

# THE ROTATOR

The Newsletter for LAPD Reserve Officers



Volume 35

Winter 2024

## LAPD RESERVE OFFICERS HELP FORGE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AT PARIS 2024 OLYMPICS: A PRELUDE TO LOS ANGELES 2028

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars (Retired)

*Editor's note: The following article is based on a white paper debrief (written by Reserve Officers John McCarthy, Bryan Clarke, Justin Davis, Larry Herman, Sammy Hsu, Jeff Pugay and Marcus Stein), individual anecdotes from officers, both attributed and anonymous, and assorted third-party news reports.*

In a historic deployment, 30 LAPD reserve police officers, as part of the largest international contingent of officers, embarked on an unprecedented mission to support security efforts at the 2024 Summer Olympics in France.

The team, led by Sergeant II Jonathan Johnson, OIC of the Reserve Unit, was joined by a combined delegation of over 40 law enforcement agencies (including 17 representatives from LASD) that worked alongside French authorities to ensure a safe and secure event. This mission, in which coordination was initiated more than three years earlier by Reserve Officer Bernard Khalili, was an example of international cooperation in safeguarding global events like the Olympics. It was the result of meticulous planning and close collaboration. An officer who participated said, "This trip serves as a shining

example of when our Reserve Corps is given the trust to complete the mission, we rise to the occasion and succeed." Another noted, "This innovative use of reserve officers by LAPD allowed the Department to offer robust assistance without affecting deployment at home, not to mention the obvious benefits to the city's taxpayers." Reserve Officer Paul Strauss told *The Rotator*, "The trip highlighted LAPD's professionalism in the world of international policing."

Their journey began on July 24 as Air France Flight 21 lifted off from Los Angeles International

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# PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Message From the Co-Presidents of the Reserve Foundation

By Karla Ahmanson and Reserve Officer Michael Sellars (Retired)

As we approach the end of 2024, we thank you and your families for your continued service to the City of Los Angeles. We are very much looking forward to working with our new chief of police, Jim McDonnell. Chief McDonnell has been a longtime leader, supporter and friend to Los Angeles reserve police officers. As many of you know, at this year's Reserve Gala we recognized him as a Twice a Citizen Community Leader. Reserve Officer Dr. Kenji Inaba introduced him for the award. As *The Rotator* reported, "He is the first person to serve in senior executive leadership roles in the three largest policing agencies in Los Angeles County." We thank Mayor Karen Bass for this outstanding choice.

We thank interim Chief of Police Dominic Choi for all he has done this past year for the Corps. We thank our Department reserve coordinator, Commander Gisselle Espinoza (former Reserve Police Officer 5-93R), and the entire Command Staff for your leadership. We remain grateful to Sergeant II Johnny Johnson and all the dedicated officers in the Reserve Unit downtown, as well as reserve coordinators Department-wide, for all you do to support the Reserve Corps.

As you will see, a substantial portion of this *Rotator* newsletter issue is about the mission to France, where 30 reserve officers represented the LAPD, the City of Los Angeles and American law enforcement on the worldwide stage at the Olympics in Paris. You will find the content fairly comprehensive, documenting one of the most important projects in the 80-plus-year history of the LAPD Reserve Corps. Having said that, we want to recognize and truly thank our Foundation Board director, Reserve Officer Bernard Khalili, for spearheading this project in ways that must never be forgotten.

The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation (LAPRF) continues to serve those who serve with our ongoing initiatives, including training, equipment (recently, acquiring lifesaving wound-care kits), recruitment, scholarships, reimbursement for the Los Angeles Police Protective League's Legal Defense, financial hardship, bereavement assistance and, of course, the Gala. As you may know, our Corps has suffered a few tragedies and other difficulties this past year (see the Presidents' Message from the summer edition for more details). This has necessitated a discussion on wellness



initiatives to address the challenges your families face. The efforts of our Board of Directors remain ongoing and, on behalf of them, we say to you: Stay safe this holiday season. 🙏

## SUPPORT THE RESERVE CORPS



The LAPRF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable foundation providing financial support for the Reserve Corps, including reimbursement for training and officer safety equipment, support for community events, and bereavement and emergency assistance to reserves and their families. Your donations deliver the resources to sponsor these causes and more.

To donate online and find more ways to help, visit [LAPRF.org/donate](https://www.laprf.org/donate).



# DEPARTMENT RESERVE COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

By Commander Gisselle Espinoza

Historic, once-in-a-lifetime and even epic are not strong enough words to describe the effort and results of Los Angeles reserve police officers assisting, side by side, French municipal police officers as they kept the streets of Paris safe during the Olympics.

The Los Angeles Police Department has never participated in a detail of this nature, and putting this together took a Herculean effort. Bernard Khalili, Trevor Ingold and Wade Danielson tirelessly worked on this for months, practically around the clock. There is a nine-hour time difference between Los Angeles and France, and these three did not let the coordination of the trip get in the way of their full-time jobs or sleep. Thank

you, Bernard, Trevor and Wade. Sergeant Johnson was the only full-time officer to accompany the 30 reserves and was the only on-scene supervisor. That is a difficult task when your officers are spread out across the city, serving in three different divisions.

