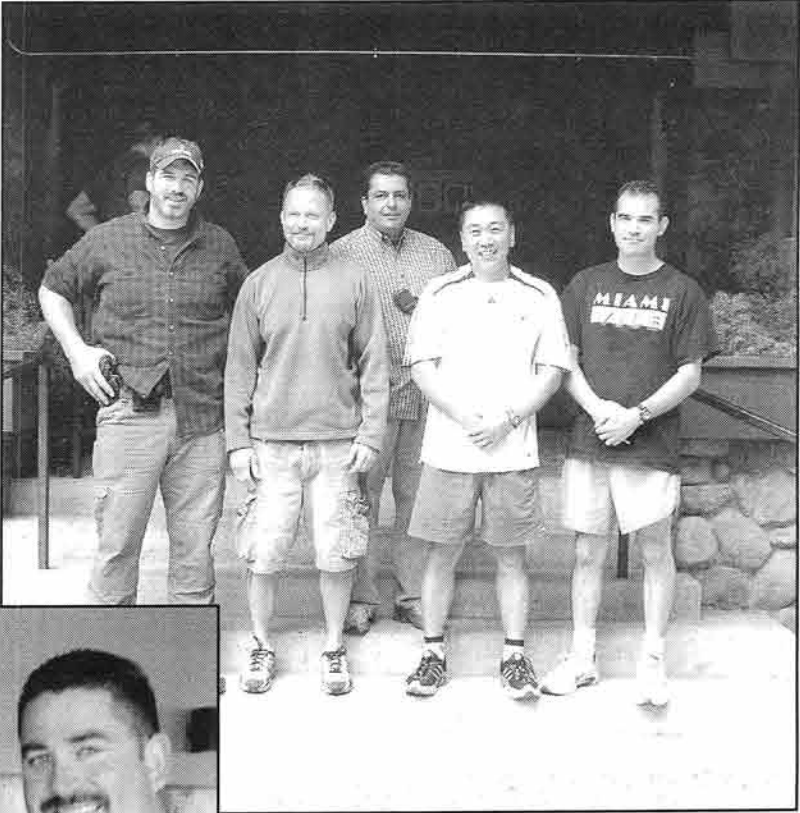
TTF (l to r): Dan Cole, Wil Escobar, Jason Garden, Eric Vintero, Dien Ha, Les Smith



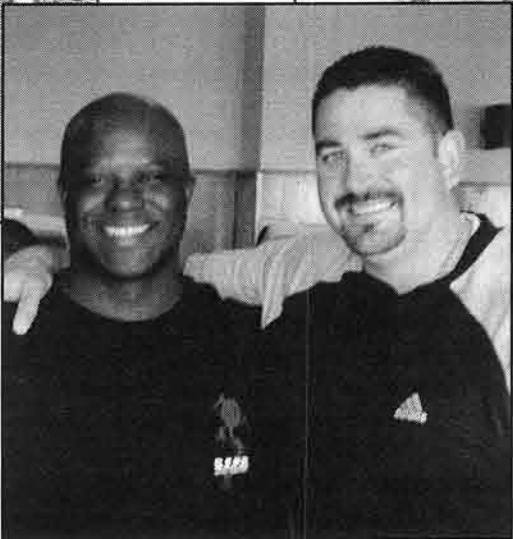
Southern Station (l to r): Jerry Newbeck, Jaime Campbell, Deborah Braden, Marina Chacon, Denis O'Leary



Sean Griffin, Gang Task Force, was the 1st place runner.



Bayview Station (l to r): Jason Kirchner, Kevin Dempsey, Gabriel Alcaraz, Eric Chang, Robert Wiese.



