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# Alive!



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# Reviewing the Rigs

Port Police's Commercial Enforcement  
Unit inspects cargo trucks to keep  
streets safe and freight moving.

— SEE PAGE 8 —



Alive! main photo by Summy Lam

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amazing Website, too...  
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The LA Port Police Motor Unit (Commercial Enforcement), from left:  
Officer Arman Akserelian, 10 years of City service; Officer Morgan  
Evans, 11 years; Officer III Michael Canlas, 15 years; Officer III Masaki  
Imoto, Club Member, 14 years; Sgt. Glenn Twardy, 26 years, Club  
Member; Officer III Mark Renteria, 20 years, Club Member; Officer  
Justin Sepe, 11 years; and Officer III Mark Velasquez, 20 years.

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### This Month At The Club Store

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The United Agencies reps are appearing at the Club Store on select Thursdays:



**Patty Pulido**  
Personal Insurance Agent

**June 6:** 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
**June 27:** 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



**Rosa Calderon**  
Personal Insurance Agent

**June 20:** 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



## JOHN'S BLOG by John Hawkins, President and CEO, The Club

### Safety Is the Tipping Point

Big rigs that tipped over on the freeway, killing the occupants of a car driving alongside. Other big rigs that tipped over or broke down on the Vincent Thomas Bridge, snarling traffic, endangering lives and ruining the taxpayer-funded pavement.

These were just some of the stories recalled by Port Police **Sgt. Glenn Twardy**, Club Member, in explaining why his job exists – to check for violations in the traffic code for commercial vehicles in the incredibly important Port of Los Angeles, which generates billions of dollars in City revenue. (Most commercial trucks are law-abiding.)

Safety comes first. But keeping the freight moving is important, too. Sgt. Twardy invited *Alive!* to come down to observe an inspection training exercise, and we were delighted to say yes.

Our own Club Vice President of Business Development **Arlene Herrero** alerted us to this important story. Arlene was visiting with City Employees, heard about Sgt. Twardy and his

Commercial Enforcement Unit, and realized no one had done a story on this important squad. A few months later, there we were, covering it. We love telling stories of City Employees providing a crucial service to City residents. (And boy did Arlene have a busy month – check out her other stories this month, including our regular Baker to Vegas comprehensive coverage, and Club Board Member LAFD **Capt. Danny Wu**'s annual St. Baldrick fundraiser. Good going, Arlene!)



LAPD Officer II  
Brian Thompson

And while the *Alive!* team was covering the training exercise, we ran into LAPD **Officer II +3 Brian Thompson**, 21 years of City service. Officer Thompson was the dean of the LAPD's SES – the Specialized Enforcement Section, which is responsible for a myriad of motor-related responsibilities deemed critical by the LAPD,

including determining commercial vehicle violations. That's why the SES team was part of the training exercise. Anyway, back to Officer Thompson: He was ready to turn in all his gear the next day, as he was retiring after a distinguished City career. We're glad we caught up with him to thank him for his exemplary service to the City. Thanks, Officer Thompson, and best wishes for a great retirement!

We all owe a debt to the Motor Officers of the Port Police, LAPD and other agencies for keeping our roads safe and our City infrastructure operating optimally. Thanks!

And as we head into June, make sure to follow the Club on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, email and YouTube to get the latest news on our great deals. It's well worth your time!



Port Police Sgt. Glenn Twardy, Club Member, and Club COO Robert Larios at the Commercial Enforcement training exercise.

**JOHN**

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**The Club** PAGE 8



The Port Police's Commercial Enforcement Unit takes *Alive!* through a training exercise. Follow along!

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## Father's Day Tributes

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## ALIVE! NEW THIS MONTH

# ONLINE

[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



### CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Complete your applications online!

## People We See

Meet Darrell Ford, the latest video in our ongoing series.



# CLASSIFIED ADS \$\$\$

**Members Marketplace**



## Correction

In the retirement list of last month's *Alive!*, we misstated the title of **Richard David**, who retired from the DWP after 32 years of City service. Richard retired as Shops Superintendent from the DWP's Power System – Power, Construction and Maintenance Division, General Shops Section. We're sorry about that, Richard – thank you for your service, and congratulations on your retirement.

— The *Alive!* Children's Coloring Contest —

# Kid's Coloring Contest: WINNERS ONLINE

The location for this month's winners and future art downloads is: [aliveemployeesclub.com/category/columns/coloring-contest/](http://aliveemployeesclub.com/category/columns/coloring-contest/)

*Alive!* has moved half of its children's coloring contest online, including the list of this month's winners.

Since launching the Web *Alive!*, we've moved the second (April) and fourth (October) to be digital only, with the blank art downloadable online. The first (January) and third (July, the next one) will remain in print. That's our plan for now; let us know what you think: [talkback@employeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@employeesclub.com)



See all 4 winners online.



Addison Sousa: Winning entry, 11 to 13 years old.



## The Club: Here to Help

Club staff is dedicated to helping our members receive the maximum benefit from their membership. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions about your Club, our counselors are ready to help.

**Email us at:**

help@employeesclub.com

if you have an event you want an event covered in *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance.

Or call us at: (800) 464-0452

**In-house Counselors**

At Club Headquarters



**MaryAnn Urdiales**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 159



**Cheryl Martin**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 136

At the Club Store



**Tiffany Sy**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 202

June 2019 • Volume 18 – No. 6

*Alive!* is the official publication of the

**Employees Club of California**

120 West 2nd Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452

CONTACT US: admin@aliveemployeesclub.com

*Alive!* (USPS P7960) is published monthly, 12 times per year by the Employees Club of California, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

**ALIVE! EDITORIAL OFFICES:** 311 Spring Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles CA, 90013 • (800) 464-0452

**POSTAGE:** Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, CA and at additional mailing offices.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Annual subscription price for *Alive!* is included in the membership dues and is nondeductible.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address corrections to *Alive!*, Employees Club of California, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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Andrew Virzi Jr.

*Assistant Controller, DWP*

Capt. Danny C. Wu, *LAFD*

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Marilyn Holley

*Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired*

Rose Hyland

*Office of the Controller, Retired*

Phillip Orland, *Rec&Parks, Retired*

David Muraoka, *LAPD, Retired*

Rita Robinson, *County of LA, Retired*

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**LAABP**

# Food and Honors

## Black Personnel Association hosts events during Black History Month.

In honor of African American Heritage Month (AAHM), the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc. (LAABP) continued its long-running tradition of hosting events to celebrate City employees and the community's achievements.

On Feb. 20, LAABP partnered with LAPD's Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation (OJB) for the annual Black History Month Food Festival in Grand Park, hosting numerous food vendors/trucks from the surrounding community.

Additionally, Feb. 28, LAABP sponsored the City's AAHM Closing Ceremonies and presented the LAABP Scholarships to high-school seniors; City Employee Development awards; and the LAABP Trailblazer Awards honoring exemplary City Employees.



Trailblazer Award Recipient Capt. LaTasha Wells Amerson, Airport Police, with LAABP President DeMario Sims.



From left: Trailblazer Award Recipient Michael Simpson, Public Works/Sanitation, with LAABP President DeMario Sims.



From left: Trailblazer Award recipient Ian Monteith, Public Works/Contract Administration, with LAABP President DeMario Sims.

# CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the Employees Club of California • June 2019



## Sign Up for Softball!

### New season expects to start by early July. What are you waiting for?

Welcome to the new season of Club softball! This summer, we'll be starting the second season of the new North Division. Stay tuned for field locations and official game schedules. (This will be Club Softball's 11th season overall.)

### Who can join?

Managers of teams with at least nine players are welcome to register.

**Please note:** Time and space are limited for the North Division season of the Club Softball League. Once filled, we will keep your name for future seasons.

All new players must be Club Members and agree to all regular Club Membership rules and regulations. Players who

are not Club Members must join to play in the Club Softball League. Some exceptions might be made for specific relatives of Club Members. Contact the Sports Dude for more information. Exceptions to eligibility requirements are offered for relatives of Club members over 18 years of age. Players who are not eligible to play may cause forfeit of games and/or season.

All new players must be City, State or County employees.

**This is a co-ed league: for both men and women.**

### Registration

Registration forms and additional information is available on the Club Website: [www.employeesclub.com](http://www.employeesclub.com)

**FREE AGENTS: Want to play but don't have a team?**

Are you a softball player who's not part of a team but would like to play on one? Contact the Sports Dude at [sportsdude@employeesclub.com](mailto:sportsdude@employeesclub.com)



### Locations

Club Softball's North Division expects to play at the following locations:

Shatto Recreation Center  
3191 W Fourth St., 90020

Yosemite Recreation Center  
1840 Yosemite Dr., 90041

Downey Recreation Center  
1772 N. Spring St., 90031

### South Division Forming

The Club Softball League's South Division, which plays its games in Inglewood, is forming and accepting new teams and players. Contact the Sports Dude:

[sportsdude@employeesclub.com](mailto:sportsdude@employeesclub.com)

*The Club Softball League is open to Members from the City, County and State. It is also open to their family members over 18 years old.*



### SOFTBALL PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK!

The Club has hundreds of great action shots from this season and last on our Facebook page, and a season video on the Club's YouTube channel. Enjoy!



