



C.R.P.O.A.

California Reserve Peace Officers Association

2002 Awards Presentations



ARPOC 2002 Awards Presentations by Nancy Elam - Vice President

After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, President George W. Bush called upon Americans to support their country through volunteerism. Though it may be a new calling for many, there are thousands of very unique, dedicated individuals who have for years been involved in the ultimate of volunteer services. They are found throughout this great country, and more specifically, about 12,000 of these volunteers are found in the State of California. They are reserve peace officers!

All too often, these men and women in volunteer law enforcement go unrecognized for the countless hours of time, talent, skills, and knowledge donated to their communities and agencies. As times have changed, so has the utilization of reserves. Some reserves function as Level I officers engaging in identical duties as full-time paid officers and deputies. Other agencies assign their reserves to non-enforcement duties such as desk operations, community service projects, technical services, parades and special assignments. Whether classed as a Level I, Level II, or Level III, the service provided by these reserve peace officers is extraordinary and worthy of praise.

The California Reserve Peace Officer's Association was proud to honor ten very dedicated individuals at ARPOC 2002 in Sacramento.

Distinguished Service Award

For distinguished service to the members of the California Reserve Peace Officers Association.

Brad Tallent
Santa Paula Police Department

Brad Tallent of Santa Paula Police Department was presented with the Distinguished Service Award for developing and maintaining the CRPOA website. With training and experience as a software engineer, Brad presented a proposal to the Board of Directors in 1996 to start up a CRPOA website. Acknowledging the need to be "connected", the Board eagerly approved Brad's proposal. The development and maintenance of the website took a considerable amount of Brad Tallent's time, and he did this all without any compensation.

When Brad Tallent started on this project, he was a Reserve Officer with the Santa Paula Police Department. In 2001, Brad was hired as a full-time police officer with the same agency. The duties and time restrictions with his new job led Brad to reluctantly give up his position as CRPOA Webmaster.

Reserve Coordinator of the Year

Presented to the coordinator of reserve peace officers who excels in a strong commitment to the unit; dedication to the enhancement of the professionalism and training of the unit members; promotes a positive image of unit members within the department and the community; demonstrates efforts to use unit members in non-traditional roles or assignments.

Sergeant Steven J. Bellino Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Carson Station

Sergeant Steven J. Bellino has served as Reserve Coordinator for the Carson Station of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department since 1990. In the time he has taken over supervision, the Carson Station has become the most productive reserve unit with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, donating an average of 7,000 hours a year.

Reserves working in non-traditional roles or receiving specialized training had often been met with a roadblock, but Sergeant Bellino has paved a better way for his unit. Reserve Deputies have been working in many non-patrol capacities and training for some has included the full-time Field Training Officers School.



Serving a contract city, Sergeant Bellino is sensitive to local needs and supports city sponsored events. He has developed a climate that motivates reserves to meet the needs for supplemental patrol units; warrant details; suppression operations; and special enforcement duties such as DUI checkpoints. Reserve deputies are constantly challenged by Sergeant Bellino to improve themselves. He has made accurate assessments of their strengths and developmental needs, and provided appropriate feedback and coaching to enhance their abilities.

Sergeant Bellino has taken an interest reserve deputy rights within the department. He has been working with department leaders to have official policy created that will guarantee reserve deputies the same rights as full-time deputies under the Peace Officer's Bill of Rights.

Reserve Company 16 from LASD's Carson Station applauds Sergeant Steve Bellino for his exemplary management and motivational skills as well as his "can do" attitude. They credit their unit's success to Sergeant Bellino's support, commitment, dedication and sustained leadership.

Meritorious Service Award

For especially meritorious service to the department in a duty of great responsibility, either assigned or self-initiated. Considerations include: outstanding performance of the officer's duties either in a single act or over time; extraordinary level of assistance to the reserve unit and/or the department; extraordinary level of service to the community; training or teaching within the department; longevity with the department.

Reserve Officer Barbara Gilmore Los Altos Police Department

Though she has been with the Los Altos Police Department for a mere 2 and 1/2 years, Reserve Officer Barbara Gilmore has made a distinct impact on her agency and community, and has become highly respected amongst her peers. Three separate nominations forms with accompanying letters were received in support of her recognition for Meritorious Service.