225 lb. Bench Press Competitors Mikial Ali and Kevin Rightmire

2006 Max Muscle / S.F.P.O.A Ironman Competition Results

MEN'S OPEN	BENCH PRESS	PULL-UPS	SIT-UPS	SHOOT	RUN
1. John Burke Ingleside Station Total Score: 4224	64(640)	47(940)	200(1000)	810	29:46(843)
2. Eric Vintero TTF Total Score: 2521	52(520)	32(640)	120(600)	445	38:24(316)
3. Denis O'Leary Southern Station Total Score: 2203	48((480)	22(220)	104(520)	155	33:32(608)
MEN'S > 200 LBS	BENCH PRESS	PULL-UPS	SIT-UPS	SHOOT	RUN
1. Mat Neves Mission Station Total Score: 3173	60(600)	23(460)	147(735)	875	35:20(503)
2. Anthony Calasanz Taraval Station Total Score: 1879	63(630)	25(500)	97(485)	190	42:26(74)
3. Carlos Manfredi Mission Station Total Score: 1589	62(620)	13(260)	118(590)	110	43:31(9)
MEN'S > 40 YRS 200LBS	BENCH PRESS	PULL-UP	SIT-UP	SHOOT	RUN
1. Eric Chiang Bayview Station Total Score: 1270	51(510)	9(180)	65(325)	255	43:58(0)
MIX-DBL TEAM	BENCH PRESS	PULL UP	SIT UP	SHOOT	RUN
1. Carrie Lucas Steve Thoma Mission Station Total Score: 1761	28(280) Lucas	1:22 Lucas	152(760) Thoma	240 Lucas	41:45(115) Thoma
TEAM OPEN	BENCH PRESS	PULL UP	SIT UP	SHOOT	RUN
1. GANG TASK FORCE Ali Total Score: 3821	20(225lbs)x 40(800) Knoble	34(680) Yu	152(760) Lau	645 Griffin	28:04(936)
2. BAYVIEW STATION Rightmire Total Score: 3549	24(225lbs)x 40(960) Dempsey	40(800) Reyes	84(420) Kirchner	660 Wise	31:51(709)
3. MISSION STATION Claudio Total Score: 3398	54 x 100(540) Griffin	25(500) Neves	147(735) Gaffud	880 McKinney	31:57(743)
4. TTF STATION Garden Total Score: 3121	59 x 100(590) Ha	45(900) Shiu	112(560) Escobar	370 Cole	31:59(701)
5. SOUTHERN STATION Total Score: 2359	32(60lbs)x 100(320) Braden	1:42(426) Chacon	102(510) Campell	495 Newbeck	33:32(608) O'Leary

San Francisco Bay Area Law Enforcement Emerald Society Golf Tournament

By Ed Carew

Although the sun never quite showed up, there were good times had by all at the San Francisco Bay Area Law Enforcement Emerald Society's fifth annual golf tournament. Once again, we visited the championship Harding Park Golf Course in San Francisco. The course was in great shape and golfers were treated to manicured fairways and well cared for greens. Many golfers were also delighted to find the rough and out of bounds areas in such great shape as well. When it came to solid play, one team rose above the field. Congratulations to Joey Brown, Martin Pritchard, Dave Heinz and Kevin Burke who turned in the low team score to take the tournament. Outstanding play gentlemen!

As always, our tournament would not exist without the generous help from our sponsors. Thank you so much to all those who donated to the tournament and help make it a huge success. I would especially like to thank Kerry Egan of Egan Properties and the Police Officer Association for their generosity and assistance.

Every year we get enormous help from our volunteers who stand at holes, help set up and lend a hand in numerous ways. Thanks to Mike Baglin, Anne Carew, Bill Conley, Mark Emmons, Tim Falvey and Teresa Sequeira. I would also like to thank the Fremont Police Department for their help and support. Thanks also to Emerald Society past Presidents Pat Burke and Val Kirwan along with the Board Members that assisted and modestly asked not to be named. Let us not forget the golfers and members who come out to participate to help keep the Emerald Society thriving. Your support and the support of our sponsors allow us to continue with donating to various worthy charities and to families of Police Officers that experience a catastrophic ordeal. Please continue to support your Emerald Society. On behalf of Event Coordinator Brian Philpott and myself, thanks again and we look forward to teeing it up with you next year.

PHOTOS BY PATRICK BURKE



Kevin Burke and Martin Pritchard were on the winning foursome.



Jim Garrerty of Emerald Auto, Val Kirwan, Greg Hines and Ed Hunt.



Tim Hettrich



Joey Brown was on the winning team.

