

#### FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT** 



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# The Fresno Police Department's Vision and Mission Statements

### **Vision**

To serve our community with **honesty**, **compassion** and **respect**.

#### **Mission**

The mission of the Fresno Police Department is to enhance <u>safety</u>, <u>service</u>, and <u>trust</u> with our community.

- Keep our community <u>safe</u> by preventing citizens from becoming victims of crime or from being injured in traffic collisions. This is our highest priority.
- Provide excellent <u>service</u> to the numerous requests we receive from the community. Our principal duty is to serve.
- Maintain the <u>trust</u> of our community. This trust provides every
  department member with the foundation required to carry out our duties.
  Without trust we simply do not have the authority to serve our public.

The core values of the Fresno Police Department are reflected on the Department's challenge coin, **Courage**, **Compassion**, **Community**.

The phrase "<u>with our community</u>" is included to reflect our desire to work side by side, in partnership with our community as we collectively fulfill our mission.

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Mariposa Mall P.O. Box 1271 Fresno, CA 93715-1271 Police Department
Jerry P. Dyer
Chief of Police



Dear Members of our Community:

I hope you will find this year's Annual Report enlightening as you get an inside look at the accomplishments of the Fresno Police Department and the ongoing efforts to keep our citizens safe.

For the fourth straight year, violent crime decreased in our city with a 7% reduction in 2014. Over the past ten years violent crime has been reduced by 39% and property crimes by 17%. This is a remarkable accomplishment when considering the significant loss of personnel experienced by the department combined with a weakened criminal justice system. The credit truly belongs to the hard working men and women of the Fresno Police Department and the partnerships we have formed with neighborhoods and community groups.

Since the expansion of the department's traffic unit in 2002, Fresno has experienced a 39% reduction in injury collisions and a 40% reduction in total collisions. I am thankful for the dedicated efforts of our Traffic Officers.

Body worn camera deployment was launched in 2014. The department now has over 100 cameras deployed with an additional 300 to be deployed in 2015. I am confident this technology will help us build upon the success we have had with the reduction in the use of force complaints (-29%) and citizen complaints (-16%) and officer involved shootings (-27%).

This past year, the department received national re-accreditation with "Excellence" utilizing the ""Gold Standard," complying with all 484 best practice standards. Fresno PD continues to be the largest municipal law enforcement agency in California to be accredited.

2014 saw a shift in policing style with a return to "community policing." We are committed to do whatever it takes to maintain the trust and confidence of this community.

I am extremely proud to be the police chief of such a progressive organization and supportive community. I look forward to serving as your police chief for years to come.

Sincerely,

√Jerry P. Dyer Chief of Police

"Safety, Service, Trust"

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Professional, Effective, Timely

## Fresno Police Officers' Association



The Fresno Police Officers' Association was founded in the early 1900's, known first as the Widow and Orphan's Organization. As the name implied, the organization provided assistance to the families of its members. Sometime later, the name changed to the Fresno Police Relief Association, and in 1951, was incorporated. Services of the organization expanded by this time and an emphasis was placed on serving the community, and improving FPOA member benefits, salary,

and working conditions. The name was once again changed in 1975 to its current name, although it is usually referred to simply as the FPOA. The FPOA is comprised of the sworn men and women currently working, and who have retired from the Fresno Police Department. Although the FPOA has undergone many transformations during the 100+ years, its primary purpose remains the same: Service to members and the community.





During 2014 the Fresno Police Officers' Association partnered with nearly fifty (50) local non-profit organizations. The FPOA supported our community partners with more than five hundred (500) hours of volunteer time and more than \$40,000 in financial contributions, raffle donations, and live/silent auction donations. Two key groups the FPOA supported during 2014 were the March of Dimes March for Babies and the Leadership Fresno Program Class 31 Project. The FPOA proudly raised \$10,000 for the March of Dimes March for Babies program providing aide to preemie babies and their families. The FPOA also provided \$2500 for the Leadership Fresno Class 31 Drought Resistant Educational Garden at Woodward Park. The FPOA believes drought

education has become vital to our community's health and to sustaining our local agriculture.

During 2014, the FPOA was honored to support organizations such as Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), benefiting the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. The FPOA also proudly supported our veterans and the men and women actively serving in the United States armed forces.



#### Street Violence Section



The Street Violence Section (SVS) is comprised of the Homicide Unit, Robbery/Felony Assault/Gun Crimes Unit, the plain clothes Tactical Team, and the Night Detective Unit. Investigators in these units work around-the-clock to provide an immediate and focused response to violent crimes committed in our city.

When a Violent Crime Occurs, the Night Detective Unit or Felony Assault Unit is usually the first investigative unit to respond. They begin by accelerating the tempo of the investigation. They coordinate the response of other units (Homicide, Tac team, etc.). The result is a mass-coordinated investigative response where the case is often solved or investigative tactics are developed to disrupt the situation. When a suspect is identified, the Tactical team, who specialize in surveillance techniques and tactics, are called in to quickly apprehend the suspect(s).

One of the strengths in 2014 has been the gang expertise in each SVS unit and how this expertise was used to solve high-profile cases, conduct search-warrant operations and recover firearms at a record pace. This, we believe, played a role in our crime-reduction efforts in 2014.

A key in solving these high-profile cases has been the focus of the SVS detectives and the speed in solving violent crimes. This approach has led to record-setting Homicide clearance rates, the work done in the Felony Assault and Robbery Units, Gun Crimes Unit, and the productivity of the Tactical team.

#### **HOMICIDE UNIT**

- We ended 2014 with 48 murders compared to 40 in 2013.
- In 2014, we had 30 gang-related murders compared to 24 in 2013.
- In 2014, we had a 96% clearance rate.
- We ended 2014 with 284 shootings compared to 319 in 2013.
- In 2014, we had 184 gang-related shootings compared to 196 gang shootings in 2013.
- In 2013, we had 8 OIS compared to 12 OIS in 2013.

#### FELONY ASSAULT AND ROBBERY UNIT

- Solved 73 shootings
- Solved 61 robberies
- Authored 397 search warrants
- Searched 549 gang homes
- Recovered 240 firearms
- Due to the Robbery Unit's efforts in solving cases and working proactive investigations, specifically targeting Northside Pleasant Bulldogs and various other Bulldog cliques, SVS robberies (commercial robberies/ carjackings/home invasions) decreased by 21% compared to 2013.





#### **SVS TACTICAL TEAM**

- Arrested 48 murder suspects
- Arrested 44 shooting suspects
- Arrested 18 robbery suspects
- Served 197 search warrants
- Recovered 126 firearms
- Spent thousands of hours conducting surveillance on suspects and persons of interests throughout the year.



#### HIGH-PROFILE INCIDENTS THAT SVS HANDLED

- Made an arrest of a 17-year-old College Street BDS for the death of an innocent 16-year-old girl. Two waves of operations targeted College Street.
- Spearheaded 119 gang operations coordinating with tactical units department-wide.
- Created the Crime Stoppers "Felon with a Gun" campaign that netted 48 tips, 37 arrests, and 34 guns recovered.
- National Geographic featured the SVS Gun Crimes Unit, which was shown on Underworld Inc.
- A "first ever" as the 2014 Gun Crimes Unit recovered over 100 firearms.
- Large-scale 187 Bond Street Bulldog operation wherein the chief addressed the tactical units at the Mobile Command Center (MCC). This operation led to the identification of the shooter.
- The escalation of violence in 2014 by McKenzie Street BDS members.
- Developed Spanish-speaking Public Information Officer, SVS teams trained them and on-camera interviews skyrocketed.

# READY TO LAUNCH

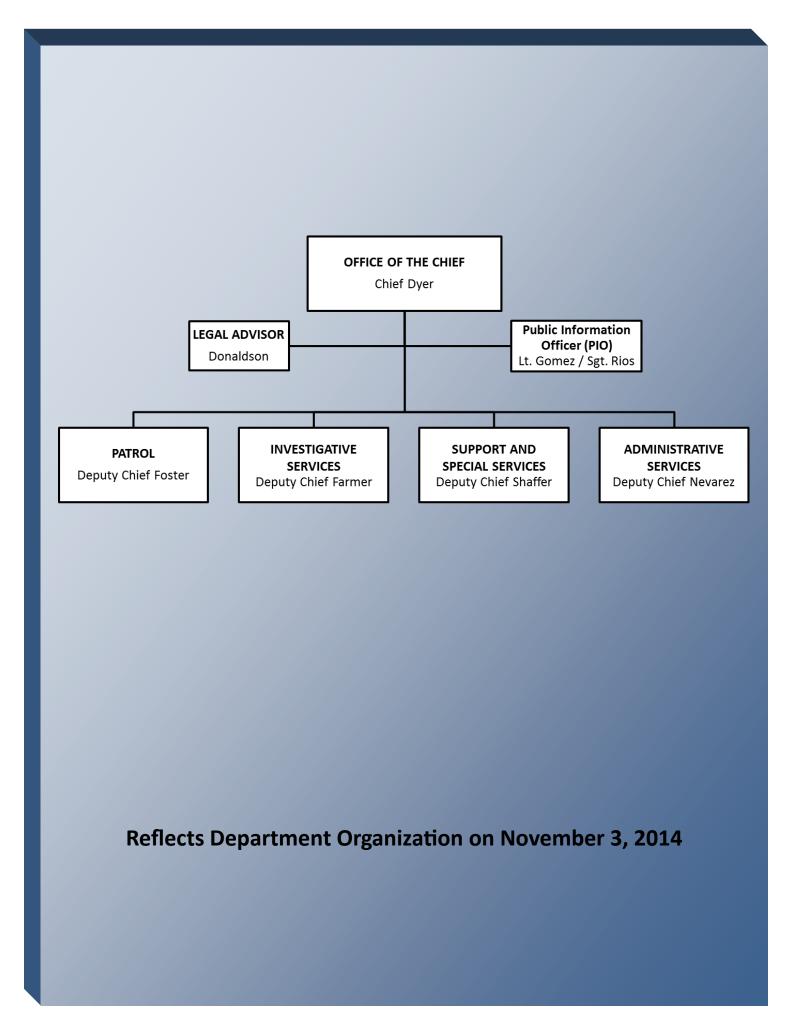
We are very excited about our Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) that will become operational in Spring 2015. Remodeling of the library and kitchen located on the second floor of Headquarters, and installation of work stations and equipment, began in early 2014. The RTCC is a state of the art tactical communications facility funded by private donations and equipped with the latest technology in computers, monitors, radio communication, and video policing.

