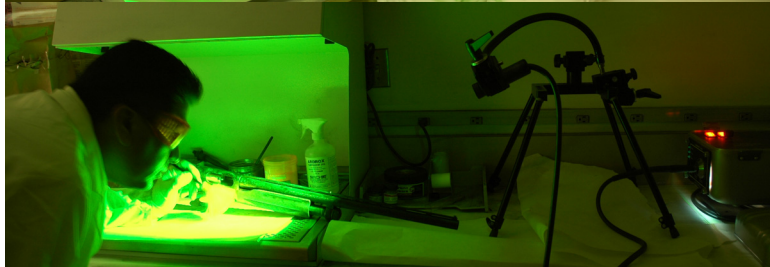
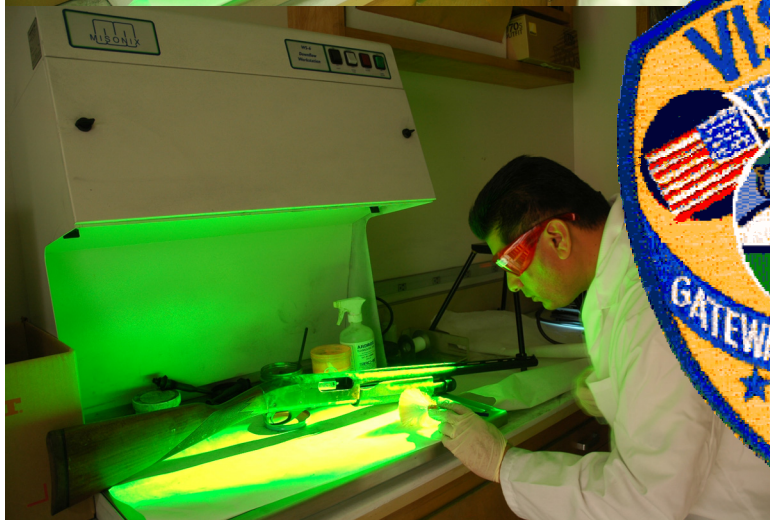
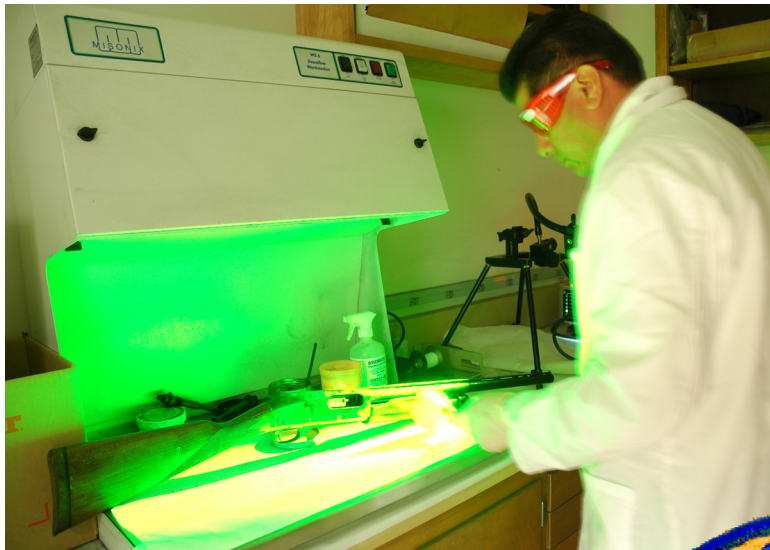


Visalia Police Department 2009 Annual Report



Mission, Values, Vision

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.

Vision Statement

The Visalia Police Department is committed to providing the highest level of service and protection to our citizens. Along with our community partners, we will ensure a quality of life that promises leadership, trust and respect for individual rights and human dignity to all community members.



About the Cover - Lab Technician, James Potts, processes a shotgun in the Crime Lab using florescent powders and variable wavelengths of light. Look for stories about technology throughout this document.

