



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT 2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Operation Street Sweeper A Successful Multi-Agency Gang Suppression Detail

Mission and Values

Mission Statement

The City of Visalia Police Department has been established to preserve the public peace, prevent crime, detect and arrest violators of the law, protect life and property, and enforce criminal laws of the State of California and the Ordinances of the City of Visalia.

Organizational Values

The Visalia Police Department has a recognized set of values that operate within the organization. We see these not as the dictate of one individual group, but as a set of shared common beliefs; these shared values provide a common cause for all employees in the organization.

Integrity – Professionalism requires impeccable honesty, integrity, and respect. As a practical matter, ethical conduct cannot be assured by written policies, codes or oaths. It must be an integral part of the organization, a deeply ingrained tradition that assures citizens that questionable practices do not exist.

Service – Quality delivery of service is both a personal and organizational commitment. The Department will make every effort to deliver professional, quality service to its citizens as it deals with problems of crime and public safety. We are committed to working toward improving the quality of life for our families and our community.

Fiscal Responsibility – The Department is dedicated to managing its resources in a careful and efficient manner so that there is maximum return from each dollar spent.

Our People – The Department must strive to attract and maintain high quality personnel capable of working in the highly complex area of law enforcement.

Our organization wants employees to enjoy their work and to be proud of their achievements. We are proud of the people we have in our organization, their performance, and their dedication to their jobs. Success within the organization depends upon relationships based on dignity, mutual respect, support, and accountability among all individuals.

About the Cover - "Operation Street Sweeper" - Gang Suppression Detail
See pages 14 - 15 for the main story. Additional information is throughout this document.

Chief Colleen Mestas

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**A
Word
From
The
Chief**



It is my pleasure to present you with the Visalia Police Department’s 2010 Annual Report. I am honored to share with you our Department’s achievements throughout the past year.

A key story noted in this year’s annual report is “Operation Street Sweeper”. The effectiveness of “Operation Street Sweeper” highlights the value of collaborating with other law enforcement agencies in order to achieve shared goals. The consolidation of the Visalia Police Department and the Tulare County Sheriff’s Office Explosive Ordinance Units is another example of successful collaborative efforts. Partnerships with allied agencies allow us to capitalize on the strengths of individual departments, to share resources, and are operationally and fiscally sound policies that provide the most efficient law enforcement services to the communities that we serve.

On behalf of the men and women of the Visalia Police Department, thank you again for your support.



Recognition / Local and State



Soroptimist International of Visalia honored **Agent Sharon Brown** at their annual Ruby Awards Banquet. A 26-year veteran, she was recognized for serving as a sexual assault detective, working with children in the Explorer Program, teaching domestic violence and arrest and control techniques at the College of the Sequoias Police Academy, and working with criminal justice students at San Joaquin Valley College.



On May 23, 2010, at 05:30 a.m., **Officer Richard Cressall** was on his way to work when he observed smoke coming from a residence in the 2300 block of South Court. Officer Cressall knocked on the door, but did not receive a response. He made entry to the residence and found five people asleep, four were children. Officer Cressall evacuated the occupants as the fire was spreading from the garage area to the rest of the house. Officer Cressall was honored for his heroism by the homeowner, Denise Mancini, Police Chief Colleen Mestas, and the City Council.

Los Angeles Police
Leadership Academy
Graduates

Lt. Jason Salazar and **Crime Analyst Robin Meyst** graduated from the Los Angeles Police Leadership Academy. Past Visalia Police Department graduates include: Captain Rick Haskill, Lt. Steve Puder, Lt. Perry Phipps, Lt. Ed Lynn, Lt. Michele Figueroa, and Support Services Manager Veronica McDermott.



Employees of the Year

**Officer
Dominic Mena,**
Latino Officer of
the Year



**Communica-
tions Operator
Stacy Handley,**
Communications
Operator of the
Year



Photo by: David Swann, Response Magazine

**Detective
Curtis Brown,**
Officer of the
Year



**Senior
Administrative
Assistant
Carina Mello,**
Employee of the
Year



**Reserve
Officer Jim
Jolly,**
Reserve Officer
of the Year



Pictured:

Top left - Officer Dominic Mena

Top right - Stacy Handley

Center left - Detective Curtis Brown

Center right - Carina Mello

Bottom left - Reserve Officer Jim Jolly

Avoid the 11 / DUI Enforcement



Director of the Office of Traffic Safety Chris Murphy presented an award to **Officer Jon Pree** for his work with DUI programs and coordination of DUI checkpoints. The Visalia Police Department was awarded second place out of 195 law enforcement agencies for our work in promoting community awareness when it comes to DUI enforcement.