Second Annual POA Sports Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

Don't Miss This Spectacular Inaugural Event Honoring the Best Athletes in the San Francisco Police Officers Association, Past and Present

Friday, November 10, 2006

Hosted Cocktails 6:00 – 6:45 PM • Dinner at 7:00 PM • \$30 per person

Italian-American Athletic Club, Stockton Street between Union and Green

To RSVP or more info, contact Nick Shihadeh at 415.242.3000, or the POA at 415.861.5060

The following group of outstanding athletes will be inducted into the POA Sports Hall of Fame

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| John Anton | Timothy Dempsey | Howard Kyle |
| Robert Barnes | Michael Dower | Ross Laflin |
| Kurt Bruneman | Edward Dullea | Michael Lawson |
| Gerald D'Arcy | Robert Foley | Gary Lemos |
| Silvia David | Kenneth Foss | Bruce Lorin |
| Brian Delahunty | Warren Hawes Jr. | Donald Matisek |
| Robert DelTorre | Mark Hurley | Alan McCann |

Welcome New Recruits

By Drew Cohen
Support Services

Hello class and welcome to the first day of the San Francisco Police Academy. For the next 36 weeks you will be put through hell! Get used to it. You will experience some of the toughest moments of your life! You will be trained and tested in your abilities to think on your feet, to push your bodies beyond what you thought it could endure, and you will learn to treat each other with the utmost respect and camaraderie throughout all of this.

Member Commentary

You will be taught the laws of our city and state, and you will learn how to enforce them with firmness and fairness. You will learn to show great compassion and restraint towards suspects, victims, this TAC Staff and the superior officers throughout this department. You will be tested on all of your studies throughout your time here and you will lose your job if you fail.

Once you have graduated, you will be ready for the mean streets of this city. It is there that you will soon learn that nearly everything you learned in this academy doesn't mean a damn thing, and you will quickly find that your entire support system within this department may very well be the person sitting next to you in the Radio Car.

You will come to realize that you are to approach every police contact with "personal liability" as your first priority. Know that if you put your hands on the criminal element in this city, it will be you, not them that have a far better chance of getting into trouble, hung out to dry, rung through the ringer and being sodomized by our own administration and criminal justice system. This is not an "if" it's a "when".

You will learn the nuances of delaying your response to a "call-for-service". This tactic is used for many reasons. One of them is limiting your risk of getting into an accident. If you did get into an accident, you will be held to answer to the plethora of supervisors, and eventually make your way up to DABOR. God save you if you are found to be #1.

Secondly, if you were to hasten your response, you might end up coming "97" before anybody else, which once again puts you and your partner (if you are lucky enough to be afforded one) in jeopardy of having to take action which, as we have learned, substantially increases the risk of personal liability.

Another good measure would be to allow the paramedics to arrive well before you do. This again decreases your chances of being sued or brought up on administrative or criminal charges. Better safe than sorry.

You may want to appear as if you are "10-8" so the micro-managers stay out of your hair, but do not actually take any proactive efforts in thwarting any criminal activity you might stumble upon. This could cause you great strife. First of all, your experience, training and effort

mean nothing to the eyes that are watching you. To them this type of behavior is nothing more than harassment and therefore you WILL be investigated by OCC. This type of proactive work ethic will also alert the ACLU and other governmental agencies to require us to justify our every move and to "cut paper" in order to prove it. Secondly, if you end up making an arrest for a crime, chances are that the suspect will be granted immunity from this, and any future crime he/she might commit. Somehow this is considered "In the Interest of Justice". Don't worry, you'll understand.

Further more, DO NOT, and I repeat, DO NOT appear as if you are enjoying yourself while on duty. This is a major violation of the "No Smirking" rule and MCD (Misuse of Comedy Division) could take years to investigate your involvement. If you are found to be not guilty of any wrongdoing, which is highly unlikely, you will be subsequently fed to the wolves at OCC so they can finish you off, pad their stats and justify another year of existence. This brings me to this next, very important point.

Don't expect anyone at the POA to assist you in any of the above listed legal or administrative issues unless you are:

- 1) A drinking buddy of one of the Executive Board Members (or a close relative)
- 2) A member, in good standing, in the Narcotics Bureau
- 3) An active participant in the Loons Nest Golf Club, or
- 4) An SI, Riordan or SH alumnus.

But please keep paying your dues. There are lot's of "other" expenses that our Union is responsible for.

You'll understand later.

If, after some time on the streets, you decide that you would like to test for a higher rank, please be aware of the criterion for promotion. Test score is not one of them. This is where you might want to start to buddy up with the "Who's who" of this department. Start hanging out at the local pubs, be seen as often as possible on the 5th floor and pretend to appreciate the Command Staff for all of their efforts and accomplishments, A.K.A. "kissing their asses". Do all of these and you stand a pretty good chance of being picked from wherever you land on the next promotional.

