



HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

2017 Annual Report

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Chief's Message



As Chief of Police, I am pleased to present the 2017 Huntington Beach Police Department Annual Report. It is an honor and a privilege to represent the members of the Huntington Beach Police Department.

The year brought us many challenges and opportunities as an organization. Due to a wave of retirements in late 2016 and early 2017, we have welcomed dozens of new employees and made many new promotions to supervisor and manager positions. There is a great deal of learning, change, and innovation occurring throughout the Department. I am excited to see the positive impacts which will take place in the years to come.

Our property crime rate and overall crime rate decreased in 2017 while our violent crime saw a substantial increase. This included an increase in assaults on our officers. We are encouraged to have ended the year without any significant injuries to our officers resulting from an assault. We take tremendous pride in the quality of work our employees have done to bring many of the offenders victimizing our community to justice. The number of arrests our employees made in 2017 was up substantially. The exceptional amount of positive results from our training, professional response, and quality follow up throughout the year cannot be understated.

Throughout the varied and intense demands, the men and women of the Huntington Beach Police Department provided outstanding service. I am grateful and proud of the work they do every day.

Robert Handy

Mayor's Message



Dear Huntington Beach Police Department Employees,

As your Mayor, it is my distinct pleasure to share with you the Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) 2017 Annual Report. It's with much gratitude and appreciation that I thank you, the hard-working men and women of the HBPD, for your unwavering dedication and loyalty to Surf City USA.

The department experienced a number of challenges, to say the least. But I know, and the community knows, that one thing is for certain: You provide outstanding service to our residents, businesses and visitors day in and day out. Patrolling in cars, ATVs, motorcycles, helicopters, horses or on foot, know we value and appreciate all that you do to keep your community safe. Protecting the community of nearly 200,000 residents and millions of visitors each year with outstanding law enforcement is to be congratulated.

Thank you for taking the time to become informed and read this compelling report to the public on our police department. On behalf of the City Council, we thank you for your continued utmost service, contributions, strong leadership, work ethic, integrity and continued dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Posey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "P" at the end.

Mike Posey, Mayor

Huntington Beach City Council



From left to right:

Council Member Billy O'Connell, Council Member Jill Hardy, Council Member Erik Peterson, Mayor Barbara Delgleize, Mayor Pro Tempore Mike Posey, Council Member Patrick Brenden, Council Member Lyn Semeta,

Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession . . . **law enforcement.**

Mission Statement

We of the Huntington Beach Police Department recognize our obligation to help maintain a safe and secure community. We acknowledge our contribution to the quality of life within the community. The provision of quality police services with the highest professional standards is our primary aspiration. We intend to fulfill the challenging responsibilities through active participation in the following shared values:

SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

We value the opportunity to provide service which is courteous, responsive, firm, efficient, and fair. We regard the members of our community as partners and indispensable resources in a combined policing effort. Respect for the individual worth, dignity, and rights of all those we serve is the foundation of our department.

INTEGRITY

We value and expect truth, honesty, and ethical behavior from the members of our organization. We are committed to upholding our position of public trust by maintaining the highest ethical standards and the utmost respect for the ordinances and laws of our city, state, and nation. Our role as peace keepers and enforcers of the law will not be compromised.

EMPLOYEES

We value our fellow employees as the most important organizational asset. We realize our success depends on mutual respect, cooperation, and recognition of our co-workers. All employees will receive equitable and fair treatment and be provided the proper tools and training necessary to meet organizational goals and objectives.

PROFESSIONALISM

We value the spirit of professionalism, having a clear sense of commitment, perspective, and direction. We encourage it by creating an environment that promotes teamwork, innovation, and constant evaluation of ourselves.

PRIDE AND ENJOYMENT OF OUR PROFESSION

We value our work as a source of enjoyment and satisfaction, we are proud of our community, and our department, our accomplishments in the service, and our commitment to quality law enforcement. We possess a great sense of pride serving our chosen profession with the Huntington Beach Police Department.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Administrative Operations Division is comprised of the Budget Bureau, Facilities Maintenance and the Professional Standards Bureau. The Budget Bureau involves accounting, purchasing, grant management and payroll functions of the department. The Professional Standards Bureau includes the Press Information Officer, Community Services and volunteer programs, the Training Unit, the Professional Standards Unit, and the Scientific Investigations Unit.

CADET PROGRAM

The Huntington Beach Police Department Cadet program introduces young adults, ages 18 to 25, to the field of law enforcement. This is a paid, part-time position in which the cadet must be enrolled as a full-time student in high school or college. Work hours are assigned around the student's class schedule. The Cadet program is designed to develop the skills and abilities of young individuals who wish to one day pursue a career in Law Enforcement.

Police Cadets are provided with the opportunity to work a variety of assignments throughout the Police Department, including, but not limited to, the Front Desk, Sub-stations, Training Unit and Investigations. Cadets also staff the field patrol and enforce minor violations in city parks, beaches and other properties. In the past year, we have promoted 4 cadets to the position of Police Officer.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) is primarily responsible for the management and investigation of allegations of misconduct and citizen complaints. When the Police Department receives a complaint, a comprehensive investigation will be conducted. The primary goal of the investigation is to insure employees are following department policies and procedures and to remedy the community's concerns while fortifying the trust that they have bestowed on the Department. The Professional Standards Unit consists of one Lieutenant two sergeants who are also the custodian of records for department employee's personnel files.

SEARCH AND RESCUE EXPLORERS

Huntington Beach Search and Rescue Explorer Post # 563 was founded in 1962 and is chartered by the Orange County Council of the Boy Scouts of America Learning for Life Program. The program is sponsored by the Huntington Beach Police and Fire Departments. It is a co-ed youth program designed to expose high school students to careers in the emergency services field.