In the year 2001, Reserve Officer Gilmore logged nearly 800 hours of donated time to patrol, special events and administrative duties. She has worked nearly every major event along with patrol, traffic control, and processing and transportation of female prisoners. Having gained expert knowledge of grant writing through classes, Officer Gilmore has been able to assist the Department Administration with grant writing and research



by providing them with a good understanding of the complexities of this task, enabling them to better utilize the process. She had completed salary comparison surveys and has reorganized the department's video library. Reserve Officer Gilmore continues to expand her law enforcement training by attending a variety of POST approved classes on her own time. Barbara has brought back and shared valuable information with the patrol and administrative staffs of her Department. During the Department's 9/11 Fund Drive that raised over \$100,000, Reserve Officer Gilmore played key roles in many aspect of this event, making it a very successful event. She made appropriate contacts in New York, and processed hundreds of donation checks. Barbara supported the donations to various relief agencies with eloquent letters and personally assured that each and every contributor received a letter of acknowledgement.

In his letter of nomination for Reserve Officer Barbara Gilmore, Los Altos Chief of Police Don Johnson summed it all up by commending Barbara Gilmore for being "an exemplary officer and a role model to our entire staff".

Jake Gonzalez Brentwood Police Department

Jake Gonzalez joined the Brentwood Police Department as a reserve officer eleven years ago and currently holds the rank of Reserve Sergeant. On average, he donates about 1000 hours a year participating in a variety of reserve duties.

On his own time, Reserve Sergeant Gonzalez attended a two-week SWAT training class with full-time officers to become a member of the department's newly formed SWAT team. As part of the reserve unit's medical team, Jake Gonzalez has made special arrangements with his full-time employer allowing him to respond to special call outs for the police department. Having the medical training, experience and background, he assists with in-house training of officers in both first aid and CPR. He has also been instrumental in the program implementation and the training of full-time officers to be deployed with defibrillators. Jake Gonzalez has also taken on the task of outfitting the department's new patrol cars with equipment, and maintains the emergency equipment on the entire fleet of patrol vehicles.



The City of Brentwood is a small but fast growing community continuously challenged to hire sufficient numbers of full-time officers to serve the increasing numbers of residents. The city relies heavily on reserve officers such as Jake Gonzalez for support with police services.

Robert Zaricor
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

As a thirteen-year veteran of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Robert Zaricor currently holds the rank of Reserve Commander. Over the years, he has consistently logged nearly 100 hours of service each month.

Robert Zaricor's mastery of patrol duties, patrol experience, event participation, and mentoring of new reserves was quickly recognized, earning him rapid promotions up the ranks. Reserve companies flourished under Zaricor's "leading by example" management style. In addition to administrative duties acquired with the promotions, Zaricor maintained regular participation in patrol duties as well as special events. As Reserve Commander, Robert Zaricor supervises the operations of the Lakewood, Cerritos, and Avalon Stations. He is actively involved in recruiting, and has taken a lead role in forming a Reserve Training Company. In 2001, when the Cerritos Station became an independent command, Reserve Commander Zaricor was instrumental in the launch of the new Reserve Company. On a regular basis, he attends the Cerritos and Lakewood monthly reserve meetings, works patrol and special events for both stations, and he often travels to Catalina Island during to busy summer months to work patrol.

Throughout the years, Robert Zaricor has received a number of commendations and awards from the community, the department and professional organizations. His department acknowledges Robert Zaricor as being a superb representative of the Department and reserve program.



Hugh Henderson
Brentwood Police Department

Hugh Henderson began his law enforcement career in 1984 with the Brentwood Police Department as a reserve officer and after 4 years he hired on full-time. In 1995, he made an honorable career change and became a firefighter, but wanting to maintain his ties to police work, he was reinstated as a reserve officer.

Displaying self-motivation and with problem solving abilities, Hugh Henderson has been aptly promoted to his current rank of Captain. He handles all the coordinating reserve personnel for special events and supervises Explorers at special events. As a certified trainer in first aid and CPR and AED, he volunteers his time training fellow officers. Captain Henderson is also a certified firearms instructor with a recent certification in the Glock armorer's course. He attended a POST certified 80-hour SWAT school to become a member of the department's SWAT team. Captain Henderson assisted with the time consuming retrofit the Department's van to make it practical and efficient for SWAT team use.

Hugh Henderson's level of knowledge and experience coupled with his high moral and ethical standards has earned him respect by all members of his department as well as the community. Twice, he has been honored by his Department as Reserve Officer of the Year, and he has received recognition from the local High School District for his contributions to his community.



**Richard Frank, Reserve Commander
Kern County Sheriff's Department**

In 1983, Reserve Commander Richard Frank became a member of the Kern County Sheriff's Department as a Reserve Officer. Five years prior, he served as a reserve with Bakersfield Police Department. Over those 19 years, Richard Frank has provided countless hours of service to the department and community, and was promoted rapidly to his current rank of Commander of Special Operations.