Often, we forget the love and support this Department has on the world stage, and this experience validated the respect LAPD has earned. Wherever our officers patrolled, citizens from around the world wanted photographs of themselves posed next to someone wearing our badge (and at times, the badge alone!). This feeling of admiration did not end with civilians. Law enforcement officers from around the world were equally excited to take selfies or group photos. Our Reserve Corps became the ambassadors of the LAPD and could not have done a better job.

Some of the 30 officers attended the entire two weeks of the Olympics, some the first week and others the last week. This experience will never be replicated, but it was work: 12-hour shifts three to four days in a row, in rain and/or in heat. This was no vacation! No matter how much time each of those officers spent representing this Department, thank you. Thank you for sacrificing your company vacation time, time with your families and time (and money) from your paying jobs. Thank you also to the Reserve Foundation for mitigating your expenses.

Los Angeles is host to the 2028 Olympic Games, and the 2026 World Cup before then. Our reserve officers returned from Paris having been a part of a massive deployment of French municipal, federal and army reserve officers, and integrated with foreign officers from over 40 different international agencies. The lessons learned can serve this Department well as we prepare for these two major events. It is also an example of what can be done when a group of reserves are mobilized. The Los Angeles Police Department needs more reserves and needs your help in identifying good candidates. Please direct all possible candidates to [LAPDreserve.com](http://LAPDreserve.com) or Sergeant Johnson.

The LAPD Reserve Corps will be critical in 2026 and 2028, but it is also a critical resource right now, to help fill in the current LAPD staffing gap. The Department needs all of you to be in compliance



in order to deploy. Please check with your reserve coordinator or Sergeant Johnson to make sure you are maintaining your eligibility to serve.

Again, I and the entire Command Staff wish to express our gratitude for your service, not only to our city but on the global stage as well. You've represented the best of the best admirably. Congratulations on a job well done. Let's all be proud of what the Corps can do. 🌐

## THE ROTATOR IS LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Do you have an idea for an interview, area or officer profile, task force news item, how-to, training summary, historical article or other story? Do you have photos of recent events? *The Rotator* is seeking writers and others to contribute content of interest to reserve officers.

Reach out to the editor at [msellars@laprf.org](mailto:msellars@laprf.org).

## THE ROTATOR

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Editor-in-Chief  
Reserve Officer Michael Sellars  
(Retired)

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# RESERVE UNIT OIC'S MESSAGE

## RESERVES IN PARIS FOR THE 2024 OLYMPICS

By Sergeant II Jonathan Johnson

Calling this a unique assignment does not even begin to describe it. I know the planning and execution of this mission will be thoroughly covered elsewhere in this edition of *The Rotator*, so I will use my limited space to discuss a few reflections I have from this trip. I have traveled internationally a few times, but always for vacation and never for work. On prior travels, at best I might have had a brief conversation with local cops in their station's front lobby while I negotiated a patch trade. This trip was entirely different. We were there to work alongside the French police, learning the ins and outs of how they approach police work from SOW to EOW. This was such a unique privilege and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

For the three weeks we walked a foot beat through the streets of Paris, we seldom made it more than 10 paces without being stopped and asked to take a photo, sometimes by citizens but more often by other cops. We were just one of a few dozen foreign agencies brought in by the French government to work the Olympics. While walking the beat, we would often cross paths with other roving groups of international cops from places like Spain, Germany, South Korea, Ireland and even Qatar. This was like Baker to Vegas on steroids. For someone like me, who has been collecting police patches and memorabilia for my entire career, I know I will never experience anything like this again.

First, no matter where you go in the world, cops are all the same. This was proven true so many times, it became a running joke. The cops we met in France joined our profession for the same reasons we did; they experience the same hardships and disassociation with civilians, and they delight in the same camaraderie with each other that we enjoy. They have the same twisted sense of humor as we do, and many of their jokes do not require a translator. They have the same gripes, play the same pranks on each other and approach their profession with the same passion as the rest of us. Cops really are all the same.

One shocking revelation is that French police are deeply pro-America. It was not an uncommon occurrence to see off-duty French

police officers wearing grunt-style T-shirts with a Gadsden flag logo or displaying some other distinctly American symbolisms. In the men's locker room, the walls and lockers had many American flags and even pro-Trump stickers. None of us were expecting that. In Paris' 13th District, we worked with a French officer who barely spoke English and had never been outside of Europe — and yet his arms were covered with American tattoos featuring our flag's stars and bars, our national monuments and the words "we the people." To say the French police are heavily influenced by our culture would be a colossal understatement. Many of them told us they grew up aspiring to become police officers after watching movies like *Lethal Weapon* or *Die Hard*. LAPD tends to be the most commonly depicted agency in these movies, and therefore we seemed to be the visiting foreign agency the French were most excited to see during the Olympics. And when it came to trading patches, anything that said LAPD on it was like gold over there.