The AVOID the 11 is a collaborative effort with the 11 law enforcement agencies within Tulare County. This year wrapped up a 3-year, \$397,000 project which was a great success. Chief Mestas said, "The successes we shared were because of the partnerships we formed and the teamwork displayed."



On April 24, 2010, **Officer Jason Logas** was awarded a "California Hero Award" by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for his DUI enforcement efforts. Officer Logas arrested 88 drunk drivers in Visalia. Approximately 100 law enforcement agencies attended the event in Sacramento which was sponsored by M.A.D.D., California Office of Traffic Safety, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Association.

MADD and Avoid the 11 Coalition Tulare County honored Central Valley officers: Lieutenant Allyn Wightman, Officer Mike Short, Officer Jeff Wheeler, Officer Daniel Ford, Officer Andy Swarouth, Officer Alex Barton-Sabo, Officer Jason Logas, and Captain Rick Haskill. Not shown is Officer Ryan Park. Volunteer Marilyn Scofield was also recognized for her contributions to the program.



Retirements and Years of Service

2010 Employee Service Awards



K-9 Bosco retired after 6 years of service

Police Specialist Randy George retired after 35 years of service

Sergeant Jeff Robertson retired after 25 years of service

Name	Years	Job Classification
Alvarez, Brook	5	Lead Records Specialist
Carleton, Christina	5	Communications Operator
Cline, Krista	5	Community Services Officer
Collins, Adam	5	Police Officer
Doherty, Matthew	5	Police Officer
Dominguez, Osvaldo	5	Police Officer
Ferreira, Bryan	5	Police Officer
Ford, Daniel	5	Police Officer
Gilson, Robert	5	Police Officer
Landin, Carmen	5	Police Officer
Logan, Shane	5	Police Officer
Potts, James	5	Sr. Identification Technician
Ruiz, Guadalupe	5	Police Technician
Ruiz, Rosendo	5	Community Services Officer
Smith, Jeane	5	Police Records Specialist
Thompson, Dustin	5	Police Officer
Alfano, Dirk	10	Police Officer
Andrews, James	10	Police Sergeant
Carsten, Michael	10	Police Officer
Collins, Renny	10	Police Officer
DeLong, Pamela	10	Communications Operator
Gonzales, Marc	10	Police Officer
House, Gloria	10	Communications Supervisor
Johnson, Ricky	10	Police Officer
Kneeland, Shawna	10	Administrative Technician
Logan, Jason	10	Police Officer
Mirelez, Kimberly	10	Sr. Communications Operator
Pree, Jon	10	Police Officer
Rush, Dale	10	Police Officer
Watkins, Amy	10	Police Sergeant
Weaver, George	10	Police Officer
Epp, Ron	15	Police Sergeant
Mena, Dominic	15	Police Officer
Paddock, Joseph	15	Police Officer
Chamberlain, Mike	20	Police Officer
Hindenburg, Chuck	20	Special Services Manager
Lynn, Edward	25	Police Lieutenant
McIntosh, Jeff	25	Police Sergeant
Wightman, Allyn	25	Police Lieutenant
George, Randy	35	Police Specialist

K-9 Competitions

The Sierra K-9 Association, Visalia Police Department, and Tulare County Sheriff's Office, sponsored the 25th Annual Sierra K-9 Trials in March. Visalia retained the perpetual clock from a friendly competition between Visalia PD and TCSO.

Clay and Bosco	Ryan and Mack
Top Dog Overall	2 nd Novice
1 st Building Search	2 nd Agility
3 rd Area Search	2 nd Narcotic and
5 th Evidence	Vehicle Search

Jason and Timber
4th Area Search and 2nd Obedience



Pictured: Officer Clay Moffett and Bosco, Officer Jason Feierbach and Timber, Officer Gerritt DeJong and Samson, Sergeant James Andrews, Officer Ryan Lasalde and Mack

Motorcycle Competition

During the 4th annual Central California Police Motorcycle Competition, **Officer Jacob Heaton** took 5th place in the Harley Davidson Division. The event included a motorcycle skills competition between 36 police officers from 12 law enforcement agencies. A bicycle rodeo for kids also took place. More than \$2,400 was raised for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



Honor Guard



2010 Events

Officers Killed in the Line of Duty
Funerals in California

Visalia Fire Department
Firefighter Frank Reed's Funeral

Retired Visalia Police Officer
Ron Hartman's Funeral

Peace Officers Memorial Run

Battle of the Badges Blood Drive

Police Reserves

Pictured: Sergeant Paul Esquibel, Lieutenant Jason Salazar, Officer Ken Smythe, Officer Matt Jones, Agent Sharon Brown, Officer Lisa Grotto, Officer Adam Aguallo, and Detective Curtis Brown

Jon Bassett
Mike Burns
Gene Ferrero
Jed Grant
Chuck Hindenburg
James Jolly
Mike Morgantini
Sean Schiebelhut
Chris Wilson

Special Details
Gang Details
Wiretap Services
Homicide Case Assistance
Boost Patrol Shift Strength
DUI Checkpoints
Holiday Details



Reserve Officer of the Year
James Jolly



Chief Mestas swears in the newest Reserve,
Officer Mike Morgantini.