Search and Rescue operates in a unique manner and stands out from any other Law Enforcement explorer post in Orange County. The program incorporates three different facets of public safety; Police, Fire, and Marine Safety and focuses on providing training and education in these areas. The Explorers volunteer thousands of hours each year serving the community of Huntington Beach.

The City relies heavily on the Explorers for major events like the 4th of July Parade, DUI checkpoints, US Open and the new air show. Many local organizations utilize them for events throughout the year including the Boys and Girls Club, the Assistance League of Orange County and the 3/1 Marines. In 2017, the Search and Rescue Explorers donated over 6,500 hours working over 40 events throughout the city.



TRAINING UNIT

The Training Unit consists of one Sergeant, one officer and two police services specialists. They are responsible for ensuring officers and civilians meet required training courses. When there are changes in laws or training techniques, the Training Unit prepares information bulletins and classroom sessions for personnel. Some of the monthly required training includes arrest and control techniques, firearms and legal updates. Various trainings also include reinforcement of department policies. In the near future one goal for the Training Unit is to provide rifle training for all uniformed officers whether they carry a rifle or not. New drills were implemented on the firing range to coincide with normal handgun qualifications. As not all employee training can be conducted on site, the Training Unit also coordinates the enrollment and travel for classes outside of the city.

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Huntington Beach Police Department Crime and Evidence Unit consists of the Crime Lab and 6 field Crime Scene Investigators. The Crime Lab is made up of three Latent Fingerprint Examiners, one Police Photographer/Imaging Specialist and one Police Specialist. Our Police Photographer/Imaging Specialist receives, processes and prepares for court all of the photographic and video evidence related to the thousands of crimes reported throughout the city. In 2017, this specialist handled approximately 150 cases per week, processing and securing over 800,000 photographs and 1,200 videos.

Our Latent Fingerprint Examiners consist of two full time examiners and one part time examiner who receives forensic evidence collected by the CSI Officers. The examiners handle in-house evidence processing, do all fingerprint comparisons, search latent prints through the Cal-ID System using the Automated Biometric Identification System, among other duties. The examiners complete approximately 55,000 fingerprint comparisons a year and process approximately 400 items of evidence for latent fingerprints and DNA collection.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

The Police Department has approximately 100 volunteers that assist with various duties throughout the Department and our Community. The three volunteer groups are HB Neighborhood Watch Program, Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), and Volunteer in Police Services (VIPS).

Volunteers assist at the Police Department front counter, conduct vacation house checks and remove illegally posted signs. They help conduct Neighborhood Watch Block meetings, Police Department tours, visit schools, assist at community events such as the Annual 4th of July Parade, National Night Out, Halloween Downtown, Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Family Day at Central Park, Dia De Los Niño's, Lion's Club Annual Pancake Breakfast and Halloween events. Volunteers assist in the Detective Bureau, Crime Lab, Records Bureau, Narcotics Unit, Traffic Bureau, and much more. Some of their duties include working at the department's three substations. At the Oak View Substation the volunteers assisted over 880 visitors and signed off 180 fix it tickets. They also prepared approximately 90,000 Neighborhood Watch Newsletters for mailing and distribution throughout the community.

We often receive accolades from residents thanking the Department for their hard work and dedication. Many of these services would NOT be possible if it were not for our Police Volunteers. Volunteers save the City an estimated \$560,000 annually and have provided over 27,000 hours of service talents, and skills for a simple **"thank you"**.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Administrative Services Division is responsible for many of the civilian units of the department including the Records Bureau, Communications, Property & Evidence and Personnel & Backgrounds. Additional tasks monitored by the division include policy, contracts, City Information Services, animal control and coyote management.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Huntington Beach Police Communications Bureau is the primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for all 9-1-1 calls received in the city and Sunset Beach. Our Communications Bureau operates 24 hours a day, seven days per week, 365 days a year. The vision and goal of our Communications team is to provide excellent and innovative service to our officers and our community.

In California, Communication Centers are required to answer 9-1-1 calls within 15 seconds 95% of the time. In 2017, Communications personnel answered almost 69,000 9-1-1 calls within 15 seconds 98.6% of the time. Communications Operators dispatched personnel to over 71,000 calls for service and answered over 214,000 calls over 10-digit emergency lines and non-emergency lines.

Communication Operators are highly trained, dedicated individuals who possess unique skills and abilities to react and remain calm under extreme pressure. No day is ever routine with calls ranging from minor traffic accidents to a frantic voice screaming for help. They must speak to each caller with professionalism and reassurance while making split-second decisions. When Police Officers or other field personnel request emergency assistance over the radio, Communications Operators must react and transmit the information, coordinating the necessary assistance. The above situations depend on a calm, firm voice and direction until help can arrive.

The intensity of the job requires initial and continuous training. Entry-level personnel must complete a 120-hour certified dispatch academy and all Communications Operators are required to attend 24-hours of continued professional training every two years. Some of the recent training classes attended were Customer Service, Terrorism Awareness, Active Shooter, Disaster Training and Domestic Violence.

In addition to their normal dispatching duties, Communications personnel also provide support for some of the City's programs and major events including the Spanish Citizens Academy, the Every 15-Minutes Program, the Surf-City USA Marathon, the Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks Celebration, the weeklong U.S. Open Surfing Contest and the Breitling Air Show.

PERSONNEL & BACKGROUNDS

The Huntington Beach Police Department is comprised of 222 sworn police officers and 127.5 civilian positions in the Police Department. The Personnel & Background unit is responsible for recruitment, hiring and employee benefits.