In France, I was fortunate enough to connect with some truly remarkable people. When I was assigned to the 8th District in Paris, we had the privilege of working for Aurelien "Jack" Puchal, the French equivalent to a lieutenant watch commander. Jack has a deep love for the LAPD and he treated us all like family. He proudly showed us a book about LAPD that he got in the '90s when he was visiting L.A. On our last day in Paris, he had each member of our team sign it for him. One day our foot beat took us to the French Nationale headquarters in Paris, located directly across the street from the Notre Dame Cathedral. As we entered the main gate, I met Chief Franck Mahieu, who is an avid police memorabilia collector himself. At the time, he was very excited to meet LAPD officers, but he was late for a meeting. We exchanged numbers and agreed to meet again a few days later. I came back with a vague understanding that we would be trading things slightly bigger than patches, so I brought him an LAPD mug and sweatshirt. I left his office with a stack of patches, badges, a helmet and even a full French uniform. Another day, we



Sergeant Jonathan Johnson and Reserve Officer Trevor Ingold

met a group of French Nationale police officers who love LAPD so much they have pooled their money and bought three retired American police cars, shipped them to France and painstakingly recreated them into LAPD shops. This was clearly a labor of love, and they were incredibly detailed, even down to the correct noise the sirens make. Their recreated cars were so detailed and accurate, several LAPD officers back home saw these shops in our pictures and asked me how I managed to get our cars shipped to France. These guys formed a group called "Paris Interceptor" and they use these recreated LAPD shops and cosplay uniforms

to raise money for various charitable functions very similar to what the Reserve Corps does for Sunshine Kids. Due to their background as officers and their profound respect for LAPD, they are always mindful of how they behave when they unofficially represent our department. What a unique honor it was to travel halfway around the globe and meet local cops who love and respect our department so much they spend their spare time dressing up like us.

I will be going back to Paris in the spring on my next vacation, and I already have plans to meet up with many of these new friends I made. And as of this writing, we have already had three of our French police partners visit us in L.A. during their vacations, staying in our guest bedrooms while we show them around our city. This assignment has already proven to have been the impetus for unlikely yet deeply meaningful friendships.

One of my favorite things was the amount of quality time I got to spend with the reserves on the team whom I had not previously known. A smaller portion of the team were old friends of mine from my days as the reserve coordinator

at Hollywood. The rest of the team were people I had only ever spoken to in passing, or in some cases had never met at all. As a career patrol guy who more or less fell into an administrative assignment by accident, my one complaint with my current job is how removed I am from field work and regular cops. For three wonderful weeks I got to work with my guys like I used to when I was an officer. I got to walk a foot beat with them as partners and get to know them on a personal level. Now that it has been a few weeks, when I think back to my fondest memories of the trip, most of them are when the whole team got together after shifts to break bread, trade stories and bust chops.

Of course, I must thank Chief of Police Dominic Choi for letting any of this happen. The easiest thing would have been to deny approval for this trip and avoid even the slightest risk of an international incident if anything went wrong. There were so many unknowns during the planning of this event, it could have easily been canceled at any point. Instead, Chief Choi saw the potential for success and put his trust in the Reserve Corps to get the

job done. The amount of confidence he had in the reserves to represent the Department on such a huge global stage proves yet again that reserve officers are every bit as capable as full-time officers.

Even the Chief would agree the person who should be thanked more than anyone is Bernard Khalili, who, with his unique background and decades-long connections in France, is truly the biggest reason any of this was even possible. Bernard and his career-long partner Trevor Ingold worked tirelessly to plan and coordinate this mission. It is only through their efforts and attention to detail that it was such an overwhelming success. And last, I need to thank the entire 30-man team of reserves. They all worked tirelessly and ensured the Department and the Reserve Corps were always being represented in the best possible way. I have never been prouder of the Reserve Corps than I was at the end of this trip. It was the ultimate privilege of my career to be able to represent the Department in this way and to lead this wonderful group of officers on the assignment of a lifetime. ©

**SAVE THE DATE!**

# Twice a Citizen Gala

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025**

**LAPRF.ORG**





Airport, carrying the officers across the Atlantic to join law enforcement counterparts from around the world.

### PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION: A COLLECTIVE EFFORT

As the officers gathered for a final pre-deployment meeting on July 13 in the 10th-floor conference room at LAPD Headquarters, the enormity of their mission was clear. Interim Chief of Police Dominic Choi, along with officials from the French Consulate, laid out the details. The officers were briefed on the legalities of operating in France, particularly regarding the use of weapons. "Each officer received official international travel orders and the official authorization to transport a weapon in France. Both documents were issued by the Ministère de l'Intérieur et des Outre-Mer. These documents certified our clearance and authorization to participate in the mission." This authorization was a critical component of the mission, ensuring the officers were integrated into French law enforcement operations. The coordination extended to travel logistics, with Air France providing a dedicated check-in area to facilitate the complex task of moving officers, baggage and firearms across international borders.

The delegation was divided into three groups: Group A would remain in France for the entirety of the Games, while Groups B and C would rotate in for 10-day periods. A small team of officers was also assigned to the port city of Marseille, where Olympic sailing events were held, and the mission expanded to include the football (soccer) competitions.

### DEPLOYMENT IN PARIS: BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Upon arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport, the LAPD officers split into two groups. Six officers boarded a train to Marseille, while the remaining members were deployed across three Parisian police districts: the 5th/6th, 8th and 13th arrondissements. These areas, covering key Olympic venues and tourist hotspots, were critical zones for maintaining public safety. The



officers were partnered with French counterparts and quickly integrated into the daily rhythm of high-visibility patrols.