Volunteers in Police Services



Ralph Shook, Volunteer of the Year, pictured with Lieutenant Steve Puder, Lieutenant Perry Phipps, Lieutenant Michele Figueroa, Lieutenant Allyn Wightman, and Chief Colleen Mestas

Currently, there are 71 volunteers in the VIPS Program. They donated more than 10,400 hours in 2010. Sample duties:

Tagging Abandoned Vehicles

Crime Prevention Events

Citing Handicapped / Parking Violations

Vehicle / Evidence Transportation

Traffic Control / DUI Checkpoints

Emergency Assistance

The program is led by Sergeant Amy Watkins and Sergeant Corey Sumpter.

Explorers



Currently, there are 12 Police Explorers. They took 1st place in crime scene investigation and 5th place overall at two separate competitions.

Crime Lab Technician Bob Douglas was recognized as Advisor of the Year. Agent Gabriel Correa was recognized as Police Explorer of the Year.



Police Activities League



PAL Programs

Program	# Participants
Adventure Park / Roller Towne Trips	180
Easter Egg Hunt	400
Honor Camp	50
Walk-in Visits to the PAL Center	4,875
Christmas Tree Lighting	400
PAL Christmas Party for Schools	250
Santa for Neighborhood Kids	400



Crime Prevention

Crime Prevention Events

Program	#
Child ID / Safety Events	30 Events 5,483 Participants
Police Facility Tours	12 Tours 182 Attendees
Senior Safety Presentations	8 Presentations 2,750 Seniors
Safety Presentations	19 Presentations 1,624 Participants
Neighborhood Watch Meetings	37 Meetings 14 in D1 / 23 in D2
National Night Out	38 Groups 940 Attendees



District 1



Lieutenant Perry Phipps
District 1 Commander



District 1 is north of Hwy 198. Yellow numbers are Beats - Black numbers are Service Sectors

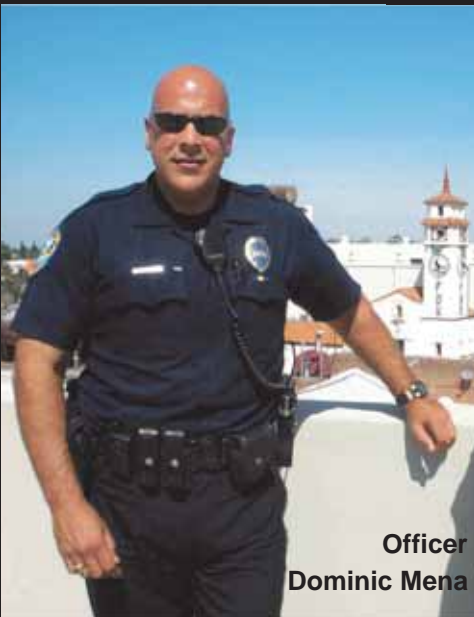
Commercial Based Policing Officer Dominic Mena - Downtown Visalia

Commercial Policing Benefits Downtown

Officer Dominic Mena is assigned as a commercial policing officer to the downtown area. Officer Mena meets regularly with the merchants to discuss issues or look for trends. Downtown Visalia is a draw for thousands of people each year with events like the Farmer's Market and Cinco De Mayo parade. As a result of an officer being assigned to the downtown area, it remains a safe environment and is well-known for excellent food and entertainment in the Central Valley.

Measure T Officers added to Patrol

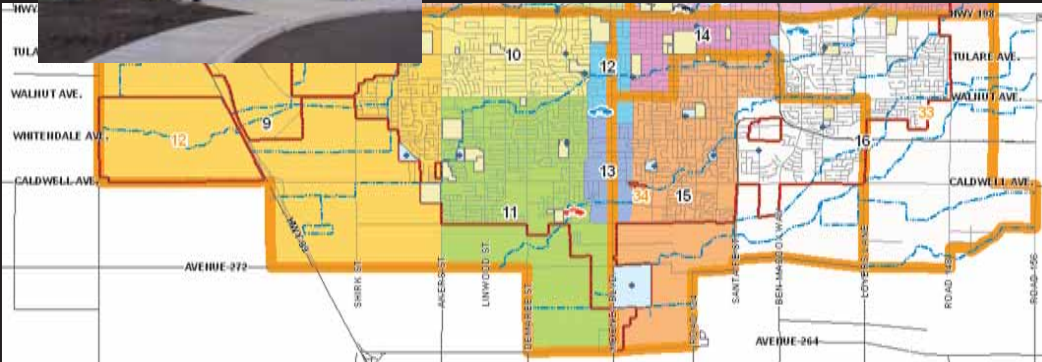
Over the past year, we have seen a significant increase in the enforcement efforts in the area commonly referred to as the Oval. The center of this district is Lincoln Oval Park. A goal has been to reduce the amount of illegal activity that has taken place in the park. In conjunction with the Narcotics Unit, several undercover details took place which resulted in several arrests. Arrests in the surrounding area have also increased due to the addition of patrol officers through Measure T.