Chief Colleen Mestas

The Visalia City Council unanimously supported the appointment of Colleen Mestas as the City's Police Chief. She became the City's Assistant Police Chief in July 2008 and Chief of Police in December 2009. She has over 20 years of experience in law enforcement.



Table of Contents

Mission, Values, Vision.....	2
Colleen Mestas Named Chief of Police.....	3
Chief Bob Carden Retires.....	4
Retirements.....	5
Recognition.....	6
Awards and Honors.....	7
Citizens' Academy and Explorers.....	8
Competitions.....	9
Crime Prevention and Volunteers.....	10
Police Activities League.....	11
District 1 and District 2.....	12
Youth Services Unit.....	13
Crime Scene Investigation.....	14
Vehicle Technology.....	16
Vehicle OnStar.....	17
Gang Suppression.....	18
Drug Trafficking.....	19
Providing Options for the Homeless.....	20
Community Involvement.....	21
Civilian Specialists.....	22
Dispatch.....	23
Year-at-a-Glance.....	24
Traffic Stats.....	25
Fundraisers.....	26
Organizational Chart.....	27

A Word from the Chief

As law enforcement is not immune to the economical situation, we are committed to the continued professional and efficient service to our citizens. We have a clear direction from the community and City leaders to stay focused on gang prevention, intervention and suppression efforts.

The 2009 Visalia Police Department Annual Report provides a view inside our Department, crime statistics and shared information.

I would like to personally thank the citizens we serve for their continued support, and I am honored to serve as your Chief of Police.

Chief Colleen Mestas

Retired Police Chief Bob Carden

Chief Bob Carden

Bob Carden returned home to Tulare County to be the Visalia Police Chief in May 2006. He served a mere three years as the Visalia Chief of Police, but left a legacy that is admired by departmental personnel, Council, City leaders, and the community.

Bob Carden's Legacy

Chief Carden made a difference during his stay in Visalia. He is most proud of the collaboration efforts with other agencies that led to the formation of the anti-gang and auto-theft task forces.

- He strengthened Command Staff and added a key addition with the hiring of Colleen Mestas as Assistant Police Chief.
- He used Measure T funds to fill open positions and boost officer numbers on the street.



- As a member of the County's Mental-Health Advisory Board, he provided officers with additional training on mental health issues and formed a critical incident team.
- He reorganized community policing so officers have more contact with the community.
- He made technological innovations in communication and data reporting that improved efficiency.
- He strengthened relationships with neighboring police agencies like the Tulare County Sheriff's Office, the Tulare County District Attorney's Office, Tulare County Probation, and Highway Patrol.
- By building these relationships, prosecution of crimes was made easier.
- He effectively worked with the Visalia Unified School District to deal with truancy, placed police officers on school campuses, formed a task force that helped develop youth summits, the Step-Up Jobs Training Program, and the LOOP bus for children to get safely to community centers.
- He mobilized the community to recognize and respond to the threat of gangs.

Most importantly, he made the Department an industry leader. The Department is stronger because of Bob Carden's leadership. He leaves a thriving Department in the capable hands of Colleen Mestas who was promoted to Chief of Police in December 2009.

"I've done everything I can to bridge gaps and promote the idea that our chief is approachable to both people in the community and to employees." He added, "This has truly been the pinnacle of my 36-year career."

Retirements

Seven retire from the Visalia Police Department



- Chief Bob Carden
- Captain Glen Newsom
- Sergeant Ernie Villa
- Sergeant Russ Skadan
- Sergeant Dave Jarrett
- Officer Mike Stow
- Parking Enforcement Officer Gwen Jenkins

Captain Glen Newsom wrote, "As I spend my last day at the Visalia Police Department, I would like to say thank you to all of you. It has been an honor to serve with you. My successes here have been due the hard work of the people who I have had the privilege to lead. The strength and greatest value of this Department is and always will be the individuals who work here."

Commercial Police Officer Mike Stow with Visalia Mall representatives.

Parking Enforcement Officer Gwen Jenkins shows her badge.

Sgt. Ernie Villa, Sgt. Russ Skadan, and Sgt. Dave Jarrett at their retirement celebration.