LAPD officers worked three days on, three days off, walking foot patrols that spanned iconic landmarks like the Champs-Élysées, the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre Museum. Their Class A uniforms, a visual representation of the LAPD's storied legacy, attracted attention wherever they went. "It was like walking through a movie set," one officer remarked, noting how pedestrians often stopped to take photos with them. Reserve Officer Larry Herman said, "Never in my 30 years as an LAPD reserve police officer had I ever been treated as

such royalty! Working lengthy foot beat details, walking the streets of Paris, in full LAPD uniform, we were treated like famous movie or rock stars. We were the absolute and envious center of attention, flooded each and every work shift with literally hundreds of requests to pose for photographs! An experience I shall never forget!"

The opening ceremonies on July 26 marked the official start of their deployment. Despite the rain, LAPD officers stood alongside their French counterparts, ensuring the safety of an estimated 500,000 spectators along the Seine.

Reserve Officer Jeff Pugay shared his journal notes with *The Rotator*: "Together with our



French officer colleagues, we walked towards the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Seine River [with French police] Lieutenant Nadia [Bojovic, Group B Team] ... I was surprised, as we got closer and closer to the Seine River, stopping at Pont Saint Louis/Quai de l'Archevêché... It started to rain heavily, but in the excitement, no one seemed to mind. We met a high-ranking police commissioner who insisted that we pass through the last barrier to get even closer to watch the boat parade! He even took our photo

as the U.S. team boat passed by! Afterwards, Ryan bought our colleagues dinner from a local brasserie where the patrons (standing room only, with primarily U.K. tourists enjoying themselves, drinks in hand), seeing our highly recognizable Class A uniforms, started singing/chanting 'Los Angeles'...! Quite the welcome! At the end of watch ... Cedric and his partner took us in their patrol vehicle with lights and sirens on, Code 3, all the way back to our hotel in Montmartre, in north Paris."

Chief Choi, who was in Paris for the opening ceremonies, joined the officers on foot patrol, walking the beat in solidarity with his team. His presence highlighted the importance of the mission, not only for the LAPD but also for the city of Los Angeles.

Reserve Officer Bill Ahmanson shared a memory: "One afternoon our Station 13 hosts

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## PARIS 2024 OLYMPICS - CONTINUED FROM PG 7



took us to the Arc de Triomphe. Tourists seemed equally excited about LAPD as the Arc. French officials seized on this by including all officers in a re-dedication of the eternal flame.” Per the white paper, “The 13th District (arrondissement) is a mix of modern high-rises and classic buildings covering approximately four square miles. Unique to the 13th District is Paris’ principal Asian community. The 13th district is also home to Paris’ largest hospital, which spans the length of one city block.”

### AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

The 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris brought together law enforcement officers from across the globe. LAPD officers worked closely with police from Germany, Ireland (the Irish Garda, featured as a cover photo on the LAPRF Facebook page), Spain, Brazil, South Korea and the United Arab Emirates. The collaborative spirit was evident in every patrol, as officers shared experiences, compared tactics, learned from one another and traded a lot of patches.

One of the highlights of the mission was an event hosted by the International Police Association, which brought together foreign law enforcement officers for an evening of camaraderie. French citizens, proud of their association with the LAPD, showcased vehicles and motorcycles outfitted with period-correct LAPD



insignia, lights and sirens at the Eiffel Tower. This unique display of appreciation underscored the global reach of the LAPD’s reputation.

The LAPRF hosted a dinner that brought together LAPD officers and French police leadership. Commander Hamed Mohammadi and Captain Shannon White, both members of the LA28 planning team, were in attendance, taking notes on best practices for the 2028 Summer Games in Los Angeles.

### DEPLOYMENT IN MARSEILLE

In Marseille, a smaller contingent of LAPD



officers took part in the security efforts surrounding the Olympic sailing and football competitions. Partnered with French National Police officers, they worked in teams to patrol the city’s bustling marina and central districts, focusing on high-traffic tourist areas. Their duties ranged from foot patrols to investigating drug-





related crimes and responding to emergency situations, such as a suspicious bag at the Olympic viewing park.

The Marseille team also participated in several high-profile law enforcement operations, including a raid on a methamphetamine den and multiple burglary investigations. Their presence at Marseille Stadium during the football matches — where U.S. teams drew large crowds — added an extra layer of security for American fans.

One of the mission's highlights in Marseille was a tour of the headquarters of the city's GIGN (Groupe d'Intervention de la Gendarmerie Nationale, or National Gendarmerie Intervention Group), the elite tactical unit of the Gendarmerie Nationale. As stated in the white paper, "Among its missions are counterterrorism, hostage rescue, surveillance of national threats, protection of government officials, critical site protection (such as French embassies in war-torn countries) and targeting organized crime. GIGN ... was formed in 1973, shortly after the Munich massacre at the 1972



Summer Olympics." The tour included demonstrations of their advanced training facilities, equipment and even a full-sized MMA fight ring.

