ADVICE FROM THE FIELD:
RESERVE OFFICERS SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

The idea for this article came, somewhat inadvertently, from Reserve Officer Dave Vasquez, a 22-year veteran — and perhaps the driest wit — of the Corps. He proposed an advice column in which the answer to most of the questions would be to keep a full spray bottle of Febreze in your locker.

But that got us thinking: There is a lot of experience out there. There are LAPD reserve officers who have been on the force for many years and who have valuable experience not just as police officers, but as reserve police officers, having navigated through the years working part time on the streets and in the LAPD organization.

We asked, what specific advice would you give a fellow reserve officer? What have you learned that you wish you could tell those who have not been around as long? What routines and tactics do you use in the field? How about back at the station? What have you learned that could help address the learning curve of not working every day? Here is what you said:

“Dry fire.” We heard this from several officers. “Dry firing with your primary duty weapon is the next best thing to actually being on the range.”

“It goes a long way in helping you maintain the use and feel of your weapon. It will help you to qualify, and it will give you confidence when

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As we close out 2011, I would like to thank you for all your continued contributions and dedication to this organization. It is the dedication and countless hours of service provided by our Reserve Corps that make this program such a success. That success truly relies upon our members and their willingness to sacrifice for the common goal. The members of the LAPD Reserve Corps and volunteer participants really demonstrate this on a daily basis throughout the year. I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you.

Since the publication of the spring edition, the Reserve Corps continues to move forward as a model law enforcement reserve and volunteer program. We are continually contacted by outside agencies looking to improve their programs and others researching how to start programs. This is a huge compliment to the success of our program and really shows that we have put our mark on the law enforcement community’s reserve culture.

The simple but thoughtful words of one of the great leaders of the 20th century, Winston Churchill, captured my sentiments about our Reserve Corps today. With his depth of wisdom, he communicated the incalculable worth of our total Reserve Corps. He said, “The reservist is twice the citizen.” That certainly holds true today within our Reserve Corps. The “Twice a Citizen” Banquet, which was held on April 2, 2011, was a great success, with over 700 citizens in attendance. The next “Twice a Citizen” will be held on March 24, 2012, at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

In closing, over the last six months we have made many accomplishments in all areas of the reserve program. This includes our California POST training compliance and clarification of the Department’s specialist program, which we value greatly. We have also participated in many great events, such as the Sunshine Kids, Special Olympics and many geographic area task forces. These accomplishments will lead to a great future for us. I look forward to working with the members of the Reserve Corps in 2012.

Please have a safe and memorable holiday season.

Thank you,
Gloria Grube
Forty-two years on the job: R9 Reserve Officer Jim Lombardi, center, with Central Area reserve officers on the helipad of the division.
Reserve Officers On An Exchange Trip To France

In May, four LAPD reserve officers — Bernard Khalili, Mitchell Englander, Eric Ortiz and Trevor Ingold — traveled to France on a nine-day visit that came at the official invitation of the French National Police, the mayor of Cannes and the Cannes Municipal Police Department. Two officers from the Beverly Hills Police Department were also part of the delegation.

The invitation originated from visits by French dignitaries and police units to the United States and was intended to showcase the operations of the French National and Municipal Police and allow the visiting delegation to share their perspectives on policing as it is done in the cities of Los Angeles and Beverly Hills.

Upon their arrival in Paris, the Southern California officers were met by the Direction de Coopération Internationale (DCI), a branch of the French National Police, and provided with a motor escort by the dignitary motor unit. The officers were given the major honor of a private tour of the Palace of Versailles, the former home to the kings of France.

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On a police patrol boat along the Seine River in Paris.

I would like to introduce myself as the new commanding officer of Recruitment and Employment Division (RED). I have worked a variety of different assignments within the Los Angeles Police Department. Most recently, I was the commanding officer of Gangs and Narcotics Division. I feel very fortunate to have worked with and alongside many reserve officers throughout my career.

I am excited to face the new challenges and expectations that come with my assignment here at RED. I look forward to meeting and working with each and every one of you in the future.

