



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT



2016 Annual Report



Visalia City Government 2016



Steve Nelsen
Mayor



Warren Gubler
Vice Mayor



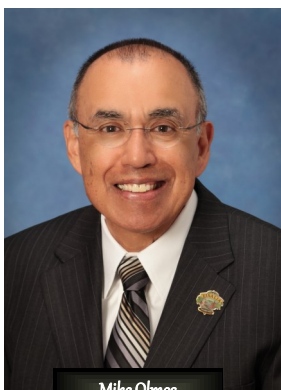
Bob Link
Council Member



Greg Collins
Council Member



Amy Shuklian
Council Member



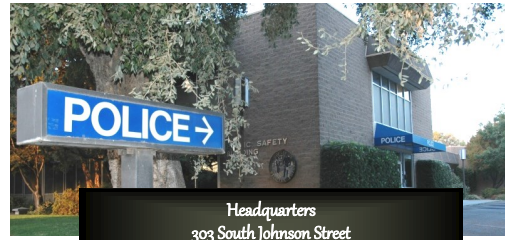
Mike Olmos
City Manager

Editor

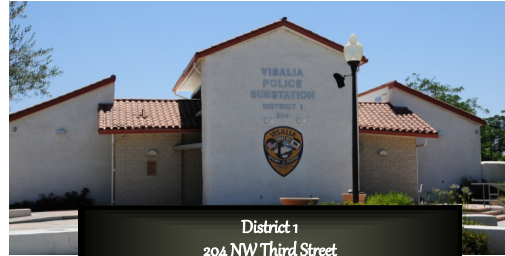
Carina Mello
Senior Administrative Assistant
Office of the Chief of Police

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Headquarters
303 South Johnson Street



District 1
204 NW Third Street



District 2
4100 South County Center

Connect With Us On Social Media



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Visalia Police Department](http://www.facebook.com/VisaliaPoliceDepartment)
 “Like” our page for the latest information such as news releases and events.



Twitter: @visaliapd
 Follow us on Twitter for up-to-date information.



Instagram: visaliapd
 Follow us on Instagram for all of the latest photos of staff and events.



Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.com
 A free private social network, Nextdoor allows you to chat with your neighbors and our staff regarding neighborhood issues.

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It is my privilege to present you with the Visalia Police Department's 2016 Annual Report. My hope is that this report will give you an inside look at the accomplishments of the Visalia Police Department, our ongoing efforts towards positive police-community relations, and our efforts to provide for Visalia's public safety.

Locally, 2016 brought continued emphasis on traffic safety strategies to make Visalia's roadways safer, as well as a continued emphasis by our dedicated staff to meet the public safety needs of this vibrant community despite ever increasing demands and challenges. Homelessness, mental health, and the impacts of justice reforms and their effects on crime, have been the most pressing issues over the last year. However, the Visalia Police Department has worked hard with other community stakeholders to address these issues and will continue to be a leader in seeking solutions, strategies, and partnerships to meet the needs of our community and to provide an effective public safety strategy.

Nationally, 2016 was a difficult year in law enforcement. The tragedies that struck the Dallas and Baton Rouge Police Departments were felt by law enforcement and communities across the nation. We have been witness to fractured police-community relations and civil unrest far too often in the news. However, we are honored to be part of this community and for the relationships that we share. This annual report reflects a great deal of our ongoing community policing efforts and philosophy, as well as our thanks to the community of Visalia for its outpouring of support throughout this past year.

The Visalia Emergency Communications Center broke ground in February 2016 and will be operational in the Fall of 2017, improving our emergency communications capabilities and service to the community. Another significant accomplishment this past year was the implementation of a new Computer Automated Dispatch and Records Management System that will provide a significant technological upgrade to the Department's operations.

Most importantly, I am proud of the continued professionalism, dedication, and hard work of the Visalia Police Department staff. It is truly an honor to serve you and to be part of this great community.



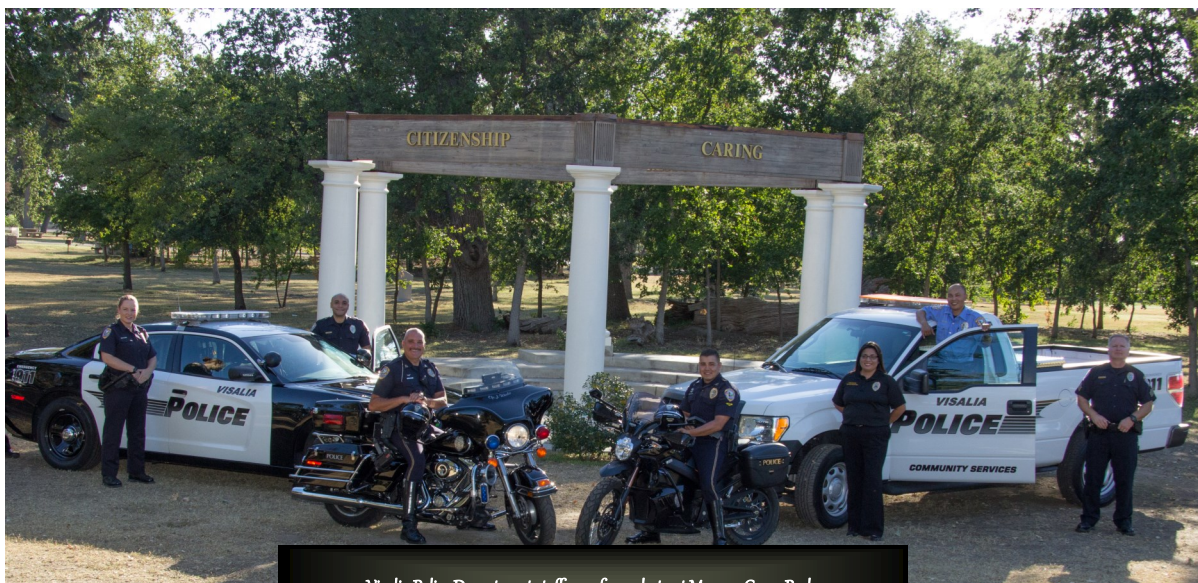
The Visalia Police Department's Honor Guard Unit is featured on the cover of this year's annual report in representation of all of the officers who were killed in the line of duty during 2016.

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 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. We value Integrity, Service, Fiscal Responsibility, and our Employees.



Visalia Police Department staff pose for a photo at Mooney Grove Park.

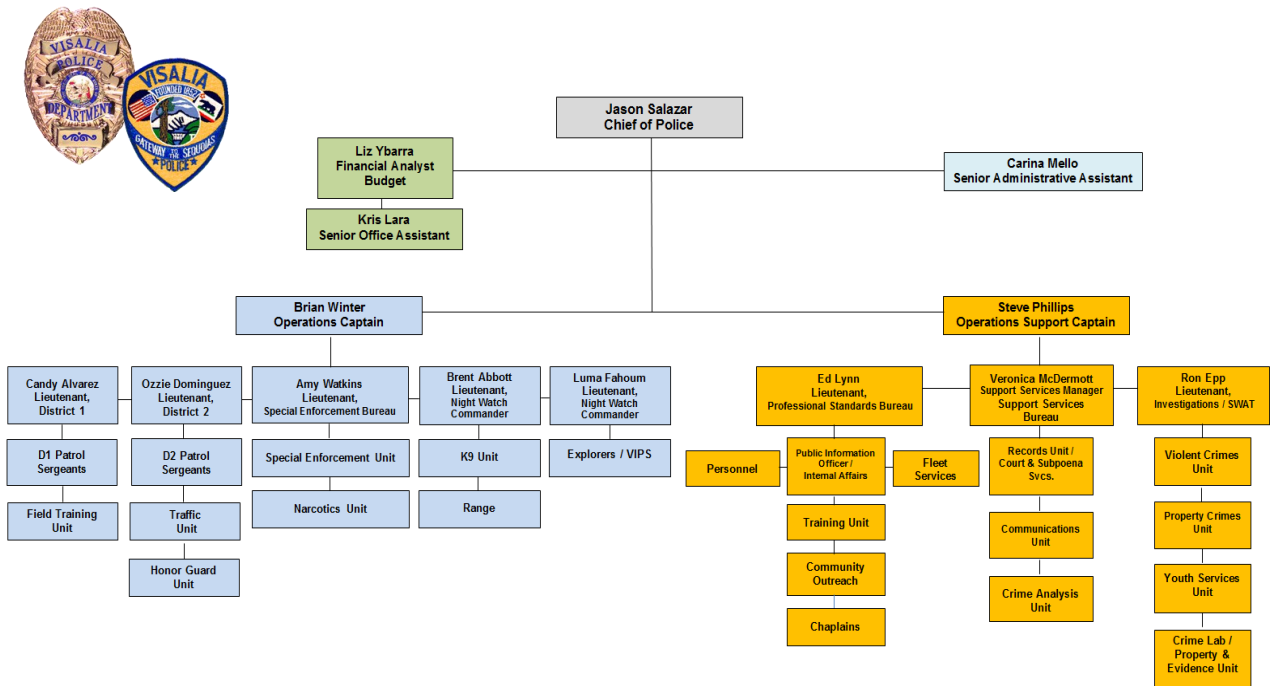


The Visalia Police Department is honored to serve the community through enforcement, community engagement, resources, and remembrance.



The Visalia Police Department's **Command Staff** is comprised of the Chief of Police, two Captains, seven Lieutenants, one Support Services Manager, and one Financial Analyst. The Department has two main Divisions: Operations and Operations Support, each led by a Captain. The Financial Analyst reports directly to the Chief of Police.

The Command Staff is responsible for the overall management and leadership of the organization, working with staff, the City organization, and the community to develop both short and long term public safety strategies and partnerships that ensure for efficient and effective operations.



In addition to meeting regularly with members of Command Staff, Chief Jason Salazar also meets weekly with **Executive Staff**, which includes both Captains, and Senior Administrative Assistant Carina Mello.



L-R: Captain Rick Haskill, Chief Jason Salazar, Captain Perry Phipps, and Senior Administrative Assistant Carina Mello.



On September 16th, Captain Rick Haskill retired from the Visalia Police Department after 28 years of service in law enforcement.

Captain Haskill began his employment with the Visalia Police Department in 1988 as a part-time Police Technician. In 1989, he was hired as a Police Recruit and appointed to Police Officer in July of 1989. As a Police Officer, Captain Haskill served as a Field Training Officer and was a member of the Field Impact Team, which is now known as the Special Enforcement Unit. In 1993, he was recognized as the Visalia Police Department's Officer of the Year.

In April of 1995, Captain Haskill was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and held assignments in the Patrol Bureau, Youth Services Unit, Traffic Unit, and the SWAT Team. Future promotions included Lieutenant in 2002 and Captain in 2007. As a Captain, he oversaw both the Operations and Operations Support Divisions.



Captain Haskill looks on as he is honored during his retirement luncheon held at the Visalia Convention Center.