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*Trading covers for the camera*

This firsthand experience of the capabilities provided LAPD officers with valuable insights into French tactical operations.

The officers' time in Marseille concluded with, as the white paper reported, "breakfast hosted by the United States Ambassador at her personal residence. Chief Dominic Choi was in attendance along with Pierre-Edouard Colliex, Chief, Le Préfet de Police, Marseille. At this breakfast Officer Bernard Khalili was presented with the National Medal of Courage and Devotion recognizing his efforts in bringing LAPD officers to France for the Olympics and his contributions to strengthening international bonds. All foreign LEOs assigned to Marseille LEO were honored at a luncheon hosted by our

Marseille hosts. Officers were presented with gift bags that included a [commemorative] coin of the Préfecture de Police."

### **TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE**

The exchange of knowledge was a critical component of the deployment. LAPD Reserve Officers Justin Davis and Dr. Kenji Inaba, both experts in tactical medical care, were invited to provide basic medical training to French officers at the 13th District station. Their focus on hemorrhage control, tourniquet application and care under fire was particularly relevant, as French officers had recently experienced a shooting incident that could have benefited

from such training. The training sessions highlighted the need for ongoing education in medical response techniques. LAPD officers donated medical supplies, including tourniquet sets, to their French counterparts, leaving a lasting impact on the station's preparedness for future emergencies.

In addition to the tactical training, Dr. Inaba also met with the medical directors of both GIGN and BRI (the antiterrorism unit in Paris) to discuss collaboration on hemorrhage control research and protocols. These high-level meetings set the stage for future cooperation between U.S. and French law enforcement agencies, particularly in the realm of tactical medicine.





Reserve Officer Ben Pak demonstrated the usage of a pistol-mounted red dot sight. The French only use this on rifles. Being on the range already, an impromptu pistol competition occurred, in the interests of international relations.

Two French officers had been recently injured on duty and were recuperating at home. Reserve Officer Marcus Stein put together a gift package for them, composed of get-well cards, patches and shirts, signed by all LAPD members assigned to Station 13.

### BRIDGING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

While the LAPD officers quickly adapted to the rhythms of Parisian life, there were notable

differences in law enforcement culture and tactics. French officers, for example, emphasized the threat of knife attacks and terrorism over the gun violence concerns more prevalent in the United States. This difference in priorities was reflected in the equipment carried by French officers, who wore lighter, flexible ballistic vests and carried smaller firearms than their LAPD counterparts.

Public perception of law enforcement also varied. While LAPD officers were frequently greeted with enthusiasm by locals and tourists alike, French officers remarked that they were not accustomed to such positive interactions. The LAPD's iconic status, fueled by Hollywood portrayals, was a source of fascination for many

in Paris, who saw the officers as symbols of American pop culture.

An LAPD officer told *The Rotator*, "A memory that I will hold dear to my heart is how intrigued and curious the French officers were to learn about us. They loved asking questions about our personal life, work life, what we did for hobbies, etc. It was very fun getting to know them and exchanging information about each other's lives and comparing how law enforcement is in two different countries. I have never known what it is like to be a celebrity, but for

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the 10 days I was there, in uniform, I know exactly what that feels like now.”

However, the complexities of operating in a foreign environment were evident, particularly in the realm of emergency driving. In contrast to U.S. traffic laws, which require vehicles to pull over for emergency vehicles, French drivers appeared less inclined to make way for police cars, creating additional challenges during Code 3 responses.

### CONFIDENTIAL PLANNING AND SELECTION: THE PARIS MISSION'S UNIQUE CRITERIA

The selection of officers for the Olympics mission raised some questions among members of the Reserve Corps, asking why the opportunity was not offered more broadly. As per Department sources, the planning and execution of this international deployment had to remain substantially confidential, a directive issued directly by the Chief of Police. The sensitive nature of the mission required the operation to be kept under wraps until the team landed in France.

This secrecy was not a matter of exclusivity, but a practical measure to maintain security. It would have been impossible to solicit volunteers



from the entire Corps while retaining the level of confidentiality that was required. The officers chosen for this mission were not selected at random but were handpicked based on their specialized experience. In particular, many of the reserve officers had regularly served on Dignitary Protection details when foreign officials, including those from France, visited Los Angeles. Their years of working these units earned the trust of the French government, which specifically requested their presence at the Paris Olympics.

The French government had requested a maximum of 30 officers and two supervisors for the mission. To meet this request, the LAPD

authorized one full-time supervisor. However, in a move to maximize the number of reserve participants, a second supervisory position was assigned, allowing the inclusion of an additional reserve officer in a leadership role. The officers selected met strict criteria, requiring them to be Level I reserve officers in good standing, with a completed P1 book and a consistent record of working their minimum hours.

As Sergeant Johnson told *The Rotator*, “I want to emphasize this was a win for all of us. The reserves at the Paris Olympics served with excellence, and in doing so, they not only upheld the values of the LAPD but also represented every reserve with the highest level of professionalism.”



## LOOKING AHEAD TO LOS ANGELES 2028

As the Paris mission drew to a close, the focus shifted to the future: the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. The LAPD delegation's experience in France provided invaluable insights into the challenges of securing such a massive event. From crowd control to international cooperation, the lessons learned in Paris should undoubtedly shape the security strategies for LA28.