Officer
Dominic Mena



District 2



District 2 is south of Hwy 198. Yellow numbers are Beats - Black numbers are Service Sectors



Lieutenant Allyn Wightman
District 2 Commander

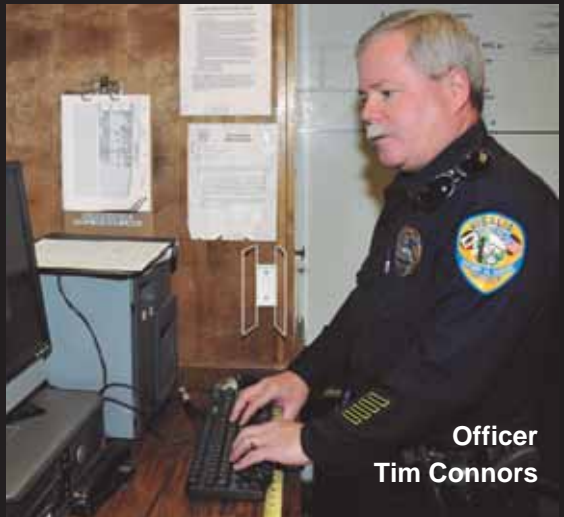
Commercial Based Policing Officer Tim Connors - Mooney Boulevard

Panhandling Addressed

Begging at busy intersections and in the middle of the street is dangerous to the individual and to the motorist. Officers addressed aggressive panhandling by citing and moving those violating the law.

Loss Prevention Meetings

Officer Tim Connors leads the monthly loss prevention meeting where merchant loss prevention officers share crime information. Participating merchants include Kohl's, Target, Sears, Macy's, JC Penney, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, and Lowes.



Officer
Tim Connors

Crime Spree Ends with Arrests

More than \$7,700 worth of merchandise was stolen within a one-hour span from the Visalia Mall. Two suspects used "booster bags" to steal clothing from Hollister and American Eagle Outfitters. The suspects were part of a group targeting retailers in Visalia and neighboring cities.



“Operation Street Sweeper” - Joint

“Operation Street Sweeper”

On August 31, 2010, the Visalia Police Department, along with other local, state, and federal agents, arrested 36 persons believed to be members and associates of the Nuestra Familia organization on drug trafficking charges. More than 35 search warrants were served. The arrests were part of a multi-jurisdiction coordinated law enforcement operation. In addition to the Visalia Police Department, other participating agencies were the Federal Bureau of Investigation, California Department of Justice Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, Tulare County Sheriff's Office, Salinas Police Department, Watsonville Police Department, and the Delano Police Department.

The federal indictments were related to a pending case in which 24 other Nuestra Familia members or associates are charged with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and cocaine in Kings, Fresno and Kern Counties. The indictments charged 39 defendants in U.S. District Court with serious drug trafficking offenses as part of the coordinated investigations.

Agents also arrested 26 individuals on State warrants. An additional 18 defendants were charged by the Kings County District Attorney in connection with a similar operation that took place on June 8 in Kings County.

This case was the product of an extensive, joint investigation by the agencies referenced above. Other agencies who participated in the related Kings County operation in June and other aspects of the related investigations included the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Kings County Narcotic Task Force, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Hanford Police Department, Lemoore Police Department, Corcoran Police

Department, and the California Highway Patrol. The U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and the U.S. Marshals Service provided assistance. Assistant United States Attorneys Kimberly Sanchez and Kathleen Servatius are prosecuting the federal cases and the previously indicted case.

The maximum statutory penalty for a violation of this drug trafficking offense is life in prison and a \$4 million fine. The actual sentence, however, will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of any applicable statutory factors and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables. The arrests and search warrants were conducted as part of a joint investigation of the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDEF). The OCDEF program is a federal multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional task force that supplies supplemental federal funding to federal and state agencies involved in the identification, investigation, and prosecution of major drug trafficking organizations.

The Visalia Police Department was successful in this operation as a result of support from the City Council and City Manager Steve Salomon. Based on the success of “Operation Street Sweeper”, the Visalia Police Department is looking at working jointly with local, state, and federal agencies to continue to aggressively target gangs.