Sergeant Dave Jarrett said, "My prayer for all of you is that God will guide you and watch over you on each and every call you go on. May you remain focused on the task at hand and not let anything distract or detour you from carrying out your mission."

Recognition



Betty Shewey,
Communications Operator
of the Year



Shawna Kneeland,
Administrative Technician,
Employee of the Year



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



Detective
Osvaldo Dominguez,
Latino Officer
of the Year

Detective
Brian Young,
Officer of the
Year

2009 Employee Service Awards

Name	Years	Job Classification
Ramona Casey	5	Police Officer
Alaina Garcia	5	Communications Operator
Timothy Haener	5	Police Officer
Steven Hays	5	Communications Operator
Kevin Kroeze	5	Police Officer
Monique Lozito	5	Police Officer
Kristin Morton	5	Communications Operator
Daniel Roberts	5	Police Officer
Michael Short	5	Police Officer
Jared Whaley	5	Police Officer
William Brokhoff	10	Police Officer
Edvin Canto	10	Police Officer
Angie DeAlba	10	Crime Prevention Coordinator
Shawna Doucette	10	Duty Officer
Luma Fahoum	10	Police Officer
Nathan Flaws	10	Police Officer
Attila Imre	10	Police Officer
Clay Moffett	10	Police Officer
Teresa Nunez	10	Lead Police Records Specialist
Diane Owensby	10	Senior Police Records Specialist
Sarah Wray	10	Investigations Technician
Robert Zieg	10	Police Officer
Candido Alvarez	15	Police Sergeant
Stacy Handley	15	Communications Operator
Timothy Connors	20	Police Officer
Rick Haskill	20	Police Captain
Steve Scofield	20	Police Sergeant
Gilbert Torres	20	Police Officer
Robin Meyst	25	Crime Analyst
Richard White	25	Police Officer

Awards and Honors

Officer Heaton
74 DUI Arrests

Officer Gonzales
68 DUI Arrests

Officer Logas
49 DUI Arrests

Officer Short
42 DUI Arrests.

Also shown are Lt.
Wightman on the left
and Sgt. Winter on
the right.



MADD and AVOID organizations recognized officers for their efforts in stopping the crime of driving under the influence.

Gang Suppression Unit Inducted into the 2009 Education Hall of Fame

On February 16, 2009, GSU was advised they had been selected for induction into the 2009 Education Hall of Fame, sponsored by the Visalia PTA Council, for their work in battling gang violence, intervention and education efforts. The event originated in 1989 and honors people and organizations for their outstanding work with youth in our community. GSU was awarded the honor by VUSD Superintendent Stan Carrizosa and the Visalia Unified School District Board.

Members pictured from left to right are: Officers Whaley, Verissimo, Alfano, Carsten, Fahoum, Agt. McLain, Officers Brumley and Zieg, Sgt. Abbott, and Lt. Salazar. Not pictured is Officer Mena.



Citizens' Academy

Explorers #32



15 Graduate in 2009



Connie Archer	Muhammad Azmatullah
Carolyn Dais	Greg Dais
Anthony Fasolino	Ruben Felix
Christine Gammon	Rich Gilbuena
Sean Kirby	Shirley Moran
Brian Newton	Donna Rodriguez
Judy Sosaya	Ray Walker
Joyce Yale	Congratulations!!!

Central Valley Explorer Competition hosted by the Tulare County Sheriff's Department

April 3 - 5

18 Explorers Participated

Explorers won 15 trophies!

1st place winners:

Best Overall

Relay Race

Team Obstacle

Female Obstacle Course

Oral Interview Panel

Imperial Valley Law Enforcement Explorer Competition

April 17 - 19

20 Explorers Participated

Explorers won 12 trophies!