Chief Salazar and Captain Haskill shake hands after Captain Haskill is presented with his retirement badge.



Captain Haskill receives a standing ovation from guests during his retirement celebration.



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Perry Phipps
Captain

Captain Perry Phipps retired from the Visalia Police Department on December 24th after 30 years of service to the City of Visalia.

Captain Phipps began his employment with the Visalia Police Department in 1986 after being employed with the Carpinteria Police Department for two years. He was promoted to Agent in 1997, Sergeant in 1999, Lieutenant in 2007, and Captain in January of 2011.

During his employment with the Visalia Police Department, Captain Phipps held assignments in Patrol, Anti-Burglary Team, K9 Unit, Police Activities League, Special Enforcement Unit, and the Investigations Bureau. He also served as a member of the SWAT Team and as District 1 Area Commander. As a Captain, he oversaw both the Operations Support and Operation Divisions of the Visalia Police Department.

In 1988 and 1995, Captain Phipps was recognized as the Department's Officer of the Year. He is also a four time recipient of the Medal of Valor.

Prior to his retirement, Captain Phipps served on the California Police Chiefs Association Board of Directors and was also an instructor with Union Institute & University.



Members of the VPD Honor Guard present colors during the retirement celebration held for Captain Perry Phipps.



Captain Phipps and his spouse look on as Chief Salazar congratulates Captain Phipps on his retirement.



Captain Phipps thanks the audience for their support during his retirement celebration.



Jim Carr
Sergeant

Sergeant Jim Carr retired from the Visalia Police Department after a total of 24 years of law enforcement service.

Sergeant Carr began his career in law enforcement with the Tulare County Sheriff's Office in 1992. In 2002, he was hired by the Visalia Police Department and held assignments in the Patrol Bureau and the Violent Crimes Unit. In 2007, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and held positions in the Patrol Bureau and the Youth Services Unit.

Sergeant Carr was instrumental in establishing the Department's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). As a result, he became a member of the Tulare County Mental Health Board.

Prior to beginning his career in law enforcement, Sergeant Carr proudly served our country for six years in the United States Air Force where he achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Communications Operator Sharon Billups retired from the Visalia Police Department after a total of 26 years of service.

Sharon began her career with the Visalia Police Department in 1987 as the agency's first female Volunteer in Police Services (VIPs). In 1989, she was hired as a full-time Communications Operator before leaving to work for the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office.

In 2004, Sharon returned to the Visalia Police Department where she continued to work as a Communications Operator until her retirement in 2007. In 2008, Sharon was hired as a part-time dispatcher for Animal Control and continued as such until her official retirement in 2016.



Sharon Billups
Communications Operator

Officer Jeff Gilbert retired from the Visalia Police Department after a total of 29 years of law enforcement service.

Officer Gilbert began his law enforcement career in 1987 working for the Tulare County Sheriff's Office. In 1989, Officer Gilbert worked as a Police Officer for the Laguna Beach Police Department.

In 1991, Officer Gilbert was hired by the Visalia Police Department. He worked a variety of assignments including working in the Patrol Bureau, the Field Training Unit, Traffic Unit, SWAT Team, Property Crimes Unit, Narcotics Unit, and the TARGET Task Force. In 1999, Officer Gilbert was awarded the Medal of Merit.



Jeff Gilbert
Police Officer



Darlene Friend
Communications Supervisor

Darlene Friend was promoted to Communications Supervisor in January.

Darlene began her career with the Visalia Police Department in December 2003. During her tenure with VPD, Darlene has worked as a Communications Operator, Communications Training Officer, and Senior Communications Operator.

Darlene's responsibilities include overseeing the daily operations of the Communications Unit, which includes a staff of four Senior Communications Operators, 23 Communications Operators, and one part-time Communications Operator. Additionally, she is the agency's California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) Coordinator and oversees compliance with the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

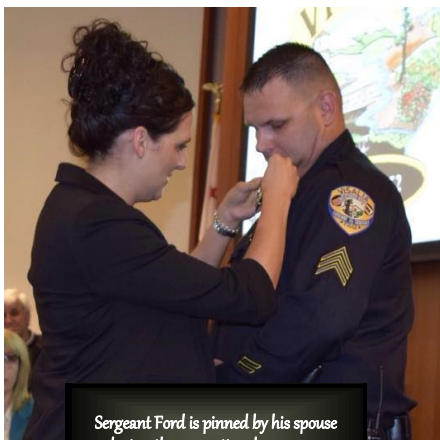
Dan Ford and Bill Diltz were both promoted to Sergeant on March 5th. A Badge Pinning Ceremony was held for them during the City Council Work Session held on March 21st. Both are currently assigned to Patrol.



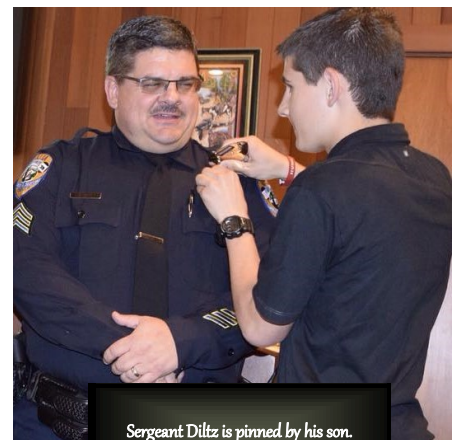
Dan Ford
Sergeant



Bill Diltz
Sergeant



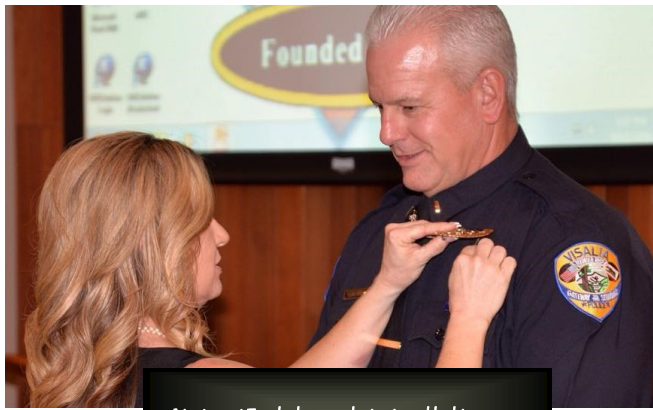
Sergeant Ford is pinned by his spouse during the promotional ceremony.



Sergeant Diltz is pinned by his son.



Ron Epp
Lieutenant



Lieutenant Epp looks on as he is pinned by his spouse.

Ron Epp was promoted to the position of Lieutenant on February 20th.

Lieutenant Epp began his career with the Visalia Police Department as a Police Officer in 1995 and was assigned to the Patrol Bureau and the Field Training Unit.

In October 2002, Lieutenant Epp was promoted to the rank of Agent. As an Agent, his assignments included working in the Patrol Bureau and the Traffic Unit. In June of 2007, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and held assignments in the Patrol Bureau, Narcotics Unit, and as a Rangemaster. He was also a member of the SWAT Team for 19 years.

Lieutenant Epp holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and a Master of Science Degree in Criminology. He is also a graduate of the Sherman Block Leadership Institute and Los Angeles Police Department's Leadership Program.

Lieutenant Epp currently oversees the Investigations Bureau.



Nate Flaws
Agent



Gerrit DeJong
Agent

Nate Flaws and Gerrit DeJong were promoted to the position of Agent in July. As Agents, they oversee the Visalia Police Department's community policing efforts, including coordination with Code Enforcement, homelessness response, as well as various Patrol Bureau related activities. The Agent position plays a vital role in the Department's relationship with the community.



Steve Phillips was promoted to Captain on October 15th. A Badge Pinning ceremony was held for Captain Phillips during the City Council Work Session held on November 7th.

Captain Phillips began his employment with the Visalia Police Department in 1996. In 2003, Captain Phillips was promoted to the position of Agent. In 2007, he was promoted to the position of Sergeant and, in 2011, to the position of Lieutenant.

During his employment with the Visalia Police Department, Captain Phillips has been assigned to both the Operations Division and Operations Support Division. He was a member of the K9 Unit and Property Crimes Unit, and was also assigned to the Professional Standards Bureau as the Training Sergeant/Public Information Officer.

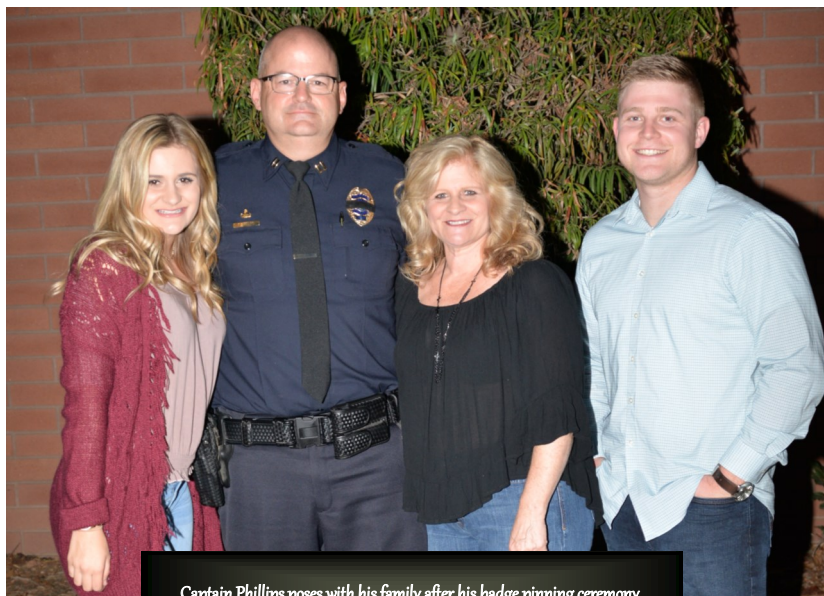
As a Lieutenant, Captain Phillips was assigned to District I as the District I Commander, the Night Watch Commander, and the Lieutenant of the Special Enforcement Bureau. Captain Phillips is also a member of the Tulare County Consolidated Bomb Squad.

Captain Phillips holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Organizational Management from Ashford University and is also a graduate of the Los Angeles Police Department's Leadership Program and FBI National Academy.

Captain Phillips currently oversees the Operations Support Division.



Captain Phillips is pinned by his son during his badge pinning ceremony.



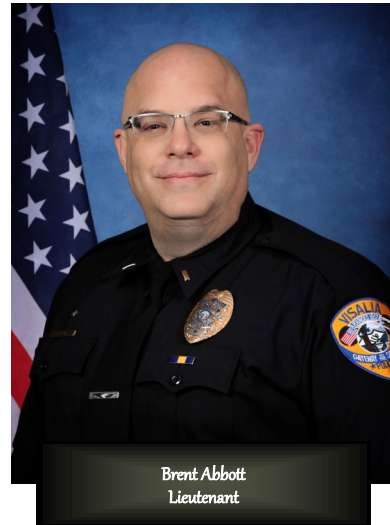
Captain Phillips poses with his family after his badge pinning ceremony.