## CLUB TRAVEL DEALS!

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**Here are the personal messages sent to *Alive!* by some very loving and grateful children who wanted to pay tribute to their dad.**



"I love you to the moon and back a million times. Love, Gina."  
**Regina Palacios, LA County**



"Happy Father's Day to the best dad in the world. Thank you for all the love you give our family. I love you!"  
**— Cittali Bon, Club IT Coordinator**







Happy Father's Day to the man who paved the way for my life.  
*¡Feliz Día del Padre!*  
**— From Club COO Robert Larios**



"Happy Father's Day in heaven, Dad! Love and miss you every day. Until we meet again, I know you are watching over all of us."  
**— Cassie Verdusco, State of California/Corrections**



"A father is someone you look up to, no matter how tall you grow. A father is a son's first hero, and a daughter's first love. Happy Father's Day, Dad!"  
**— For Rito Venegas, Transportation**




"Happy Father's Day to the best Pau Pau. From Morris, Dallas and Ryan."  
**— For Walter Griffin, General Services**



"To the man who has taught us everything we know – may your dreams in life continue to unfold as a direct result of all your hard work and ambition. You're our bright and shining armor. Happy Father's Day. We love you!"  
**— For Anthony Garcia, Public Works, Club Member, shown with sons Anthony Garcia Jr. (left) and Josh Garcia. From Lupe Durazo, Personnel**



"For A.B. Watkins, retired Gunnery Sgt., US Marine Corps (25 years) with two tours of duty: Good man and provider, no matter where was, or overseas. We love you."  
**— Linda Martin, Retired, Public Works**



"Isabella sweetheart – I'm not the only one who sees you as a special person. The email from your high school counselor: 'Your daughter is doing a fabulous job ... she stands out among her peers as a strong student with a beautiful personality.' Your science teacher said you're 'one of the best students ever. Hardworking, trustworthy, intelligent, polite, diligent.' Wow!"  
**— From Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works/Sanitation**

**Send in your Father's Day tributes!**

**GO TO: [aliveemployeesclub.com/fathersday/](http://aliveemployeesclub.com/fathersday/)**

**DEADLINE: JUNE 12: to appear online**

In June online, we'll publish a photo of you and your dad (or just your dad) ... and a two- or three-sentence message of Happy Father's Day from you. Then you can show your dad what he means to you!

# *Alive!* AROUND THE WORLD

## Lofoten Islands, Norway



"The Lofoten Islands is an archipelago along the west coast of Norway, north of the Arctic Circle. They are known for distinctive scenery of dramatic mountains and peaks, open sea and sheltered bays, beaches and untouched lands. We visited in April and although it's officially spring, the temperature still hovered around freezing because of their location."

**Norman T. Faner, Retired, DWP, and Florian Faner, Retired, General Services**

"In the main village of Svolvær. Behind me is a 'hjell,' a traditional wooden drying rack for fish, mostly Atlantic cod."



"The fishing village of Reine is considered the most picturesque in the Lofoten Islands."

**More Photos at:**  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

## Arizona



Pablo Nino Franco, Retired, Harbor, and his wife, Josie, visited Sedona, Ariz. Behind them is a red rocks formation.



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## FIRE/POLICE PENSIONS

# Thank You, Robyn

**Robyn Wilder, Club Board Member, retires after 30 years of City service.**

Longtime Club Board Member Robyn Wilder retired from Fire and Police Pensions after 30 years of City service.

A Fire and Police Pensions board presentation in her honor was held April 17, and a farewell reception was held at the Arts District Brewery April 25.

She served on the Club Board for more than 25 years, beginning her tenure during the time the association was known as the Los Angeles City Employees Association (LACEA), and continuing after it was rebranded to the Club.

Robyn started her career with the Retirement Office at the DWP, then transferred to Los Angeles Fire and Police Pensions in 2001 as the Communications and Special Projects Manager.

There she became Chief Benefits Analyst and was responsible for the Active Member Services, Communications and Education, and DROP/Service Pensions sections of the Pensions Division. The Pensions Division processes all applications for retirement benefits, including service, disability, surviving spouse and dependent minors and parents.



Robyn Wilder and Employees Club CEO John Hawkins.



Robyn Wilder receives the coveted Distinguished Service Medal from the Fire and Police Pensions Board of Directors.

Robyn received her Bachelor's degree in economics and international relations from Smith College in Northampton, Mass. in 1986. She received the Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS) designation from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans (IFEBP) in December 2005. She completed the Pension Funds and Money Management program at the Wharton School as well as the IFEBP's Essentials of Public Sector Benefits Administration program.

On April 17, at her last City board meeting, Robyn received Fire and Police Pensions' Distinguished Service Medal. Separately she also received recognition from the LAPD Police Protective League, and she was presented with the Employees Club Retirement Recognition Award from the Club.

The Club cannot thank Robyn enough for her many years of working toward the betterment of the lives of City Employees through her participation in the Club Board. And the Club wishes Robyn a great retirement.

And the Club thanks Carol Tavares for her assistance in producing this article.

**More Photos at:**  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



# RESULTS OF THE BIG RACE

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Vice President of Business Development  
Photos by Daniel Wang



STATEWIDE

More pics on web *Alive!*  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

# BAKER to VEGAS

Club celebrates 15 years of sponsoring City teams in this legendary desert footrace.



Sgt. Johnny Raxtun, 17 years of City service, Club Member, with his family on the racecourse as he starts off Leg 1 for Team 201 LA Transportation.



Sgt. Johnny Raxtun, 17 years of City service, Club Member, on the racecourse as he starts off Leg 1 for Team 201 LA Transportation, along with Officer Gregory Park and the sister of their fellow officer, Faller.

A last-minute chat with a race official as KNX 1070 radio reporter Pete Demetriou listens in.



PDO Anson Anderson, 31 City years of service, Club Member (center) with his fellow runners and support as he prepares Leg 1 for Team 225 LAPD CSD.



From left: Team Captain for Team 225 LAPD CSD is PDO Juan Aragon, 30 years of City service, along with his son, DO Christopher Aragon, 5 years. Both are Club Members



Team 98 LAPD Pacific Station.



Team 112 LA Airport Police.



Team 96 LAPD Hollywood Station and Team 219 LAPD Devonshire Division.



Team 222 LAPD Communications alternate runner PSR Ill Jorge Rios, Club Member.



Team 135 LA Port Police runner Officer Ismael Flores, Club Member.



Team 168 LA City Attorney.



Team 155 LAPD West/SO Traffic Division.

The 34th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay was held across the desert March 23-24.

This amazing footrace is an annual event for public safety organizations throughout the world. The relay race is a 120-mile, 20-stage footrace between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas and is considered the "Super Bowl" of law enforcement; the champions are the best, in terms of physical fitness and logistics the police world has to offer. The race was created by and is managed by the Los Angeles Police Rotary and Athletic Club, and the Employees Club is grateful for their leadership.

Once again, the Club was on the racecourse. This year, the Club sponsored a new Club-record nine teams from different police agencies:

- Team 112 LA Airport Police;
- Team 135 Los Angeles Port Police;
- Team 201 LA Transportation;
- Team 205 LAPD Custody Services Division/LAPD SECS2;
- Team 65 LA County Probation;
- Team 222 LAPD Communications;
- Team 267 CHP WLA Squad;
- Team 265 DHCS State Investigators; and
- (New to Club sponsorship) Team 202 Women's LA Airport Police, which entered a new category for an all-women team.

This year, 284 teams started and finished, a record number.

The overall winner was the **Belize National Police**, followed by **Team #1 LAPD Dept. Team**, which finished at 12:50:35. Next, **Team 3 LASD County Team** finished at 12:50:45 but under the Invitation category instead of the Open category in which they have participated in previous years.

It was the same scenario for women's teams, where **Team #35 Women LAPD** took first in the category, finishing at 15:54:32, followed by **Team #44 Women LASD**, which finished at 16:07:08 with 15 minutes of penalties.

New faces appeared on the finish line: LA County Sheriff Alex Villanueva was at the finish line to congratulate many LASD runners. LAPD Police Chief Michel Moore, who also ran in the race, was on hand at the finish line and the awards ceremony.