Finally, as you go out there into the crime filled streets, remember that the Public support is meager at best. The Command staff support is nil, and the Mayor's office only recognizes you as replaceable, expendable, faceless pawns on his political chess board. Now go out there and clean up these streets damn it! And don't forget, Oro en Paz, Fierro en Guerra.

Welcome to the SFPD!

Classified Ads

HOUSE FOR RENT

CENTRAL VALLEJO LOCATION. Remodeled 2 BR 2 BA cottage. Hdwd Flrs, skylights. corner lot, lg private yard, landscape maint. incl. \$1400 to SFPD Call John Currie (707) 373-0796 or fran.currie@sbcglobal.net 11/06

Real Estate For Sale

FOR SALE - INCLINE VILLAGE, NV. NEXT TO RET. MIKE TOROPOVSKY. 80K below market value. 4bdr 2 1/2 baths, near 1/2 acre lot, built 1981 A-1 condition, up to code. Space for RV/Boat. Quiet area, must sell George Wallace (66) SFPD ret (415) 661-9815 Price \$769,000. 11/06

MOUNTAIN GETAWAY: **REDUCED \$365,000.** 4/2, 3 story house. 2 fireplaces, family room, mudroom, decks and private entrance on each level. Live or vacation in Sierra Foothills at Cedar Ridge. Great vacation or retirement home. Close to Dodge Ridge Ski Resort and very private. Has a 5 mile creek running on property. Includes Lake membership and use. Call (209) 536-6503. 09/06

Vacation Rental

PALM SPRINGS RENTAL: Lg 3BR/2 BA condo with pool and tennis courts. Convenient central location in Saddlerock Gardens. Walk to shopping and restaurants. Photos available. For information, email or call Ken or Susan: bearup@aol.com; (415) 665-9181 11/06

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE CABIN, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, located in a great area. more information at www.vrbo.com/68816 or call Maricela @ 415-260-3484. 10/06

MAUI VACATION RENTAL: Kihei Town-2 Br/2 ba Ocean View/ Remod. Condo (new decor.) photos avail. Grdn Resort w/ Pools/Tennis-accrs frm Best Beaches, near Golf, Wlk to Shops/Restur. Discount to SFPD/SFFD members/families. Call Alan McCann (925) 672-8887, mauiohanacondo.mccann@gmail.com 10/06

WANTED:

SF POLICE MEMORIBILIA. Keep history alive - Looking for any items of historical interest. Uniforms, Stars, handcuffs, pictures, sticks, keys, etc. Call Robert Fitzer @ (415) 244-1983

Free Classified Advertising Available for POA Members

The POA Journal now has free classified advertising, a no-fee service available to our active and retired members. Buy, sell, or trade in the Journal and reach 5500 readers each month. The following rules apply to Classified Ads:

- To place a free classified ad, you must be an active or retired POA member.
- A member may run only one classified ad per issue. However, a member may repeat the same ad in three consecutive issues. An ad may run for three additional issues upon request of advertiser.

Ads must be typewritten and submitted to the POA, attn: Journal Advertising in any of the following ways:

US Mail, to the POA office

Interdepartmental mail, to the POA office

Email to journal@sfpoa.org

Word Search

By Officer Michelangelo Apodaca
Taraval Station

Enjoy this relaxing and fun-to-solve puzzle! If you've never solved a puzzle like these before, it's a good idea to read this before you begin.

Each puzzle has a grid of letters that conceals words reading in different

directions - forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally - but always in a straight line. The words, abbreviations, or phrases one must find and circle are listed below the grid in capital letters. That's all you need to know before you sharpen your pencil and begin your search!

ACCURATE	FAITH	SECRET
AGENT	GUIDANCE	START
ATTACKER	LIBRARY	SUIT
CHAMPION	MENTION	TEACHER
CULTURE	PROJECT	TEAM
DOCUMENTS	RESEARCH	TRACKING
DOUBT	SEALED	


D	T	S	T	N	E	M	U	C	O	D	B	E
R	I	Z	N	S	E	R	U	T	L	U	C	Q
A	V	F	T	N	V	W	H	U	R	N	O	G
T	T	B	U	O	D	X	S	T	A	R	T	W
T	X	H	T	I	A	F	U	D	K	G	P	I
A	R	J	A	P	Q	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y
C	E	S	M	M	E	U	D	Z	K	C	T	E
K	H	U	S	A	G	E	N	T	O	C	E	D
E	C	I	P	H	C	Y	L	J	B	U	R	E
R	A	T	T	C	E	J	O	R	P	R	C	L
H	E	R	E	S	E	A	R	C	H	A	E	A
N	T	R	A	C	K	I	N	G	M	T	S	E
A	F	L	M	E	N	T	I	O	N	E	C	S