Brent Abbott was promoted to Lieutenant on December 10th.

Lieutenant Abbott began his career with the Visalia Police Department as a Reserve Police Officer in June of 1991. He was hired as a Community Service Officer in November of 1991. In December of 1993, he was promoted to the rank of Police Officer. During his time as a Police Officer, Lieutenant Abbott was assigned to the Patrol Bureau, the DUI Enforcement Unit, Property Crimes Unit, and the SWAT Team.

In October 1999, Lieutenant Abbott was promoted to the rank of Agent and was assigned to the Patrol Bureau, the DUI Enforcement Unit, the Field Training Unit, the Gang Suppression Unit, and the Violent Crimes Unit.

In July of 2004, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. During his time as a Sergeant, Lieutenant Abbott was assigned to the Patrol Bureau, the K9 Unit, the Gang Suppression Unit, Alcohol Beverage Control Enforcement, and as a Rangemaster.



Brent Abbott
Lieutenant

Lieutenant Abbott holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership. He is also a graduate of the Sherman Block Leadership Institute and the Los Angeles Police Department's Leadership Program.

Lieutenant Abbott is a second generation law enforcement officer. He followed in the footsteps of his father, the late Sergeant Steve Abbott, who served with the Visalia Police Department for 36 years.

Lieutenant Abbott is currently a Night Watch Commander and oversees the K9 Unit and Range.



Lieutenant Abbott is pinned by his son during his badge pinning ceremony.

Luma Fahoum was promoted to Lieutenant on December 24th.

Lieutenant Fahoum is a 17 year veteran of the Visalia Police Department. She began her law enforcement career in 1999.

During her employment with the Visalia Police Department, Lieutenant Fahoum has held the following assignments: Community Service Officer, Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Gang Suppression Officer, Sexual Assault Detective, and Robbery/Homicide Detective. She has also served as a Recruit Training Officer at the Tulare - Kings Police Academy.



Luma Fahoum
Lieutenant



Lieutenant Fahoum poses with her sister after being pinned.

In 2003, Lieutenant Fahoum was recognized as the Visalia Police Department's Police Officer of the Year. In 2007, she received the Watch Commander Award. She also received the Victim Witness Award from the Tulare County District Attorney's Office in 2011. In 2012, Lieutenant Fahoum received the Investigative Excellence Award from Attorney General Kamala Harris.

In 2013, Lieutenant Fahoum was promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to the Patrol Bureau.

Lieutenant Fahoum holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Ashford University, as well as a Master of Arts Degree in Organizational Management.

Lieutenant Fahoum is currently a Night Watch Commander and oversees the Explorer Post and VIPs Unit.



Brian Winter
Captain

Brian Winter was promoted to Captain on December 24th.

Captain Winter began his employment with the Visalia Police Department as a Reserve Officer in 1991. In 1992, he was hired as a full-time Police Officer.

In 1999, Captain Winter was promoted to Agent, and in 2002, he was selected as the Department's Officer of the Year.

In 2007, Captain Winter was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and to the rank of Lieutenant in 2011.

As a Lieutenant, Captain Winter held assignments as Night Watch Commander, District Commander, and Investigations Lieutenant.

During his employment with the Visalia Police Department, Captain Winter has held assignments in the Patrol Bureau and the Traffic and Special Enforcement Units. He has also served on the SWAT Team for nearly 20 years and is a recipient of the Medal of Merit.

Captain Winter holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Law Enforcement Administration from Ashford University and has attended the Sherman Block Leadership Institute and the Commission on Peace Officer Standards (POST) Management course.

Captain Winter currently oversees the Operations Division.



Captain Winter is pinned by his father during his badge pinning ceremony.



Captain Winter poses with his family after his badge pinning ceremony.

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR



Shane Logan
Officer of the Year



Alaina Peria
Communications Operator of the Year



Shawna Kneeland
Professional Staff Employee of the Year



Mary Guillen
Records Employee of the Year



Phil Cox
Volunteer of the Year

Sergeant Kevin Kroeze and Sergeant Curtis Brown graduated from the Los Angeles Police Department's Leadership Program on April 7th (Kroeze) and August 11th (Brown). The program is a 136 hour, four week course, approved by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The program focuses on 27 behavioral science and adult education theories compiled from top universities in the nation.



Kevin Kroeze
Sergeant



Curtis Brown
Sergeant

Communications Operator Alaina Pena was one of several Communications Operators throughout the Valley recognized during the 27th Annual Dispatch Appreciation Banquet held on April 8th. The event was hosted by both the Visalia Police Department and Visalia Fire Department. The theme of the event was "Roaring 20's".



Chief Salazar looks on as Communications Supervisor Darlene Friend accepts the award for Communications Operator of the Year, Alaina Pena.



Alaina Pena
Communications Operator

The Visalia Police Department's Explorer Post competed in the Tulare County Explorer Competition held on April 15th - 17th at the Porterville Fairgrounds. The Explorers participated in numerous scenarios and placed in the following categories: Felony Car Stop - 5th; Vehicle Search - 4th; Crisis Negotiations - 2nd; Police Written Exam - 2nd; Police Oral Interview - 4th; Crime Scene Investigation - 1st; Building Search - 4th; Ride-along - 4th; Team Obstacle - 5th; and Female Explorer Obstacle - 1st. The Explorers took 3rd Place Overall.

Officer Mike Lombardo placed First in the Male Advisor obstacle course, and **Officer Julie Peterson** placed Fourth in Female Advisor obstacle course.



The Visalia Police Department Explorer Post placed Third Overall in the Tulare County Explorer Competition.



Mike Lombardo
Officer



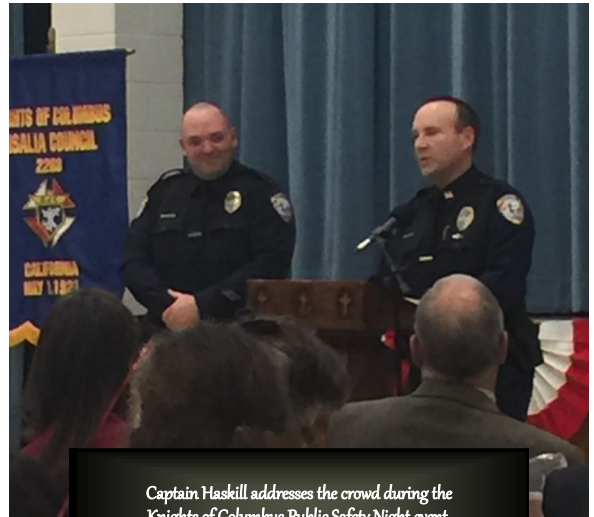
Julie Peterson
Officer



Officer Shane Logan was honored during the 35th Annual Public Safety Night hosted by Knights of Columbus and held on January 16th. Officer Logan was recognized as the Visalia Police Department's Officer of the Year along with several other officers throughout the County of Tulare. The event is held annually.



Officer Shane Logan (left) & Captain Rick Haskill (right) pose for a photo.



Captain Haskill addresses the crowd during the Knights of Columbus Public Safety Night event.

Detective Celestina Sanchez was honored on March 31st at the "Latinas Enforcing the Law and Pursuing Justice" luncheon hosted by the United Women's Organization. Detective Sanchez was recognized for her efforts as an investigator in the Violent Crimes Unit.



L-R: Chief Jason Salazar, Detective Celestina Sanchez, Support Services Manager Veronica McDermott, & Captain Perry Phipps.



Celestina Sanchez
Detective



Pictured L-R: Chief Jason Salazar, Officer Samantha Gonzales, Officer Thomas Higgins, Officer Amerie Norman, Officer AJ Ferguson, & Captain Rick Haskill.

Officers Samantha Gonzales, Thomas Higgins, Amerie Norman, and AJ Ferguson were honored on April 27th at an awards luncheon sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) in the City of Fresno. The ceremony honored officers throughout the Central Valley who had more than 50 DUI related arrests. VPD Officers in attendance had a combined total of 278 DUI arrests, and each received a MADD plaque and a pin to proudly display on their uniforms.



The K9 Unit participated in the 31st Annual Sierra K9 Trials held on May 13th-14th at Plaza Park. The event is hosted by both the Visalia Police Department and the Tulare County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Ryan Park and his canine partner, Flic, placed 1st in Overall Open Division, 2nd in Protection, and were also designated as the Top Team. Officer Mike Carsten and his canine partner, Bronson, placed 1st in Agility and Area Search, 4th in Overall Open Division, and 5th in Obedience. Officer Daniel Roberts and his canine partner, Xero, placed 2nd in Overall Open Division, 2nd in Obedience, 3rd in Protection, and 4th in Agility. Detective Ryan Lasalde and his partner, Ami, placed 1st in Building Narcotic Search. A total of 26 teams competed in the two day event.



Members of the Visalia Police Department's K9 Unit competed in the 31st Annual Sierra K9 Trials.

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Andrew Swarhout
Detective

Detective Andy Swarhout was named Law Enforcement Investigator of the Year by the California Financial Crimes Investigators Association (CFIA) on May 26th. Recipients are selected based on the investigative success of cases of a financial nature. Detective Swarhout was nominated and selected for this honor as a result of his efforts in investigating a \$1.2 million dollar embezzlement which resulted in the arrest of a suspect.



Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez graduated from the Senior Management Institute for Police, a program of the Police Executive Research Forum. SMIP provides senior police executives with intensive training in the latest management concepts and practices used in business and government, as well as discussions on the most challenging issues facing law enforcement today.



Osvaldo Dominguez
Lieutenant



Lieutenant Dominguez poses with members of his SMIP class.



POLICE EXECUTIVE
RESEARCH FORUM

The Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce presented the Visalia Police Department with a plaque on August 8th for the Department's efforts in a case involving their organization.



Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board Members pose for a photo with members of the Visalia Police Department's Executive Staff.

The City of Visalia's Employee Service Awards were held on December 14th. The event recognizes employees for their years of service to the City of Visalia. A total of 37 members of the Visalia Police Department were recognized for a combined total of 475 years of service.

Recognized for 20 years and more of service were: Sergeant Greg Byerlee (20 yrs.), Sergeant Chris McLain, (20 yrs.), Captain Perry Phipps (30 yrs.), Lieutenant Brent Abbott (25 yrs.), Captain Steve Phillips (20 yrs.), Sergeant Gary Williams (25 yrs.), Sergeant Brent Miller (20 yrs.), and Community Resource Specialist Paul Chao (20 yrs.).



City Manager Mike Olmos thanks employees for their service during the City of Visalia's Employee Service Awards.



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L-R: Sergeant Greg Byerlee, Sergeant Chris McLain, Captain Perry Phipps, Lieutenant Brent Abbott, Captain Steve Phillips, Sergeant Gary Williams, & Sergeant Brent Miller were all recognized for 20 years or more of service to the City of Visalia. Not pictured, Community Service Officer Paul Chao.