I feel that with my prior experience and the relationships I have developed within the city of Los Angeles, we can continue to build a professional working relationship with the citizens of Los Angeles. We are continuing to grow the current number of Reserve Corps officers within the city of Los Angeles.

I am looking forward to assisting you in any way possible. My goal for the future is to strengthen the Los Angeles Police Department Reserve Corps, the leader in law enforcement, through a program that includes training and professional growth.

Have a great holiday season and New Year.

Sincerely,
Captain Romero

CAPTAIN’S MESSAGE
By Captain Rigoberto Romero
You’ve heard it in a million war movies and cop shows: “Take cover!” At that point, everyone dives behind everything from a brick wall to a wooden table to a couch. But are all those things cover, or perhaps simply concealment? Are you sure of the differences? It could mean your life.

Simply put, cover is something that can actually protect you from a round fired at you. Think cement or heavy steel. Concealment is something that only hides your position and offers no ballistic protection. Think of bushes, doors, drywall. A lot also depends on the weapon being used against you. A handgun round fired at about 1,000 fps can be mitigated by a lot more objects than, say, a rifle round traveling at 3,000 fps. Have you had a chance to take a look at one of the patrol cars shot up in the North Hollywood bank shootout? Those cars look like Swiss cheese. If that’s all you have to get behind, you need to think of the hard points, such as behind the engine block or behind the steel rims. When out on the street, take a look around and try to determine what could work as true cover. A mailbox wouldn’t stop most, if any, rounds. A fire hydrant would be hard to penetrate but is also hard to hide behind. A wooden fence? Forget about it. Look for concrete. A reinforced wall, a high curb, etc. When it gets down to it, there isn’t much, is there? Hold that thought.

What about inside? An industrial location may have more cover. Think about heavy machinery, concrete retaining walls, large steel containers. Stay away from propane or oxygen tanks! The inside of a residence offers little cover. Tables, couches, doors and drywall offer no protection. Remember the Oakland shooting last year? The bad guy killed a SWAT officer by firing from his room through a wall and into a hallway. When you analyze it, there is actually very little cover in most situations, despite the depictions we see in the movies. Your ballistic vest may be the best and only true cover in most situations.

So what do you do in a surprise shooting situation? If you have been through MACTAC or rifle/slug training, you have been taught to press home the assault. Become aggressive and advance on the shooter. Learn and practice shooting on the move. Each situation is unique and will have its own tactical considerations, but get out of the mindset of retreating and diving behind an object that probably won’t protect you anyway. More often, our officers are being faced with ambush-type shooting situations. Last year, ambush shootings jumped 42 percent nationally. We are now more likely than ever before to be cornered into a use of deadly force. Don’t become complacent, thinking I’m only doing traffic control or only doing impounds. You are wearing that badge and uniform, and they make you a target to some and a protector to most. Think cover, think tactics and be safe.

Shop #82405 from the North Hollywood shootout, with rounds from an AK-47. The vehicle is housed at the Los Angeles Police Museum (see page 9).

### Qualification Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle #</th>
<th>Qualification Cycle</th>
<th>Officers with Less Than 20 Years of Service</th>
<th>Officers with 20-29 Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Shotgun Exempt</td>
<td>Shotgun Exempt</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>February/March</td>
<td>Qualify Duty Ammo</td>
<td>Qualify Duty Ammo</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>April/May</td>
<td>Qualify Practice Ammo</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>June/July</td>
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<td>August</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>September/October</td>
<td>Qualify Practice Ammo</td>
<td>Qualify Practice Ammo</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>November/December</td>
<td>Qualify Practice Ammo</td>
<td>None</td>
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Officers with 30 years or more of service are required to qualify one time per calendar year at their convenience, during cycle 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6. Officers must qualify prior to the last week of handgun qualification cycles, unless exempted by their commanding officer. The last week of these cycles will be reserved for remediation and officers with the approved exemptions.
you need it in the field, when your life — and the lives of others — depends on it."

"Don’t forget to use snap caps."