As positions become vacant recruitment for the next employee is conducted. After applications, testing and interviews, candidates with passing scores are put through a background process. Backgrounds for police department positions are extremely extensive. There is a 40 page personal history package, a polygraph examination, a medical examination and psychological examination. Background investigators will talk to your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. No stone is left unturned when applying to work for the police department.

Many positions opened will garner hundreds of applications. At times, one position will have 4-5 people in background to get one candidate to pass all background levels. In 2017 the department hired 41 people with over 150 background packets sent out.

PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

The Property & Evidence Unit prides itself in achieving state law and industry standard compliance in a perpetually changing field. The unit exhibited a high level of transparency, expansive knowledge and professional excellence.

The Property & Evidence Unit processed and purged nearly 17,000 items of property and deposited \$19,634 which was either non-returnable or unclaimed by owners. In addition to those funds, the unit generated an additional \$17,500 as a result of auction sales and remote recycling.

Beginning January 2017, an online public notification for found property went live on both the City of Huntington Beach website and the Huntington Beach Police Department website. Huntington Beach residents and tourists were able to go online to determine if their lost property was turned over to the Police Department. Implementing a notification system for found property decreased the amount of time Property Officers spent researching to determine if any submitted items closely matched those which had been lost. The notification is updated monthly and is accessible on www.HBPD.org.

All Property & Evidence Unit personnel are Certified Property and Evidence Specialists through the International Association for Property & Evidence, Inc. In addition, the Property & Evidence Supervisor attained a certification in Law Enforcement Inspections and Auditing. Each member of the unit maintains membership in several professional organizations which provides training and networking opportunities.

RECORDS BUREAU

The Police Records Bureau performs a vital function by providing support to all members of the Police Department, 7 days per week, 24 hours per day. Officers in the field rely on Records personnel to assist with confirming warrant information, locating and reporting stolen vehicles, missing people and property. The Records Bureau processed approximately 21,762 police reports in 2017. In addition, Records personnel assist Jail personnel by processing the jail booking paperwork on individuals arrested by our department. In 2017, 6,343 bookings were processed by the Records unit. Keeping track of the criminal offenders is also a function of the Records Bureau. In 2017, Records registered 183 active sex registrants and 18 active arson registrants in addition to the hundreds of narcotic registrants.

Excellent customer service is also provided to the public by the Records team. The public phone lines are answered 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Records personnel are often the first and only contact the public has with the Department. Members of the Records team are experienced and knowledgeable and are proud to represent the Police Department. Tow and repossession companies are required to contact the Records Bureau to report vehicles they impound. In 2017, approximately 3,300 impounded vehicles from private property and 1,100 vehicle repossessions were reported.

In July 2017, a major remodel of the Huntington Beach Police Department's front lobby and Records Bureau was completed. The project created a more secure front lobby and a modern work area for the Traffic and Records units. Additional office space was created while allowing for an open floor plan. With the creation of the secured front lobby, Records personnel are now able to assist the public with vehicle releases and restraining orders after regular business hours without the need for an officer to be present.

During 2017, the Records Bureau automated several processes and continues to work toward a more streamlined, less paper producing system. Records now maintain an electronic copy of all reports and files court paperwork electronically with the District Attorney. In July, 2017 a new online system called GovQA was introduced and allows the public to request copies of their reports electronically. Approximately 800 requests were processed using this system during the last quarter of 2017. The goal for 2018 is to use this system exclusively thereby reducing man hours and paper used to process report requests.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigation Division is comprised of the Detective Bureau, the Special Investigations Bureau and the Jail Bureau. The Detective Bureau includes the Crimes Against Persons Unit; General Investigations Unit; Economic Crimes Unit; Cold Case Task Force and Crime Analysis. These units conduct investigative follow up on crimes reported to patrol officers. The Narcotics Unit, Gang/Vice Unit, Crime Task Force Detail and County Intelligence Liaison operate out of the Special Investigations Bureau and maintain a proactive enforcement philosophy. The Jail Bureau is a Type 1 detention facility whose primary functions include booking and housing of arrestees.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

The Crimes Against Persons Unit is comprised of one Sergeant, seven Detectives, one Community Services Officer, one Police Service Specialist, one Reserve Officer, and a Retired Senior Volunteer. The unit primarily handles cases involving injury or the threat of injury to people, such as assaults, robberies and homicides. The unit also handles all reports of sexual assaults. In addition, the unit maintains the responsibility of monitoring all registered sex offenders residing within our city boundaries. Detectives in this unit received over 2,800 cases to investigate in 2017.

A significant case handled by the unit in 2017 was the reopening and solving of a Cold Case double homicide: On March 31, 1994 at 10:15 p.m., Chen BLANCHARD and Kenny SOMMER were brutally murdered on the southeast corner of Main Street and Orange Avenue. The killer shot each victim multiple times execution-style before calmly walking away. Despite the best efforts of the detectives at the time, the case went unsolved.

Twenty-three years later we received a suspect lead from a patrol officer in Colorado. The lead was deemed viable and the case was re-opened and presented to the OCDA Homicide Unit for prosecution. At the conclusion of a yearlong investigation an arrest warrant was secured for the suspect, a 65 year-old retired schoolteacher from Huntington Beach. He was extradited back to California in May. In January, he was held to answer on two counts of 1st Degree Murder with Special Circumstances and gun enhancements.

This investigation was the culmination of hard work and cooperative working relationships between members of the Crimes Against Persons Unit, OCDA Investigation Bureau, OCDA Cold Case Unit, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, ATF, FBI, Alamosa Police Department, Colorado State Patrol, and the Pueblo Police Department.