A groundbreaking ceremony for the Visalia Emergency Communications Center (VECC) was held on February 2nd. Visalia Police Department employees, City Staff, and community members gathered at School and Burke Streets where the VECC will be built. The VECC will be a two-story building with square footage of 18,000.

Upon completion, the VECC will house a state of the art Dispatch Center, Fire Administration offices, Emergency Operations Center, and Information Services offices.



Chief Jason Salazar addresses the crowd during the groundbreaking ceremony for the VECC. Also pictured are Mayor Steven Nelsen, Fire Chief Doug McBee, and City Manager Mike Olmos.



Pictured L-R: City Manager Mike Olmos, Vice Mayor Warren Gubler, Mayor Steve Nelsen, Chief Jason Salazar, Councilman Bob Link & Fire Chief Doug McBee participate in the groundbreaking ceremony.





L-R: Officer Art Villarreal, Officer Ryan Park, Officer Shane Logan, Officer Robert Gilson, and Officer Samantha Gonzales.

The Visalia Police Department was honored to attend the Visalia Rawhide Public Safety Recognition event in honor of the September 11th anniversary. Officers Art Villarreal, Ryan Park, Shane Logan, Robert Gilson, and Samantha Gonzales proudly represented the agency.



Officer Art Villarreal throws the first pitch during the Visalia Rawhide Public Safety Recognition event held on September 11th.

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event was held on September 24th. The Visalia Police Department was honored to participate by presenting medals to cancer survivors as they completed their survivor lap.



Sergeant Chris McLain (right) presents a medal to one of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life participants.



Officer Mike Short (left) and Officer Daniel Gonzales (center) also present medals to participants.

SPECIAL EVENTS

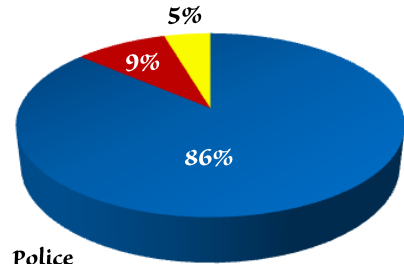
DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Allocated Personnel	
Sworn Officers	141
Professional Staff	68
Hourly Staff	18
Volunteers (Includes Reserves, VIPS, Chaplains, Explorers)	87

City Population	
2015	128,447
2016	130,231
% Difference	1%

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Call Type	2015	2016	% Difference
Police	144,856	144,489	0%
Fire	14,863	15,362	3%
Animal Control	8,816	7,722	-13%
911 Calls	96,819	89,619	-8%



- Police
- Fire
- Animal Control

Total CFS (Excluding 911)	2015	2016	% Difference
	168,535	167,573	-1%

PART 1 CRIMES - ARRESTS - REPORTS - TIPS

Offense	2015	2016	% Difference
Criminal Homicide	7	10	43%
Forcible Rape	105	67	-36%
Robbery	130	122	-6%
Assault	1,676	1,453	-13%
Burglary	813	1,000	23%
Larceny - Theft	2,622	2,542	-3%
Motor Vehicle Theft	560	641	14%
Total	5,913	5,835	-1%

Arrests	2015	2016	% Difference
Adults	6,763	6,459	-4%
Juvenile	557	591	6%
Total	7,320	7,050	-4%

Reports Processed	2015	2016	% Difference
	18,240	17,548	-4%
Online Reports	1,080	986	-9%

Online Tips Received	2015	2016	% Difference
	145	196	35%

TRAFFIC

Citations	2016
Speeding	3,074
Signs/Signals	581
Right of Way	294
DUI	484
Seatbelt	577
Cell Phone	747

Collisions	2016
Fatalities	14
Injuries	522
Property Damage	744
Total Collisions	1,280

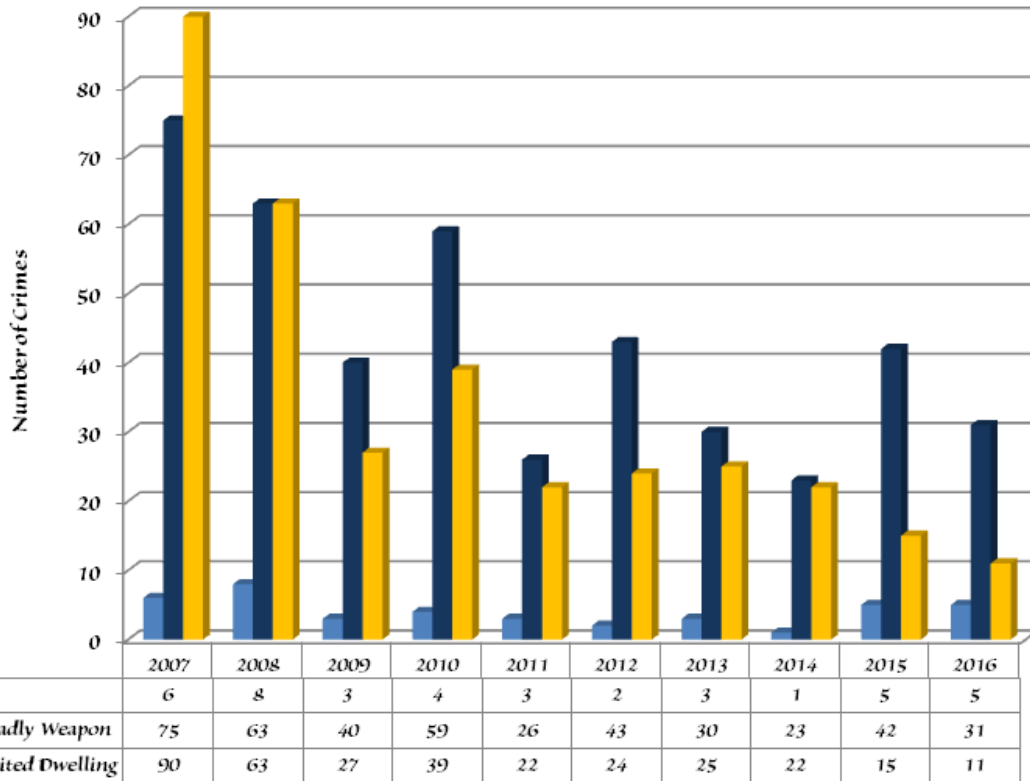
In 2016, a total of 9,192 citations were issued. Some of the most frequent citations issued include speeding, signs/signals, right of way, DUI, seatbelt, and cell phone usage. As it relates to traffic violations, a total of 9,555 violations were documented in 2016.

A total of 14 fatalities occurred in 2016, of which six were DUI related.

Speeding was the primary collision factor and the most frequently cited violation.

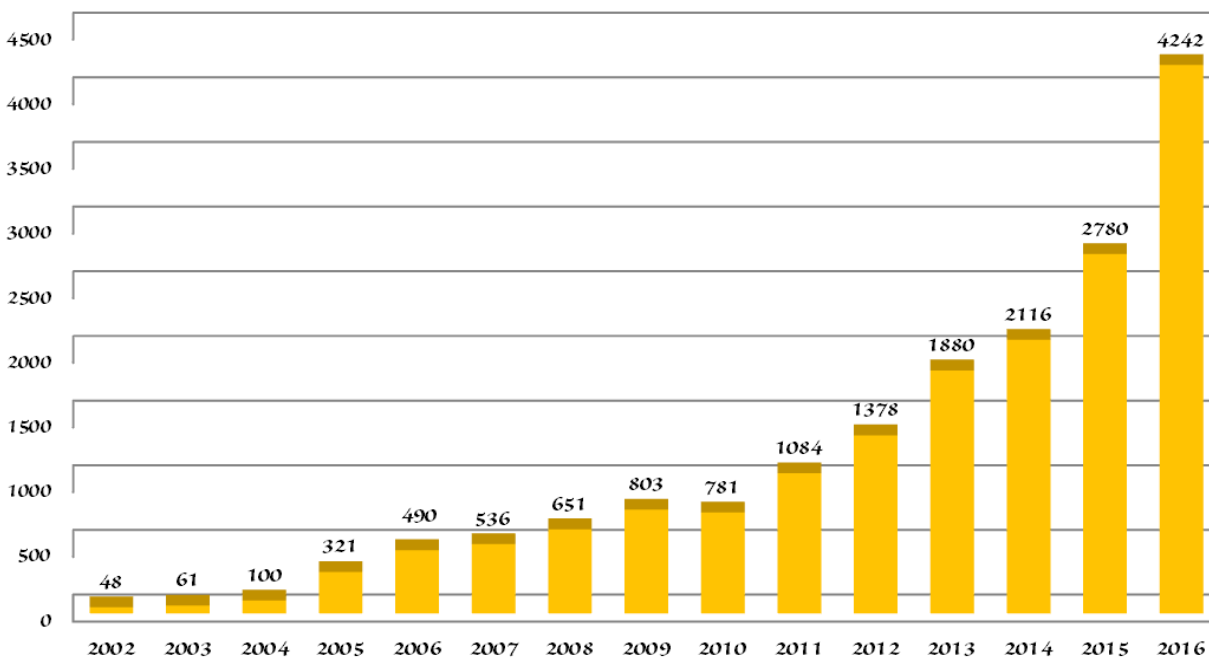


GANG CRIME



TRANSIENT CALLS FOR SERVICE

The following chart depicts calls for service related to transient/homeless issues in Visalia and how those have changed over time. Transient related calls for service often include trespassing, mental health, medical aid, and disturbance related issues, which have risen significantly over the last few years. In an effort to address this trend, officers assigned to the Transient Detail focus on transient related calls for service to both minimize the impact on Patrol operations, as well as to work towards long term solutions. VPD District Commanders, Police Agents, and Officers assigned to the Transient Detail work closely with other City departments and community stakeholders to identify best practices towards reducing homelessness in Visalia and to ensure an appropriate and effective response to this complex social issue.





The Visalia Police Department participated in the South Valley Battle of the Badges event held between October 31st and November 8th. The Department competes annually against several law enforcement agencies in the south valley.

Military Veterans of the Visalia Police Department were honored to participate in the Veteran's Day Parade held in downtown Visalia on November 12th. In honor of their service, all VPD military veterans are presented with a pin to wear on their uniform.

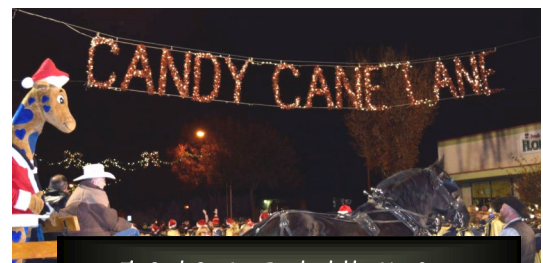


VPD military veterans pose for a photo during the Veteran's Day Parade.