The awards evening was filled with special thanks, as long-time Race Coordinator and Co-Founder Chuck Foote had decided to step down and retire. The role will be taken by Tony Adler. We wish Chuck Foote much success and thank him for all the many years that he continued to be part of this great event.

## Notable Finish Times

- **Team 135 LA Port Police** finished at 17:34:14 without a penalty, and just missing bringing home a mug (trophy) in their 150 Category, according to team captain Alex Castillo. "Our team placed ninth in our category. We are in a tough 150 Category, where all teams times average fast times. We did not receive any penalties and, despite not having any alternate runners this

year, our runners were able to complete the 120-mile running challenge successfully. We will strive for a faster time next year by training harder and we hope hiring new Officers with fresh legs! We are excited to receive continued support from our Command staff and Police Officers Association."

- **Team 120 LA Airport Police** finished at 16:59:27 and earned a mug.
- **Team 201 LA Transportation** finished at 17:55:08 – the team didn't earn a mug but, according to team captain Manny Ortiz, "We ran a great race. The most challenging aspect of this year's race was the delays. All teams had to go through a high number of construction adjustments, and no amount of preparation is really adequate to get around so much of the roadwork. 2020 will be the team's 13th year, and we look to put out our best team ever."
- **Team 225 LAPD Custody Services Division** finished at 18:59:52 with no penalties but also missing out on their mug.
- **Team 65 LA County Probation** finished at 16:12:24 and earned a mug, coming in fifth overall in the Mixed category.
- **Team 222 LAPD Communications** finished at 17:15:53 and, despite a 10-minute penalty and, according to the team captain Lidia Marcial, "The challenging part was when one of our runners went down near the beginning of the race. We didn't give into the pressure; we had a strong finish and such a great team, support and runners. This year was uplifting after not mugging for four years," making their mug this year highly celebrated.
- **Team 235 DHCS State Investigators** finished at 19:53:50 with a 10-minute penalty. The team didn't earn mug during this, their second year as a team.
- **Team 267 CHP WLA Squad** finished at 20:44:19. They didn't earn a mug, but team captain Amada Maravilla also felt the construction through the racecourse caused a lot of unknowns. "We struggled with new team members who were on the course for the first time. Next year we look forward to finishing with a better time. With more effort and dedication, we should be able to pull it off."
- **Team 202 Women LA Airport Police**, a new participant this year, finished at 19:26:36, slightly shy of acquiring their first mug into this new category for their department.

## Special Thanks

The Club, which has covered the Baker to Vegas Challenge Race for 15 consecutive years, wouldn't be able to bring readers this coverage without the assistance of the following, whom we thank: Chuck Foote, Race Co-Founder; Tony Adler, Assistant Race Coordinator; Joy Matlack; Manny Ortiz, Transportation; Officer Alex Castillo, LA Harbor; Johanna Lara, LA County Probation; Asst. Chief Ron Lizardo, DHCS; Fran Sir, LA Airport Police; Lidia Marcial, LAPD Communications; Manny Ortiz, Transportation; and Officer Amada Maravilla, CHP.



# RACE DAY



# BAKER TO VEGAS 2019

Off they go!



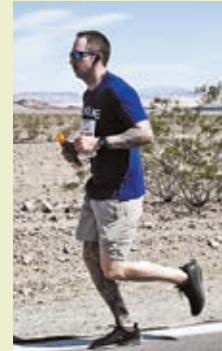
# Get Ready...



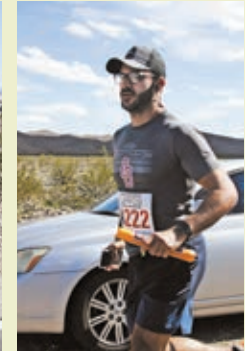
Team 225 Leg 2 runner DO Christopher Aragon, 5 years of City service, Club Member.



Team 160 LA Correctional Health.



Team 149 LAPD Van Nuys.



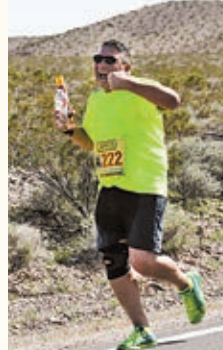
Team 222 LAPD Communications.



Team 202 Women's LA Airport Police.



They're off!



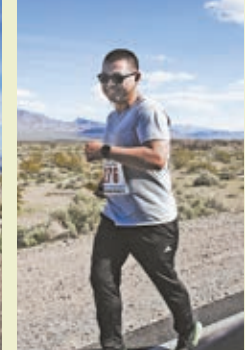
A big smile comes from PSR Jorge Rios as he spotted the Club camera on the race course!



Team 122 LA Airport Police.



Team 202 Women's LA Airport Police Officer Ojeda, Club Member.



Team 276 DSH Metro Police Dept.



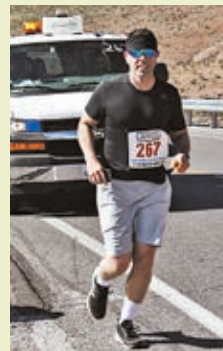
The Team 122 LA Airport Police follow vehicle and support team.



The Team 222 follow vehicle and support team.



Team 247 DMV Investigators.



Team 267 CHP West Los Angeles.



Team 265 DHCS State Investigators.



Leg 2 runner Nelson Alarcon, Club Member, for Team 201 LA Transportation.



Team 202 Women's LA Airport Police Det. Lauren Bogan catches her runner, fellow Det. Theresa Moore. Both are Club Members.



The Team 114 LAPD Metro Black final runner at the finish line with his catcher.

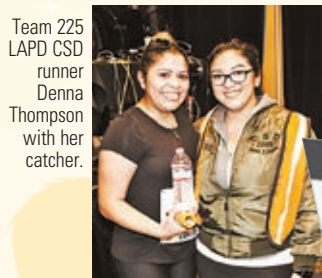
From left: Hermosa Chief Sharon Papa, Club Member, with her leg 20 runner.



Team 48 LA District Attorney.



Team 65 LA County Probation runner Tony Oshiro, Club Member, with his catcher and support members.



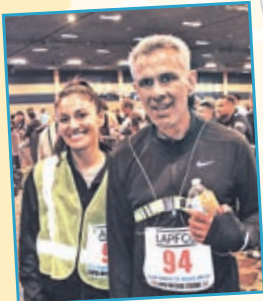
Team 225 LAPD CSD runner Denna Thompson with her catcher.



## At the finish line



A Team 137 LAPD Harbor Division runner with his catcher.



A Team 94 LAPD Mission Station runner with his catcher.



A Team 1 LAPD Dept. Team runner with his catcher.



Team 65 LA County Probation celebrated with their mug in hand.



From Left: LASD Sheriff Alex Villanueva; Chuck Foote, Race Co-Founder; and LAPD Chief Michel Moore.



The San Diego District Attorney team came in first place in the 800 Invitational category, finishing in 16:03:08.

Continued on web Alive!  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



**Alive! Feature**

**Harbor**

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing, and *Alive!* editor John Burnes

# Reviewing THE Rig



Port Police Officers begin their training inspection.

**Port Police's Commercial Enforcement Unit inspects cargo trucks to keep streets safe and freight moving.**

America's Port, the Port of LA, is one of the busiest and most productive areas of Los Angeles, and in the whole country. The challenge for the Port Police is to keep the commerce moving safely, legally and smoothly.

Between 5,000 and 7,000 commercial trucks come into and out of the Harbor every day, and it's the job of the Port Police's Commercial Enforcement Unit to make sure those trucks are within weight, height, registration and maintenance regulations. It's a tall job for the eight Officers and one Sergeant.

Their commercial enforcement method contains two steps – visually eye-balling the trucks coming into and leaving the Port for the telltale signs of being out of compliance, and then isolating the vehicle by the roadside or in the Port Police's inspection lot on Front Street for a thorough, meticulous inspection to clear, or cite, the vehicle.

The unit is the City's primary Commercial

## Training Inspection

The Port Police held a regular training session May 8 and demonstrated to *Alive!* how a typical commercial vehicle inspection would work. This is how the training exercise went down.



Port Police Officer Morgan Evans, 11 years of City service, Club Member, takes out the mobile scales. These are then placed under the truck's tires to determine vehicle weight.



Port Police Officer Arman Akserelian, 10 years of City service, measures the height of the commercial truck.



Port Police Officer III Mark Renteria inspects the hood and vehicle engine. Port Police Officer III Michael Canlas records them on a clipboard.



Port Police Officer III Michael Canlas, 15 years of City service, Club Member, measures the vehicle's length.

Port Police Officer III Mark Renteria, 20 years of City service, Club Member, adds figures into the inspection report.