CRIME ANALYSIS

The Crime Analysis Unit is made up of one full-time certified crime analyst. Currently there are three part-time interns also assisting. Crime analysis is a law enforcement function that involves systematic analysis for identifying and analyzing patterns and trends in crime and disorder. Information on patterns can help us deploy resources in a more effective manner, and assist detectives in identifying and apprehending suspects. Crime

analysis also plays a role in devising solutions to crime problems, and formulating crime prevention strategies. Quantitative social science data analysis methods are part of the crime analysis process, though qualitative methods such as examining police report narratives also play a role. During monthly Crime Suppression meetings, current crime trends are discussed and strategies are formulated to properly deploy resources in an effort to reduce crime and apprehend suspects.

The crime analyst also performs a number of other important functions, such as: State and Federal crime reporting, collecting statistics, preparing crime maps, preparing information for the community, and preparing special bulletins on wanted suspects. Crime Analysis has also expanded its reach with the aid of social media. Using various social media applications, we are able to post current trends and alert citizens of citywide and area specific crime problems. Crime prevention reminders are also pushed out in an effort to protect citizens from becoming victims.

ECONOMIC CRIMES

The Economic Crimes Unit is made up of one Sergeant, six Detectives, and one Community Services Officer. This unit handles white collar crime cases such as identity theft, counterfeiting, theft by fraud, and real estate crimes. Detectives from this unit handled over 1,500 cases in 2017.

The Economic Crimes Unit also encompasses the department's High-Tech Computer Forensics Lab which is staffed by one Detective and one civilian forensic Investigator. Together, they examined computers, cell phones, tablets, and flash drives in over 100 investigations in 2017. These examinations are tedious and some require the analysis of multiple devices. In some cases, there were over 20 devices which needed to be forensically analyzed, requiring many weeks of diligent work. This highly technical position requires a large amount of skill, patience, and continuing education to remain on top of the ever changing technology. The unit also assists patrol officers and detectives in the field by downloading video surveillance and conducting on site preliminary examinations of electronic devices. Members of this unit are part of the U.S. Secret Service Los Angeles Electronic Crimes Task Force and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. These task forces allow our detectives and investigators opportunities to be involved in large-scale federal economic crimes cases and the ability to Federally prosecute local cases when appropriate.

In 2015 the Huntington Beach Police Department Economic Crimes Unit began to investigate a credit card skimming and narcotic trafficking group. This case was investigated in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the United States Secret Service Los Angeles Electronic Crimes Taskforce, as mentioned above. As the case developed it became apparent that this was a large scale organized crime group that had targeted Huntington Beach victims using credit card skimming devices. The group of individuals also had links to violent street gangs operating in the Southern California area.

In May, 2017, Economic Crimes Detectives, with the assistance of other HBPD units, served search warrants at 3 separate locations in 2 different cities. This was in conjunction with a large-scale operation where search and arrest warrants were served by numerous federal and local agencies at 9 different locations. The entire operation was a success and ultimately 13 suspects were arrested and charged in federal court.

This operation was an outstanding example of the teamwork, professionalism, and efforts the members of the Economic Crimes Unit display on a regular basis. A high ranking member of the Taskforce positively commented on the hard work, dedication, and tenacity of all the Huntington Beach Police Department personnel involved.

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

The General Investigation Unit is staffed by one Sergeant, eight Detectives, one contracted Domestic Violence Victim Advocate, two part-time Domestic Violence Investigators, two Community Services Officers, and two part-time investigators. Investigators from this unit received over 7,900 cases in 2017. Several members of the unit handle follow-up investigations involving theft, residential and commercial burglary, auto theft, property damage, and arson. The remaining members are assigned to the Domestic Violence Team which is funded in part by a grant from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. This team focuses solely on assisting victims of domestic violence and prosecuting their perpetrators. One of the Community Services Officers handles all court liaison duties coordinating court appearances by officers, filing of cases with the District Attorney and compliance with discovery requests.

A significant case handled by this unit was the investigation of a domestic violence incident that occurred in the downtown area of Huntington Beach. In this case, the adult female victim was found on a sidewalk bleeding from the head. She claimed she was beaten repeatedly by her boyfriend who had fled the area. The victim suffered multiple significant head injuries as a result of the assault. The boyfriend also had a restraining order against him from a prior domestic violence incident.

Detectives interviewed the suspect who admitted to dating the victim, but denied being with her on the night of the assault, claiming he was never in Huntington Beach that night. Domestic violence cases are often difficult to prove as they are often "he said, she said" with no independent witnesses as in this case. Detectives were able to retrieve voicemail messages from the victim's phone that were received after the assault in which the suspect apologized for his behavior without specifics of the assault. Detectives also utilized other law enforcement databases to determine the suspect's vehicle was in the city of Huntington Beach the night of the assault.

After a thorough investigation, this case was presented to the District Attorney's Office. After review, they filed charges of Domestic Battery with Corporal Injury, Assault with Force Likely to Produce Great Bodily Injury, and Violation of a Protective Order with Injury. The suspect in this case has an extensive criminal history and should receive a strong prison sentence if convicted.

JAIL BUREAU

The Huntington Beach Police Department Jail Bureau is operated by a staff of 17 Detention Officers, 4 of which are licensed nursing professionals. In 2017, the Huntington Beach Jail booked 5,594 inmates, collected 631 evidence samples for DUI prosecution, and fingerprinted, registered and photographed over 650 narcotic, sex, and arson registrants.

Detention officers reduce the impact on sworn staffing by minimizing the time police officers and detectives spend processing and transporting arrestees. By processing the arrestees in a timely manner, the officer can return to field duties in as little as 10 minutes. In 2017, Detention officers transported over 1,900 inmates to county jail.