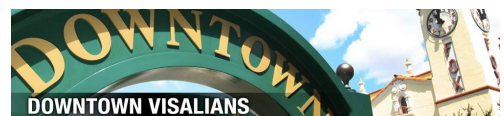
The Candy Cane Lane Parade was held on November 28th. As with previous years, VPD Staff and volunteers assisted with coordinating the event, which is sponsored by the Downtown Visalians and draws thousands of spectators each year. A long time Visalia tradition, VPD enjoys welcoming the holiday season by participating in the parade, while also keeping everyone safe.



Officer Scott Nelson poses for a photo with the Grinch.



The Candy Cane Lane Parade is held on Main Street.





PAL Officer Art Villarreal poses with the Easter Bunny.

The Police Activities League (PAL) held its annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 19th at the Oval Park. Over 300 youth participated in the event. Prizes were given away, including 12 bicycles.



Chief Jason Salazar interacts with youth who attended the PAL Easter Egg Hunt.



Several members of the Visalia Police Department employees volunteered their services at a home in north Visalia for Habitat For Humanity's "National Women Build Week".



Senior Office Assistant Kris Lara (left) & Retired Lieutenant Michelle Figueroa (right) volunteered their efforts to assist with Habitat for Humanity's "National Women Build Week".



Officers Mike Verissimo (left) and Jacob Sorensen (right) pose with youth during National Night Out.



Officer Mike Carsten and his partner, Bronson, pose for a photo during National Night Out.

National Night Out was held on August 2nd. In addition to VPD Staff, the Fire Department, National Resources Conservation Department, Code Enforcement, as well as the City Manager and members of City Council, also participate in this nationwide event.

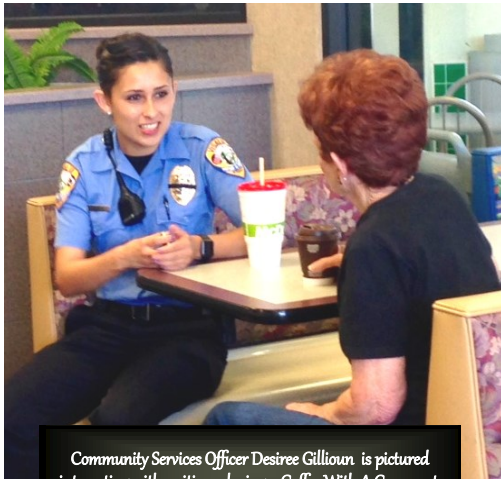
Over 23 gatherings were held in Visalia neighborhoods in 2016.



Coffee With A Cop is a simple community policing concept that helps improve trust and build relationships with police officers and citizens in the community they serve, one cup of coffee at a time. Officers gather at a local coffee shop or restaurant and simply chat with citizens. There is no set agenda; just informal conversations about what matters to community residents.

The Visalia Police Department hosts Coffee With A Cop events several times each year at various locations within the City of Visalia to interact with citizens throughout the community.

In 2016, a total of seven events were held with over 1,000 contacts made.



Community Services Officer Desiree Gillioun is pictured interacting with a citizen during a Coffee With A Cop event.



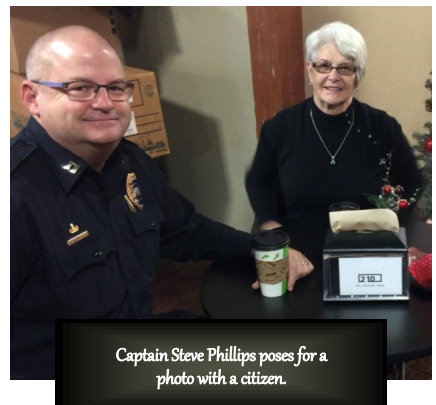
Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez & Chief Jason Salazar answer questions during a Coffee With A Cop event.



Officer Samantha Valenzuela interacts with citizens.



Parking Enforcement Officer Garrett Robertshaw & Officer Jason Dewitt pose for a photo.



Captain Steve Phillips poses for a photo with a citizen.



Officer James Andrews listens to concerns from a citizen.



Back row, L-R: Officer Jason DeWitt, Officer Bernie Villegas, Officer AJ Ferguson, and Sergeant Paul Esquibel, Front row, L-R: Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez and Captain Perry Phipps.

Members of the Visalia Police Department attended the 40th Annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Candlelight Vigil on May 1st-2nd. The event was held at the State Capitol in Sacramento and honors officers who have been killed in the line of duty.



Flags displayed in honor of fallen officers at the 2016 California Peace Officers' Memorial.

California Officers Killed in the Line of Duty 2016

Deputy Sheriff Scott Ballantyne
Tulare County Sheriff's Office
EOW: Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Officer Nathan Taylor
California Highway Patrol
EOW: Sunday, March 13, 2016

Officer Michael Jason Katherman
San Jose Police Department
EOW: Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Officer Jonathan M. DeGuzman
San Diego Police Department
EOW: Thursday, July 28, 2016

Sergeant Steve Owen
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
EOW: Wednesday, October 5, 2016

Officer Lesley Zerebny
Palm Springs Police Department
EOW: Saturday, October 8, 2016

Officer Jose Gilbert Vega
Palm Springs Police Department
EOW: Saturday, October 8, 2016

Deputy Sheriff Jack Hopkins
Modoc County Sheriff's Office
EOW: Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Sergeant Alfonso Lopez
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
EOW: Monday, October 24, 2016

Sergeant Rod Lucas
Fresno County Sheriff's Office
EOW: Monday, October 31, 2016

Deputy Sheriff Dennis Wallace
Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department
EOW: Sunday, November 13, 2016



To learn more about these fallen officers, visit the "California Peace Officers' Memorial" website at camemorial.org or the "Officer Down Memorial Page" website at www.odmp.org.

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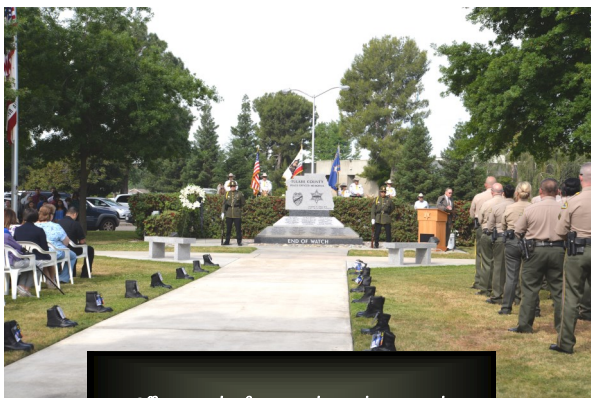
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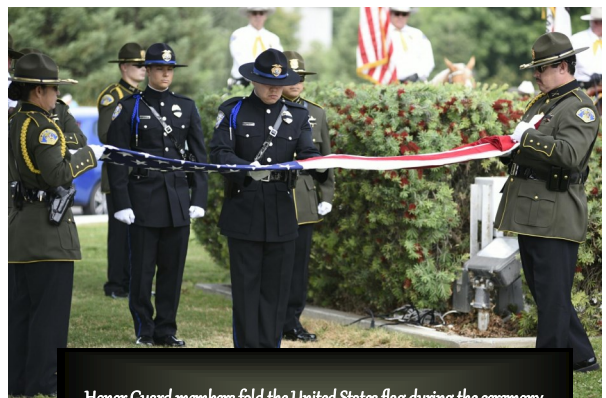


Members of the Visalia Police Department attended the Tulare County Peace Officers' Memorial held on May 4th.

Visalia Police Department staff participated in the 2016 Tulare County Peace Officers' Memorial held on May 4th. The event honors the memory of peace officers from Tulare County who were killed in the line of duty. The memorial is located at Memorial Park at the corner of Burrell and Woodland Streets in Visalia.



Officers stand in formation during the memorial.

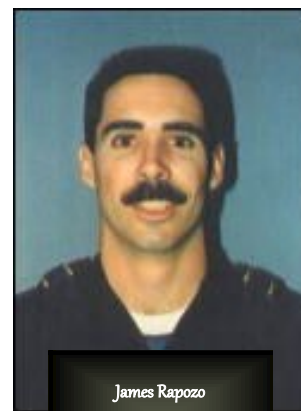


Honor Guard members fold the United States flag during the ceremony.



Charles Garrison
Sergeant
EOW: 11/06/48

"Never Forget"



James Rapozo
Officer
EOW: 01/09/98



Prior to his retirement in September, the **Operations Division** was overseen by Captain Rick Haskill. The Operations Division is comprised of the Patrol Bureau and the Special Enforcement Bureau.



In addition to overseeing the Districts, both **District Commanders**, Lieutenant Candido Alvarez and Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez, also represent the City and Police Department on several committees including the City of Visalia's Site Plan Committee, City of Visalia Special Events Committee, City of Visalia's Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time Bound (SMART) Team, North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee, and Downtown Visalians Board, just to name a few. The two District Substations are located at 204 NW Third Avenue (District 1) and 4100 South County Center (District 2). Both substations are functional and staffed with Records personnel who provide services similar to those that are provided at the Headquarters facility located at 303 South Johnson Street.



Lieutenants Amy Watkins and Ron Epp were assigned as the Department's **Night Watch Commanders** during 2016.

In addition to being Night Watch Commanders, they also oversee specific Units within the Department. The primary role of the Night Watch Commanders is to provide supervision and resources during the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Sunday through Saturday.

The **Special Enforcement Bureau** is another branch of the Operations Division and was managed by then Lieutenant, Steve Phillips, prior to his promotion to Captain in September. The Bureau consists of the Special Enforcement Unit and the Narcotics Unit. As a Lieutenant, Captain Phillips also oversaw the K9 Unit and the Tulare County Consolidated Bomb Squad.

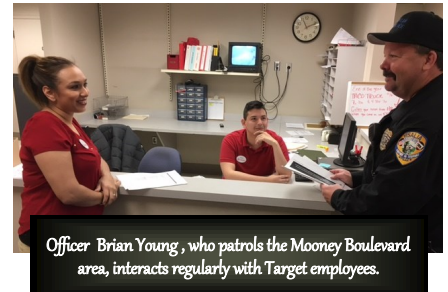


Officer Jason Dewitt (right) works jointly with downtown security officers.

The **Commercial Policing Unit** serves businesses throughout the City of Visalia. Officer Jason Dewitt is assigned as the Downtown Commercial Policing Officer. Officer Dale Rush is assigned to Dinuba Boulevard which includes the area surrounding the Oval Park. Officer Brian Young is assigned to the businesses on Mooney Boulevard. All three officers focus on developing relationships with business owners and providing a safe shopping environment.

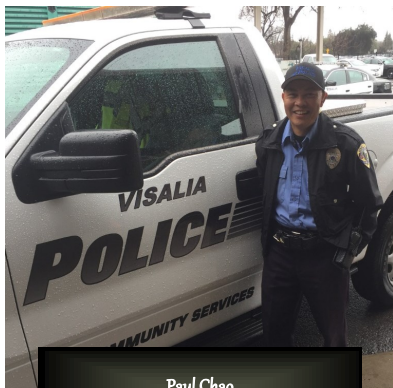


Officer Dale Rush (right) is assigned to the Dinuba Boulevard business area.