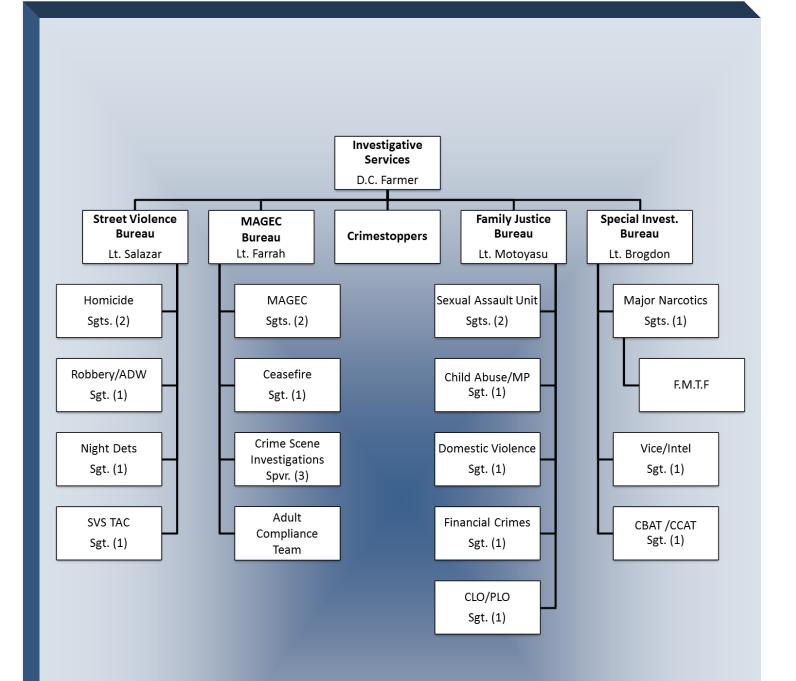
The 650 square foot room has eight workstation. Four of the work stations each contain a computer and six large screen computer monitors used to assist officers in the field. The other four work stations each have four large screen monitors used for video policing. There are twelve 55 inch large screen monitors at the front of the room which can be used to view video policing cameras, calls for service, patrol officer locations, and intelligence information about people, places, vehicles, and cell phones related to a high priority call.

The RTCC will be staffed with retired officers and officers on limited duty due to injuries. These RTCC operators will monitor incoming high priority calls and immediately engage by monitoring video policing cameras in the area, monitoring the location of responding units and radio communication involving the call, bringing up activity history at the location, and checking any names and cell phone numbers associated with the event. All pertinent information can be relayed to responding officers via radio or computer.

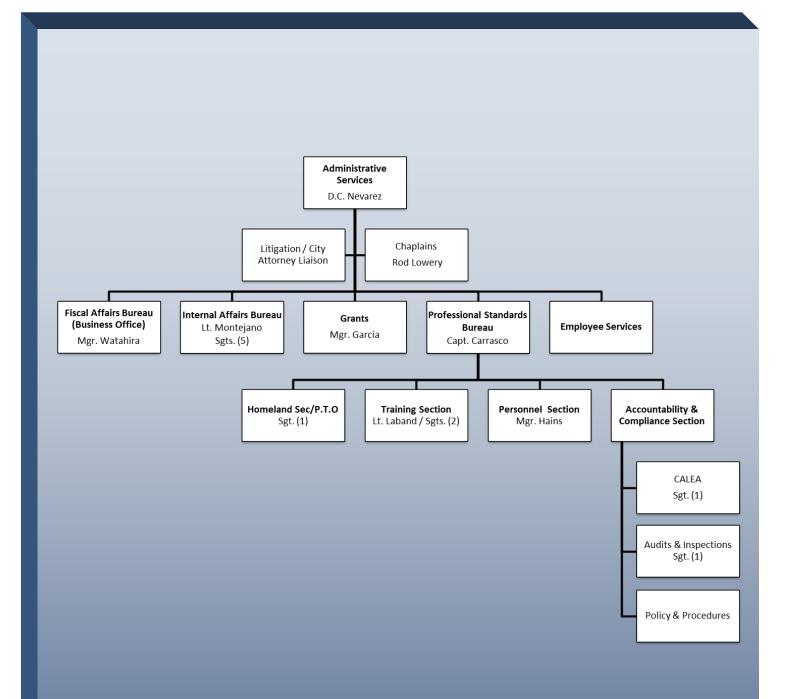
In addition to the operators accessing Fresno Police Department (FPD) records and reports related to people and locations involved in a high priority call, the RTCC intelligence capabilities also include access to an intelligence service known as "Beware", which provides background information on people, and color codes their threat level based on a multitude of factors. Beware also provides information on cell phones, vehicles, and people associated with the primary location of an event as well as residences located nearby.

The RTCC is the culmination of funding donations from the community, hard work by FPD personnel assisted by other City of Fresno personnel as well as local businesses, and the acquisition of state of the art hardware, software and audio-visual equipment. The end result will be a high functioning crime center that provides officers responding to emergency calls with an increased level of awareness that will make them and the community safer.

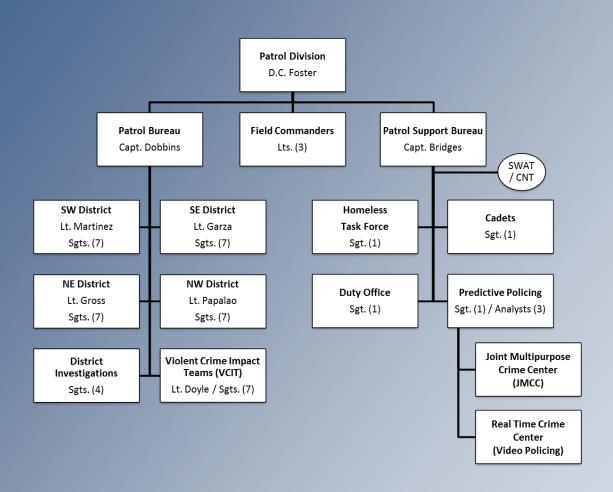




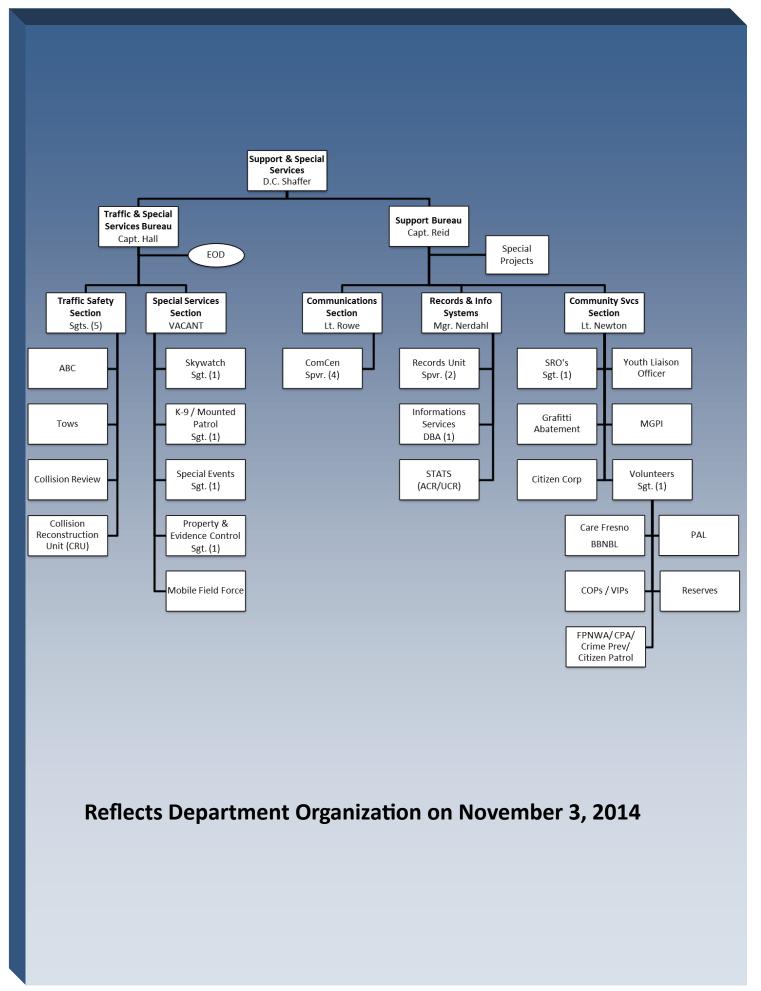
Reflects Department Organization on November 3, 2014



Reflects Department Organization on November 3, 2014



Reflects Department Organization on November 3, 2014



#### **Southwest Policing District**

The District prides itself on its community-oriented policing strategies. The downward trending of crimes in the District is attributed to the success of a team-policing concept, everyone in the District works together to combat crime within the District. This includes the Patrol officers who initially respond to call, the Detectives and Violent Crime Impact Teams who follow up on these calls, and support staff and community volunteers.