In addition to booking and housing Huntington Beach arrestees, the Jail offers an alternative for local residents that are sentenced to county jail or facilities outside the area. The Sentenced Inmate Pay-to-Stay Program and the Work Release Program provide viable options to local residents that could lose their jobs, miss college classes, or be geographically separated from family. Working with judges, attorneys, and defendants, there were 29 local residents that successfully served their sentences in our jail. These inmate workers were able to keep their jobs and/or attend college while serving out their sentences. Some of the responsibilities for inmate workers include cleaning the jails, food preparation for inmates and maintain laundry services.

Jail Bureau staff works closely with multiple agencies to further improve operations and assist other police departments. Inspections of our facility are completed by the Fire Marshall, the Orange County Health Authority, the Orange County Youth Commission, and a local medical advisor. In 2017, the Jail was found in full compliance with all inspections. While the Jail is not a location where most people want to spend much time, it is an educational tool for various community groups, including: Youth in Government Day students, local Cub Scout and Girl Scout troops, the Citizens' Academy, "Every 15 Minutes" filming for local high schools, and many others.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

The Special Investigations Bureau is managed by a Lieutenant and comprised of four investigative units, Narcotics, Gangs, Vice and Crime Task Force (CTF). The Special Investigations Bureau also staffs a detective at the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAAC), a collaborative effort of eleven agencies providing resources, expertise, and information to detect, prevent and respond to criminal and terrorist activity, and the Orange County Regional Narcotic Task Force (RNSP), the regional approach for investigation and apprehension of major drug suspects. Detectives utilize specialized skills and equipment to address issues related to narcotics, gang investigations, vice investigations, or sensitive investigations. The four units work together assisting each other with their investigations, surveillances and/or undercover operations.

The Narcotics and Gang Unit is comprised of one Sergeant, four Narcotic Detectives, two Gang Detectives, and one Police Service Specialist. Narcotics and Gang Detectives conduct undercover operations, surveillances, patrol gang areas, and follow up on gang/narcotic

related crime. In 2017, the unit received 223 tips of possible drug activity from citizens and was assigned 1,785 cases. In addition, the unit made over 77 arrests (not including warrants), seized 14 firearms, 52 pounds of methamphetamine, 20 pounds of cocaine, 6 pounds of heroin, and over 2,900 pills.

The Vice Unit and Crime Task Force are staffed by one Sergeant, two Vice Detectives, four Crime Task Force Detectives, and one Community Services Officer. The unit is responsible for conducting vice related investigations, such as sales of alcohol to minors, prostitution, human trafficking, internet crimes against children, and conducting probation/supervised release compliance checks. The unit is also responsible for approving entertainment permits issued to establishments in the city and Establishment Registration Certificates (ERCs) issued to massage parlors operating in the city.

Two noteworthy cases handled by SIB during 2017 involved a child pornography case and a gang investigation involving a violent street gang out of Los Angeles:

A concerned citizen found a phone which contained suspected child pornography. The citizen relinquished the phone, with the disturbing content, over to our department. The citizen had no information regarding who was responsible for the content. SIB Detectives conducted an extensive investigation using various resources. Based on this investigation, the Detectives were able to confirm the phone contained child pornography and also identified a suspect. Surveillance was conducted and the suspect's residence was identified. A search warrant for the suspect, his vehicle, and home was obtained. In December 2017, Detectives took the suspect into custody and executed a search warrant at his residence. During the search a large amount of evidence was located, including narcotics and larger amounts of child pornography. The case was vertically filed with the DA's Office. The suspect is facing multiple felony counts.

On January 7, 2017, the Huntington Beach Police Department received a call from a witness regarding a strong-arm robbery occurring at the 7-11 at 706 Pacific Coast Highway. The witness said a very large group went into the store stealing items while others in the group assaulted the clerk. The group got onto a private party bus and traveled north on PCH. Officers stopped the bus a short distance away. A felony stop was conducted and an investigation ensued. There were approximately 80 subjects on the bus, requiring assistance from several other agencies. During the initial investigation, officers learned many of the passengers were associated with violent gangs out of South Los Angeles. Officers arrested two individuals for robbery and recovered seven loaded handguns.

During the follow-up investigation, SIB collaborated with LAPD South East Division Gang Detectives. Together, 24 suspects were identified. HBPD SIB Detectives obtained 24 arrest warrants for suspects who reside in the LA area. Eleven suspects were arrested on various charges including several weapon offenses. The suspects were members of the "Bounty Hunter Bloods" gang.

UNIFORM DIVISION

The Uniform Division is the most visible unit within the community. On a daily basis citizens will see uniform patrol and parking control officers, footbeat officers, motor officers, and the police helicopter providing aerial patrol. There is additional support from the Homeless Task Force, Mounted Enforcement Unit and in summer months, the Beach Detail. The patrol division also has a vibrant traffic unit that is constantly striving to keep motorists safe. The uniform division is responsible for all the amazing special events that come to our City.

In order to coordinate calls for service and proactive enforcement, the police department breaks down the City into 8 reporting districts; 4 of which are in the north part of our City and 4 in the south. The Uniform Division has the highest number of dedicated personnel assigned to keep the City safe.

PATROL BUREAU

The patrol bureau is overseen by a Captain and 6 lieutenants. There are three shifts and each has a dedicated team which includes the lieutenant, 2-4 sergeants and 10-24 officers. The squads are responsible for specific reporting districts known as RD's. The officers take responsibility of their area in order to get to know crime trends. The north part of the City features Bella Terra Shopping Center, auto dealerships, two high schools, the Oakview neighborhood, Sunset Beach and Huntington Harbor. Central park is split down the middle as the south end of the City encompasses Seaclyff Country Club, our beautiful beaches, 5 star hotels, the Pier, downtown businesses, Pacific City, City Hall and Joint Powers fire station.