## Port Police Commercial Enforcement Unit



The Port Police's Commercial Enforcement Unit joined with some of its partners for a regularly scheduled training day May 8 at the Port's Commercial Vehicle Inspection Lot. Present were (front row, from left): Seal Beach PD Officer Erin Enos; Port Police Officer III Masaki Imoto; LAPD Sgt. Damon Aoki; LAPD Officer Brian Thompson; LAPD Officer Victor Medrano; Port Police Officer Arman Akserelian; Port Police Officer III Mark Renteria; Torrance PD Officer Derek Raymond; and Port Police Officer Andrew Sklarsh. Second row: Culver City PD Officer Alex Mendoza; Port Police Officer III Michael Canlas; LAPD Officer Chris Barlow; LAPD Officer Kevin Scott; LAPD Officer Jeremy Yamamoto; and LAPD Lt. Manny Romeral. Third row: Port Police Officer Justin Sepe; Port Police Officer Morgan Evans; Port Police Sgt. Glenn Twardy; and LAPD Officer Brian Wilson.

# g's

### Commercial Enforcement Unit inspects commercial vehicles and neighborhoods safe

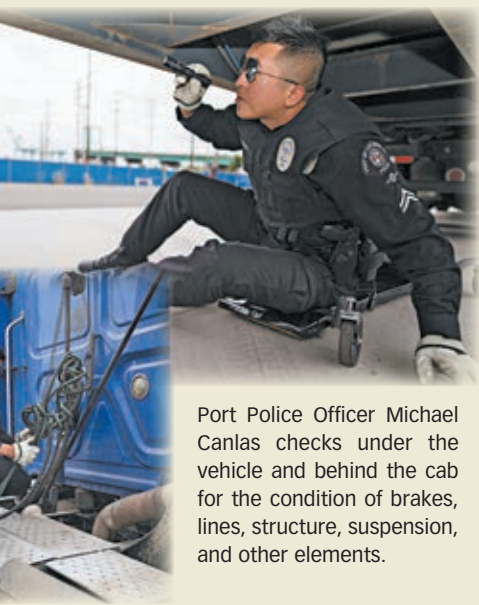
Commercial Enforcement force, although it works in direct coordination with the LAPD and many other agencies, including the CHP, and police forces from Torrance, Beverly Hills, Riverside, the LA County Sheriff's Office, and others.

Commercial Enforcement is not all the unit does. It's the Port Police's only motorcycle unit, so traffic patrol and crowd management are also its responsibilities. Needless to say, with the Port continuing to grow, the unit stays very busy.

In this month's feature, *Alive!* talks to the officer in charge, Sgt. Glenn Twardy, Club Member, 22 years of City service, to learn the many details of the Commercial Enforcement Unit. And then we check out an inspection training exercise to see how it all works.

Thanks to Sgt. Twardy and Port Police Commercial Enforcement Unit for hosting us and demonstrating how they're keeping the Port safe and moving. ■

Officer Arman Akserelian checks under the vehicle and verbally reports his findings to Port Police Officer Michael Canlas (off camera), who is holding a sheet.



Port Police Officer Michael Canlas checks under the vehicle and behind the cab for the condition of brakes, lines, structure, suspension, and other elements.



Port Police Sgt. Glenn Twardy, 22 years of City service, Club Member, explains the inspection training exercise to Club COO Robert Larios.

### The *Alive!* Interview

# Safety Is Paramount

*On Friday, May 3, Alive! editor John Burnes interviewed Port Police Motor Sgt. Glenn Twardy, supervisor of the department's Commercial Enforcement Unit, which inspects commercial vehicles in and around the Port of LA. He has worked for both the Harbor Dept. and Rec and Parks. The interview with Sgt. Twardy, 26 years of City service, Club Member, took place over lunch in San Pedro.*

**Thanks for speaking to me today before we shoot your training inspection. First, how did you get involved in public safety?**

**Sgt. Glenn Twardy:** I started full time in 1993 as a Detention Officer, and then full time with the LA City Park Rangers in 1996. I was a Park Ranger through 2004, and I came here in April 2004.

**Where were you assigned as a Park Ranger?**

The Metro region, the Pacific region and then the last two years out of Griffith Park.

**What did you do?**

General patrol, search and rescue, fire suppression, and that the last two years collateral mounted.

**And then you left for the Port Police.**

Correct. I was with the Rangers for eight years and had done all the special assignments. I also conducted bicycle patrol. I just didn't know if I could do that for another 12 to 17 years. It was fun. I enjoyed it; don't get me wrong. A friend who I worked with at the Rangers had come down to the Port Police. He had been courting me for a couple of years, so finally one day I just literally came for ride along with him and made that decision.



Sgt. Glenn Twardy's minor league baseball card.

**What made you want to be in law enforcement? Has it always been a dream?**

No, it was actually by chance. After college I was playing minor league baseball with the Seattle Mariners organization.

**What position?**

Pitcher. I played outfield in college and then they converted me to a pitcher.

**How far did you make it?**

Out of spring training I made the AA [double-A] and then I got hurt right out of spring training, so that was the end of that.

**Did you blow out your arm?**

Yes, exactly.

**What was your best pitch?**

Probably my slider.

I had a good run in college. I went to Cerritos College. We were the state champs. And then I went to Long Beach State and played in the College World Series.

**Well, I'm impressed.**

Thanks. That was kind of cool. But getting into law enforcement was strictly by chance. I didn't grow up wanting to be a cop. But I needed a job between baseball seasons.

You don't make much money in the minor leagues. There was a park patrol position open. I had friends working there. I worked and went back to spring training, and that's when I got hurt. I fell back on that part-time job. When they opened it up full-time, I took the City exam and was on full-time.



Port Police Motor Sgt. Glenn Twardy

**How did you get into this unit? And how did you become a Sergeant in charge of it?**

Basically, they asked, "Who's interested in riding a motorcycle? We're going to create a motorcycle unit." One of my Motor Officers who is still in the unit, Officer III Masaki Imoto [Club Member], and I were picked to go first. We attended the LAPD's motorcycle school. After the first week I had my father stay with me and he was elderly and ill. So I had to drop out of that school. Masaki graduated and was the first Port Police Motor Officer. Two others and I went four months later. We were the first core four

### About the Unit

**Let's talk about the Commercial Enforcement Unit.**

Sure. It's comprised of eight riding Motorcycle Officers and myself – nine total.

**Give me an overview of what your unit does.**

The unit does traditional motorcycle enforcement work: speeders, illegally parked vehicles, traffic control and traffic collision reports. Port Police takes care of its traffic control needs with our Special Events Unit down here. The Harbor Dept. hosts probably more than 100 special events a year now. We have two parks. They're redoing Ports O' Call. Cirque du Soleil is in town, so our guys are doing traffic control for that. On cruise ship days we have 7,000 people leaving the cruise terminal and 7,000 arriving. That's a traffic challenge. And we have trucks bringing food and other perishable items that have to be escorted in.

So it's busy.

Continued on web *Alive!*  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)





Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.

# RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)

Ruth B. Perry, President  
Terminal Annex  
P.O. Box 86264  
Los Angeles, CA 90086

PHONE: (800) 678-4145, ext. 717  
EMAIL: Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org  
ON THE WEB: www.RLACEI.org



### RLACEI DIRECTORS

Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

Mary Beetz, Director, Ext. 711

Cliff Cannon, Director, Ext. 715

Beverly J. Clark,  
Publicity Director, Ext. 716

Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary/Treasurer, Ext. 707

Dennis Harding,  
Entertainment Director, Ext. 704

Ed Harding,  
President Emeritus, Ext. 703

Michael Karsch,  
Legislative Representative, Ext. 706

Phil Orland, Health Director, Ext. 709

Ruth B. Perry,  
Membership Director, Ext. 717

Neil Ricci,  
Nominations Director, Ext. 714

Tom Stennock, Audit and Golf, Ext. 708

Michael Wilkinson,  
LACERS/Representative, Ext. 712

### RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE:

(800) 678-4145, Ext. 0

For retirement assistance, call the Retiree Hotline and leave a message. A Director of RLACEI will return your call and assist you with your concerns.

### RLACEI WEBSITE

Visit the RLACEI website [www.RLACEI.org](http://www.RLACEI.org) to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.  
EMAIL: [Contact@RLACEI.org](mailto:Contact@RLACEI.org)

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.  
Terminal Annex  
P.O. Box 86264  
Los Angeles, CA 90086

or

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.  
1100 S. Flower Street, Suite 3300  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

### Change of Address?

Please notify Ruth B. Perry, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 ext. 717 or Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org for a change of address or to add or change your email address. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, LAPCU, and LAFUCU as applicable.