U.S. Attorney Wagner stated, “The operation undertaken this morning represents another
Together, with our state and local law enforcement partners, we will

State, Federal, and Local Operation



Visalia Police Chief Colleen Mestas addresses the media about "Operation Street Sweeper"

Pictured from left to right:

Lieutenant Jason Salazar

Captain Rick Haskill

Tulare County Undersheriff
Dahl Cleek

Chief Colleen Mestas

Department of Justice
Bureau of Narcotics
Enforcement, Assistant Chief
Jerry Hunter

US Attorney, Benjamin Wagner

Assistant US Attorney,
Kimberly Sanchez

Department of Justice Bureau
of Narcotics Enforcement,
Chief John Gaines

Division of Law Enforcement
Director, George Anderson



"A major blow against a major drug trafficking network that operates throughout California. We continue to relentlessly pursue and dismantle violent criminal gangs."

T-RATT - Reducing Auto Theft

T-RATT

Tulare County Reduce Auto Theft Task Force

To achieve its goal of reducing vehicle theft in Tulare County, T-RATT conducts surveillance in high theft areas, serves outstanding felony arrest warrants for suspects wanted for vehicle theft and related crimes, seeks out possible "chop shop" operations by conducting business inspections, and conducts probation and parole searches of persons previously convicted of vehicle theft.

Task Force Agencies

California Highway Patrol

District Attorney's Office

Porterville Police Department

Tulare Police Department

Visalia Police Department



Countywide Activity	#
Recoveries	226
Vehicle Theft Arrests	134
Chop Shops	14
Parole / Probation Searches	176

Consolidated Bomb Squad

Tulare County Consolidated Explosive Ordnance Destruction Unit

Formed October 19, 2010, with approval from the Visalia Police Department, Tulare County Sheriff's Office, Visalia City Council, and Tulare County Board of Supervisors



Due to increased fiscal restraints, police and sheriff departments are reducing costs by consolidating units. This year, the Tulare County Sheriff's Office and the Visalia Police Department consolidated their bomb squads. The new unit will result in a significant savings to both departments. A robot or bomb squad response vehicle can cost in excess of \$250,000. By combining squads, future expenses for personnel, training, and equipment will be shared.

In order to become a bomb technician, each new member attends a six-week school at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. This is the only basic bomb technician school in the United States.

This merging of units will serve as a model for other law enforcement agencies.



Pictured: Detective Jeremy Houser, Detective Clay Moffett, Deputy Scott Doyle, Sheriff Bill Wittman, Chief Colleen Mestas, Deputy Matt Hardy, Sergeant Steve Phillips, Agent Russ Gauger



Special Enforcement Bureau

Department Gang Strategies

The Department subscribes to a strategy of gang suppression, intervention, and prevention to address the issue of gangs. Our primary role is to provide gang suppression that disrupts gang activities and prevents gang violence.

The Multi-Agency Gang Intervention Task Force (MAGITF) is a city-focused group that coordinates gang prevention and intervention resources. It is co-chaired by the Visalia Police Department and the Visalia Unified School District. We continue to realize the value of partnerships in the fight against gang violence which includes community-based, faith-based, and other non-profit organizations.

In February, City Council approved leasing a larger, more adequate office facility for the Special Enforcement Bureau. They also approved two police officer positions for the Gang Suppression Unit. Additionally, Council approved the Department to provide a grant funded narcotics detective position to INET, the Inter-Agency Narcotics Enforcement Team. This team is coordinated by the Tulare County Sheriff's Office and staffed by officers from the Sheriff's Department, Visalia Police, Exeter Police, Farmersville Police, and Tulare County Probation.

To address gang violence, the Special Enforcement Bureau played a significant role in "Operation Street Sweeper". This detail was developed to address a gang related homicide. Visalia Police Department and the California Department of Justice created an alliance focused on Northern gang members. The detail included a wiretap where approximately 19,000 phone conversations of gang members were monitored by our Violent Crimes Unit detectives. The gang members' conversations ranged from narcotic sales to homicide. The operation culminated on August 31st. The operation was extremely complex and was the largest of its kind in Tulare County history. The effects were evident as there were no additional gang related homicides for the rest of 2010. See pages 14 and 15 for details.

Efforts of the Visalia Multi-Agency Gang Intervention Task Force, the Tulare County Gang Prevention Task Force, and involved community members are just as critical to removing the threat of gangs as the Department's suppression efforts.