The police department strives to connect with the community and have them understand our daily challenges. We hope through transparency to have citizens realize how much we rely on them for reporting issues. We have monthly Coffee with a Cop gatherings, town hall meetings, and Business Improvement District meetings. We engage with the community through Facebook and Instagram. Our goal is to provide information to those who "follow" our department in real time. We have educational programs such as the Know Your Limit campaign to encourage people to drink responsibly. We love participating in charitable events such as Tip-A-Cop, Shop with a Cop and many more. We highly encourage residents to participate in the Neighborhood Watch program to network with citizens to help educate and provide safety tips. We value the opportunity to provide service which is courteous, responsive, firm, efficient, and fair.



AIR SUPPORT UNIT

The Air Support Unit is one of the uniform division's greatest assets. The police department has three NOTAR helicopters that were chosen due to their wide mission capabilities, speed, and agility. The unit is comprised of one sergeant, six officer pilots and two mechanics. The helicopter is operated daily by a pilot and observer. The observer has the ability to view any incident from a wide angle to assist in locating missing persons, suspects, getaway cars, ocean searches, rescue calls, firefighting duties, and overall crime suppression. Vehicle pursuits and foot pursuits are extremely dangerous and this aerial perspective provides more effective and safer policing.

Our air support unit provides contract services to Newport Beach and Costa Mesa. The unit flies up to 3,000 hours a year. The team constantly strives to improve the technology in the aircraft and maintain a safe City. In January of 2017 the Air Support Unit received an award for 70,000 flight hours without accident. The ceremony was attended by past and present ASU officers.



CANINE UNIT

The Huntington Beach Police Canine Unit is Orange County's oldest unit. It was established to augment police services provided to the community. Highly skilled and trained teams of handlers and canines have evolved from the program and are used to locate individuals, contraband and apprehend criminal offenders. The use of a canine can drastically reduce the risk of injury to officers and the public.

To date, the Huntington Beach Police Department has deployed 35 police service dogs since the unit's inception in 1972. The current breed used by the Huntington Beach Police Canine Unit is Belgian Malinois. This is due to their solid nerves, high drive to work, athleticism and minimal health problems, which could limit the time frame of their careers.

The Huntington Beach Police Department currently has three canine teams protecting our citizens; Officer Casey Thomas and his partner "Bodhy"; Officer Wade Wilson and his partner

“Marco”; and our newest team, Officer Scott Kansaku and his partner “Dingo.” In 2017 our K9 officers were utilized to apprehend suspects, “sniff” out drugs in vehicles and search buildings.



CEREMONIAL DETAIL

The Ceremonial Detail is the official unit of the Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) whose main purpose is to represent the department during department approved events and to perform ceremonial type of duties.

The HBPD Ceremonial Detail was formed in 1997. It currently is comprised of 21 Sworn Personnel and is led by a member of the team with a rank of Sergeant. Since its inception, the Ceremonial Detail has attended the Orange County Police Officer Memorial as representatives for the two Huntington Beach Police Department officers killed in the line of duty, Officers LeRoy Darst (1928) and Leslie J. Prince (1974).

The HBPD Ceremonial Detail is an integral component of the California Police Officer Memorial in Sacramento. They provide escort for dignitaries, lay the wreath for the Candlelight Vigil, and provide security for the Police Officer Memorial Ceremony and the Survivor’s Family Dinner. They assist with the National Police Officer Memorial in Washington D.C., and have participated in the Annual Police Officers Unity Bicycle ride from New York to Washington D.C., during the National Memorial week.

Some of the duties performed or coordinated by the Ceremonial Detail include the Presentation of the Colors, usher and/or security for department events or for allied agency officer funerals, 21 gun salute, flag draped casket, funeral procession, laying of the wreath and sword drill and display.

They have performed color guard duties at several functions throughout the years including

Police Officer memorials, 9/11 Memorial ceremonies, Chamber of Commerce Awards, Miss HB, HB Centennial Ball, Flags for Heroes, HB Car Shows, Marine Corp 3/1 Battalion Annual 5k Run opening ceremonies, Law Enforcement Appreciation Day opening ceremonies at Angel Stadium, opening ceremonies for the NHL Ducks at Honda Center, Badge of Honor Foundation opening ceremonies, HBPD Award Ceremonies and the Special Olympics.

The Ceremonial Detail also has the honor of escorting any hometown military personnel who have been killed in action, from John Wayne Airport to Huntington Beach. The Ceremonial Detail is an essential branch of the Huntington Beach Police Department that provides a valuable service to the Department and to the City of Huntington Beach.



HOMELESS TASK FORCE

The department's Homeless Task Force is a collaborative effort which combines outreach, social work, education, and enforcement to improve the quality of life for all within our community.

Our Homeless Task Force is currently staffed by two uniformed officers and three part-time case managers. The task force works closely with several governmental and non-

governmental organizations to link those desiring assistance with appropriate resources. In 2017, the Homeless Task Force team members made over 700 contacts, and provided assistance to over 325 people. This assistance included housing referrals, bus passes, food and various other resources.

One of the most impactful things our task force can do is help those in need find housing. During this past year, our task force assisted 72 people with obtaining shelter including 15 who were reunited with family members who could provide a stable foundation and support to the individual in need. Those receiving assistance range from a single mother with a three-month-old child who did not have permanent housing, to an immigrant family of five who was unable to secure sufficient housing.