There are two entities in the Southwest District that have the most fundamental version of police-community interaction, which have consistently yielded positive results. First, is the District's Downtown Policing Unit (DPU) or bicycle unit is deployed daily in the Downtown Chinatown area and in the Tower District. DPU is composed of eight officers, providing seven day-a-week coverage in both areas. The officers assigned to DPU spend the majority of their shift working closely with local business owners and visitors and in these busy areas.

The second entity is a collaboration of Southwest police officers, community volunteers, church representatives and non-profit groups known as Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back To Life (BBNBTL), which is a non-profit organization. Each year, the BBNBTL manages block parties throughout the city. In 2014, there were 17 BBNBTL block parties. BBNBTL serves as a conduit in spreading police messages throughout the community. In 2014, volunteers responded to Southwest and called more than 75 representatives throughout the policing district, advising them of an issue, including what was expected to occur and what police were asking of the community. This collaboration has fostered a strong relationship between the police and the community.

For the past two years, the Southwest District has seen a reduction in both Part One violent crime and property crime offenses.



For the second year in a row, the Southwest District saw a reduction in both Part One violent crime and property crime offenses. Violent crime dropped -11.2 percent (776-689) and Property crime dropped -6.8 percent (4,173-3,889) for an overall reduction of 7.5 percent. This equates to 371 less victims of crime in Southwest in 2014 than 2013. This was significant considering 2013 had already been a year of reductions, 729 fewer victims of crime than in 2012. This crime reduction trend has yielded 1,100 fewer victims of crime in Southwest from 2012 through 2014.



#### **Northeast Policing District**

The Northeast District is one of the most populated and diverse districts in the city. The district is a thriving area of commerce, bounded by McKinley Avenue to the South, Friant Road to the North, Blackstone Avenue to the West and the City of Clovis to the East. The district is home to some of the largest shopping centers in the city (River Park, Fashion Fair, and Manchester Center), as well as California State University Fresno and the Willow International Campus of State Center Community College District. It is home to one of the most advanced hospitals in the area, St. Agnes Medical Center, as well as one of the largest parks in the city, Woodward. On any given day the district experiences a multitude of big city issues within this one area. During 2014, Northeast officers handled over 100,000 calls for service.

The Year 2014 was a successful year for the Northeast District. For a second consecutive year, the district experienced a reduction of 12 percent in violent crime and a 9.1 percent reduction in property crime (Part one crimes as reported in FBI UCR). This was due to the hard work and dedication of not only the officers and civilians who serve the community in Northeast, but to the partnership that the community has with us through programs such as Neighborhood Watch and Citizens On Patrol. With over 170 active Neighborhood Watch Groups and our Citizens On Patrol (COP) unit, who actively volunteer in day-to-day district operations, TOGETHER WE kept our community safe! To learn more about Neighborhood Watch, Citizens Police Academy or Citizens On Patrol (COP) programs, please call (559) 621-LOOK (5665) for more details.

There was no shortage of officers involved in our community events, which included school carnivals to neighborhood events, Boys and Girls Club, Halloween parties, Christmas Presence, holiday food distribution and just meeting the needs of our citizens. The Northeast District members were proud to serve!



#### **Northwest Policing District**

#### **The Northwest Policing District**

The Northwest (NW) Policing District covers everything in the city of Fresno, that is North of McKinley to the San Joaquin, and West of Blackstone to Chateau Fresno. The district serves over approximately 150,000 people. It encompassed several schools in three school districts; Fresno Unified, Clovis Unified and Central Unified, including Central High School East, Bullard High School, and Fresno High School. Northwest is home to multiple large scale shopping centers, on North Blackstone Avenue, Fig Garden, West Shaw Avenue, and one under construction on West Herndon Avenue. In addition, there are several large industrial centers that bring in thousands of people every day. The Northwest District Commander is Lieutenant Jon Papaleo.

#### **Christmas Tree Lane**

This year's Christmas Tree Lane was organized and supervised by members of the Northwest District (1 Sergeant, 1 officer, 3 cadets) and CSO Luis Garcia from the Crime Prevention Unit. This year was extremely busy, as Dean Alexander, and his family, won an award for being the most decorated house in America. We set up alternate traffic patterns nightly and monitored the motorists present. The team also coordinated two Walk Nights at Christmas Tree Lane. The event appears to have been a success. Thousands attended Christmas Tree Lane, and although the lines were long, we had no major disturbances or problems arise.



#### **Crime Prevention**

CSO Luis Garcia handled NW District issues as the Crime Prevention Officer. He worked continuously to educate the public and help reduce crime by education and communication. CSO Garcia attended 22 Neighborhood Watch meetings, six Business Association meetings and building inspections, four Home Owner Association Meetings, and three school carnivals. In addition, he attended multiple parties during the National Night Out, and completed home inspections.



Overall decrease in violent crime: -4.0%

Overall decrease in property crime -4.3%

Overall decrease in all crime: -4.3%

Robbery -1.5%

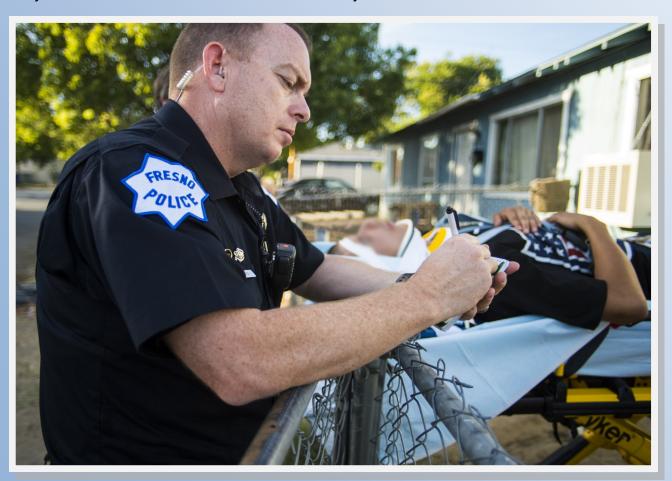
Burglary -7.1%

Aggravated Assault -6%

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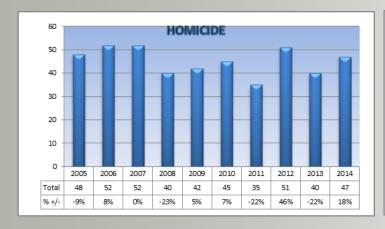
# **Southeast Policing District**

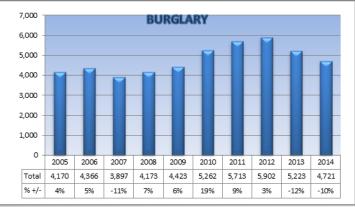
While patrolling over 35 square miles and policing more than 140,000 residents, officers and citizens in the Southeast Policing District saw another successful year in crime reduction. In their relentless effort to further lower crime, officers working in Southeast Fresno were fully immersed in the development of community police partnerships. Crime prevention and problem solving were top priorities in the district's ongoing work to strengthening community ties. In their effort to increase reporting and reduce victimization, officers engaged Southeast residents in the "Stay Safe and Sound in Southeast" educational campaign designed to provide crime prevention information to every person living in Southeast Fresno. As a result, officers passed out thousands of flyers in neighborhoods affected by crime, while District Commander Jose Garza met with hundreds of citizens, partnered with the Hope Coalition and routinely gained advice from the District's Citizens Advisory Board on how to better serve the community.