## Send in your Interesting



Contact **Beverly J. Clark**, Publicity Director  
Email: [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org) or  
Phone: (800) 678-4145 ext 716

## 2019 RETIREE EVENTS

**June 6:** RLACEI golf tournament and general meeting

**Aug. 8:** RLACEI annual picnic and general meeting

**Dec. 5:** RLACEI annual holiday party and general meeting

### RESERVATION LINES:

RLACEI: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 701

## Meet Your Board: A look at RLACEI Board Members

### Tom Stennock

RLACEI Board Member

Submitted by Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

Tom Stennock joined the Board of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. in 1996. He has been most active as Chair of the Golf Committee, organizing the annual golf tournament each June. He is currently the First Vice President of the Board.

Tom came to Los Angeles in 1965 and spent 13 years working in Public Works/Engineering and then Planning. He retired from the City in 1978 and formed a civil engineering consulting firm. He continues to work full time, obtaining zoning entitlements for commercial, industrial and residential projects throughout the City.

He has served on numerous boards, committees and professional organizations, including the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the American Planning Association, Lambda Alpha International, an honorary society for the advancement of Land Economics, and is a member of Chi Epsilon, an honorary engineering fraternity. In 1990, he was the recipient of the American Society of Civil Engineers Harvard Bartholomew Award, presented to the Urban Planner of the Year.

Tom has had a long and deep commitment to serving the city, especially those who are in need. He has been a member of the Board of Arroyo Vista Family Health Center for more than 30 years, providing comprehensive healthcare to low income families regardless of their ability to pay. He has seen

Arroyo Vista grow from one very small clinic in Highland Park to five large clinics serving more than 140,000 patients in the Northeast Los Angeles area. He is also on the Board of Homes for Families, providing affordable homes to veterans and their families.

Tom joined the Board of RLACEI in 1996. "I've always felt that retirement shouldn't be the end of one's career, but rather a shift

to new activities, especially helping others," he said. "By joining the Board, I can keep in touch with those I worked with, meet new friends and help maintain and expand the activities of all City retirees in terms of health, benefits, services and programs. I would like to see the Board create some new programs devoted to helping children learn to be good citizens and assisting those members who need help with simple things or just want some companionship."

Tom and his wife, Christine, have been married for more than 45 years. The joy of their lives is being



Tom and Christine Stennock, with granddaughter, Felix.

able to spend time with their son,

Jeffrey; daughter-in-law, Ginger; and their beautiful new granddaughter, Felix Anne-Marie. Relaxation time is spent enjoying their home in the desert, playing golf and watching the cactus grow! ■

## Words to the Young: Traditional Pensions Exist



Michael Karsch

### LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

As we enjoy our pensions from the City of Los Angeles via LACERS, we might think of our own children and grandchildren who may not feel the urgency of just having the security of a pension check every month. All of my grandchildren are in their 20s and looking very earnestly at jobs, with pensions getting very little attention. I tell them to pay some attention to pensions, which may cover a substantial number of years in their lives, like at least ten, more likely 20 or more years. And what about your medical coverage? I realized with those in their early 20s that I should start with recommending government jobs. Look at me – it's been a long, fun career, and now I am covered for the remaining portion of my stay on this earth.

Realizing I should be more realistic in talking to them, I just said to look at government jobs – you might find something out there that appeals to you, whether you have a college background or not. Check out the Websites of the cities you live in, or would like to live in, see what is there, then check the background information that should help. And then I said to think of the safety of the pension. Well, this did not generate any conversation. I hope I left an idea in their heads.

A recent report in a *Forbes* news article titled "10 Jobs That Still Come With a Traditional Pension" offered this list: 1) teacher; 2) state and local government; 3) utilities; 4) protective service; 5) insurance; 6) pharmaceuticals; 7) nurse; 8) transportation; 9) military; and 10) unions. Nearly all of these fields offer the traditional pension, although a few are offering the 401(k) savings account for retirement. More than 70 percent of utility companies offers good pensions.

Some public pensions draw attention for their

generosity. Reason.com looked at the CalPERS figures from last year and noticed that 30,969 pension checks worth \$100,000 or more were issued in 2018 (the City of LA does not belong to CalPERS). CalPERS built up its investment portfolio and pension payouts from the 1990s with 10 percent annual growth for much of that first decade, meaning the portfolio generated enough funds to cover the obligations by 100 percent. The surplus is now gone, and reportedly the shortfall is \$138 billion.

The following are some individual city stories among the CalPERS family:

- Oxnard is implementing cuts in its city budget, mostly to meet rapidly rising pension payments. This is what the city of Oxnard must pay into CalPERS by 2024: \$45 million; the cost in 2017 was nearly half, \$23 million. This does not include what the Oxnard active employees are paying for their share of the pension.

- Santa Monica's unfunded pension liability is \$448 million now, but will "balloon" in the next few years. The Finance Director of Santa Monica says that the city should pay \$16.6 million, instead of the currently expected \$2.6 million in the upcoming 2019-21 biennial budget to pay down that debt. The Finance Director also said, according to the *Santa Monica Lookout*, that if CalPERS does not meet its investment return targets, the City's liability could balloon, undermining its long-term fiscal health. City Manager Rick Cole attributed the debt situation to "catastrophic miscalculation" made by the governor and state legislators in the 1990s based on "rosy assumptions of future earnings." He added, "They authorized retroactive increases in pension benefits for some state workers. The vast majority of local governments soon fell into line." ■

## Board Has Vacancy, Seeks New Director

The RLACEI Board of Directors is looking for members to serve on the Board. The Board ensures that our retirement benefits are protected.

If you are a Retired City employee and enjoy working with people and getting involved with retired City employees to make a difference and an impact regarding Retired City employees, please consider submitting your name. Board members are appointed for a two-year term and the Board meets monthly.

Please email Beverly Clark at [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org) or leave at message at (800) 678-4145, ext. 716.





# RLACEI

## Retirees on the Move

Submitted by Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

### Meet Fern Greene Johnson

Fern Greene Johnson retired in July 2001. She started her career working summers in 1969 and 1969 and became a permanent employee in 1971. Fern spent her entire career working mainly in Personnel and was assigned briefly to Public Works/Sanitation for 18 months.

In her retirement she enjoys sewing, arts and crafts, bible study, dining out, watching movies and YouTube videos, and listening to music. She says she really enjoys just being at home.

Activities that keep her busy that she truly enjoys are working at her church and getting together monthly with her breakfast group of retired friends.

Fern has one lovely daughter, one wonderful son and four awesome grandsons.

She enjoys cruising and has cruised to the Bahamas, Mexico, Spain and Italy. She has also traveled to Florida, New York, Georgia, Washington state, Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Her retirement has allowed her to participate in LACERS Well seminars and RLACEI. She has been a member of AARP for 13 years. She faithfully attends Covenant Blessing Fellowship where she has served in various leadership positions and in various ministries. She also regularly attends bible study through Bible Study Fellowship International.

She has intermittently attended the OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at Cal State, Dominguez Hills.

Her words of wisdom for retirees are, "I would encourage them to identify those things they've always wanted to do and do them;

try new things even though they may seem difficult; serve in your community of choice because there's a benefit to all involved. I also would encourage retirees not to get stuck on what isn't right with life and live in and out of what is right about life. Also, get or stay connected with those you love, especially your family, and/or those who mean a lot to you. Set healthy boundaries with them and stay cognizant that the relationship doesn't have to be perfect; it just has to be purposeful.

"To those getting ready to retire: *don't be afraid*. There is so much more to life when you can make choices about how you'll spend your time. And finally, take some control and make preparations for your demise. It is inevitable."

What was the smartest thing she did to prepare for retirement? "To learn to live within my means," she says. "I have always had a beautiful and quality life without living extravagantly. For the most part, I've learned to be content with what I have and who I am."

What does she miss or not miss about her years of service to the City of Los Angeles?

"I miss working sometimes. I loved the various assignments I had while working for the City. I feel like I had several accomplishments and made many contributions to the City's employees and citizens. It was important



to me, a human resource and development professional, that, through my work, employment prospects had access to jobs/careers based on merit and without undue bias, and that employees were treated professionally, equitably and given the greatest opportunity to develop their skills and abilities through the various programs the City offered. I wouldn't mind telecommuting and working on projects that help improve services provided by the City to its employees or citizens."

As she looks back on her City career, would she have done anything differently? Fern reflects that the only thing she would have done differently is to mentor those individuals she saw with the potential to impact the City in the most positive way.

"In retirement, every day is different, but most are filled with communion with God, attempting to provide wise counsel to those asking for help, visiting with friends, and engaging in some type of study or service to others."

She says if she could change one thing about retired life, she would love to spend more quality time with her grandsons. And while she's very content with retirement life, a little more structure, surely, wouldn't hurt her! ■

## Membership Dues: An Update

Effective Jan. 1, 2019, RLACEI membership dues are now \$3 per month. This new fee includes free membership to the Employees Club of California for all RLACEI members. RLACEI members who carry insurance products with the Club will soon receive a reduction in their payroll contributions for the Club membership.