During their outreach activities, Homeless Task Force officers also issued over 230 citations for violations of local and state statutes. Although the mission of the Homeless Task Force is continually growing and changing, our dedicated staff is committed to assisting all members of our community.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM

The Special Enforcement Team is staffed by 8 uniformed officers and 2 sergeants, whose primary responsibilities include activities within the Downtown Business District, Huntington City Beach, and Sunset Beach. During the summer months, this detail is supplemented by an additional 8 officers who make up the seasonal Beach Detail.

In 2017, the Special Enforcement Team stayed extremely busy with proactive enforcement activities, plain clothes details, bicycle patrols, community outreach events such as Know Your Limit and Coffee with a Cop, all while managing resources to ensure public safety during large scale events including multiple political protests, the U.S. Open of Surfing, and Surf City Air Show.

In total, officers from the Special Enforcement Team made 88 felony arrests, 724 misdemeanor arrests and issued 2165 citations throughout the year. This unit's dedication to providing quality service to residents and visitors had a noticeable impact on public safety.

MOUNTED ENFORCEMENT UNIT

The Mounted enforcement Unit is comprised of 3 officers and one supervisor. The unit recently added an alternate position to assist with any absences of permanent officers assigned to the unit. Two horses were recently retired and two additional horses were purchased and added to the team. The two new horses are currently in their training phase. The horses are Drifter, Rowdy, Scout, and Bat Man. The team specializes in suppression of criminal activity by adding high profile enforcement to the parks, beaches, downtown, and special events. The MEU was deployed at over 75 events in 2017 for community suppression including the 4th of July, US Open surf competition, MLB Angels Games, Knott's Berry Farm Halloween Haunt, staged protests, and the HB Air Show.

In December 2017, the officers collected toys for the children at Orangewood Children and Family Center and for homeless children housed at the Orange County Rescue Mission. In 2017, MEU officers partnered with the Therapeutic Riding Center developing the youth program, "Reins of Success". The 12 week program targets at-risk children in the Oakview neighborhood. It provides children with the opportunity to learn horsemanship skills and incorporated the core components; Respect, Responsibility, and Citizenship.



SWAT/ CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Huntington Beach Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) was established in 1974. The Team is comprised of one Lieutenant, three Sergeants, 16 Officers, four HB Fire Department Tactical Paramedics, one Tactical Physician, and three Tactical Dispatchers.

Due to the various situations our Team is expected to be prepared to handle, officers are specifically trained in many different specialties. Some of these include tear gas deployment, explosive breaching, diversionary device deployment, less lethal weapons, mechanical breaching, sniper / counter-sniper operations, and dignitary protection.

We are fortunate, through Urban Areas Security Initiative grant funding to have a Lenco armored vehicle. Due to its size and weight, several Team members have obtained the required Class B licensing. Also, technological advancements in recent years have morphed tactical deployments by developing technologies to serve our needs. Our Team currently deploys with two different robotic capabilities and various surveillance systems to assist our operations and enhance the safety of our personnel and the public.

Our Team is also a member of a regional Joint Hazards Assessment Team (JHAT) composed of members from the four largest agencies in Orange County. This team is a regional mutual aid asset, which trains and equips operators to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive threat events. It is composed of personnel from SWAT Teams, HazMat

Teams, OC Bomb Squad, OC Health Department, and the 9th Civil Support Team.

The Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) consists of two Sergeants, ten Officers, and two reserve officers who are trained in crisis and mental health intervention techniques. They report to the SWAT Lieutenant and train several times a year with the SWAT team. CNT deploys with SWAT on team activations and assist at other events that do not require a full SWAT deployment.

Mental health continues to be a prolific issue various agencies in the County deal with on a regular basis. In addition to their regular training, our CNT personnel receive specialized training in how to peacefully resolve situations involving persons with such struggles.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS

The Crime Scene Investigators work in the Uniform Division assigned to a patrol squad. Their primary responsibility is to conduct investigations on crime scenes, deaths, serious traffic accidents, industrial accidents and other crimes; document and gather evidence. Their primary focus is on collecting evidence to support the successful prosecution of crimes which include but is not limited to photographs, DNA, and fingerprints.

COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICERS

Community Services Officers are civilian employees designed to supplement the responsibilities of sworn officers. They are assigned in different areas throughout the department including the field, the front desk, investigations and the administrative services bureau.

In 2017, CSOs were deployed in the field to assist patrol with issues not requiring a sworn police officer. Their duties include cold crime reports, information reports, assisting at traffic accidents and other ancillary assignments. CSO duties at the front desk include taking crime reports, citation sign-offs and providing general assistance to citizens. The CSOs assigned to the Investigations Division examine missing persons cases, property crimes, economic crimes, as well as acting as a liaison with the Orange County Courts. They also assist the detectives in their investigations by providing suspect research, preparing reports for court filings, and other investigative needs. CSOs assigned to the Administrative Services Division oversee the administrative functions of the body worn camera program and provide this evidence to the district attorney's office as needed.

TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit is managed by a Lieutenant, supervised by three Sergeants, and a Parking Control Supervisor. There are 14 motor officers, 1 DUI enforcement officers, 2 accident investigators, 1 traffic records clerk, and 16 parking control officers. The Traffic Unit is responsible for education and enforcement activities involving traffic laws, parking issues, bicycle safety, and the investigation of traffic collisions. The Traffic Unit works collectively with other City departments to find solutions to traffic related challenges.