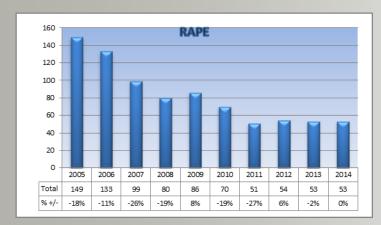


Through these extenuating efforts, the Southeast Policing District in 2014 saw significant reductions in both violent and property crimes. The hard work accomplished by both officers and citizens resulted in the Southeast District recording the lowest amount of overall crime in the city. When compared to 2013, violent crimes in Southeast Fresno decreased by 2.8 percent while property crimes were reduced by 13 percent. The 2014 crime reduction goals met by officers meant that 570 fewer people were victimized in Southeast Fresno this year. Our commitment to reducing crime took place at every level including Patrol, Investigations, Problem-Oriented Policing, Crime Prevention and Citizens on Patrol. This year Southeast officers conducted 7,520 parole and probation compliance checks, made 5,973 felony arrests, more than 1,810 misdemeanor arrests, and removed 175 guns from the streets. These efforts also included the arrests of 2,737 gang members and 1,301 parolees and probationers. Southeast

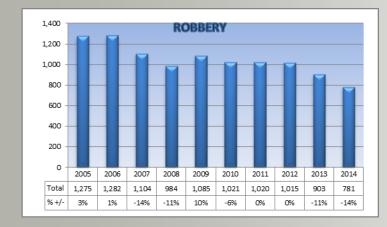
#### 10 YEAR PROFILE PART ONE CRIMES

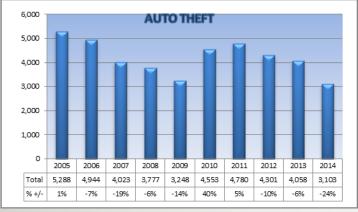


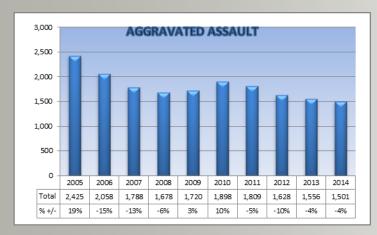






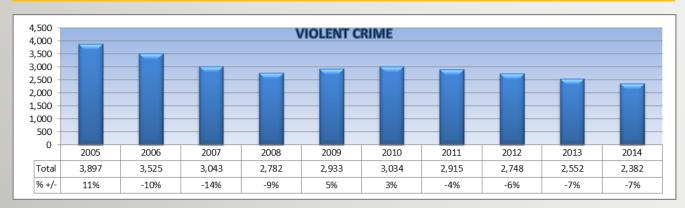


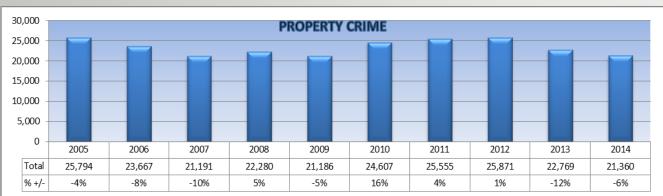


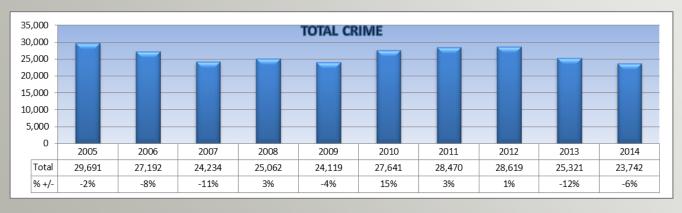


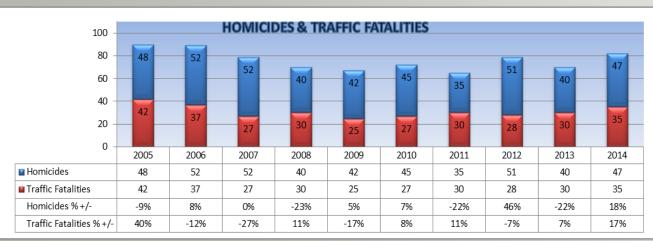


#### 10 YEAR PROFILE CRIME CATEGORY









#### **Communications Center**

The Fresno Police Department Communication's Center is the first point of contact for a majority of our citizen's needing public safety services. Our dispatch center is a primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and receives all incoming "911" calls from within the City of Fresno. Those calls requiring a response from the Fresno Fire Department or Emergency Medical Services are transferred to those agencies for dispatch. When one of our dispatchers receives a call requiring a police response, the information is entered into our Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD). Each call is assigned a priority and then sent out to the field to be handled by officers, field cadets or policing volunteers.

The communication's Bureau is comprised 80 full-time dispatchers, who answer both emergency and non-emergency calls 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. As the number of emergency calls increase, we continuously work to hire and train new emergency service dispatchers. Members of the unit are required to attend a basic dispatcher's academy and then complete an 18 month "in-house" training program as part of the selection and training process.

Over the past few years the number of "911 Emergency" calls received by our communication's center has steadily increased. During 2014, the Fresno Police Department received 409,784 emergency "911" calls and 540,315 non-emergency calls within our dispatch center. This center is extremely busy receiving 950,099 calls (emergency and non-emergency) during the year.

Dispatchers, within our center, are extremely busy and must constantly balance human compassion against the need for efficiency as a phone within the dispatch center will ring every 33.19 seconds every day throughout the entire year.



# **Communications Center Statistics**

911 Calls	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
911 Calls Received	239,835	267,762	295,429	368,822	400,663	409,784
911 Calls Answered	227,582	241,978	267,890	325,425	342,083	359,290
911 Average Answer Delay (seconds)	4	8	8	10	12	10
Zero Priority Response Time (minutes)	6.41	6.86	7.21	7.38	8.27	8.28

Non-Emergency Calls						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Non-Emergency Calls Received	531,907	596,243	581,391	577,167	556,869	540,315
Non-Emergency Calls Answered	504,141	525,737	511,831	495,490	457,628	465,631
Non-Emergency Average Answer Delay (seconds)	7	18	20	27	38	26
911 & Non-Emergency Call Totals	771,742	864,005	876,820	945,989	957,532	950,099

Calls for Service	190		-			
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Calls for Service	432,320	409,080	404,548	417,333	405,800	408,718
Average Daily Calls for Service	1,184	1,120	1,108	1,140	1,112	1,120
Original Incident Reports Written	103,425	94,164	91,301	91,700	86,872	93,656
Electronic Reports Received	3,088	10,182	11,585	12,610	11,164	8,329



#### **MULTI-AGENCY GANG ENFORCEMENT CONSORTIUM**

The Multi-Agency Gang Enforcement Consortium (M.A.G.E.C.) Team continued to lead the fight against gang violence across Fresno County. Full-time participating agencies included Homeland Security, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office, the Fresno Sheriff's Office, the California Highway Patrol, and the Fresno Police Department. MAGEC Teams also received assistance throughout the year from Clovis PD, Firebaugh PD, Fresno County Probation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). With the assistance of these agencies, MAGEC conducted gang sweeps in both the rural and metropolitan areas of Fresno, and policed several special events to ensure a safe environment free of gang violence.

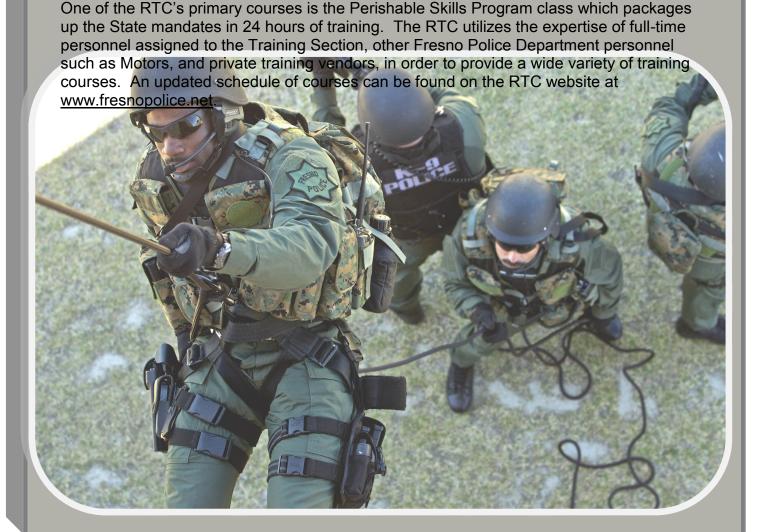
The Metropolitan Investigation and Tactical Teams are specifically responsible for gang enforcement within the city of Fresno, and focused on street level investigations, search warrant service, and gang suppression in 2014. Gang shootings in Fresno declined by another 5% during 2014, following a similar decrease in 2013. Felony arrests by Metro MAGEC teams remained steady this year at 1118. MAGEC Metro removed 159 illegal firearms from Fresno streets. Detectives completed 94 gang background packages on defendants, allowing MAGEC prosecutors to pursue additional gang charges and/or severe sentencing enhancements designed to keep gang members behind bars for years.



### Fresno Police Department Training Center

The Fresno Police Department Regional Training Center (RTC) opened in September of 2010 and has been in operation for over four years. The RTC's staff works hard to provide training that assists law enforcement personnel from a wide variety of agencies to operate in the challenging environment that they face every day. The instructors are certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) in the subject areas in which they instruct. Much of the training is mandated by the State of California for all peace officers. Training classes are usually offered in conjunction with our long time partners, Fresno City College and POST.

In addition to joining in on the classes the RTC offers, numerous other Federal, State and local agencies utilize the facility to train their personnel with their own instructors. As a training center available for public safety training, the RTC is also utilized by fire and EMS agencies for some of their training courses.