Gang Suppression Unit	2009	2010
Total Arrests (Including Gang)	426	462
Gang Arrests	252	376
Felony Arrests	290	355
Misdemeanor Arrests	136	95
Gang FIs Completed	625	565
Gang Expert Reports	47	93
Gang Expert Testimony	13	18
Special Details	79	104
Search Warrants	18	13
Probation / Parole Searches	222	347
Firearms Recovered / Confiscated	38	63
Narcotics Unit	2009	2010
Total Arrests (Including Gang)	105	49
Gang Arrests	10	8
Felony Arrests	79	38
Misdemeanor Arrests	26	11
Controlled Buys	65	11
Knock & Talks	45	0
Search Warrants	32	34
Meth Amount (oz)	30.68	8.26
Heroin Amount (oz)	0.035	0.04
Cocaine Amount (oz)	4.9	0
Marijuana Amount (oz)	546.63	294.84
Firearms Recovered / Confiscated	35	2
Special Enforcement Unit	2009	2010
Total Arrests (Including Gang)	528	510
Gang Arrests	262	383
Felony Arrests	369	392
Misdemeanor Arrests	159	106
Special Details	79	100
Search Warrants	50	47
Firearms Recovered / Confiscated	69	63
Gang Violence Stats	2009	2010
187 PC (Gang Homicide)	3	4
245 PC (Gang Assaults)	40	59
246 PC (Gang Drive-By Shootings)	27	39

Violent Crimes Unit

Notable Cases

There were six homicides in 2010, four were gang related. Four homicide cases were cleared and two are still under investigation.

In May 2010, a shooting occurred in the courtyard of an apartment complex on Campus Drive. The investigation by the Violent Crimes Unit, the Gangs Suppression Unit, and Department of Justice, led to forming a joint task force investigation called "Operation Street Sweeper". Visalia Police Department and agents from the Department of Justice were responsible for developing the initial information, surveillance, and proactive enforcement. When the operation was over, many arrests were made. Three people were arrested for this homicide. Others were arrested for conspiracy to commit murder in connection with an additional double-homicide that occurred in 2008.

Violent Crimes Unit	2009	2010
Cases Assigned	934	1,072
Cases Cleared	544	545
Cases to District Attorney	382	587
Arrests	119	185
Homicides	9	6

In 2008, a victim was shot and killed while sitting in his car eating lunch at Millcreek Park. During the investigation, notable items were booked into evidence and sent for testing. In 2010, a DNA hit came back from DOJ which led to several arrests in connection to this homicide.

Crimes Against Children Addressed

The Violent Crimes Unit joined forces with Tulare, Fresno, and Kings County law enforcement agencies on the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC). The purpose is to apprehend those involved in exploitation of children on the internet.

SWAT

During 2010, the Visalia Police Department SWAT team participated in several high-risk details, most notably "Operation Street Sweeper". SWAT Team members participated in several aspects of the detail, including case investigations and the service of the arrest and search warrants.

The Visalia Police Department utilizes the Lenco Bearcat, which is a state of the art Armored Response and Rescue Vehicle. It is constructed of certified hardened steel armor plates and approved multi-hit ballistic glass. The vehicle is built on a proven Ford truck chassis and is powered by an extended life Ford diesel engine. The vehicle is maintained by the Visalia Police Department and is available to allied agencies as part of an MOU agreement.



Property Crimes Unit

Notable Cases

Commercial Burglary Series Ends After Arrests

Six people were arrested and charged for committing more than 17 commercial burglaries throughout Visalia in a crime series that lasted a month. The suspects smashed front door windows to make entry, stole merchandise, and tried to sell it over the internet. Victims' items recovered included cash, wallets, cell phones, lottery tickets, a computer, cigarettes, mixed-martial arts gear and a cash register. During the course of this investigation, detectives developed information that led to the arrest of four additional individuals that committed a carjacking and residential burglaries.



CVS Pharmacy reported a loss of \$117,000 in merchandise over a six-month period. More than \$4,700 worth of merchandise was stolen in a one-hour period. Two employees were allowing friends to enter the store and take merchandise without paying. As a result of the investigation, 14 subjects were arrested.

Earlimart Group Believed to be Linked to 30 Cases

Three suspects were arrested after detectives recognized a car that had previously been identified in connection with vehicle burglaries on Mooney Boulevard. They were connected to at least 30 auto burglaries in a six-week crime spree. Detectives believe the men are part of an auto-theft ring from Earlimart and Delano.



Road House Auto Body Shop Owner Arrested

The owner was arrested for falsely receiving thousands of dollars for vehicle restoration work. Fifty-eight vehicles were located at his shop and residences. The accumulated loss was well over \$700,000 and involved over 50 victims.