Need a break from the race? Yes ☒ No ☐

Thinking of a vacation home? Yes ☒ No ☐

Want to move when you retire? Yes ☒ No ☐

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Close Encounters

By Steve Johnson
SFPOA

Interesting to note that the suspect who tried to kill Officer Andrew Meehan with an assault rifle in September of 2005, has, once again, been arrested armed with a weapon. **Only this time it was an AK-47.** So much for the learning curve . . . the armed, repeat offender was initially spotted by **Officer Jason Kirchner, Officer Mike Ellis, and Officer Steve Coleman on 10/16/06**, while he was toting his assault rifle through the Bayview neighborhood. The armed and dangerous suspect then tried to elude capture but a perimeter was set up by **Officer Gerry Lyons, Officer Matt Mason, Officer Derrick Lew, Officer Chris Berge, Officer Angel Lozano, Officer Ray Lee, Officer John Barcojo, and Officer Mike Wolf** and the individual who has so little respect for the law was, once again, taken into custody.

No mention of this outstanding arrest was made at a recent Police Commission meeting . . . imagine. However, **Deputy Chief David Shinn** did inform our Police Commission about the outstanding work involving the officers who recently captured a multiple murder suspect at Post and Buchanan so I was waiting for at least one of the Commissioners to complement the officers responsible but . . . nothing. Several of the Commissioners, when discussing another topic that would limit constitutional rights of those who wear a star in San Francisco, did refer to police officers in San Francisco as **public employees who "kill people . . ."** nice.

And, on 10/15/06, the day before apprehending the AK-47 suspect, the same officers, **Officer Jason Kirchner, Officer Mike Ellis, and Officer Steve Coleman** contacted their supervisor, **Sergeant Eddie Hagan** and informed him that they had obtained information about an individual who was on probation and armed with what was described as an 'AK-47' – a quick investigation turned up the suspect and a fully-loaded assault rifle.

Interesting to note that on 10/14/06, only 2 days prior to apprehending the suspect armed with the AK-47, the same officers, **Officer Jason Kirchner, Officer Mike Ellis, and Officer Steve Coleman** responded to a report of 'shots fired'. They searched the area in question and located a suspect who was armed with a fully-loaded, 9mm semi-automatic weapon. This same suspect was arrested only 1-year ago armed with a machine pistol . . .

3 days, 2 assault rifles fully-loaded, 1 ready-to-use 9mm semi-automatic, several repeat offenders in custody, with a police department severely understaffed and the best our Police Commission can do is think of new ways to undermine state law . . . best of luck to our recruitment efforts!

Reports of a man waving a gun around on Pier 33 came streaming in to the 9-1-1 Center and **Officer Kevin Worrell, Officer Steven Uang, Officer Damien Fahey and Officer Frank Leonetti** responded. Witnesses stated that the armed man got into a parked car with several other individuals. The officers found the suspect vehicle and lit it up with their spotlights. The driver still tried to ignore the inevitable and attempted to drive away backing all the way down to the end of the pier with absolutely no where else to go. There was a long stand-off but the officers kept the suspect vehicle lit up and waited them out. Finally the driver and his accomplices decided to come out. A subsequent investigation revealed a loaded, .45 caliber semi-automatic in the possession of the main suspect along with a tremendous amount of narcotics and cash stuffed in a bag in the back seat . . . The suspects were definitely not new to the criminal justice scene and you know they were considering their options during the stand-off . . . but due to the quick thinking of the officers who responded the suspects could never see exactly where they were. (One of the first units on the pier backing up the patrol units was **Captain Steve Tittel** . . . nice to see some 10-8 brass out there.)