"After I graduated from the Academy, I bought my own Remington 870 shotgun. I don’t use it on duty. In fact, I remember taking it up to qualify and they wouldn’t let me use it. But I practice with it. I practice my safety check. Port arms, tactical reload, accessing …"

"Always carry a backup. I carry a revolver — sturdy when you need it in a close-quarters battle. I have the Smith & Wesson five-shot with the shrouded hammer."

"Carry two handcuffs. And carry a hideout key on you. I tape mine to the inside of my handcuffs case."

"Carry a pair of protective medical gloves in your pocket and a pair for your partner. I learned this on my second day of patrol when we had to wrestle a bleeding suspect. You can buy them at Galls or grab some at a hospital during a follow-up."

"Because we don’t work every day, I have a checklist of items I need. It starts with oiling my gun the night before and making sure my flashlight is charged. It includes making sure I have sharpened pencils and all the forms I need. I also try to review some tactics such as my vehicle-stop checklist."

"Before going to work, I used to go on the LAPD’s website and print out the most wanted list for both the area and the Department. I don’t know to what extent that is kept up now, but it was something I always printed. I also made sure to have copies of all the bulletins they gave out at roll call."

"If you write or want to write tickets, study the cheat on a regular basis."

"Don’t allow any cravings (like food) to influence you since you might get stuck on a perimeter for a long time or put in long hours at the station. Have your own food and water."

"At home, lock up your equipment, especially your firearms and ammunition. I put a lock on a closet. If you have children, you have no excuse."

In fact, the 2008 California Dangerous Weapons Control Law modified Penal Code 12035 to require that loaded firearms be secured/locked up when children are likely to be present.  

"It really doesn’t make sense just to carry extra boxes of ammo. When things go down, it’s better to have the ammo in an extra magazine and ready to go."

With all the smartphones and other recording devices out there today, “always think, as you are out and about dealing with the public, how this would look and sound if you were being filmed.”

"When you do a traffic stop, the violation itself is no indication of the possible threat. You could pull someone over for speeding only to discover they are speeding because they just robbed a liquor store. Always keep officer safety in mind. Use the tactics you were taught."

"Know your location at all times. Keep in mind exactly how you would broadcast the location if you suddenly needed to. Are you in an alley? Is it north or south of the street? What are the cross streets or nearest addresses?"

"Be nice to little kids. One time, we had an open 911 call where a little girl had accidentally dialed 911. The child was scared to death that she was going to jail for doing a bad thing. My partner, while explaining how to correctly use 911 in the future, gave her an ‘award’ — a badge sticker he had — for knowing how to dial the number. She beamed. I always remembered that. I bet she remembered it, too."

Practice scenarios. “When I’m driving home from work, I sometimes practice doing a vehicle following. I practice reading plates, doing the phonetic alphabet. I pretend to do a broadcast — A12 following a possible C37 vehicle westbound on Hollywood passing Orange, requesting backup and an air unit …”

"I make copies of the reports I write. Besides having a record in case you need to reference it, the copy can be used an as exemplar."

"The rotator lights use up a lot of juice. Don’t make the mistake of having them on for an extended period of time on just the battery, or you will enjoy the embarrassment of having to call tow for a jump. Keep the engine on and lock up the shop. You or your partner has the other key."

"As reserve officers, by definition we spend most of our time off duty. Remember those videos we saw in the Academy: Be a good witness; be aware of your disadvantages off duty — you are not in uniform; you have no radio, no vest, no partner. Don’t advertise that you are a police officer; tell your friends and family not to give you away. I bury my ID in my wallet, or when I have my badge, I have a separate wallet."

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**ADVICE FROM THE FIELD - CONTINUED FROM PG 1**

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**CONDITION YELLOW**

By Reserve Officer

Jeff Nocket

Here’s something I’ve found to be helpful in my 22 years as a reserve police officer. I once read an article describing an officer’s mental alert level as:

- white for being unaware of your surroundings,
- yellow for being aware of your surroundings and on-guard and
- red for being under immediate threat.