Youth Services Unit

Officer Louie Cantu,
Sequoia High School



Officer Matt Doherty,
El Diamante High School



Officer Jason McWilliams,
Redwood High School



Officer Jason Tejada,
Mt. Whitney High School



Officer Dustin Thompson,
Golden West High School



	Mt. Whitney	Sequoia	El Diamante	Redwood	Golden West
Assigned Cases	72	103	51	83	67
Suspected Child Abuse Referrals	1	3	12	7	4
Self-Initiated Cases	143	62	131	93	52
Field Interviews	2	0	6	0	4
Home Visits	50	44	50	109	18
Student Contacts	565	374	323	561	295
Felony Arrests Adult	3	0	0	1	3
Misd Arrests Adults	4	1	0	8	1
Felony Arrests Juv / T-Bolt	9	4	14	1	3
Felony Arrests Juv / Booking	10	3	4	28	0
Misd Arrests Juv / T-Bolt	118	45	60	39	38
Misd Arrests Juv / Booked	13	11	17	31	11
YSO Overtime Details	20	11	12	16	9

Mission Statement: To provide guidance and police services to the students and staff of the Visalia Unified School District, as well as to all youth in Visalia through instruction, mentoring, counseling, and enforcement. To ensure that the VUSD is free of violence and intimidation and to work with the site administrators in making the overall environment of each campus one which is safe and conducive to learning. To provide the city of Visalia with safeguards against juvenile delinquency through intervention.

Records Unit

End-of-Year Statistics	2009	2010
Reports Processed	20,030	20,265
DA Arrest Packages and Evaluations Submitted	5,449	4,432
Total Hours of Transcription	3,736	3,613
Citizens Assisted at Front Counter HQs	21,190	18,916
Citizens Assisted at District 1	2,102	3,162
Citizens Assisted at District 2	2,210	306
Phone Calls Received	31,818	25,278
Traffic Citations Processed	14,062	13,580

The Records Unit is responsible for processing and maintaining all police records created in accordance with Department of Justice standards, the California Public Records Act, and Evidence and Government Codes. The Records Unit consists of 23 employees who perform a wide variety of assignments, ranging from providing customer service and processing payments to preparing arrest packages for submission to the District Attorney's Office. Pictured are 12 of the 23 Records Unit employees.



Front Counter



Paper Day Shift



Paper Evening Shift



Lisa Davis,
Records Supervisor

Front Counter: Noele Riedmann, Diane Owensby, Jeane Smith, Juanita Leal

Paper Evening Shift: Brook Alvarez, Krystal Coursey, Modesto Jacquez, Jenna Wells

Paper Day Shift: Jeannette Polk, Ginny Martin, Melissa Lujan

Dispatch / Communications Unit

Calls for Service	2009	2010	% DIF
Police	111,214	113,424	2%
Fire	11,084	11,714	5.6%
SPCA	9,238	10,459	13.2%
TOTAL CFS	131,536	135,597	3%
Police 911 Calls	55,823	59,161	5.9%



Gloria House,
Communications Supervisor

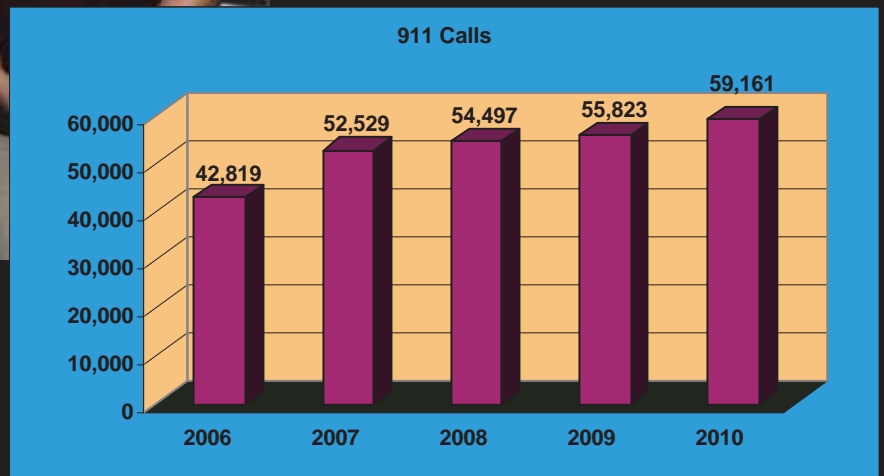
Photos by: David Swann, Response Magazine



Pictured are 5 of the 22 full-time and 4 part-time Communications Unit personnel.