Officer Brian Young, who patrols the Mooney Boulevard area, interacts regularly with Target employees.

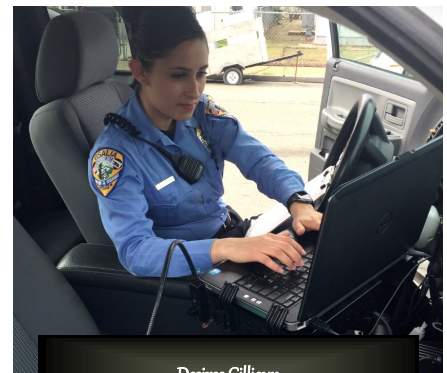
The Visalia Police Department's **Community Service Officers** are non-sworn personnel who are assigned to the Operations Division. Community Service Officers respond to a wide variety of calls for service that do not require a police officer. They assist the Patrol Bureau by taking various reports such as traffic collisions, burglaries, thefts, and missing persons investigations. Community Service Officers also assist with traffic control, crime scenes, and special events.



Paul Chao
Community Service Officer



Ray Castro
Community Service Officer



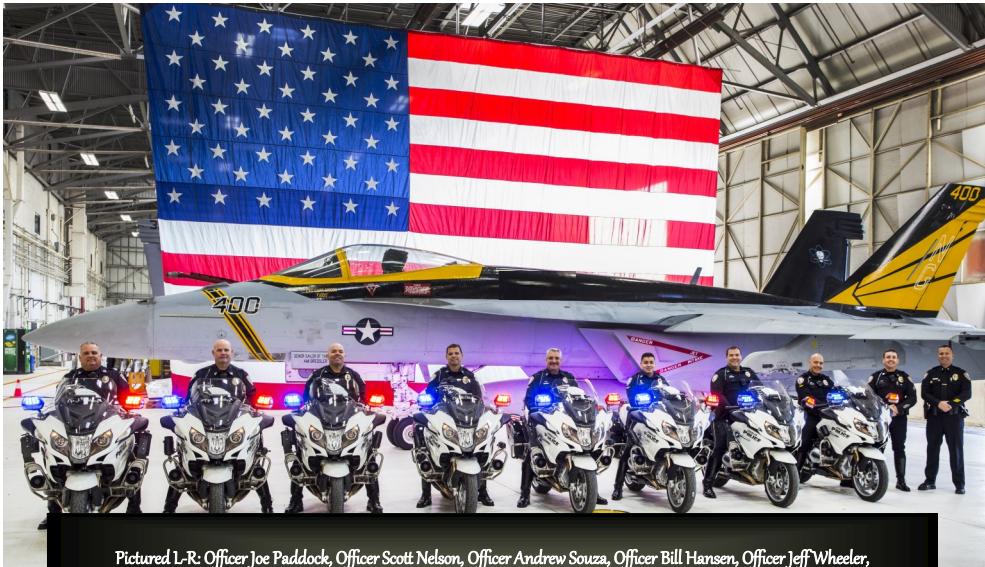
Desiree Gilloun
Community Service Officer



Heidi Voss
Duty Officer

The **Duty Officer** provides the public and the Patrol Bureau the much needed assistance in taking a large volume of "cold" police reports including trespassing, minor thefts, violations of restraining orders, and vandalism reports. The assistance of the Duty Officer allows officers in the field to focus on "in-progress" calls and proactive policing.

The **Traffic Unit** consists of eight Motor Officers, as well as two full time Parking Enforcement Officers and one hourly Parking Enforcement Officer. The Unit is overseen by Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez and Sergeant James Andrews.



Pictured L-R: Officer Joe Paddock, Officer Scott Nelson, Officer Andrew Souza, Officer Bill Hansen, Officer Jeff Wheeler, Officer Bernie Villegas, Officer Robert Gilson, Officer Adam Aguinaldo, Sergeant James Andrews, and Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez.

2016
TRAFFIC UNIT
STATISTICS

CITATIONS
9,192

COLLISIONS
1,280

FATALITIES
14



The California Highway Patrol presented VPD with the "2016 Third Place" California Law Enforcement Challenge Award on September 19th. The award is sponsored by the CHP in partnership with the California Office of Traffic Safety and the California Office of Alcohol Beverage Control.

The **Parking Enforcement Officers** monitor and enforce parking violations throughout the City including downtown Mooney Boulevard, the County Courthouse, the County Civic Center, as well as the areas surrounding College of the Sequoias.



Pictured L-R: Parking Enforcement Officers Garrett Robertshaw and Christopher Fuentes. Not pictured is Parking Enforcement Officer Michelle Lopez.

2016
PARKING ENFORCEMENT
STATISTICS

CITATIONS
7,017



Ami
Belgian Malinois
Handler:
Officer Ryan Lassalde



Xero
Belgian Malinois
Handler:
Officer Daniel Roberts



Flic
Dutch Shepherd
Handler:
Officer Ryan Park



Bronson
Belgian Malinois
Handler:
Officer Mike Carsten

The **K9 Unit** is currently overseen by Lieutenant Brent Abbott and Sergeant Chris Jennings. The Unit is comprised of five officers and their canine partners. Four of the officers are assigned to the Patrol Bureau, and one officer is assigned to the Narcotics Unit.

The Unit's success is achieved through the hard work and effort of each handler and volunteer agitators. Each canine team participates in a minimum of 20 hours of training each month.

Not pictured above: K9 Deuce, a German Shepherd handled by Officer Rick Johnson.

2016
K9 UNIT
STATISTICS
UTILIZATIONS
205
COMMUNITY
DEMONSTRATIONS
24



Members of the Visalia Police Department's SWAT Team pose for a photo.

The **Special Weapons And Tactical Team (SWAT)** is led by Captain Brian Winter and comprised of numerous officers assigned throughout the Police Department.

The SWAT Team remains available for activation 24 hours each day, 7 days each week. They possess specialized equipment and conduct monthly training, enabling them to respond to a wide variety of situations.

The Visalia Police Department's SWAT Team prides itself in the fact that an overwhelmingly high number of its operations are successfully accomplished without the need to use force.

The Visalia Police Department's **Honor Guard Unit** represents the Police Department by providing a visible presence at significant events such as funerals, parades, and memorial services. It proudly represents its fellow police officers and the profession with honor and integrity.

The Honor Guard consists of 11 officers from throughout the Police Department who are trained to carry out ceremonial duties accordingly. The Unit is currently overseen by Lieutenant Osvaldo Dominguez and Sergeant Paul Esquibel.

2016 HONOR GUARD UNIT STATISTICS
CEREMONIES 14
FUNERALS 12
TRAINING SESSIONS 4



Members of the Visalia Police Department's Honor Guard pose for a photo.

The **Tulare County Consolidated Bomb Squad** consists of members from the Visalia Police Department and the Tulare County Sheriff's Office.

The Bomb Squad responds to all possible explosive incidents in Tulare County. Calls range from suspicious packages, military ordnances, and actual explosive devices such as old dynamite. Members also provide training and demonstrations throughout the County.



Tulare County Consolidated Bomb Squad

2016 BOMB SQUAD STATISTICS
CALL-OUTS 15
PRESENTATIONS 6

The Visalia Police Department's **Explorer Post** is a coed youth/young adult vocational and leadership development program. Participants range from age 14-20. Their training centers on the various operations of the Department through both classroom instruction and hands-on training.

In addition to training, the program offers invaluable experience. Explorers participate in several competitions and community events throughout the year. The Explorer Post is overseen by Lieutenant Luma Fahoum and Sergeant Curtis Brown.

2016
EXPLORER POST
STATISTICS

COMPETITIONS
3

COMMUNITY
SERVICE HOURS
1,293



VPD Explorer Post



VPD Explorers Mackenzie Costa (left) and Jenessa Sanchez (right).

The **Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) Unit** is overseen by Lieutenant Luma Fahoum and Sergeant Brent Miller. The VIPS Unit provides the Police Department with a trained and motivated group of volunteer workers who provide essential, but non-hazardous police services. Some of the assignments volunteers assist with include traffic control, DUI Checkpoints, Police Activities League functions, Crime Prevention details, public awareness events, Citizens on Patrol, as well as providing administrative support to the Department. There are currently 47 members in the VIPS program.

During 2016, six citizens attended the 10-week Citizens Academy which takes place annually and is available to citizens who pass a background check and are interested in adding value to the community. Upon the conclusion of the academy, the citizens graduated and became official Volunteers in Police Services.

2016
VIPS UNIT
STATISTICS

HOURS DONATED
11,302



L-R: Victoria Armstrong, Debbie Beringer, Marica Martin, Gloria Montemagni, Karlabeth Ortiz, & Robert Pirie became official VIPS members in 2016.

2016 SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT STATISTICS	
TOTAL ARRESTS MADE	342 (309 Gang Related)
FIELD INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED	222
GANG RELATED HOMICIDES	5
GANG RELATED ASSAULTS	31
SHOOTINGS AT INHABITED DWELLINGS	11
FIREARMS SEIZED	69

The Visalia Police Department's **Special Enforcement Unit** is comprised of seven officers, one sergeant, and one probation officer. The Unit is currently overseen by Lieutenant Amy Watkins and Sergeant Randy Lentzner.

The Special Enforcement Unit is responsible for monitoring and suppressing gang activity, fugitive apprehension, and human trafficking investigations in the City of Visalia. The Unit is also home to a joint partnership with the Tulare County Probation Department, which is responsible for the supervision of many high-risk gang members being released on AB109 probation. Additionally, the Unit also partners with federal agencies to conduct large scale human trafficking operations.

The Visalia Police Department's **Narcotics Unit** consists of five detectives and one supervisor. The Unit also has a Narcotics Canine. The Unit is overseen by Lieutenant Amy Watkins and Sergeant Steve Scofield.



The Narcotics Unit is responsible for investigating various narcotics related crimes. The Unit also participates in many joint operations with the Drug Enforcement Administration.

2016 NARCOTICS UNIT STATISTICS	
TOTAL ARRESTS MADE	146
SEARCH WARRANTS SERVED	114
ITEMS SEIZED	2, 304.43 Lbs. of Marijuana 40.04 Lbs. Other Narcotics 53 Firearms \$201,908 in Assets

The **Tulare County Agencies Regional Gang Enforcement Team (TARGET) Task Force** was created in 2012 by then Attorney General Kamala Harris. In addition to the Visalia Police Department, members of the Task Force include representatives from the United States Department of Homeland Security, California Department of Justice's Bureau of Investigation, Tulare County Sheriff's Office, Tulare Police Department, and the California Highway Patrol.