The participation of LAPD reserve officers in Paris also demonstrated the critical role that reserve officers can play in global events. Their ability to integrate into international operations, coupled with their diverse skill sets, positions the LAPD Reserve Program as a vital resource for the 2028 Games.

The lessons learned will be instrumental in preparing for Los Angeles. With the city expected to host millions of spectators and athletes from around the world in 2028, the LAPD will need to draw on every available resource to ensure the safety and success of the event. LAPD reserve officers working in Paris vividly demonstrated the critical role that the Reserve Corps can play as a vital resource for the 2028 Games.

## A LEGACY OF SERVICE

As the LAPD officers returned home from Paris, they carried with them not only memories of a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but also a sense of purpose. Officer Ahmanson summarized the experience: "The impetus for the trip began as supporting French police as they kept Paris safe. Quickly the trip became a goodwill and sharing of ideas experience. The police presence was so pronounced, there was little crime. L.A. should replicate this in 2028." Another officer told *The Rotator*, "It was very common for French citizens to remark how grateful they were that American police came all the way from Los Angeles to help with security. The response from members of the public was overwhelmingly positive. Similarly, the attitudes of our French hosts were truly welcoming, engendering feelings of mutual respect and professional collaboration. This deployment was a home run." 🇺🇸

## RESERVES THANKED BY FRENCH EMBASSY

### Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation's Post



Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation

October 1 · 🌐

#LAPD Reserve Police Officers at the French Embassy in Washington DC, as the French Ambassador to the United States recognized the LAPD Reserves who were part of the international delegation of law enforcement at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

On behalf of the Department, the LAPD officers also recognized two high-ranking French Commanding Officers.

The delegation was a highly-successful collaboration that is a prelude to LA28 -- the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Great job to all the reserve officers involved, who took the extended time from their lives and primary careers to commit to this mission.

[LAPD Headquarters](#)





# SUNSHINE KIDS

On September 18, LAPD reserve and full-time officers, including command staff, once again participated in the Sunshine Kids event at Elysian Park Academy. This event, originally spearheaded by now-retired Reserve Officer David Bush, has long been a cherished tradition within the Reserve Corps. Currently, it is organized by Officer

Joseph Orlanes of the Community Relations Section, Office of the Chief of Police.

The event offers kids battling cancer a unique, uplifting experience with the LAPD, with reserve officers helping to create lasting memories for these special kids. Many officers, over the years, have said it has been one of the most impactful days of their careers. Back in

the day, the Department would treat the kids to a Code 3 ride with lights and sirens down into Hollywood to Raleigh Studios on Melrose Avenue.

Officer Dave Bush, who retired in 2022 after nearly 30 years of service, was recognized for his efforts with the Andrea Friedman Award at the 2023 Reserve Gala. ©







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SUNSHINE KIDS - CONTINUED FROM PG 15







# UPDATE: NEW RIBBON RENAMED “RESERVE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE”

During the process of routing the 15.2 to add this new ribbon to the Department Manual, Volume 3 Management Rules and Procedures, Uniforms and Equipment, it was decided to rename the Reserve Exceptional Service Ribbon as the Reserve Distinguished Service Ribbon. As the Department stated: “During the review process, there were concerns that the name of the ribbon (‘Service Ribbon’) has the connotation that it was a time-of-service ribbon, such as the Patrol Service Ribbon or Detective Service Ribbon. For consistency with some of the other merit-based awards, the ribbon was renamed as the ‘Reserve Distinguished Service Ribbon,’ similar to the Police Distinguished Service Ribbon or the Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal.”

If you received a Reserve Officer of the Year award at the May 2024 Gala, or at any time in the past, for Division/Area, Bureau or Department of the Year, remember you are eligible to receive the Reserve Distinguished Service Ribbon.

In the Department Notice dated February



*The Reserve Distinguished Service Ribbon; top to bottom: Department, Bureau and Area/Division*

23, 2017, the chair of the Uniform Committee, Deputy Chief William A. Murphy, announced newly approved uniform and equipment items approved by the Committee and the Chief of Police. This included, as per the Notice:

“The Department has approved the creation of a Department ribbon commemorating the accomplishment of reserve police officers who are awarded the Divisional, Bureau, and Department reserve police officer of the year awards.

“Each year, reserve police officers are recognized by the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation (LAPRF) and the Department during the Twice a Citizen award ceremony. To increase the recognition of this honor, Reserve Police Officer Michael Sellars, Serial #R2356, Co-President of the LAPRF, Hollywood Area, recommended that the Department create the [Distinguished] Service Ribbon for the Reserve Officer of the Year.”

The design of the ribbon is based on the Reserve Service Ribbon with the gold center replacing the white center, with devices added for the Bureau and Department honor respectively. Officers can wear the ribbon and device for the highest single Reserve Officer of the Year awarded to date.

To get this ribbon, contact Mel Kennedy at [melbruken@gmail.com](mailto:melbruken@gmail.com).