LACERS and the Club are working to process the appropriate reduction for all applicable RLACEI members. RLACEI has been informed that the correct deduction should be reflected on your payroll statement in the next few months. All RLACEI members will be reimbursed for Club dues deducted from January through the effective date of the correct payroll processing.

**Please contact RLACEI Membership Director Ruth Perry at (800) 678-4145, ext. 717, should you have any questions.**



## Now's When LACERS Looks For Health Plan Improvements



### LACERS Board Update By Michael R. Wilkinson

Michael R. Wilkinson

year effective Jan. 1, 2020.

LACERS plans to explore ways to hold down our prescription drug costs as well as review alternative medicine benefits (chiropractic and acupuncture). In addition, LACERS plans to push to add the Silver and Fit program to the Kaiser HMO (under 65). Currently, several of the other medical carriers have either Silver and Fit, or the similar Silver Sneakers program that provides free gym membership.

LACERS is looking for ways to continue and possibly increase funding for the LACERS Well program to encourage members to lead healthy lives. As part of this, staff is using the computerized dashboards to detect medical trends. For instance, a recent review of the financial dashboard used for Anthem Blue Cross and Kaiser focused on five leading health problems and reviewed how to improve treatment, including use of the LACERS Well program. In addition, LACERS intends to use incentives to encourage members to use the health plans in a way that leads to healthier lives and also lowers the costs to the health plans.

The process for renewal of the health, dental and vision contracts began at the end of March and is scheduled to conclude with final renewals submitted to the LACERS Board in August.

A Note to Readers: I am stepping down from the RLACEI Board. This will allow me to concentrate my efforts on the LACERS Board of Administration.

I have enjoyed my eight years on the Board, working with Presidents Ed Harding and Ruth Perry. During that time I have served on the Legal and Legislative, Audit and Golf Committees. I will miss working with all of the directors who have been helpful to me.

This is definitely not a goodbye message. I will remain an RLACEI member and plan to continue to produce my article in *Alive!* regularly. Thanks to everyone for your support. ■



# RLACEI 2019

## Summer Picnic

**Open to all Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. members!**



**Thursday, August 8, 2019**

\* **11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Grace E. Simons Lodge**

**1025 Elysian Park Avenue**

**Los Angeles, CA 90012**

**RSVP to (800) 678-4145**

**Ext. 701**





**RSVP no later than July 31, 2019.**

**Limit 2 guests per member—all others \$5 cash at the door.**







A picture taken by LAFD Deputy Chief Trevor Richmond depicts Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas shaving the head of Capt. I Danny Wu, while Police Chief Michel Moore shaves Lt. Greg Doyle's dome.

**LAPD/LAFD**

# Life Shavers

**Police, Fire volunteers hold 17th St. Baldrick's fundraiser to fight children's cancers.**

The event was held March 30 at LAFD Station 89 in North Hollywood. Organizing the day were LAFD Capt. I Danny Wu and LAPD Lt. Greg Doyle.

Volunteers were sponsored by friends and family. The volunteers agreed to have their heads shaved in solidarity with children undergoing treatment. At press time, donations were continuing to come in, totaling more than \$55,000. In its 17 years of local participation, the event has raised more than \$1.2 million.

The local event is part of the nationwide St. Baldrick's Foundation.

Worldwide, more than 160,000 children are diagnosed with cancer every year, and sadly it takes the lives of more children in the United States than any other illness. At the local St. Baldrick's event, LAFD Firefighters and Police Officers had their heads shaved in solidarity with other brave Angelenos to support children who have lost their hair from cancer treatments. By raising money through pledges to cut their hair, shavees like Firefighter Rudy Rocha helped the St. Baldrick's Foundation by funding research grants specifically designated towards finding a cure. After the U.S. government, the St. Baldrick's Foundation is the largest source of funding for childhood cancer research.

Like events in the past, this year's event was "all about the kids." Magicians with their tricks from the Magic Castle mesmerized the little ones.



PSR III Shawnie Livera, LAPD, 25 years of City service, has participated in the event for the past seven years.



From left: Arlene Herrero, Club's Vice President of Business Development, with longtime St. Baldrick's volunteer PSR Deby Herdrich, LAPD, Club Member.

**Continued on web *Alive!*  
alive.employeesclub.com**

*Story by Capt. I Danny Wu, LAFD, Club Board Member. Photos by Arlene Herrero, Club VP of Business Development, with additional photos by Dep. Chief Trevor Richmond, LAFD, Mike Meadows and Capt. Danny Wu*



# Long-Term Disability Insurance



**Did you know?**

- Every 90 seconds, someone files for bankruptcy in the U.S. because of a serious illness.
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**To learn more about your insurance options, schedule a visit with the Club's insurance experts:**



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Member Services Counselor  
cmartin@employeesclub.com  
**Ext. 136**



**Tiffany Sy**  
Member Services Counselor  
tsy@employeesclub.com  
**Ext. 202**



**MaryAnn Urdiales**  
Member Services Counselor  
murdiales@employeesclub.com  
**Ext. 159**

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LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. ('Employees Club of California') is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. is #0B98000.

**LOS ANGELES**

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bdcdepartment@lacdjr.com

**Elizabeth Rubalcava**



Who are the people you see every day? **No. 103**  
in a series.

# People We See

*Shelterless in Los Angeles.*

## Meet Darrell Ford...Again

Three-time 'People We See' subject. Here's an update.

**Name:** Darrell Ford

**Born:** Jan. 14, 1952 (67)

**Catching up with Darrell:** We profiled Darrell in December 2016 and April 2018, and we ran into him again this month. (Quick recap: Darrell was born in Chicago and came to California when he was 53.)

**The streets today:** "It's kind of worse down here (downtown) now to a certain degree because I see more people on the streets, walking around aimlessly. They just throw fits and turn over garbage cans and tear down signs."

**Meals:** "I concentrated most at Fifth and Hill Streets. That's where I made money – there's a food truck that comes there, and I hung around because people came. They'd give me money or little snacks. Not a lot of money, but every now and then I'll get a bonus tip."

**Do differently:** "After high school I might have gone to college. But I was in the frame of mind to go to work and make my own money. I left home at an early age – 16. If I'd gone to college I'd probably be a chemist."

**If he were mayor:** "If I had any money – I know it sounds crazy – but I [would build] something like those castles in England. Those are big, but I don't think they'd house all the homeless here in California. I would find some funding from somewhere and build a whole



Club CEO John Hawkins (left) and Darrell Ford.

complex, everything brand new, to put all these people in. I'd have stringent rules so it would be fair. I wouldn't have drug dealers coming in and smoking and selling stuff. There would be doctors – everything would be there to get a good jump-start for the homeless people."

**What he would call his shelters:** "Darrell's Emporium."

**Advice for everyday people** (from the last interview): "If your parents don't teach you, the streets will."

There's a lot more to this interview online at: [alive.employeesclub.com/people-we-see-darrell-ford-3/](http://alive.employeesclub.com/people-we-see-darrell-ford-3/)

*The Club gave Darrell water and money for food. The interview, conducted by John Hawkins, took place April 10, 2019 on Spring Street downtown.*

See this interview on



The Club posts our "People We See" video interviews online. See them on the Club's YouTube channel:

[youtube.com/cityemployeesclub](https://www.youtube.com/c/cityemployeesclub)

# Apply for Club's Mukai Scholarship **NOW!**

**CLUB ANGELS**

Applications for Club Scholarship are available for completion on the *Alive!* Website. **Deadline is 11:59 p.m., July 31, 2019.**

Fill out your application now for the Joannie Mukai Memorial Club Scholarship on the *Alive!* Website.

The 2019 Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 20 awards and is named after the late Club Board Member Joannie Mukai, is now accepting applications.

Club Scholarship applications have been simplified, for greater ease in filling them out. And they are now available for completion directly on the Website – no more downloading a lengthy application form. We've made it easy!



Oman Lopez received a stipend last year as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.

All materials must be completed on the *Alive!* Website by noon, July 31, 2019.

The Club expects to give each recipient a stipend of \$500.

Those eligible include Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2019.

The Joannie Mukai Club Scholarship program is part of the Club Angels outreach, which reflects the scholarships' nature of giving back.

Applications are available for online completion directly on the *Alive!* Website at:

**[alive.employeesclub.com/mukaischolarship](http://alive.employeesclub.com/mukaischolarship)**

### About Joannie Mukai



Joannie Mukai was a pioneer as the LA Port's Director of Construction and Maintenance. A passionate supporter in the Employees Club and longtime Club Insurance Board Member, she died in March 2010. The Club's annual scholarship program was named in her honor. "She believed in education and training, and in preparing for success," Club CEO John Hawkins said. "That's what the Club Scholarship is all about, and we're delighted to name it after her. It's a perfect way to keep her memory alive."