It’s common for full-time officers to “live in the yellow,” meaning their mindset has shifted to permanent awareness. As a reserve, it’s very difficult to live in the yellow since we typically do not work as often. However, when on duty it’s necessary to shift mental gears to a heightened state of awareness. At the beginning of every shift, while putting on my uniform, I make a conscious effort to shift my thinking to yellow. The shift doesn’t happen by itself; I have to talk myself into it by visualizing situations and my response to them.

Different techniques will work for different people, but the important part is to get your mindset into the yellow. ☺️
A couple of officers reminded us about the concerns of online social media like Facebook. “Be careful of what you post on these sites. Be mindful of what you are doing when you post pictures of yourself in uniform, or when you post comments about your activities. Even with the privacy controls at maximum, you never know who might be viewing these posts.”

“Watch the hands.” This is drilled into our minds at the Academy, but out in the field we may forget the importance of this critical habit. Along the same lines, a reserve officer recalled working IBARS back in the day. After making an arrest in a drug buy, the officers searched the suspect for the buy money. They couldn’t find it. They advised the detective at the scene, who then simply asked the suspect where the money was. “In my hands” was the reply.

“Just do the right thing.” This was the mantra of Sergeant Bob Kellar, who trained many reserves years ago, and the officers remember those words. “Integrity — that’s what it’s always about. Always do what’s right, and you will protect yourself, your fellow officers and the honor of the profession.”

Limited-Edition Commemorative Coins Still Available – While Supplies Last

The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation officially commissioned this limited-edition commemorative coin last year to honor Los Angeles police reserve officers and the Los Angeles Reserve Corps. There are still a few coins left. The cost of the coin is $15, including tax. If you’d like one before they are all gone, contact reservecoin@gmail.com.

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Reserve Officer Posthumously Awarded LAPD’s New Purple Heart

In May 2009, the Board of Police Commissioners established the Purple Heart award. The Purple Heart is awarded to LAPD officers who sustain traumatic physical injuries during on-duty tactical situations and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed or die of wounds received in the line of duty.

On September 15, 2011, during the inaugural ceremony of the Purple Heart awards, Reserve Officer Stuart S. Taira was one of 82 officers — dating back to 1921 — who received the honor. Officer Taira was killed as a result of a police helicopter crash on March 1, 1983. Officer Taira, an observer for the air unit, and two other officers were conducting aerial patrols following a tornado. Between patrols, the officers were dispatched to investigate a report of a burglar on a roof. As the helicopter took off, it struck a power line, which caused it to crash. The officers survived the initial impact and Officer Taira was able to exit the aircraft. Officer Taira then returned to the aircraft in an attempt to rescue his two partners. One of the helicopter’s rotors struck Officer Taira in the head and killed him. Reserve Officer Taira was also posthumously awarded the Department’s Medal of Valor.
The next day, they were taken by DCI to Normandie. They paid their respects at the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer to the thousands of U.S. troops who never returned home from World War II. Other highlights of the day included a visit to Pointe du Hoc, where U.S. Rangers scaled sheer cliffs to attack German positions, and to the Utah and Omaha beaches, where U.S. forces landed.

The third day of the visit was a daylong tour, in Class A uniform, of several units of the National Police in and around Paris. This included a visit to the RAID facility (the French equivalent of a national SWAT team). Officers were given a presentation on the structure and operation of the RAID units, a tour of the training facilities and a live demonstration of a hostage rescue. The delegation toured the Prefecture for Police in Paris headquarters, traffic and crowd control command centers, the motor unit and the special unit that polices the Seine River. They were given a demonstration of the unit’s underwater search and rescue operations and its river patrol operations.

After three days in Paris, the officers traveled to the city of Cannes in the south of France. Cannes is the sister city to Beverly Hills. The Cannes Film Festival was going on at the same time as their visit, and the LAPD and Beverly Hills officers participated in uniform in the red carpet ceremony. Their last official day in Cannes was highlighted by an invitation to participate in Gendarmerie (military police) patrols on sea and in the air. Officers rode along in a patrol boat in the Cannes harbor and in an airship over Cannes and the adjoining areas. Cannes has a very extensive video monitoring system that covers most of the city. The system is quite sophisticated, even to the extent of automatically blocking out views into the windows of private residences, which requires a warrant.