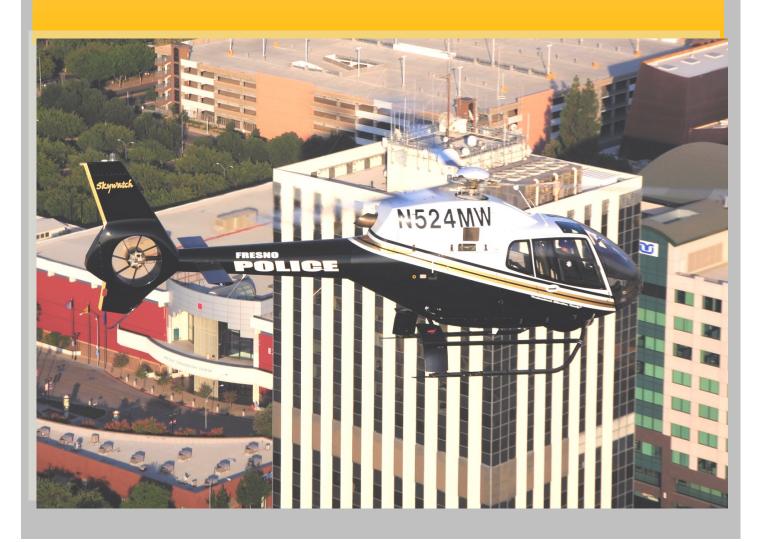
In 2014, the Fresno Police Department's Air Support Unit "Skywatch" continued to grow. While funding and flight hours remained about the same, the department's hiring of new officers allowed the air unit to add personnel and start heading back toward full staffing levels. For the year 2014, Skywatch flew 1,047 patrol hours and responded to 2,552 incidents resulting in 142 arrests where suspects would have eluded capture had "Air-1" not been overhead.

Demand for a police response from the air remains high. A good example of this occurred on Saturday, March 8, 2014 when the Skywatch crew worked back-to-back pursuits of two separate felons. Shortly after 1:00 a.m., the aircrew responded to assist one of the Violent Crime teams in pursuit of a car driven by a home invasion suspect near Blackstone and Ashlan. When the chase picked up speed, ground units elected to slow their pursuit and rely on Air-1 to follow the car. The suspect eventually made his way to a residential complex near Belmont and First where he and the passenger ran from the car and into an apartment. The aircrew directed ground units who surrounded the apartment and took the suspects into custody. While this was still going on, Skywatch was called to help another Violent Crime team who was chasing a separate car near McKinley and Fresno. Once again, when the helicopter arrived overhead, officers were able to break off the high-speed chase and let the aircrew take over using the high-powered Nightsun spotlight. After a few miles, the suspect's vehicle gave out and the suspect surrendered without incident. Inside the car next to the driver's seat, officers located a sawed-off rifle.



# **SKYWATCH STATISTICS**

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Incidents	1510	1782	2582	2552	
Arrests	178	120	156	142	
Flight Hours	847	777	1069	1047.4	
1 <sup>st</sup> on Scene	60%	62%	62%	65%	
Average Response Time	31 sec	35 sec	26 sec	30 sec	
Units Cancelled	126	166	218	296	
Stolen/Recovered Prop	\$21,200	\$35,300	\$204,000.00	\$112,177.00	
Pursuits	28	18	20	25	



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION 2014 FPD ANNUAL STATS

FINDINGS	TOTAL # OF FINDINGS FOR 2014 CLOSED CASES		
SUSTAINED	40		
NOT SUSTAINED	6		
UNFOUNDED	15		
EXONERATED	20		
WITHIN POLICY*	6		
WITHDRAWN	4		
CASE SUSPENDED	2		
OPEN	29		
TOTAL FINDINGS	122		

<sup>\*</sup>OIS-Person/OIS Dog/Firearm Discharge/Lethal

2014	TOTAL#
DEPT GENERATED IAs	56
CITIZEN GENERATED IAs	66
TOTAL	122
ICFs	408

DISCIPLINE ISSUED IN 2014	# OF EACH
TERMINATIONS	3
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF	1
DISCIPLINE	•
RETIREMENT	0
DEMOTIONS	0
SUSPENSIONS	14
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF	1
FINES	0
LETTERS OF REPRIMAND	7
TOTAL	26

#### **Accountability and Compliance Section**

The Accountability and Compliance Section (ACS) includes an officer and sergeant primarily responsible for maintaining CALEA accreditation and an officer and a sergeant primarily responsible for Policy and Procedure issues.

CALEA stands for Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and involves proving that we meet national best practice standards for law enforcement. CALEA must perform an on-site inspection of the Department every three years in order to maintain accreditation. In April 2014, the Fresno Police Department under went their third re-accreditation which resulted in a gold standard accreditation with excellence rating. In preparation for the next re-accreditation, CALEA personnel continue to stay busy building electronic files that prove the Department's compliance with 484 CALEA best practice standards. The Departments next re-accreditation is scheduled for April 2017.

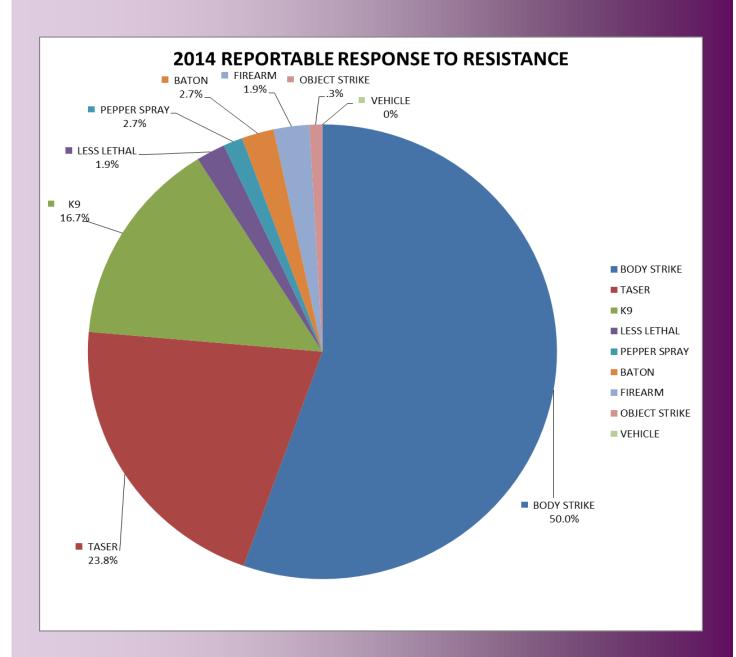
During 2014, Policy and Procedure personnel modified approximately 31 different Department policies and procedures. Each modification required research and collaboration with a number of Department staff members in order to produce a final product. In addition, 13 Roll Call Training Bulletins (RCTB's) were published during 2014. Other duties include administration of Power DMS, maintenance of approximately 40 operations manuals and tracking of Department cell-phones, and implementation of the body worn camera project.

In addition to their primary duties, members of the ACS are assigned to conduct audits and inspections, often at the direction of Chief Dyer. ACS personnel are responsible for producing quarterly and annual Reportable Response to Resistance Reports and analyzing use of force data. Each patrol audit involves the examination of one shift performed by an officer randomly selected from the patrol matrix.









Fresno Police Officers responded to 399,999 calls for service in 2014, but only used reportable force on 330 occasions. This equates to officers using reportable force during less than one-tenth of one percent (.083%) of all calls for service responded to in 2014. Reportable force is defined as:

Members (including canines) use force and a person is injured, has expressed a complaint of pain, or has been rendered unconscious;

Members strike a person with a body part (e.g., fist, foot, elbow, etc.) or any object (e.g., flashlight, clipboard, etc.); or

Members use (not merely display) a Department issued weapon (e.g., baton, chemical agent, Taser, less-lethal, shotgun, firearm, etc.).



at risk to save that of another, and others who dedicate themselves to developing new programs in policing to make our Community a better place to live. We proudly recognized the outstanding achievements of our personnel with a Major Commendations Ceremony on August 26th, 2014. We honored one Cadet with a Latent Print/Suspect Identification Pin, 25 Officers with the Recovered Firearms Award, and four Officers with the Prestigious 500 DUI Arrests Medal. Twelve Officers were awarded the Fresno Police Department Lifesaving Medal and two officers earned the Medal of Valor for extreme bravery while risking their own lives.







**Officer Ben Barnes** 

Officer Trevor Shipman Sr Sec Sylvia Echeverria







**RO Steven Garcia** 

Officer John Conlee Officer Dean Cardinale

**2014 Fresno Police Department Officers** and Employees of the Year

# Officers and Employees of the Year



Sgt. Lennie Lujan



**ESD III Tracy Johnson** 



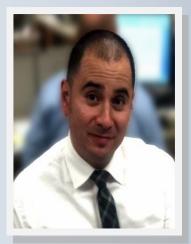
**Det. Danny Kim** 



COP Tina Maldonado Ofc. Terri Teklemariam



Lt. Tom Laband



**Det. Alfonso Castillo** 

A Commitment to excellence

#### **HOMELESS TASK FORCE**

The Homeless Task Force (HTF) was created in August of 2013 to facilitate and oversee the removal of the encampments that have plagued the downtown area for years. Following a cleanup effort of 2011 that led to yet another law suit over property, the City of Fresno put together the task force to better coordinate the cleanup efforts and provide on-going follow up to prevent the return of the illegal encampments.

Once the encampments were removed the HTF began its everyday mission to prevent the return of the encampments to both downtown Fresno and the city of Fresno overall. This is accomplished through the efforts of a Sergeant and four officers, a dedicated force of sanitation workers and full time liaison from the Code Enforcement division. All combined, these individuals work 7 days a week to maintain the "encampment free area" that once dominated the area surrounding the Poverello House and the Fresno Rescue Mission. In addition to this, the team answers calls from all over the city that come in through a "Homeless Encampment Hotline" set up via the One Call Center at City Hall. These calls are from business owners and citizens who report illegal camping, trespassing and other quality of life crimes that are associated with the encampment lifestyle.