## FOLLOW LAPRF ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Los Angeles Police  
Reserve Foundation



@LAPDReserve



@laprf\_org



# ROSH HASHANAH DETAIL

APD Reserve Police Officers Jeff Pugay and Edwin Bardales working West Los Angeles Patrol, Rosh Hashanah Detail, in October. ©



## MILTON BERLE AND OFFICER STAMPER



*In this press photo dated September 26, 1974, Milton Berle and Reserve Policeman William Stamper hang out at the fifth annual Police Celebrity Golf Tournament. Photo courtesy of Vintage LAPD, Peter Harris.*



# LABOR DAY

APD reserve police officers Labor Day detail at Venice Beach. Thank you for your service during the holiday weekend! 🇺🇸





# CRPOA UPDATE



By Reserve Officer Steven Fazio, California Reserve Peace Officers Association Chairman and CEO

*Editor's note: LAPRF is a 501(c)(3) charity and cannot endorse any legislative or political activities discussed in this article.*

**G**reetings, fellow reserves. The CRPOA has been hard at work, adding value and working on behalf of all 3,500 reserve officers in California.

## 2023-2024 RECAP

Our lobbying efforts have ensured we have a voice in our State Capitol, and our association with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) has now evolved into the CRPOA being the first and only all-reserve officer lodge in the country (Lodge #74). The growing relationship has led us to work together to combat anti-police legislation and efforts that impact reserve and full-time officers alike. Our general counsel continues to assist reserves throughout the state, clarifying legal issues such as SB 2 and,

as we clarify perceived restrictions, aiding our member agencies that require additional legal opinions. Meanwhile, our Annual Reserve Peace Officers Conference (ARPOC) ratings continue to prove we are one of the preeminent POST-certified conferences in California!

As a footnote, all reserves should review their liability benefits and compare them to the FOP liability benefits. We believe the FOP liability coverage is the best coverage available for criminal, civil and administrative liability, and we fund your membership in FOP through your CRPOA dues; we pay \$19 a year for each of our members to be a member of FOP. All CRPOA members are automatically enrolled in FOP Lodge #74. The liability coverage is only available to FOP members. For approximately \$322 a year, you can purchase the FOP benefits that cover you for unlimited criminal, civil and administrative insurance benefits.

ARPOC 2026 is currently being developed

and, based on the results of a survey we sent out to our members, the Northern California venue will again be in the South Lake Tahoe area. We are currently negotiating rates. The time of year will be August or September. We will announce the details in the next 60 days.

For \$125 a year, we believe membership in the *only* state reserve organization is both a bargain and a critical requirement for all reserves to invest in. The leadership of the CRPOA has always been an LAPD designated Level I reserve officer. I was extremely honored to have been elected as the successor to Jim Lombardi (R0047), and I'm hoping to encourage all LAPD reserve officers and reserve coordinators to be members of CRPOA. Our board consists of all unpaid reserve officers throughout the state, and we need your support so we can continue to work on your behalf! I am available to all members via my email, [fazio@crpoa.org](mailto:fazio@crpoa.org) or [r0771@lapd.online](mailto:r0771@lapd.online), and my cellphone, (818) 307-6209. 📞

## CLASS 1-22R



LAPD Reserve Academy 1-22R classmates on Watch 2 Patrol at LAPD Pacific Division in October, with their training officer on the right

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUMMER GAMES

APD reserve police officers and other law enforcement officers cheered on athletes at the 2024 Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games at Cal State Long Beach in June. Thanks to Officers Ali Basher and Albert Austria for providing the photos. 📷





# APPLY NOW FOR THE LAPRF VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The \$2,000 Vocational Scholarship donated by Jeff and Heather Nocket and Todd and Cheryl Moore (with additional funding provided by Joe Wong) is available to LAPD reserve officers' children or grandchildren through the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation.

The scholarship is awarded to the first applicant who is chosen to receive the scholarship through the selection process. As per the Nockets/Moores:

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are more than seven million jobs available across the country, but the majority don't require a four-year college degree.
- We don't want to diminish the linkage of good careers to certain traditional four-year college degrees, but rather highlight the need for skilled labor in today's job market and the cost/benefit trade-off that vocational and trade school provides.
- With student loan debt as the second-highest consumer debt category in the United States, we want to promote the growing movement toward trade schools and apprenticeship programs that provide a shorter and more attainable option for obtaining a good-paying career.
- Eligibility requirements will include being a high school senior, high school graduate or having a GED equivalent, and planning to attend a trade or vocational school leading to viable career path.

If you would like to join this initiative as a donor, email [msellars@laprf.org](mailto:msellars@laprf.org).

## HOW TO APPLY

Email the following to [msellars@laprf.org](mailto:msellars@laprf.org):

- Subject heading: VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION [LAST NAME]
- Contact info: Scholar name, address, phone number and email address
- Date of birth
- Vocational occupation
- Name of vocational/trade school applicant has been accepted to attend
- Short essay answering these questions: Why



have you chosen this trade and apprenticeship program? What are your career goals?