### Eligibility requirements:

- All Club Members and their spouses, and children of Club Members under the age of 25, are eligible to apply. Club Members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or university full time in the fall semester 2019. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2019 are eligible.
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.
- Scholarships are expected to be awarded in equal amounts of \$500 (each).
- Deadline: Applications must be completed online at the *Alive!* Website by 11:59 p.m. July 31, 2019. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.
- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.



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United Agencies

## Raffle!

Concluding in June, United Agencies will give a raffle ticket to everyone who gets an insurance quote ... and two if the policy is purchased. Winner will be drawn June 28. **Get your quote today!**

When it comes to their auto insurance, United Agencies has been serving hundreds of Club Members for years. We provide a high level of personal service, with some of the lowest rates in California. Come experience the difference in service you get when you say, "I'm with the Club!"

Take a look at how **United Agencies** stacks up against the competition!

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	State Farm	\$1,339
	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	<b>United Agencies</b>	<b>\$876</b>

These insurance products are brought to you by the Club's Partner, United Agencies, Inc. CA Lic. # 0252636 United Agencies represents Mercury Insurance Group, as well as Chubb Insurance, Hartford, Fireman's Fund, Progressive, Civil Service Employees Insurance, Allied, Safeco, Travelers, Unigard and Encompass.





# Larios in the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer

## Congratulations!

Robert Larios, the Club's Chief Operating Officer, honors Club members with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.



**Ira P. Starks**

Retired from Transportation with 28 years of City service.



**Benjamin Pantoja Jr.**

Retired from the DWP with 35 years of City service.



**Robyn L. Wilder**

Retired from the Los Angeles Fire and Police Pensions with 30 years of City service.



**Lori W. Griner**

Retired from Transportation with 17 years of City service.



**Nelson Chi-Ming Chang**

Retired from Public Works/Street Lighting with 30 years of City service.



**Richard P. David**

Retired from the DWP with 32 years of City service.



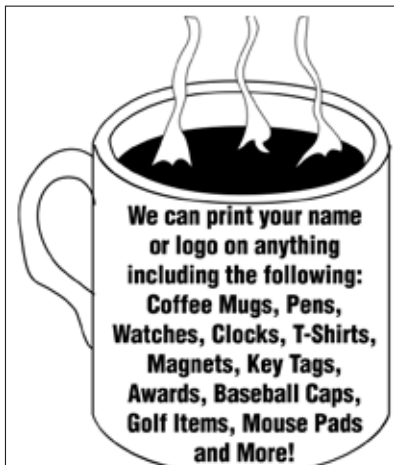
**Leah M. Grossi**

Retired from Airports with 28 years of City service.



**Steven F. Jason**

Retired from Public Works/Street Services with 34 years of City service.



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## Graduation



**Joshua Nero** graduated from Highland High School in Palmdale and plans to attend Prairie View A&M University in Texas. He plans to pursue a Bachelor's degree in accounting. "Go Panthers!" He's the **son of Charles Nero, Traffic Officer II, Transportation.**



**Tabitha Wong** graduated from Temple City High School and plans to attend Azusa Pacific University's nursing program in the fall. "Congratulations, Tabitha! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad." Tabitha is the **daughter of William Wong, Sr. Storekeeper, DWP.**



**Gerrick Cardenas** graduated from Bishop Montgomery High School in Torrance as valedictorian. He plans to attend UCLA in the fall, majoring in electrical engineering. He's the **son of Sharon Tatel, Management Analyst, Harbor.**



**Nicolas Soto** graduated from Environmental Charter High School in Lawndale and plans to attend the University of California, Merced in the fall, studying biology. He's the **son of Arturo Soto, Rec and Parks.** "Mom, Carlie and I are so proud of you! Congratulations to the class of 2019."

# Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

**ONLINE & PRINT!**



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[alive.employeesclub.com/graduations](http://alive.employeesclub.com/graduations)



**Destiny Tiffany Goodloe** graduated from Norwalk High School and had great achievement in track and basketball. She plans to attend Fullerton College in the fall, majoring in early childhood education/special needs. She's the **daughter of Linda Martin, Public Works/Sanitation.**



**Kameron Washington** graduated from Tuskegee University in Alabama, earning a Master of science degree in occupational therapy. He plans to "excel as an occupational therapist and to help as many people recover and improve their skills for working and daily living." He's the **son of Kevin and Robin Washington, DWP.**



**SaNae Muhammad** graduated from Upland High School and plans to attend Howard University in the fall, majoring in biology and focusing on becoming a surgeon. SaNae is the **granddaughter of Debora Fore, Retired, LAPD.**

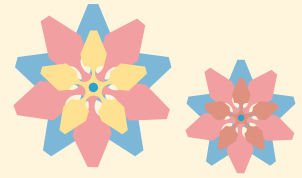


**William Jordison** graduated from Glendora High School and plans to attend San Diego State University in the fall, majoring in business/marketing. He's the **son of Cathy Bushey, LAPD.** "We are very proud of him."