Another call of a man with a gun at 4th/Townsend came in the other day and **Officer Anthony Pedroza** was on his way. Officer Pedroza found the individual matching the description of the suspect and he was still arguing with another man, both of them exchanging words. The suspect tried to get away from Officer Pedroza but he was immediately stopped – a quick search revealed a fully-loaded, .38 caliber revolver tucked away in the suspect's front pocket. Officer Pedroza was extremely fortunate that the suspect didn't decide to further his criminal history since this same individual already had 3 prior gun convictions, **one of them a felony for threatening a police officer with a gun.**

A regular in the Tenderloin informed **Officer Hector Basurto and Officer Keith Ybarreta** that the individual down the corner from them was carrying a gun. Hector and Keith worked with **Sgt. Curtis Liu, Officer Robert Royer, Officer Mario Marino, Officer Josh Phillips, and Officer Joe Minner** to set up an immediate perimeter and then they moved in on their man. This is something that the Police Commission would never understand. Why police officers, no matter how many phony complaints they receive, still place their lives on the line each and every day to make the

streets safer for everyone else. **Oh, and the suspect, he was only carrying a fully-loaded, .32 caliber weapon that he was holding for "a friend".** There was another individual standing near him – turned out that subject had a previous arrest for murder . . .

Again in the Tenderloin and **Officer Mike Montero, Officer Calvin Lew, Officer Kevin Moylan, Officer Christine Moylan, Officer Chris Muselman, and Officer Robert Royer** are working an undercover buy-bust operation because the community they serve is fed up with all those individuals who actually think that selling narcotics in San Francisco is sanctioned. Anyway, Officer Montero worked undercover purchasing the narcotics and his cover team targeted the 2 suspects who sold heroin to Mike. When they moved in to make the arrest they found one of the suspects was carrying a fully-loaded gun . . .

Officer Arnaldo Aleman stopped a weaving car with 4 subjects. His investigation led him to having to have the driver step from the car and, when he did, his loaded gun dropped on the ground.

Officer Mike Howard was patrolling by Sunnysdale and Santos on what was almost an entirely quiet Sunday afternoon when he saw an individual fire his gun into a crowd of people standing on the sidewalk. Officer Howard immediately gave chase, running through backyards, over fences until he found the suspect and placed him in custody.

Captain Paul Chignell of Ingleside Station uses all sorts of techniques to keep his community safe – one of which was utilizing plainclothes officers in an area that was being hit by robbery suspects. **Officer Angie Sanchez and Officer Mike Wibun-**

sin volunteered for this assignment and happened upon an individual who matched the description of one of these suspects. Angie and Mike stopped the man who was trying to get away from them as fast as he could and found out that the reason for his not wanting to speak to the uniforms is that it would have been really hard to explain why he was carrying the fully-loaded, 9mm semi-automatic weapon he had concealed in his jacket pocket . . .

It's 1:00 a.m. and **Officer William Conley and Officer Christopher Schaffer** were working the Western Addition Violence Reduction Detail when they had to stop a speeding car that drove right through a red light. There were 5 people on board and the windows were tinted so the officers were more than a little cautious. Nevertheless, they finished their citation and found that the driver was wanted for another matter he never cleared up and had a probation search condition as well. A subsequent search revealed 3 guns in the car, a 9mm semi-automatic, a .38 caliber handgun, and a .45 semi-automatic. All fully-loaded and ready to go. Probably the only reason the arrest went down so well is because William and Chris were seasoned enough to ask for a back-up which was handled by **Officer Melvin Maunu, Officer Marcus Richardson, Officer Angel Lozano, and Officer Andrew Meehan.** (Yes, the same Officer Meehan that was almost killed by the suspect who was arrested with a 2nd assault rifle . . .)

One might think that a lot of these incidents would result in Police Commission Commendations being awarded . . . And there are some other outstanding cases for which Chief Fong and her command staff have recommended medals of valor. **But for some reason our Police Commission has been delaying the approval of the Medal of Honor awards, putting them off for some time now. What could they possibly be thinking?**

Calling All Elves!

Santa Helpers Desperately Needed!

By Lyn Tomioka

The POA is seeking as many big-hearted and sympathetic people as possible to visit hospitalized children during the coming holiday season. The POA and San Francisco Police Department will conduct a series of Santa's Visits to area hospitals to lighten the lives of some very sick but deserving children with toys and gifts. In the spirit of these special holidays, help us make their season bright and memorable.

I have scheduled Wednesday, December 6th, 2006. To meet at Mission Station at 0900 hours and then off to the various hospitals.

Please phone me at 297-3675 or 666-8000 if you have any questions.

All Department members, their family, and those associated in any way are welcome to join us in this worthy effort. I have the Santa, Mrs. Santa and Elf outfits all ready.

Happy Holidays, and I'll see you there!