The ultimate goal of Traffic Law Enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions. This past year officers responded to 2,178 collisions, of which 6 resulted in fatalities. This was the lowest number of deaths on our roadways in our recorded 50 year history. Out of the 2,178 collisions, 988 resulted in injuries. The Traffic Unit conducted 5 DUI checkpoints, 59 saturation patrols, and had 14 “Know Your Limit” campaigns where over 485 patrons were educated from 40 alcohol establishments.

Numerous operations are conducted throughout the year to help reduce unsafe driving. These operations include DUI saturation patrols, distracted driver enforcement, motorcycle safety enforcement, “Click It or Ticket” and bicycle and pedestrian enforcement. In 2017, over 153 operations were conducted, over 1233 vehicle stops and over 1,000 citations were issued. 9,848 citations were issued by the traffic unit and an overall total of 13,578 citations were issued during 2017.

In addition to addressing crime trends associated with collisions and impaired driving, the Traffic Unit also is responsible for the Special Events and filming within the City. They coordinated over 100 events a year including the July 4th Celebration, The US Open of Surfing, Surf City Marathon, AVP volleyball, the Breitling Airshow, Surf City 10M/10K, and many more.



POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Part I Crimes

Part I Comparison Last Year / This Year				
	YTD 2016	YTD 2017	Difference	Percent Change
<i>Homicide</i>	2	2	0	0.0%
<i>Rape</i>	55	75	20	36.4%
<i>Robbery</i>	76	95	19	25.0%
<i>Aggravated Assault</i>	227	289	62	27.3%
<i>Burglary</i>	650	617	-33	-5.1%
<i>Larceny</i>	3465	3283	-182	-5.3%
<i>Auto Theft</i>	411	385	-26	-6.3%
<i>Arson</i>	20	32	12	60.0%
Total (Not including Simple Assaults)	4906	4778	-128	-2.6%
Violent Crimes	360	461	101	28.1%
Property Crimes	4546	4317	-229	-5.0%

RETIREMENTS

Each year many of our employees accomplish the goal of retirement. In 2017, we said farewell to sixteen of our colleagues – 5 police officers, 4 Sergeants, 2 Lieutenants, a Captain, Communications Manager, Crime Scene Investigator, Community Services Officer and Records Specialist. We wish them well as they begin the next chapter of their lives.

EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Each year the department recognizes employees for their outstanding contribution to the City of Huntington Beach. Employees are nominated by their co-workers and winners are selected by the department's awards committee. Usually in March, award recipients are recognized at a ceremony at the Waterfront Hilton Huntington Beach presented by the Huntington Beach Police and Community Foundation. Award recipients for their contributions in 2017:

Crime Fighter Award – Officer John Elser

Civilian Employee of the Year – Police Specialist Shirley Salter

Unit/Team Award – Special Enforcement Team (SET) / Downtown Footbeat, Officers Grant Hasselbach, Jared Horn, Michelle Seeser, Stefani Williams, Daniel Subia, Jesse Hart, Bill Brownlee, Irma Lamas, Ryan Christie, Thomas Engle, Colin Lewis, Michael Aspeitia, Kevin Heusser and Ryan Sly

Officer of the Year – Police Officer Humberto Valdez

Supervisor of the Year – Sergeant Shawn White

Civilian Supervisor of the Year – Communications Supervisor Jennifer La Fontaine

Award of Merit – Lieutenant Bo Svendsbo, Officer Tai Huynh and Police Chaplains Al Ramirez, Bob Ewing, Roger Wing and Jeremy King.

Distinguished Service Award – Communications Operator Erin Dereszynski and Reserve Officer Doug Cosgrove

Lifesaving Award – Officer Jeremey Grannis

Medal of Valor – Officer Eric Esparza and Officer Steve Tennant

The Police Department is proud of all the award recipients.



SOCIAL MEDIA

The department continues to be present in our social media campaigns. This year we had many posts documenting our involvement in the community, interesting calls for service and identification of suspects. Below is our top ten for the year:

#10 - Craigslist rental scam posted July 7th – 962 “likes”, 364 shares

#9 - Video outlining how to becoming a Motor Officer, posted February 10th – 10,000 views, 307 “likes”, 56 shares.

#8 - HBPD & OCSD escorted military wounded to HB for Operation Surf, posted June 6th – 1,100 “likes”, 109 shares.

#7 - Photos from the first day of the Huntington Beach Airshow, posted September 30th – 1,900 “likes”, 259 shares.

#6 - Video of heavy rain and strong wind - #socialstormwatch, posted February 27th - 24,000 views, 547 “likes”, 145 shares.

#5 - Norms restaurant robbery video, posted November 3rd – 43,000 views, 296 “likes”, 328 shares.

#4 - Officers assist an elderly woman with dementia at Boudins – but let her finish her wine first, posted May 13th – 2,000 “likes”, 180 shares.

#3 - Photos from the Huntington Beach Airshow last day, posted October 1st – 2,100 “likes”, 98 SHARES,

#2- Officers pursue and arrest felony theft suspect while chase was broadcast by FoxLA11, posted May 19th – 335,000 views, 810 “likes”

Our #1 post for 2017:

Homeless Task Force collected gifts and gift cards for homeless man and his 4 year old son, posted December 25th – 45,000 views, 2,800 “likes”, 366 shares.



CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY





Huntington Beach Police Department

2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

www.hbpd.org Emergency 9-1-1

COMMUNICATIONS

(714) 960-8825

FRONT DESK

(714) 960-8843

INVESTIGATIONS

(714) 536-5951

JAIL

(714) 536-5691

PROFESSIONAL

STANDARDS UNIT

(714) 536-5693 or

(714) 536-5951

PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

(714) 536-5944

RECORDS

(714) 536-5641

TRAFFIC

(714) 536-5663

WATCH COMMANDER

(714) 960-8800