2016 TARGET STATISTICS	
TOTAL ARRESTS MADE	85
SEARCH WARRANTS SERVED	29
ITEMS SEIZED	24.2 Lbs. of Narcotics 20 Firearms \$40,000 in Assets





Perry Phipps
Captain

The **Operations Support Division** was led by Captain Perry Phipps prior to his retirement. The Division consists of the Investigations Bureau and the Support Services Bureau.

The **Investigations Bureau** was overseen by Brian Winter prior to his appointment to Captain. The Bureau is comprised of the Violent Crimes Unit, Property Crimes Unit, Youth Services Unit, Property & Evidence Unit, and the Crime Lab.

The **Support Services Bureau** is overseen by Support Services Manager Veronica McDermott and includes the Records Unit, Crime Analysis Unit, Communications Unit, and the Court & Subpoena Services Unit.



Veronica McDermott
Support Services Manager

In July, the Visalia Police Department replaced its outdated Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) with Spillman Technologies. Prior to implementation, trainings were conducted for all personnel to assist with the transition to the new CAD and RMS software. The software modernized existing systems, including moving to computer generated reports and adding advanced crime analysis capabilities.

In addition to the CAD/RMS project, the Department is also in the process of upgrading its Emergency 911 system to correspond with the opening of the Visalia Emergency Communications Center (VECC) in 2017.



Members of the Visalia Police Department attended various training sessions during the implementation of the Department's new Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management Systems.



Several trainings were held during the implementation of the Department's new CAD/RMS systems.





Members of the Violent Crimes Unit pose for a photo at the Tulare County Superior Courthouse.

The **Violent Crimes Unit** consists of one sergeant, seven detectives and two civilian investigators. Lieutenant Ron Epp and Sergeant Kevin Kroeze oversee the Unit.

The Unit investigates "Crimes against Persons" such as homicide, robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, kidnapping, suspicious death, rape, child abuse, child molestation, physical elder abuse, and other felony assaults. The Unit also tracks

290 PC Sex Registrants to ensure that they are in compliance.

The two civilian investigators are responsible for investigating missing persons and a variety of misdemeanor crimes including assault and battery, annoying phone calls, and violations of court orders.

The primary goal of the Violent Crimes Unit is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Visalia by arresting violent offenders and working closely with the Tulare County District Attorney's Office to obtain convictions on the violent felons responsible for these crimes. The Violent Crimes Unit relies on information from the citizens of Visalia and welcomes the assistance of the public.

2016 VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT STATISTICS	
CASES INVESTIGATED	1,407
ARRESTS MADE	132
HOMICIDES	10

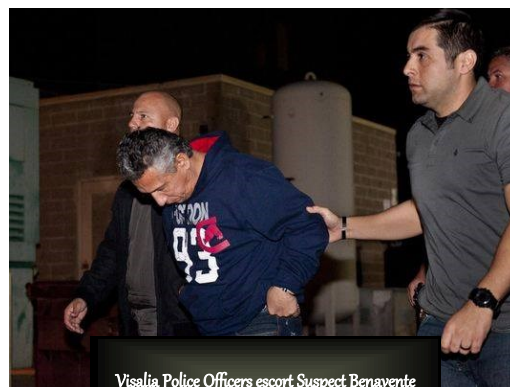


One of the most notable Visalia Police Department Violent Crimes cases that was closed in 2016 was the arrest and conviction of Elio Benavente.

On April 8, 1989, Steven Guerra was approached in a parking lot near Willis Street and Goshen Avenue by Elio Benavente and Jason Alvarez. A fist fight ensued between Guerra and Alvarez.

During the altercation, Benavente used a knife to intentionally stab Guerra and, in the process, also stabbed his friend Alvarez. Guerra died at the scene. Benavente and Alvarez fled in a vehicle to Strawberry and NW 5th where Alvarez died. Benavente was interviewed later that day by detectives but there was not enough evidence to arrest him at that time. After being released, Benavente fled to Mexico.

For over 26 years, the Visalia Police Department continued to work with federal law enforcement in an attempt to bring Benavente back to Visalia. In February 2016, Benavente was arrested in Chihuahua, Mexico. With assistance from the FBI, Benavente was deported from Mexico to El Paso, Texas on February 12, 2016. Violent Crimes Detectives transported Benavente back to Visalia where he was charged. Benavente ultimately pled guilty and was sentenced to state prison.



Visalia Police Officers escort Suspect Benavente back to Visalia.



The Visalia Police Department's **Property Crimes Unit** is comprised of one sergeant, seven detectives, and one investigative technician. The Unit is overseen by Lieutenant Ron Epp and Sergeant Mark Feller.

The Property Crimes Unit investigates burglaries, grand and petty thefts, check and credit card frauds, embezzlements, identity thefts, and financial elder abuse.

The Unit also investigates auto theft in cooperation with the **Tulare County Reduce Auto Theft Task Force (TRATT)**. TRATT is a multi-agency unit which includes VPD, California Highway Patrol, Porterville Police Department, Tulare County Sheriff's Office, and the Tulare County District Attorney's Office.

2016 PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT STATISTICS	
CASES INVESTIGATED	682
ARRESTS MADE	332
SEARCH WARRANTS	49
PROPERTY/ CASH RECOVERED	\$223,883



Pictured L-R: Detective Jared Hughes, Detective Jason Tejada, Detective Blake McEwen, Sergeant Mark Feller, Detective Jeff Dowling, Detective Jason Feierbach, & Detective Sean O'Rafferty.

2016 TRATT STATISTICS	
ARRESTS	143
VEHICLES STOLEN	670
VEHICLES RECOVERED	566
MOST STOLEN VEHICLES	HONDA ACCORD HONDA CIVIC

A notable case investigated by the Property Crimes Unit in 2016 includes the investigation of an arson case involving molotov cocktails thrown at an occupied residence. Property Crimes Detectives worked closely with the Visalia Fire Department Arson Team and the Tulare County District Attorney's Office to discover and secure evidence. As a result, five search warrants were served and a total of three suspects were arrested.

As a result of working jointly with the Tulare County District Attorney's Office, Property Crimes Detectives were able to secure five counts of attempt homicide against all three suspects with a maximum penalty of 30 years.



The **Youth Services Unit** is overseen by Lieutenant Ron Epp and Sergeant Jon Pree. The Unit provides guidance and police services to the students and staff of the Visalia Unified School District, as well as all youth of Visalia, through instruction, mentoring, counseling, and enforcement. The ability to have an officer assigned to a school campus creates a great opportunity to form positive relationships between the youth and the police. Youth Services Officers ensure that the Visalia Unified School District is free of violence and intimidation, and work with site administrators in making the overall environment of each campus safe and conducive to learning.



Members of the Visalia Police Department's Youth Services Unit pose for a photo in front of the Visalia Unified School District Office.

Youth Services Officers are currently assigned exclusively to each of the District's five high schools and five middle schools. The Youth Services Officers assigned to the middle schools also provide service to the 23 elementary feeder schools in Visalia.

In 2016, the Visalia Police Department was awarded a Federal Cops Hiring Grant which allowed the Department to hire one additional Youth Services Officer.

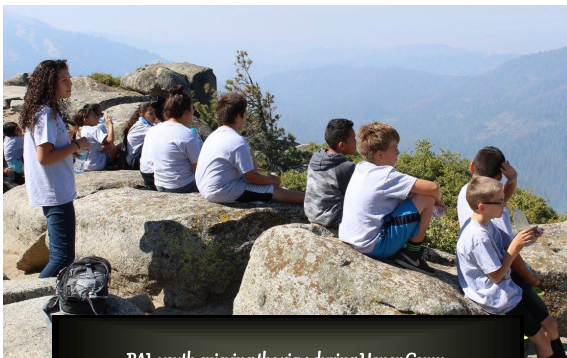


2016 YOUTH SERVICES UNIT STATISTICS	
CASES INVESTIGATED	575
ARRESTS MADE	197
MENTORING/COUNSELING OPPORTUNITIES	1,283

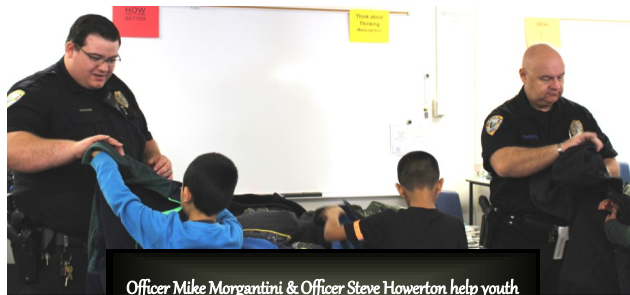
2016 PAL UNIT STATISTICS	
YOUTH SERVED	1,515
FIELD TRIPS/OUTINGS	15

The **Visalia Police Activities League (PAL)** is a program that allows police officers to provide a positive influence to youth in the community. Visalia PAL offers youth a chance to participate in a mixture of education and athletic-based programs such as the Science Club, Robotics, PAL Boxing program, Leadership Group, and the PAL Honor Camp.

As part of its outreach efforts, PAL also holds an annual "Breakfast With Santa" and a "Coat Giveaway". Over 800 youth and parents participate in the events.



PAL youth enjoying the view during Honor Camp.



Officer Mike Morgantini & Officer Steve Howerton help youth select a coat during the 2016 PAL Coat Giveaway.



Identification Technician Laura Lathrop analyzes fingerprints collected at a crime scene.

The **Crime Lab** is currently staffed by one Supervising Identification Technician, one Senior Identification Technician, one Identification Technician and five hourly positions. The Unit is overseen by Lieutenant Ron Epp and Supervising Identification Technician James Potts.

Crime Lab Technicians provide analysis and expert courtroom testimony for a variety of forensic disciplines such as crime scene processing and reconstructions, crime mapping, crime scene and evidence photography, and latent print processing and comparisons.

2016 CRIME LAB STATISTICS	
TOTAL ASSIGNMENTS	450 (Field call-outs, cell phone forensic analyses, lab requests)
AUTOPSIES	19

2016 PROPERTY & EVIDENCE UNIT STATISTICS	
EVIDENCE SEIZED	11,373 (Incoming Items)
	8,200 (Outgoing Items)

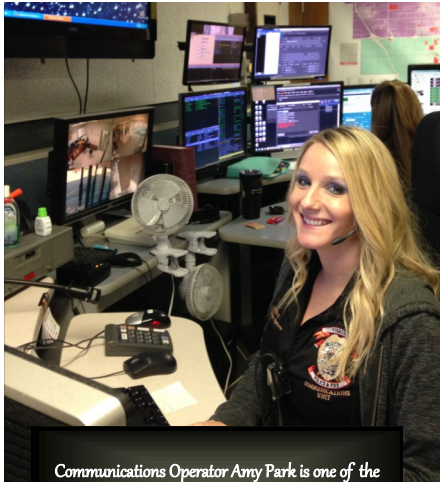
The **Property and Evidence Unit** consists of one supervisor, one Senior Police Technician, and two Police Technicians. The Unit receives, catalogs, organizes, safely stores, researches, purges, and maintains the integrity of evidence, found property, and property for safekeeping. The Unit is overseen by Lieutenant Ron Epp and Supervising Identification Technician James Potts.