As Commander of Special Operations, Richard Frank is responsible for the overall security operations at the annual county fair. This includes the scheduling of over one hundred and fifty reserves from every station within the county. In addition to his duties as Commander, Richard Frank is now serving his fifth term as President of the non-profit Reserve Organization that supports the Kern County Sheriff's Department; it's Reserve Deputies; charities; and other non-profit organizations, and promotes a positive law enforcement image in the community. Recently, Richard Frank stepped in as Chairman for the Kern County Sheriff's Stampede Days Rodeo, which is a profitable fundraiser for the Reserve Organization.

At a recent Annual Dinner hosted by the reserve organization, Richard Frank was recognized for his "untiring commitment and dedication to the reserve organization". He has been a role model with an exemplary record during his service with the Kern County Sheriff's Department.



William Cody
Montebello Police Department

Reserve Lieutenant William "Bill" Cody joined the Montebello Police Department in 1972 and has over 11,000 hours of volunteer time on the books.

For the past last 9 years, he has been managing the Reserve Patrol Services and is credited with developing a well-organized and highly motivated team of reserves. Two years ago, Bill Cody took over supervision of the day-to-day operation of the reserves. He has increased the efforts of recruiting and hiring, and has been instrumental securing duties for reserves in non-traditional roles. Reserves now work in virtually all units of the department including traffic, training, gang motors, the crime impact team and detectives. Being a certified Range Master and a Colt AR15 Armorer, Bill Cody is actively involved in firearms training for all officers within the department. He is a crime prevention specialist and participates in nearly every neighborhood watch meeting. Lieutenant Cody is an instructor at the local Citizen's Academy, and he is a member of a group of amateur radio enthusiasts trained in disaster communications. As an expert in telecommunications and electronics, Bill Cody often provides technical assistance to the department.

In 2000, William Cody was honored as Reserve of the Year by his department. He is recognized as an "outstanding individual and a true professional; a committed volunteer who is totally dedicated to the public he serves."



Ronald Crenna
Concord Police Department

On September 19, 1959, Ronald Crenna became a member of the Concord Police Department as a Reserve Officer.

Even after nearly 43 years of service, Ronald Crenna continues to function as a Level 1 officer, assuring that he works the required 20 hours each month. Over the years, Ronald Crenna has worked more than his share of parades and special events, which has even included security for a number of U.S. Presidents. He has been called out to provide assistance during fires, floods, earthquakes, and other community disasters. He provided police support during the infamous 60's era of protests and demonstrations. Ronald Crenna is currently Vice President for the Concord Reserve Organization and was recently credited with being instrumental in bringing the organization back to the standards it had previously maintained.

In 1999, the City of Concord, the Concord Police Reserve Association and State Senator Richard Rainey recognized Ronald Crenna for his monumental 40 years of service with a presentation of plaques and accolades. His department recognizes him as a role model to all reserves.



Reserve Officer of the Year

Awarded to the nominee excelling in all the qualifications for the Meritorious Service Award which place the reserve officer clearly above all other candidates.

William Catron Montebello Police Department

In 1979, Bill Catron joined the Montebello Police Department as a reserve officer. During his 23-year career as a reserve officer, he had donated over 23,000 hours to the department and community. Administrators quickly recognized Bill as possessing good management and supervisory skills and he was advanced through the ranks, currently holding the highest-ranking position of Reserve Captain. While over-seeing the day-to-day operations, Bill has increased the size and the scope of the reserve unit. The overall performance of the reserves since Bill took command has been described as spectacular. Bill Catron is the recipient of the City of Montebello's Management Achievement Award, an honor usually reserved for fulltime management personnel.



As an accomplished commercial helicopter pilot, Bill Catron formulated a plan to provide air support for the department and community. The proposal was approved and Bill went to work securing a helicopter and the needed equipment. The helicopter was outfitted with radios and a searchlight as Bill received extensive training from other law enforcement pilots. Helicopter Air 77 was up and running on December 29, 1999 just in time for the Y2K deployment. In a 16 month time period, Bill flew over 260 hours, and responded to 923 calls for service. While responding to a call in July 2000, the helicopter developed mechanical problems and an emergency was declared. Bill safely landed the helicopter and later pursued a closer inspection of the aircraft. A serious problem was found which could have resulted in a catastrophe if left unchecked.

With such a successful air unit, Montebello Police Department joined with two nearby cities and formed a regional air support program. Bill Catron and his partners now operate Air 77 over 3 cities protecting over a quarter million residents.

Reserve Captain Bill Catron has been applauded by his department for his exemplary efforts, vision, inspiration, talent and tireless dedication, whose skills and contributions have improved the quality of life for the citizens of Montebello.