The HTF has worked relentlessly over the past 16 months to build relationships with all the organizations in the city and county who provide services for the homeless. In doing so, we have been able to successfully assist dozens of homeless off the streets and into both short-term and long-term programs and housing. We have provided transportation, referrals, on the site counseling and often times our own personal resources to try and help those subjects that truly want to be done with the encampment lifestyle.

In March of 2014, the HTF was instrumental in convincing City Council to pass an amended ordinance on the possession of shopping carts. This passed with a 6-0 vote and was endorsed by the grocers association as well as championed by local businesses all over Fresno. Once this came into effect, the HTF was able to rid the old area of the encampments of all of the shopping carts that were being used by the homeless and transients. This made an instant impact on the area of downtown Fresno as the site of people pushing carts full of property all over downtown all but stopped. The HTF also worked with the Downtown Bike Unit on the new ordinance so our impact could be doubled. The DPU's efforts in shopping cart enforcement can be

seen all throughout the Fulton Mall and the surrounding areas of downtown Fresno. We were also able to return those carts to the businesses that they were taken from, resulting in the return of hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of stolen property. While there are still many carts being used illegally all throughout the city, we are slowly changing the paradigm of it being acceptable to possess a cart.



Many of our city's illegal settlements are located on both private property and Railroad property. Code Enforcement has been instrumental is helping to hold private land owners accountable for their property. While it sometimes takes a citation to grab their attention, often times it is education and cooperation that leads to success. Our Code officers have all been great in this respect. The HTF has also worked closely with all of the railroads in town, Union Pacific, BNSF and San Joaquin Valley, to make all of the city of Fresno a little safer and cleaner.

Finally our best efforts would mean little if it were not for the hard working and dedicated folks from Sanitation. They not only perform our garbage cleanups and litter control, but also are in charge of the collection, storage and release of the massive amounts of property the HTF collects and stores. They have really stepped up to be a wonderful addition to the task force, as they too have taken the approach of compassion and cooperation with our homeless population. Many have gone out of their way to help those they encounter with finding solutions to their property, rather than just turning a blind eye. Always ready to help, never complaining about their jobs and working in often horrible conditions; they are a remarkable group of people.

While numbers are not what the HTF is about, our numbers do show our efforts to not only help those that want the help, but the efforts to hold everyone accountable for their actions.

Felony Arrests – 238
Misdemeanor Arrests – 811
Shopping Cart Arrests – 471
New Settlements Discovered/Investigated – 858
Settlements removed – 748
Shopping Carts recovered – 3360

Shopping Carts recovered – 3360 Hotline Calls Answered – 1666 Subjects assisted off the street – 38 Citations Issued – 295 Complaints – 0



# THE FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

### TRAFFIC BUREAU

It is the philosophy of the Fresno Police Department that in order to reduce incidents of impaired or dangerous driving, we have to change behavior and guide people to make the right decisions. Social change requires time and a sustained effort. We believe that combining both education and an unwavering enforcement effort to hold people accountable for their actions is effective in reaching our goal for social change.

In 2001, when Chief Jerry Dyer became the Fresno Police Department's 21st Police Chief, he had a renewed vision for the department's Traffic Bureau. Prior to Chief Dyer's appointment, fatal traffic collisions consistently outnumbered homicides on an annual basis. Chief Dyer recognized that although all homicides are tragic and acceptable, a majority of these incidents were attributed to poor lifestyle choices, such as being involved in gangs or



drugs. In regards to traffic fatalities, innocent families are stricken, simply because they undertake the privilege of driving on our roadways; a privilege we all take for granted and one we believe will never end in tragedy. For this reason, in 2002, Chief Dyer made a commitment to change driving behaviors and took the approach that collisions are not "accidents," but are in fact preventable.

Over the past 12 years, our department has made remarkable advancements towards our goal of zero deaths on our roadways. The Traffic Bureau has implemented cutting edge technology in the form of electronic ticket writers and data gathering software. We continue to be heavily involved in educational efforts that are geared not only towards combating impaired driving at the adult level, but at teen drivers as well. We recognize that although it is extremely important to educate drivers on the dangers of impaired driving, we also understand that it is equally important to focus on the hazards of distracted driving and the importance of keeping all vehicle occupants safe. To this end, the Traffic Bureau devotes countless hours to educating our drivers on the importance of not allowing anything to distract them while driving, the proper installation of safety seats, and the proper use of seatbelts.



Despite making these tremendous gains, there have been times when we have suffered some setbacks. Our department was not immune from the economic recession in 2008. We experienced significant reductions in both civilian and sworn staff, which greatly impacted our productivity and reduced the time we could devote to our educational efforts. Despite experiencing some years with an increase in collisions from the previous year's our resolve has not wavered. We continue towards our goal of keeping people safe on our roadways.

In 2014, our department investigated 35 fatalities, which despite being a slight increase from 2013, is still a 32 percent reduction from 2002. Of the 35 fatalities in 2014, there were a total of 17 pedestrian deaths. We recognized an increase in pedestrian fatalities in 2010, at which time we began to aggressively target these violations. In 2014, we conducted 12 pedestrian operations throughout the city, targeting pedestrian violations during both daytime and nighttime hours. When we evaluated the pedestrian deaths in 2014, we discovered that 10 of the 17 pedestrians, 58 percent, had consumed either alcohol or drugs prior to being struck. The average blood alcohol content for those 10 pedestrians was a .23 percent which is nearly three times the legally impaired driving limit. 76 percent of the deceased pedestrians were at fault in the collision, as they occupied a portion of the roadway not designed for pedestrian travel. Fifteen of the 17 pedestrians, 88 percent in these collisions were found to be on the roadway, during the hours of darkness, and none of the pedestrians were wearing reflective clothing that would have increased their visibility.

Last year, our Driving Under the Influence (DUI) enforcement index was an impressive 14.3 percent. This is almost two times better than NHTSA's guidelines of 25 percent for being a proactive agency. Of our total 2,862 DUI arrests in 2014, only 412 stemmed from an arrest at a DUI collision.

The Fresno Police Department's Traffic Bureau continues the relentless pursuit of DUI drivers in our city. Through a variety of DUI education and enforcement programs designed to eradicate DUI drivers from our streets, the Fresno Police Department made 2,862 DUI arrests last year, which is a 5 percent increase over 2013.

Traffic safety is a compilation of numerous separate efforts reflected in our statistics. The sheer volume is impressive. We issued 45,759 traffic citations in 2014. Of those 11,717 were for speeding and 2,995 were for occupant protection violations. We cited 7,061 unlicensed drivers, 3,885 suspended drivers, and 4,007 distracted drivers.

An effective traffic safety program also has a significant impact on crime reduction. Traffic officers arrested 322 felony suspects and seized 20 guns last year. As a result, the Traffic Bureau is a major part of most large scale crime suppression operations in the city.

What is truly amazing is that in a city of over half a million people, only eight of our fatalities in 2014 were attributed to the traditional vehicle versus vehicle collision. The significance regarding this fact is that the chances of a citizen within our community who legally drives a car, wears their seatbelt, and obeys traffic laws, becoming involved in a fatal collision are extremely rare.

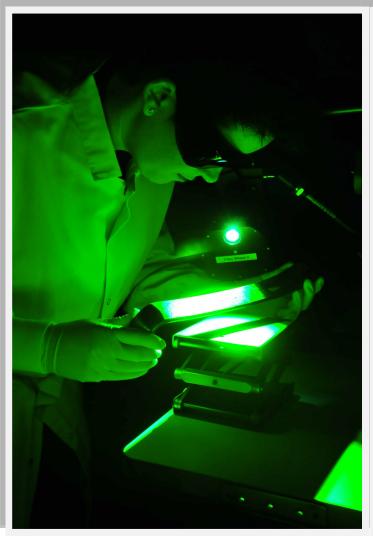
Chief Jerry Dyer and the men and women of the Fresno Police Department will continue with their commitment to make traffic safety one of the highest priorities for our department, as we continue to work towards our goal of zero deaths on or roadways.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Collisions	4,822	4,314	4,136	3,838	3,679	3,573	3,405	2,930	2,951	2,851	2,801	2,743	2,885
Injury Collisions	1,933	1,757	1,617	1,548	1,363	1,336	1,169	1,047	1,206	1,108	1,199	1,175	1,183
Fatalities	52	46	30	42	37	27	30	25	27	30	28	30	35
DUI Colli- sions	484	369	423	499	511	510	549	457	463	404	350	314	412
Injury DUI Collisions	151	126	117	125	140	138	114	79	110	103	80	83	87
Fatal DUI Collisions	7	7	11	16	12	9	8	10 5	6	6	10	1	6
DUI Arrests	2,067	2,186	2,525	2,670	3,015	3,211	3,278	3,268	2,740	2,878	3,263	2,693	2,862

# CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

The Crime Scene Investigation Bureau (SIB) provides specialized crime scene investigation and forensic support services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Services include crime scene processing (including homicides and Officer Involved shootings), evidence photography, blood and DNA sample collection, crime scene diagram construction, latent fingerprint processing and development, entry of finger, and palm, print evidence into local, state and federal fingerprint databases and latent fingerprint, and palm print comparisons to identified suspects. CSIB technicians also routinely testify in court as expert witnesses regarding their crime scene and fingerprint comparison activities.