Members of the Visalia Police Department's Crime Lab and Property & Evidence Unit pose for a group photo.



The **Communications Unit** proudly serves the City of Visalia with the highest degree of professionalism. The Unit is responsible for the receipt, disposition, and the documentation of telephone/radio calls in both routine and emergency matters for the Police and Fire Departments. The Unit is also responsible for handling all “9-1-1” and Animal Control calls generated within the City.



Communications Operator Amy Park is one of the 28 members of the Communications Unit.

The Communications Unit is overseen by Support Services Manager Veronica McDermott and Communications Supervisor Darlene Friend. The Unit consists of 28 full-time Communications Operators & one hourly Call Taker who answer and process seven emergency (9-1-1) lines, 15 non-emergency lines, & several radio frequencies. The Communications Center is open 24 hours each day, 365 days each year.

2016 COMMUNICATIONS UNIT STATISTICS	
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	167,573 (excluding 9-1-1 calls)
POLICE CFS	144,489
FIRE CFS	15,362
ANIMAL CONTROL CFS	7,722
9-1-1 CFS	89,619

2016 RECORDS UNIT STATISTICS	
REPORTS PROCESSED	17,548
CITIZENS ASSISTED	16,696

The Visalia Police Department's **Records Unit** serves the public and the Police Department in maintaining and distributing all police files. Thousands of reports are received, processed, maintained, and distributed by the Records Unit each year. The Unit is overseen by Support Services Manager Veronica McDermott and led by Records Supervisor Lisa Davis who oversees 14 full-time and 8 hourly employees.



Members of the Visalia Police Department's Records Unit pose for a photo.



L-R: Judy Morgan-Ronding, DA Liaison, and Alice Bejarano, DA Liaison Assistant.

The **Court and Subpoena Services Unit** is comprised of DA Liaison Judy Morgan-Ronding and DA Liaison Assistant Alice Bejarano. The Unit works closely with members of the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender, County Courts, other allied agencies, and elements of the city, county, and state judicial systems. The Unit also coordinates court appearances for members of the Police Department.

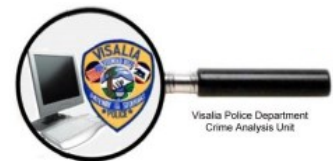
2016 COURT & SUBPOENA SERVICES UNIT STATISTICS
SUBPOENAS SERVED 5,616
ADULT PACKAGES PROCESSED 4,784
JUVENILE PACKAGES PROCESSED 498

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

The Crime Analysis Unit is comprised of Police Systems Analyst Robin Meyst, as well as one full-time and one part-time employee who assist in providing statistics and entering data.



L-R: Police Systems Analyst Robin Meyst, Hourly Crime Analysis Technician Ruth Day, and Crime Analysis Technician Jessica Yurt.





Ed Lynn
Lieutenant

The **Professional Standards Bureau** is overseen by Captain Steve Phillips and led by Lieutenant Ed Lynn. The Bureau oversees the Public Information Officer, Internal Affairs, Community Outreach, Personnel/Training, and Fleet Services. The Bureau is responsible for the administrative operations of the Visalia Police Department which has a total of 141 allocated Police Officer positions, 68 Professional Staff positions, and 18 hourly positions.



Members of the Professional Standards Bureau meet weekly to discuss items such as recruitment and training. L-R: Sergeant Damon Maurice, Lieutenant Ed Lynn, Administrative Technician Shawna Kneeland, and Police Specialist Dexter Valencia. Not pictured, Training Officer Dustin Thompson.

Rebekah Jones was hired as the Visalia Police Department's Community Outreach Coordinator in 2016. Her duties include developing, scheduling, and presenting crime prevention and safety presentations for the community, assisting with the Department's social media posts, as well as coordinating the Department's Citizens Academy.



Rebekah Jones
Community Outreach Coordinator



Lieutenant Amy Watkins and Community Outreach Coordinator Rebekah Jones pose with members of the Charter Oak Lyons Club during a safety presentation.

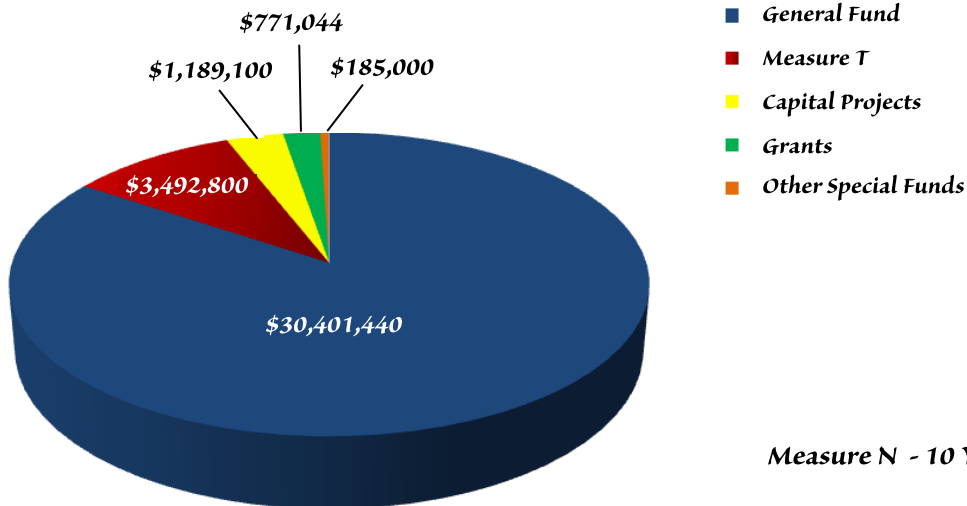


L-R: Financial Analyst Liz Ybarra and Senior Office Assistant Kris Lara

The Visalia Police Department's **Budget** is managed by Financial Analyst Liz Ybarra with the assistance of Senior Office Assistant Kris Lara. Liz Ybarra reports directly to the Chief of Police and is responsible for managing the Operating Budget, Capital Projects and Grants. Kris Lara provides staff support and has administrative responsibilities of the day to day financial operations.

The Visalia Police Department's Budget is \$36 million dollars that consists of \$30.4 million from the General Fund. The additional budget is attributed to \$5.6 million from Special Revenues, which includes \$3.5 million from Measure T, \$1.2 million from Capital Projects, \$771,000 from Grants, and \$185,000 in other funds.

FY 2016 - 2017 Resources

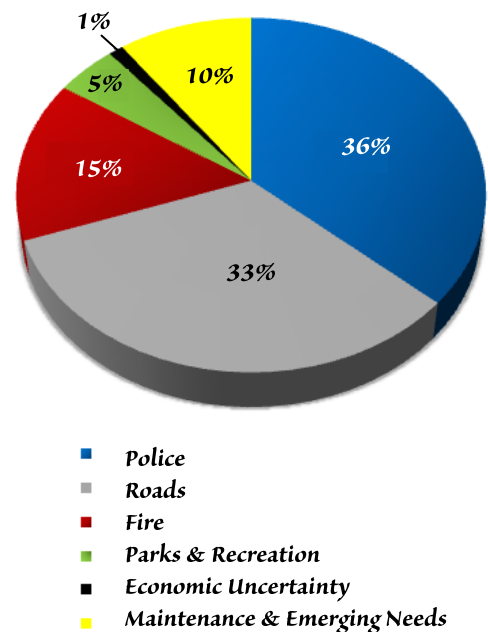


Measure N is a 1/2 percent sales tax measure that was passed on November 8th. The measure will provide for essential services such as Police, Fire, and Roads.

The City of Visalia is projecting annual sales tax revenues of \$10.8 million dollars. The Measure requires compliance with the City's Sales Tax Accountability Ordinance, which requires approved expenditure plans, citizens oversight, and financial audits.

Measure N expenditure plans will be implemented beginning Fiscal Year 2017-18. Measure N will provide 30 additional Police Officers and 12 additional Professional Staff employees for the Visalia Police Department over a 10 year period.

Measure N - 10 Year Horizon

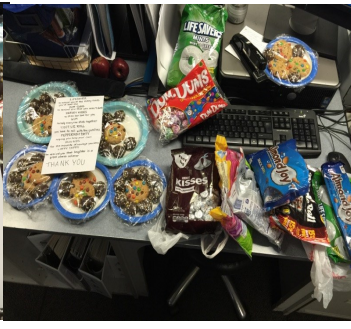


The Visalia Police Department would like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** to the community of Visalia for the tremendous amount of support it received this past year. Below are just a few examples of the kindness and generosity demonstrated by members of the community. The Visalia Police Department is grateful for your support!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT - THANK YOU



LIFESAVER
to remind you of the many times
you've been one
DUM-DUMS
to remind you that you aren't dumb
HERSEY KISSES
to show our love for you
GUM
to help everyone stick together
TOOTsie ROLL
you have to roll with the punches
PEPPERMINT PATTY
helping you keep your cool
MOU NDS
for the mounds of courage you show
LAFKY TAFFY
to remind you that laughter is a
great stress reliever
THANK YOU



We ♥ Visalia
Police Officers

♥
no KOT 1a

I'm sending a
high five your
way to say
THANKS!

Thank you for protecting us!

-Jackson

We
Love
Visalia
P.D.

PS. to the Visalia PD
Thank You for
serving our community.
I am praying God's
protection and grace
for each of you
daily.
Please know that
for all you do
seen and unseen -
you are all greatly
appreciated,
May God richly Bless
you - each
and everyone.
Thank
You!
Dana & Danya
Greenlee

THANK YOU

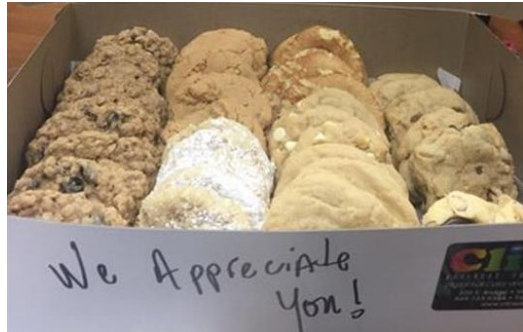
for all you do for Visalia!



THANKS
thanks
Thanks thanks Thanks
Thanks
THANKS THANKS
THANKS THANKS
Many Thanks!

Your thoughtfulness is
truly appreciated!

My husband and I wish to thank
all policemen for taking care of
is community of Visalia and
surrounding areas. We are
extremely grateful for all who
protect us each day. After
morning and seeing all the abuse
police are receiving across our
land we want you to know we
don't feel that way. Our prayers
are with you all. Sincerely,
Cecilia and James Salazar





**303 South Johnson Street
Visalia, Ca 93291
(559) 734-8116
<http://visalia.city/vpd>**