Front Row: Sharon Billups, Alaina Garcia,
Christina Carleton

Back Row: Betty Shewey, Steve Hays



Pending Police CFS - Length of Time a Call is Held

2010	Total PD CFS	< 15 min	%	15 - 30	%	30 - 60	%	60 - 90	%	> 90 min	%
Total	113,424	94,314	83%	7,385	7%	6,033	5%	2,360	2%	3,332	3%

Crime Analysis Unit



The Crime Analysis Unit was recognized by the California Crime and Intelligence Analysts Association for professional products. Displayed at the annual conference were:

- Visalia Police Department Annual Report
- Crime Analysis Unit Survey and Results
- Crime Analysis Unit Brochure
- Response Magazine Article Featuring the Unit
- Daily Bulletin and Pin Maps
- Daily Stolen Vehicle Hot Sheet and Pin Map
- Daily Field Interview Card Report
- Chief's Monthly Report
- Monthly Calls for Service Report
- Traffic Analysis Report
- Monthly Traffic Collision Report
- Monthly Traffic Collisions by Type, Hour, and Day Report
- Collisions by Day of Week and Hour of Day Report
- Monthly Traffic Collisions Statistics
- Citation Summary Report



Pictured: Ruth Day, Judy Morgan-Ronding, Jessica Yunt, Elena Clark, seated is Robin Meyst

Mission Statement: The primary mission of the Visalia Police Department Crime Analysis Unit is to provide the highest level of assistance to operational personnel by collecting, analyzing and disseminating crime related data in an effort to recognize crime patterns, identify criminal suspects and reduce crime.

Photos by David Swann, Valley Response Magazine

Crime Lab

Officer	# Hits
Joel Arjona	1
Dianna Barrientos	1
Ruben Cabatic	1
Krista Cline	12
Robert Douglas	1
Jeremy Ediger	4
Jason Feierbach	1
Lisa Grotto	1
Steve Howerton	1
Chris Jennings	1
Laura Lathrop	2
Jason Logas	1
Mark Lyon	1
Clay Moffett	1
James Potts	10
Rosendo Ruiz	4
Dale Rush	1
Tim Sola	1
Andrew Souza	1
Joshua Speer	2
Isaac Stephens	1
Manpreet Tiwana	1
Richard White	1

The Crime Lab reviewed more than 500 fingerprint cases. Of those, 201 latent prints were sent to CAL-ID and 51 returned with a positive identification of a person.

Twenty-three officers got a hit on latent prints through the CAL-ID database.



Task	#
Photos and Recordings Downloaded to the Digital Information Management System	58,429
Video Interviews Recorded with the Interview Tracker System	89
Field Assignments	110
Lab Assignments	367
Forensic Cell Phone Analysis	44
Forensic Video Analysis	23
DA Requests	559
Fingerprint Cases	500
Live Scan Services	798
Fingerprint Cards	77
Fingerprint Registrants	875
Fingerprints for Court Ordered Bookings	67



Laura Lathrop, Krystal Uribe, Tracy Verdugo
Jim Potts, Bob Douglas

Year at a Glance

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Criminal Homicide	8	12	11	10	6
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	8	12	11	9	6
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	1	0
Forcible Rape	50	38	48	53	26
Rape by Force	43	33	44	49	24
Attempts to Commit Forcible Rape	7	5	4	4	2
Robbery	213	157	194	185	176
Firearm	87	46	69	77	69
Knife or Cutting Instrument	21	11	21	17	12
Other Dangerous Weapon	15	12	12	20	29
Strong Arm	90	88	92	71	66
Assault	1822	1719	1609	1679	1653
Firearm	239	152	108	68	72
Knife or Cutting Instrument	80	63	94	83	93
Other Dangerous Weapon	254	213	188	210	174
Hands, Fists, Feet - Aggravated	27	36	36	39	30
Other Assault (Simple)	1222	1255	1183	1279	1284
Burglary	1368	1109	1238	1261	1237
Forcible Entry	668	549	615	701	622
Unlawful Entry - No Force	587	461	498	437	475
Attempted Forcible Entry	113	99	125	123	140
Larceny - Theft	3816	3339	3775	3348	3501
Motor Vehicle Theft	1281	761	707	528	600
Autos	1019	563	494	372	451
Trucks and Buses	214	168	162	114	105
Other Vehicles	48	30	51	42	44
Total	8558	7135	7582	7064	7199
Percent Difference		-17%	6%	-7%	2%
Arrests	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Adults	5961	5832	5186	5269	5214
Juveniles	1364	1706	1583	1254	1193
Total	7325	7538	6769	6523	6407
Percent Difference		3%	-10%	-4%	-2%
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population	111168	117744	121498	123670	125971
Percent Difference		6%	3%	2%	2%

Visalia Police Department Command Staff



Chief Colleen Mestas



Captain Rick Haskill



Lt. Michele Figueroa
Headquarters Commander



Chuck Hindenburg
Special Services Manager



Lt. Ed Lynn
Professional Standards / PIO



Veronica McDermott
Support Services Manager



Lt. Perry Phipps
District 1 Commander



Lt. Steve Puder
Investigations



Lt. Jason Salazar
Special Enforcement Bureau



Lt. Allyn Wightman
District 2 Commander

Visalia Police Department

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