The trip was considered a resounding success and served to enhance the already solid reputation of the Los Angeles and Beverly Hills police departments. It highlighted the common goals and bond of police officers and opened the door to future exchanges and cooperative efforts between the respective agencies.

The L.A. City Council recognized the importance of the official visit, and Councilmember Greig Smith, who was chair of public safety, presented a certificate of appreciation to Officer Khalili. Beverly Hills Chief of Police Dave Snowden, in a letter to Chief Charlie Beck, personally commended Officer Khalili “for his instrumental participation in the planning and coordination of this professional journey. His experience in international law enforcement is only matched by his outstanding knowledge of the protocol. Bernard’s guidance was paramount to the success of this exchange.”

With French Municipal and National Police command staff on the red carpet of the Cannes Film Festival.
The Los Angeles Police Museum is proud to announce that it is currently designing an exhibit which highlights the history of, and contributions by, the LAPD Reserve Corps. The Reserve Corps has been an integral part of the LAPD and holds a unique place in the history of the City of Angels. The museum’s board of directors has indicated that the deeds of the Reserve Corps should be memorialized in a permanent, professional exhibit. The goal of the board is to unveil the reserve exhibit in 2012, 65 years after the city enacted legislation to formally establish the Reserve Corps.

Seed money for the reserve exhibit has been generously donated by Reserve Officer and former City Councilmember Greig Smith, with additional funding coming from the museum’s board. Space on the second floor of the museum has been allocated to this unique exhibit.

The Los Angeles Police Museum opened in 2001 at its present location, the historic Highland Park police station. The museum is funded by grants, donations and membership fees and does not receive any taxpayer support. Current major exhibits include the Boeckmann Gallery of the Los Angeles Police Commission, the Marguerite Justice Gallery of LAPD uniforms, the North Hollywood shootout exhibit, the Joe Fox Handcuff and Jail Lock exhibit, the Marshall LaPlante photo exhibit and the SLA Gallery exhibit.

The museum is one of the only full-time municipal police museums in the nation and is often referred to as the flagship of police museums. It is the only one to offer a professionally produced audio tour. The museum also has an extensive collection of historical photographs; motion picture film and vehicles; and two major paper collections, the Beat magazine and the Daily Bulletins, which are currently in the preservation process.

How can you help? The museum is seeking unique artifacts for display in the exhibit, and additional funding is needed to complete the exhibit. For further information about the museum or to arrange a donation, please contact the museum at (323) 344-9445. Please also go to www.laphs.org for hours of operation and information on visiting the museum.

(Editor’s note: Officer Tahara is on the board of directors of the Los Angeles Police Museum, formerly known as the Los Angeles Police Historical Society.)

From the Los Angeles Police Museum archives: reserve officers at Newton Division, circa 1950.
In June, Hollywood Area reserve officers attended an introductory course on Tactical Combat Casualty Care conducted by Dr. Jim Kreter and Dr. David Ninan. The course teaches law enforcement officers and others a few simple lifesaving techniques that when applied as soon as possible (in battlefield conditions and sometimes while still under fire) can dramatically improve the chances of survival.

Military statistics have shown that there is a critical window — from six minutes after a serious wounding up to one hour — in which the survivability of a preventable casualty is determined by three factors: stopping the bleeding, keeping the airway unobstructed and extracting the victim to a higher level of medical care as soon as possible. Addressing these three concerns can lead to a survivability rate of 98 percent.

During the course, officers learned techniques to address these concerns. For breathing, the airway can very often be cleared easily by lifting the chin and using a jaw thrust or, in worse cases, through the use of a nasopharyngeal airway. For bleeding, officers learned and practiced — under the pressure of a 30-second time frame — applying CAT tourniquets to control severe bleeding from extremities. They were also introduced to the Israeli bandage. This bandage, first used by NATO peacekeeping forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, is now the bandage of choice for the U.S. Army and Special Forces. The bandage was also used in the Tucson shooting in January. The officers were informed that the current first aid kit is not set up to stop a major hemorrhage or support the airway like a CAT or a nasopharyngeal airway can.