Attach the following to the email:

- High school transcript

- A letter of recommendation

- Copy of vocational school acceptance

Scholarship award funds will be sent directly to the student's school. ☺

## SUNSHINE KIDS HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION



LAPD Reserve Police Officers Albert Austria and Cesar Terrientes with Senior Lead Officer Joseph Orlanes (left) at the Sunshine Kids "Paint a Pumpkin" Halloween celebration on October 12

# RESERVE OFFICER WOLKIND REMEMBERED

**M**agen Am Security held a ceremony on June 30 to rededicate one of their patrol trucks in honor of Reserve Police Officer Ivan Wolkind, who passed away suddenly off duty on May 10, having served with the LAPD for 10 years. Deputy Chief Hamilton presented a certificate of appreciation to Officer Wolkind's family on behalf of Chief of Police Choi and the Department. 🌟





# BEN LEE RECOGNIZED



**B**en Lee, longtime LAPD reserve and retired full-time police officer, was recognized by the Board of Directors of the William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation in August for so many years of outstanding service — a legend! 🌟



## OPERATION SCHOOL BELL



LAPD reserve police officers gave back to the community in more ways than one at an Operation School Bell event in September. Pictured are Reserve Officers Ronnie Hadar and Dennis Zine from Topanga Area.

# CARNIVAL

LAPD reserve officers at Pacific Division worked the Summer Carnival in the Venice Boulevard/Motor Avenue area, sponsored by the Booster Club as part of the Palms Community Weekend, June 21–23. Photos provided by Officer Brian Clarke. 📷

## WEST VALLEY CRIME SUPPRESSION



West Valley Area requested assistance from LAPD reserve police officers to provide high-visibility crime suppression (particularly burglary) details along the Ventura Boulevard corridor, Thursdays through Saturdays, in the evenings. Shown here are Officers Bardales and Pugay on August 16.





# FIND THE RESERVE CORPS AND LAPRF ON SOCIAL MEDIA



## LAPD Reserve Officers Facebook Group

[facebook.com/groups/LAPDReservePoliceOfficers](https://facebook.com/groups/LAPDReservePoliceOfficers)

This is a private/closed Facebook group for active, former and retired LAPD reserve officers. It is an independent forum for reserve officers to communicate and share information. When first joining, you will be prompted to indicate your reserve status (active, former or retired) and provide your serial number. This is done so that your eligibility to join the group can be confirmed.



## LAPRF on X

[x.com/laprf\\_org](https://x.com/laprf_org)

On X (formerly Twitter), the LAPRF engages with local leaders and the community, discussing news and current events that may be of interest to reserve law enforcement officers. The LAPRF thanks retired Reserve Officer Eric Rose for managing this account. Officer Rose is a crisis communication expert and partner at Englander, Knabe & Allen.



## LAPD Reserve on Instagram

[instagram.com/lapdreserve](https://instagram.com/lapdreserve)

On Instagram, the LAPD Reserve account reaches out to potential reserve officer candidates as part of LAPRF's reserve recruitment initiative. As you may know, Instagram is all about pictures, so if you have any cool photos (high resolution), let us know.

You can also find out more about the LAPRF at [laprf.org](https://laprf.org).



## Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation on Facebook

[facebook.com/LosAngelesPoliceReserveFoundation](https://facebook.com/LosAngelesPoliceReserveFoundation)

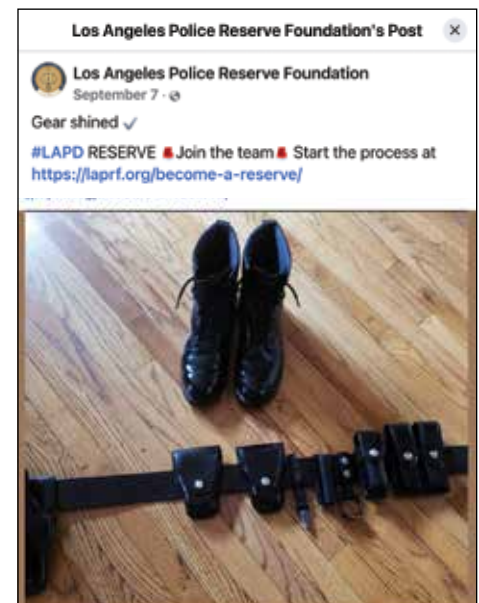
The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation (LAPRF) first posted on Facebook in 2011 as part of an initiative to raise awareness and tell the story of the LAPD Reserve Corps and to recruit potential candidates. Today, the Facebook page continues to engage with the community. Photo albums provide an archive of pictures from annual galas, Academy classes, in-service training days and special events like the Sunshine Kids and Special Olympics.



## Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation on LinkedIn

[linkedin.com/company/los-angeles-police-reserve-foundation](https://linkedin.com/company/los-angeles-police-reserve-foundation)

This LinkedIn account highlights the professionalism of LAPD reserve police officers, engaging with other law enforcement agencies, organizations and leaders, and connecting with them and supporters of the Reserve Corps in the community.





**LAPD RESERVE CORPS**  
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 Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation

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# Look What You Can Do on the Weekend

Start the process of becoming a **Los Angeles Police Department Reserve Officer** by attending an orientation at the City of Los Angeles Personnel Department.

For more information, visit [www.LAPDreserve.com](http://www.LAPDreserve.com),  
 email [lapdreserves@lapd.online](mailto:lapdreserves@lapd.online) or call a recruiter at **(213) 486-6000**.