# Life's Important Moments



## Retirements

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City this month. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Adams, James T.	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	33	Gomez, Miguel	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Mowry, Allen	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Aguirre, Jesus	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Goodman, Frank	Cpd. Industrial Prog.	DWP	N/D	Munoz, John	Power Safety	DWP	N/D
Ali, Syed K.	Building Civil Engineer	Bldg. & Safety	31	Gove, Karl	ITS	DWP	N/D	Muranaka, Kazuye	Administrative Clerk	LAPD	20
Alsharairi, Bassam	Systems Programmer	ITA	31	Grossi, Leah M.	Chief Airport Planning	Airports	27	Olivares, Jaime A.	Commun. Engineer	Airports	32
Asuncion, Thomas T.	Architectural Assoc.	Harbor	33	Hackney, Daniel O.	Environ. Affairs Off.	Public Works	29	Paige, Ron	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	29
Avendano, Dora A.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	25	Hagen, Thomas	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D	Patrick, Lavonne	Acct/Fin. Reporting	DWP	N/D
Barnes, Michael A.	Captain	Harbor	21	Harris, Stephen P.	Commun. Info. Rep	Transportation	30	Pattillo, Ulric Jerome	Police Service Rep	LAPD	29
Berman, Deanna M.	Council Aide	Council	7	Heads, Booker T.	Sr. Security Officer	Airports	10	Pendleton, Michael	Power New Business	DWP	N/D
Blancher, Cecilia G.	Exec. Admin. Asst.	Bldg. & Safety	31	Heard, Jacquelyn S.	Workers Comp Analyst	Airports	38	Pirkey, Will Jay	Deputy City Attorney	City Attorney	12
Brann, Michael	ITS	DWP	N/D	Hendricks, Marguerite	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Airports	38	Prado, Pacomio L.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	21
Brown, Adell	ITS	DWP	N/D	Herrera, Joseph	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Ramos, Deborah J.	Assistant Gen. Mgr.	Gen. Services	33
Bruce, Anthony	ITS	DWP	N/D	Hogan, Michael G.	Sr. Recreation Dir.	Rec and Parks	36	Reyes, Susana	Costumer Services	DWP	N/D
Cabana, Wilfredo G.	Signal Sys. Electrician	Transportation	24	Howard, Marc S.	Custodian	Public Works	32	Richardson, Selanthia	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Airports	37
Callo, Rogelio	Ug. Street Utility	DWP	N/D	Ige, Omatayo A.	Dir. of Comm. Serv.	ITA	30	Riesgo, Graciela	Acct/Fin. Reporting	DWP	N/D
Carter, Mary Ester	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	38	Jackson, Marsha I.	Sr. Str. Services Invest.	Public Works	30	Rindone, Ronald	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	6
Chang, Nelson C.	Geo. Info. Sys. Spec.	Public Works	30	James, Aleta Denise	Assoc. Zoning Admin.	Planning	38	Robinson, Robert A.	Security Officer	Airports	20
Charles, Compton	Environ. Chem. Lab	DWP	N/D	James, Alicia	ITS	DWP	N/D	Rodriguez, Gerald	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D
Chen, Tony Z.	Info. Systems Mgr.	Airports	32	Johnson, Annette	Administrative Clerk	Library	39	Romero, Robert	ITS	DWP	N/D
Cheng, Jade Yuh Huey	Systems Programmer	ITA	32	Jones, Latrend	Supply Serv. Pay. Clk	Gen. Services	34	Romo, Jesus L.	Deputy Gen. Manager	Airports	27
Chinte, Dante T.	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	Harbor	20	Khan, Abdul R.	Wastewater Treat. Op.	Public Works	34	Rosenberg, Rosa E.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	27
Chow, Ivy	ITS	DWP	N/D	Kitayama, Craig	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Ruffing, Russell C.	Environmental Super.	Public Works	15
Chung, Michael	Pr. Construction Insp.	Public Works	30	Kirkpatrick, Curtis	Maint. & Constr. Helper	Airports	30	Runyon, Ed	Water Operations	DWP	N/D
Clark, Phil	Water Engineering	DWP	N/D	Koch, Terri	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Salcedo, Angel T.	Civil Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	41
Consulreyes, Marian E.	Management Analyst	Housing	22	Kruse, David	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D	Sanchez, Arleen Lupe	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	40
Contreras, Bernabe	Equipment Mechanic	Gen. Services	23	Lau, Wai Yee	Assistant Director	Finance	30	Sandoval, Michael	ITS	DWP	N/D
Correa, Michael	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Layne, Cornelius	Light Equip. Op.	Rec and Parks	32	Schrock, Kevin D.	Airport Engineer	Airports	34
Dale, Dennis	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	32	Le, Hiep	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D	Sciscento, Dennis R.	Signal System Elect.	Transportation	27
Davis, Cynthia	Head Custodian Supv.	Gen. Services	26	Ledesma, Gary	Motor Sweeper Op.	Public Works	35	Scognamillo, Frank	Painter	Harbor	28
Dickens, Carol J.	Accounting Clerk	Gen. Services	43	Lee, Patrick H.L.	Civil Engineer	Public Works	36	Shimoji, Nadine	Project Coordinator	Housing	25
Dickinson, Sharon M.	Legislative Assistant	City Clerk	28	Lew, Debbie	Assistant City Attorney	City Attorney	38	Shovlin, Ralph V.	Civil Engineer	Public Works	34
Dye, Thomas E.	Officer	Airports	16	Liang, Bingcheng	Airport Guide	Airports	1	Slick, Beth	Executive Admin. Asst.	Public Works	17
Dzinovic, Sabina	Crossing Guard	Transportation	11	Loi, Tracy	Programmer/Analyst	Public Works	20	Strople, Timothy J.	Painter	Public Works	31
Esparza, Manuel O.	Survey Party Chief	Harbor	34	Lopez, Alfonso R.	City Attorney Inves.	City Attorney	30	Tan, Jose Rey Dublin	Programmer/Analyst	Harbor	15
Everetts, David	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Lualhati, Cesar C.	Accountant	Controller	17	Tang, David F.	Pr. Construction Insp.	Public Works	30
Faner, Florian De Quiroz	Supply Ser. Payment Clk	Gen. Services	18	Luna, Anabell	Accounting Clerk	Housing	38	Taylorson, Mark A.	Animal Keeper	Zoo	20
Fang, Hao	Transport. Engr. Assoc.	Transportation	18	Luna, Oscar A.	Construction Insp.	Public Works	26	Teng, Flora Y.	Accountant	Public Works	20
Fatherree, Kathleen D.	Sr. Personnel Analyst	Personnel	30	Lynch, Gary M.	Building Mechanic Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	30	Thompson, Shermalyn	Custodian	Airports	17
Feldman, Steven	Veterinarian	Animal Svcs.	12	Madden, Jennifer	Sustainability	DWP	N/D	Toliver, Patricia D.	Sr. Legal Clerk	City Attorney	30
Feliciano, Maricela	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	32	Magana, Mario	Welder	Harbor	17	Vero, Diane	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D
Fenderson, Anthony T.	Refuse Coll. Super.	Public Works	38	Malin, David H.	Emergency Mgt. Coord.	Harbor	33	Villacreses, Elizabeth	Administrative Clerk	Econ/Wrkfr. Dev.	40
Fernandez, Virginia	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Matthews, Michael	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Wadahara, Naomi	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D
Fife, Ernest	Power Supply Op.	DWP	N/D	McCall, Tyrone	Custodian	Zoo	30	Washington, Bobby D.	Painter	Public Works	32
Fiske, Brad	ITS	DWP	N/D	McKnight, Eddie	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Wianecki, Carol M.	Property Manager	Airports	29
Flores, Peter	Sr. Systems Analyst	City Clerk	38	McNeil, Tommy L.	Painter	Rec and Parks	30	Williams, Randall	Water Operations	DWP	N/D
Foreman, Jon C.	Sr. City Planner	Planning	30	McBeath, Gus	Plumbing Inspector	Bldg. & Safety	13	Wilson, Mark Edward	Facility Director	Rec and Parks	19
Frauens, Susan	Assistant City Attorney	City Attorney	35	McDonald, Mike J.	Masonry Worker	Rec and Parks	30	Yan, Ivy T.	Dept. Chief Accy.	Gen. Services	39
French, Julie Starr	Traffic Officer	Transportation	29	Mestas, Robert R.	Cement Finisher	Rec and Parks	32	Zaragoza, Evangeline	Administrative Clerk	LAPD	32
Fuchs, Howard M.	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	29	Minnifield, Gale D.	Rec Supervisor	Rec and Parks	34	Zuniga, Blanca C.	Custodian	Airports	15
Gacias, Rolando I.	Str. Lighting Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	32	Mohtashemi, Ehsan	Civil Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	35	Zuniga, Gregory F.	Sheet Metal Super.	Gen. Services	29
Gamboa, Frank S.	Motor Sweeper Op.	Public Works	33	Montiel, Rene	Street Services Super.	Public Works	32	Zwart, Joseph	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D
Gharagozli, Taghi	Trans. Eng. Assoc.	Transportation	29	Morales, Roy R.	Legislative Analyst	Council	30				
Glover, Ricky	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Moussay Afzali, Iraj	Environmental Eng.	Public Works	28				

N/D = not disclosed



## Graduation (continued)



**Sydney Hernandez** graduated from James Madison Middle School in North Hollywood as the school's valedictorian. She plans to attend North Hollywood High School in the fall. "She has a bright future ahead. Congrats!" She's the **daughter of Eduardo Hernandez, Rec and Parks.**



## In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away.

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
<b>Active</b>		Daniel, Antonio	Public Works 28	Montgomery, Edward	Gen Services 29
Carter, Alisa	LAPD 27	De Freitas, Gene	DWP 27	Moody, Charles	DWP 34
Liwanag, Armando	LAPD 14	DiGirolamo, Maria	Transportation 13	Moran, Rose	DWP 30
Malinis, Leonilo	DWP 23	Duhart, Lougenia	Gen Services 19	Nasitka, Marjorie	DWP 17
Melik Kasumyan, Vahan	Housing 12	Dunbar, Robert	Harbor 42	Popevich, Edwin	LAPD 19
Muratov, Valeri	DWP 16	Edwards, Sylvester	Rec and Parks 10	Quon, Thomson	ITA 37
Safara, Benjamin	Personnel 2	Felix, Ann	Rec and Parks 21	Riley, Kenneth	DWP 36
		Figueroa, Jose	Public Works 12	Rosen, Richard	Airports 31
<b>Disabled</b>		Gan, Joseph	Finance 24	Rott, Robert	DWP 39
Barr, Stanley	Transportation 11	Gooden, Leroy	DWP 22	Schedl, Anton	Library 30
Points, Robert	Rec and Parks 26	Grisanti, Connie	Rec and Parks 10	Seals, Samuel	DWP 25
		Haertel, Dart	Econ/Wrkfr. Dev. 25	Siegel, Catherine	DWP 28
<b>Terminated</b>		Hills, Robert	DWP 35	Simpson, Reginald	Public Works 31
Magallanes, Linda	DWP N/D	Hodge, Charles	Public Works 15	Starrels, Josine	Cultural Affairs 12
		Irula, Mirella	DWP 23	Soto Jr., Roman	DWP 28
<b>Retired</b>		Ivey, Roland	Rec and Parks 27	Thompson, Ronald	Public Works 30
Aker, Phillip	Transportation 47	Jenkins Jr., David	DWP 29	Tucker, Raymond	Public Works 18
Allen, Edward	DWP 33	Johnson, Mable	DWP 32	Vallejos, Frank	Gen Services 34
Axelrad, Audrey	LAPD 12	Jurnecka, Joseph	Gen Services 11	Walt, Charles	Public Works 32
Bauer, Stanley	Transportation 11	Knott, David	Public Works 30	Williams, James	Public Works 27
Beaufait, Joyce	DWP 20	Lear, Thomas	DWP 35	Woods, Stephanie	Gen Services 18
Blair, Altamont	Transportation 1	Leigh, Steven	DWP 30	Woolard, Richard	DWP 38
Burgner, Larry	Public Works 19	Lugo, Edward	DWP 30	Yoho, Hugh	Public Works 31
Brown, James	Public Works 30	Martinez, John	Rec and Parks 35	Yule, Therese	Personnel 11
Caruana, Ben	Public Works 31	McClure, Kathleen	Library 14		
		McDonald, Gerald	LAFD 19		





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