In 2014, the CSIB collected evidence in approximately 8400 cases. Over 700 subjects were positively identified via fingerprint matches-with 658 of those coming from the Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS). CSIB personnel processed 714 narcotic, gang and arson registrants. The cadets assigned to the prisoner processing section of the CSIB processed over 20,000 FPD arrestees in 2014.





#### **Youth Liaison**

#### **Youth Liaison Officer**

The Youth Liaison Officer (YLO) position was created in partnership with the California endowment to improve the relationship and understanding between youth and law enforcement in Fresno. Among their many accomplishments, the YLO completed the following:

- The Fresno Police Department's Resource Guide for Youth and Families was created March 2014. The guide serves as a tool for all officers, specifically patrol officers with day to day interaction with the community to help those in need access resources.
- Institute of Technology training in April of 2014. It was designed to give youth/adults a different perspective on law enforcement and the stressors involved during a critical incident. The youth/adults had an opportunity to experience an interactive shoot/no shoot scenarios from a law enforcement point of view.
- Coordinated Strategies for Youth training in June 2014 for school resource
  officers and juvenile probation offices within Fresno County. The training was
  focused on advocacy and training dedicated to improving police/youth
  interactions through community engagement, police training, and outreach
  programs for youth.
- Developed a Midnight Basketball League, providing Fresno youth a safe place to go on a Friday nights. The concept was designed to keep the youth off the streets and engaged in a positive activity when crime as well as delinquency is the highest. With very limited advertising for the league there were 9 teams that signed up and over one hundred players participated.
- Policy changes were made to allow a youth and adult partners to sit on the Chief's Advisory Board to address issues that affect the youth in Fresno.



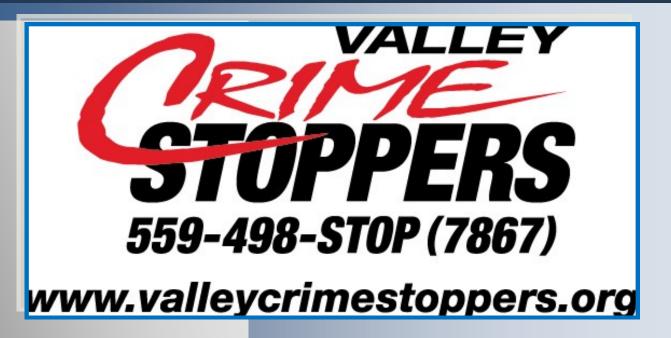
# **Body Worn Cameras**

Technological advancements are occurring at an ever increasing pace, and are a fundamental force in policing. Equipment and technology that was once considered unique or a challenge to implement and maintain is now accepted, and in common, everyday use. It is prevalent in society and the media today that citizens expect a different level of accountability and transparency from law enforcement agencies than may have existed in the past. On a national level, citizen complaints are on the rise, and use of force issues are scrutinized at a higher level than ever before. The need to strengthen, and maintain our police-community relationship remains critical to our agency's success in serving the community. Adopting a Body Worn Camera System (BWCS) will not solve these problems. It is not a "cure-all" for these issues, and caution must be used so that false beliefs are not transmitted to the agency and the public, but studies are beginning to show some very positive results when BWCS are in place

From the Police Executive Research Forum's publication <u>Implementing a Body-Worn Camera Program: Recommendations and Lessons Learned</u>, in Mesa, Arizona, a study showed that "during the first eight months of deployment, officers without cameras had almost three times as many complaints as the officer who wore the cameras. The study also found that officer's assigned BWCS had 40 percent fewer total complaints and 75 percent fewer use of force complaints during the pilot program than they did during the prior year when they were not wearing cameras." A similar study in Rialto, California, showed a 60 percent reduction in use of force complaints and an 88 percent reduction in the number of citizen complaints between the year prior to and following deployment of the cameras. Given this, and other preliminary research, the application of this technology shows promise as a means to address this problem. Because of positive community interactions, and an increased focus on training, while the national trend has been an increase in citizen complaints, between 2013 and 2014, the Fresno Police Department saw a 16 percent decrease in citizen complaints, and a 29 percent decrease in use of force complaints.

As with the introduction of other new technologies before it, the introduction of BWCS arrives with a set of challenges that must be addressed by an agency prior to and after implementing a system. Unlike many agencies that are just now starting research on use of this technology, the Fresno Police Department is ahead of this curve, and poised for greater results. The agency researched camera technology, and after almost three years of research, started a small pilot program almost eighteen months ago. After over a year of evaluation, testing, and policy revisions working in partnership with several groups, the program recently expanded to a wider application of 100 cameras in the field. Those 100 cameras are distributed throughout every policing district in the city. Due in large part to a good working relationship with the community, a private donation of \$500,000 will soon take that number to around 400 cameras. The eventual goal of the program is for every officer assigned to a uniformed patrol function to have a camera.





A citizen operated nonprofit organization like Valley Crime Stoppers is truly a group of caring people who come together and donate their time and experience to be a part of making our communities safer. The Valley Crime Stopper Board of Directors and Staff are extremely grateful for the generosity and support of our sponsors. You have trusted and supported the mission of Valley Crime Stoppers and with your continued support we have been hard at work to help make Fresno and the surrounding communities a much safer place to live.

Our focus continues to be on "getting the bad guys," but we are having to find more creative ways to do that. We have recently updated our website to make it easier for the public to use, as well as allowing the public to view crime trends in the area. We are also out educating the public about our program at community events including the Fresno and Madera Fairs, as well as Fresno State's Vintage Days. We continue to work to inform the public that every tip reported is completely anonymous, and without the invaluable help of our media partners: KSEE 24, KGPE 47, Cumulus Broadcasting, The Fresno Bee, many outlying local newspapers and Jeffrey Scott Advertising this would not be possible.

We are in the process of working to get more involvement from students and school districts in getting the message out that students can also be a part of making our valley and our schools a safer place to be. Valley Crime Stoppers have held many rallies on high school campuses over the past few years and we are also working to craft a message and teaching tools that will help at the Junior High level. We continue to work toward the goal of making the school programs a strong part of our mission. The ultimate goal is to educate students on how they can utilize the crime stoppers tip line to report any dangerous activity, including bullying, drugs and vandalism that takes place on campus and do so anonymously.

As we look toward 2015, a big focus will be working closely with our local law enforcement and being a more effective tool for solving crimes and catching bad guys. On behalf of Valley Crime Stoppers Board of Directors we would like to say "Thank You". Thank you for believing in us and our mission and for enabling us to assist local law enforcement in making a difference in our community.

#### K-9 Unit

The K9 Unit was established in 1993 and originally consisted of 8 officers and their newly selected K9 partners. Today, the team consists of 13 officers and K9s, a number that still allows the team to provide it's much needed 24/7 coverage. Each K9 is trained to meet specific patrol needs, including tracking, evidence location, officer protection and suspect apprehension. Six of the 13 K9 teams are cross trained in narcotics detection while another 3 K9 teams are cross trained in explosive detection.

K9 Officers in our Department are not assigned to a specific Patrol District or beat in order to ensure the availability of their specialized resource. And the K9 Officers are utilized every day, assisting patrol and other Department specialized units with warrant arrests, crimes in progress, building searches, suspect tracking, evidence location, high-risk vehicle stops and narcotic searches. In 2014, members of the Unit were directly involved in the arrest of 405 suspects (through tracking, placating, etc.), responded to 931 alarm calls, performed 47 article searches and located 7 firearms used in crimes.

Response to K9 requests for service is our top priority; however, members of the team do find the time to attend K9 demonstrations and community "meet and greets." The Unit has tremendous community support and contributes this to our willingness to interact with the public. On a near weekly basis, members of the Unit have found themselves talking to a wide variety of community members in all types of venues including school children in Kindergarten to career fairs on Fresno State University's campus, service clubs and Farmer's Market. In 2014, the team participated in 47 community demonstrations and "meet and greets."

We, the officers of the Fresno Police Department's K9 Unit, truly enjoy the work we do. We view this assignment as the privilege it really is...never taking it or our K9 partners for granted.

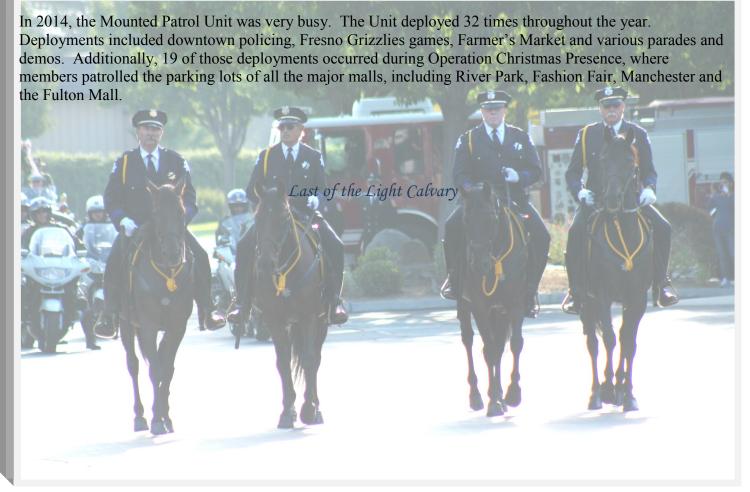


#### Fresno Police Mounted Patrol Unit

The Mounted Patrol Unit was established in 1993. With six horses and six full time officers, the teams deployed throughout the city providing support to Patrol and participating in community events. In 2010, due to budget restraints, the decision was made to disband the Unit. Community support for the continuation of the Unit was tremendous and through gracious donations our Unit is still able to continue to operate! Currently, the Fresno Police Department's Mounted Patrol Unit is only one of a few left remaining in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Mounted Patrol Unit is not staffed by full time personnel. Instead, the care, training and deployments are accomplished through an auxiliary assignment or by Reserve Officers and Volunteers donating their time. There are currently 16 members, 8 are sworn officers assigned to other duties, 5 are Reserve Officers and 3 are Volunteers. All members ensure that the horses are fed, watered and cared for on a daily basis. There are two designated Unit training days each month; however, members can additionally train on their own if they like.