There was a question of whether the hobble works as an effective tourniquet. As Dr. Kreter explained, the hobble is no substitute for the real thing, which you can easily purchase and keep with you just as you keep your other equipment. As for keeping these items or any trauma/first aid items with you, it is recommended you do not keep them in the trunk of your car. A rear-end collision can crush the trunk, making it impossible to get to the contents when you need them. It is recommended that you keep the kit under your car seat.

Officers also learned a few transport techniques, practicing them up and down the corridors of the Hollywood South building. There is the Georgia Street Carry, which works well in close quarters and narrow hallways. There is also a Recon Carry method, in which three officers can transport a wounded comrade or victim while keeping their weapons drawn.

Officers typically learn the locations of the hospitals in their patrol areas, but it is suggested that you specifically learn where the nearest level-one trauma center is. Far too often, officers have rushed their injured comrades to hospitals that are not sufficiently equipped to treat the traumas.

Dr. Kreter is an ophthalmologist at the Riverside Medical Clinic and has trained U.S. military and law enforcement tactical teams throughout the United States. Dr. Ninan is chief of anesthesia at Riverside County Regional Medical Center and has provided instruction to multiple law enforcement agencies. This training was arranged by Reserve Officer Trevor Ingold. If you would like more information or would be interested in having this training at your area, you can contact Officer Ingold at r3106@lapd.lacity.org.
On September 8, 26 special Sunshine Kids rode in an LAPD Code 3 motorcade from the Sheraton Universal Hotel to Raleigh Studios. The children, who are seriously ill with cancer, along with their attending medical representatives and local directors of the sponsoring organization, the Sunshine Kids, were in Los Angeles for their annual California Fun Time Fantasy Trip.

Assistant Chief Michel Moore was the master of ceremonies for the opening festivities on the rooftop of the Sheraton and was joined by 60 officers and the LAPD Band. It is important to mention that the majority of the officers in attendance were reserve officers who had taken a day off work in the middle of the week to support this event. Several reserve and full-time officers were acknowledged by Assistant Chief Moore for having attended the event for all six years.

When the children arrived on the parking structure rooftop, they were greeted by cheers from all the officers as the band played. Assistant Chief Michel Moore welcomed all the guests and thanked the officers, with special mention given to the reserve officers for taking the time to be there. The assistant chief then asked each child to raise their right hand as he swore them in as honorary police officers for the day. Each honorary officer was then presented with a junior police badge and a personalized LAPD ID card and had their picture taken with Assistant Chief Moore and the officers. At the conclusion of the ceremony, everyone was greeted with a flyover by one of the Department’s airships.

At approximately 1030 hours, a radio call was made announcing a Code 3 run, the destination being Raleigh Studios in Hollywood. The 17-car motorcade left the Sheraton Universal Hotel with all 26 children riding in black-and-white sergeant cars. As the motorcade slowly proceeded to Raleigh Studios, with lights and sirens, spectators watched along the route, curious as to whom the special passengers were.

Meanwhile, at Raleigh Studios an advance team of LAPD officers and studio employees waited for the motorcade to arrive, then cheered as each vehicle pulled onto the Raleigh Studios lot.

Again this year, Chief of Police Charlie Beck joined all the Sunshine Kids for pictures and lunch at Raleigh Studios.

This was the sixth year that the LAPD has supported the annual visit by the Sunshine Kids. This event is another great example of our reserve officers working with the Community Relations Section, Office of the Chief of Police, in supporting community events. Thanks to all the officers who supported this event. You were able to bring additional sunshine to all the children!


The Special Olympics World Summer Games 2015 are coming to Los Angeles!
Los Angeles Police Department
Reserve Officer and Volunteer Section
100 West First Street, Room #270
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please join us for an enjoyable evening at
The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
as we recognize the reserve officers of the Los Angeles Police Department and celebrate the 2012 award winners.

www.lapdreserves.org

Views and opinions expressed by the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation are not necessarily shared by The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Foundation.