In 2014, there were 5 patrol certified horses in the Unit, including: Mr. Ed, Mr. Cool, Chief, Stagecoach and Lance. All of the horses are Standardbreds. In 2014, we added a new member to the Unit, Charlie Brown. Charlie Brown is an 8 year old Quarter Horse that is currently in training and hopes to one day grow up to be a full time member of the Unit!





The Violent Crime Impact Team (VCIT) was created on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 for the primary mission of decreasing violent crime in the city of Fresno. VCIT's goal was to become Guardians of the city, not an occupying force. Through pro-active enforcement, gang, narcotic search warrants, and community involvement, the unit was successful in retrieving 326 firearms, 7,707 felony arrests, 192 search warrants, and recovering 102,450.00 dollars in cash. City-wide violent crime was down

#### -6.7 percent.



VCIT Officers briefing before serving multiple search warrants for dangerous felons. VCIT served the most high risk warrants in the department.

A successful narcotic search warrant by VCIT Officers yields large quantity of narcotics and cash.





Fresno Police Activities League Mission is to mentor at-risk children through positive relationships with Law Enforcement personnel. Through the assistance of the Fresno Police Chief's Foundation, the program has continued to be very successful. There are currently four programs in



existence: Boxing, Karate, Youth Leadership Council and Mentoring.



Fresno PAL boxers have represented the United States in Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, and Equator. Boxer Kylie Hall will be representing the USA in Taiwan in May.

Four National Champions. Isidro Ochoa (red trunks) has been invited to the Olympic trials in June. He is the current National Champion and ranked #1 in the US.

## **Citizens On Patrol**

The Citizen's On Patrol (COP) program saw its members contribute 14,850 service hours to the Fresno Police Department, with several members contributing over 500 hrs. and two over 900 hours. That is an average of 212 hours per member for the year (average 70 members). COPS have standardized their training, which includes First Aid/CPR, Driver Awareness, Defensive Driving/Collision Avoidance/Skid Pan. Training is mandated every two years, provided by the FPD Regional Training Center (RTC).

Beginning in 2014, the Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) and the COP Academy were combined. This provided an opportunity to recruit CPA students interested in the COP program. As a result, several CPA attendees elected to become COP's. The department offers two CPA/COP academy's per year.

This year, COP's were assigned patrol "beats" and were provided specific training concerning the "Broken Window" theory of policing – including building code and graffiti enforcement. The "beat" assignments give the COP a stake in the policing of their respective district, while maintaining high visibility patrols in neighborhoods. The COP's can report quality of life violations either to Code or the Graffiti Abatement Team that normally does not get reported. The COP's are also in contact with their district detectives who brief them on problem "hot-spots" so their patrols can be more focused.

Each district COP team has a representative to assist with Neighborhood Watch groups and meetings. There is also a dedicated group of COP's who are on a "call-out" list in the duty office, making themselves available to be called out seven days a week, 24 hours a day.



# **Special Weapons and Tactics**

#### The Special Weapons and Tactics Team (S.W.A.T.)

On August 20, 1973, Fresno Police Sergeant Salvador "Sal" Mosqueda stopped his patrol car in front of a residence after receiving a call for a disturbance. Unbeknownst to him, the house was occupied by two suspects who had just committed an armed robbery. Sergeant Mosqueda was killed and the subsequent firefight between the suspects and responding officers resulted in the suspect's death and the destruction of the house after hundreds of rounds had been fired. In response to the increasing number of incidents such as this one, the Fresno Police Department recognized the need for a formally trained group of officers to respond to critical incidents.

In 1974, the Department's SWAT was formed and it originally consisted of six members. Since then, our team has grown considerably and currently is comprised of 30 members, which include a team commander, assistant commander, four team leaders, and twenty four operators. S.W.A.T. is a collateral duty and all members maintain other assignments within the department until activated. We are fortunate to have several support elements in place to assist our team during call outs. These support teams consists of seven "bus crew" members who assist with communications, equipment and record keeping during calls. The other support we draw from consists of our own trauma surgeon, as well as four Paramedics from the American Ambulance STAR Rescue Team who serve as tactical medics on our operations.

#### **Selection**

The selection of new operators consists of a four step process. Officers interested in becoming members of the team must have a minimum of four years experience. The process begins with the submission of a memorandum of interest as well as a copy of the applicant's last performance evaluation. The second phase of the selection process consists of various physical fitness challenges which include pull-ups, rescue climb, rappelling, obstacle course, and a timed run. After successful completion of the physical challenges, the applicants are tested and evaluated on weapons handling and accuracy. The officers who pass the second phase are invited to participate in an oral board consisting of the team commanders and team leaders. Questions posed to the prospective team members are related to leadership, department policy, use of force and other questions that test the officer's decision making ability. After the interview, the overall performance of each applicant is reviewed and recommendations are made to the Chief of Police. After selection, each team member is required to attend an 80 hour, POST certified, basic SWAT school prior to being able to deploy on a call-out.

#### **Training**

The team currently trains two days a month which consist of range training, team movement, barricade tactics, tactical planning, hostage rescue, breaching, warrant service scenarios and contingency planning. Operators are required to pass quarterly weapon qualifications on all weapon systems.

# S.W.A.T

#### **Equipment and Vehicles**

The Fresno Police Department is fortunate to have a Chief of Police who fully supports our S.W.A.T. team. Team members are issued the following equipment:

- Beretta PX4 Storm, .40 caliber pistol with Surefire TLR-1 illumintor.
- Colt, M4 Commandos, outfitted with the EOTech 552 holosight and Surefire 510 or 951 illuminator.
- Remington 870, 12 gauge shotgun.
- Accuracy International, AE, .308 caliber, bolt-action rifle
- AN/PVS-22 Universal Night Sight
- Def-Tec 40 mm less lethal launchers
- Thermal imagers, night vision equipment
- Level III KDH Body Armor
  - Def Tec distraction devices/chemical munitions

The S.W.A.T. command vehicle, or affectionately known as "The Bus," was purchased by Fresno Area Express (FAX) in 1974. The Bus was acquired by the Fresno Police Department and customized to accommodate the various equipment, electronics and communications equipment needed by the team. The command vehicle recently underwent a complete upgrade which included new radios, and other equipment which will allow us to operate in any jurisdiction within California. In 2008 our team obtained a Lenco Béarcat. Because it was purchased with homeland security funding, it is shared with two other S.W.A.T. teams in the immediate area. An armored 2006 Ford Expedition vehicle rounds out our fleet and is primarily used to transport operators during call outs.

### **Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative**

The Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative (MGPI) was established in 2006 to create an environment where gang members and "wanna-be" gang members can obtain services to help them transition away from the gang lifestyle. Currently MGPI staff consists of a community coordinator and two case managers. MGPI is funded through CalGRIP grants, Department of Justice - Project Safe Neighborhoods, and the California Endowment. MGPI program requirements are: 1) Direct tie to a known validated gang; 2) desire to voluntarily leave the gang lifestyle, 3) reside within the city of Fresno, 4) no pending legal cases, 5) no active warrants, and 6) not a registered sex offender or have sex offenses.

MGPI currently collaborates with 23 community service providers who provide services such as: mentoring, education, substance abuse, job placement, anger management, tutoring, tattoo removal, medical care, clothing, permanent shelter, and youth activity. MGPI has developed a number of community based strategies and works with many community based partners:

**Night Walks:** Faith-based organizations (Restoration Outreach Center & the West Fresno Faith Based Organization) conduct community outreach in areas with a high concentration of gang-related incidents.

**Ceasefire:** A strategy whereby the most active and influential gang members are required to attend a "call-in" meeting hosted at a local church. A panel of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and community members give a message to "stop the violence" followed by resource assistance services offered by various agencies. A total of 78 participants and 75 family members attended four call-ins in 2014.

**Street Outreach:** Former gang members hired by Cornerstone Community Care are trained as street outreach workers to respond to gang-related incidents, mediate conflicts between gangs, and offer resources to steer gang members towards positive alternatives.

**Tattoo Removal Program**: In partnership with FCEOC, this program focuses on removing visible tattoos which may hinder chances for employment and provide a positive lifestyle transition for participants

enrolled in MGPI. This is an extremely popular and in-demand program. In 2014, a total of 41 participants received 3,564 sq. inches of tattoo removal treatment. In return, those participants performed 2,370 hours of volunteer service at local non-profit and/or faith based organizations.



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