1st place winners:

Individual Explorer Drill Down

Female Explorer 5k Run

Felony Car Stop



K-9 Competitions

Visalia Police Department won the
Perpetual Competition



Officer Clay Moffett
& Bosco

K-9 Trials - March 27th



Clay Moffett & Bosco

Top Dog Overall
First - Area Search Phase
First - Top Team with Mark Lyon

Mark Lyon & Alex

Judges Choice
Second - Narcotics Vehicle Search Phase
Second - Open Category
Fourth - Narcotics Building Search Phase

Gerritt DeJong & Samson

Second - Area Search
Second - Novice Category
Fourth - Obedience Phase

Traffic Competitions

The **Central California Police Motorcycle Competition** was hosted by the Visalia Police Department with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Visalia Explorer Program and Visalia Police Activities League.

Best Overall: 5th - James Andrews, 6th - Joe Paddock

Harley: 3rd - James Andrews, 4th - Jacob Heaton



Top VPD winners at the Fresno Police Department hosted **Motorcycle Skills Competition:**
3rd - Officer Brent Miller, 4th - Officer Joe Paddock, 6th - Officer Jon Pree



Officer Heaton, Officer Andrews, Officer Miller, Officer Short
Officer Paddock, Officer Henry, Officer Nelson, Officer Pree, not pictured are Sgt. Winter and Officer Feller

Crime Prevention

Volunteers in Patrol

Crime Prevention Programs

Program	# Participants
Child ID Events	1,328 Children at 12 Events
Child Safety Events	1,647 Participants at 15 Events
Senior Safety Presentations	159 Senior Citizens at 6 Events
Safety Presentations	1,757 Citizens at 22 Events
Neighborhood Watch	46 Meetings

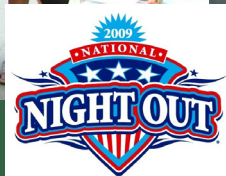


Volunteers of the Year

Jean Burress
and Fred Crimine



VIPs pin badges on kids at District event.



National Night Out
Citywide Block Party
>1,500 citizens participated



64 VIPs, 8 Chaplains, 8 Reserves
honored at annual awards ceremony

Police Activities League

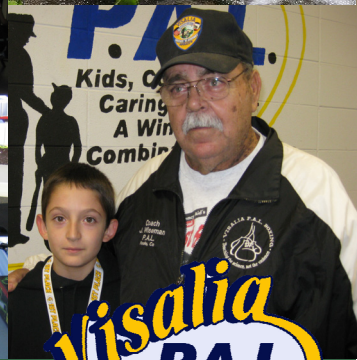
Kids, Cops, and Caring Citizens - A Winning Combination

P.A.L. Programs

Program	# Participants
Roller Towne Trips	180
Easter Egg Hunt	400
SF Jr. Giants Baseball	575
Honor Camp	60
PAL Center	4,696 Visits
Christmas Tree Lighting	400
Christmas Party	400
Breakfast with Santa	400

Visalia Police Activities League

PAL was established in 1991 as a citywide, after-school crime prevention program to provide outreach to local youth and build positive relationships between youth, police officers and the community. In 2009, more than 7,111 youth participated in PAL programs. Nearly 5,000 visits were made to the PAL Center for their programs: youth leadership, boxing, literacy enrichment, arts and crafts, homework club, and computer lab.



PAL Center, 701 E. Race Street, Visalia
 (559) 732-2233 - pchao@ci.visalia.ca.us



District 1 and District 2



Lt. Perry Phipps
District 1 Commander

DISTRICT 1

District 1 substation is located near the Lincoln Oval Park, in northern Visalia, and serves the community north of SR 198. There are 36 patrol officers, including 2 police service dogs, who are assigned to District 1. The District 1 substation also has a Crime Prevention Officer, 2 records personnel, 1 Crime Analysis employee, 2 Commercial Policing Officers, and 2 Community Service Officers. Additionally, officers assigned to the Traffic Unit utilize District 1 to complete reports and conduct follow-up traffic investigations.

Our efforts to improve public safety and the quality of life in the area we serve is based on more than arrests and traditional police activities. This is demonstrated by our involvement in many community organizations and our assistance with community events and projects throughout the year. District 1 is managed by a District Commander, Lieutenant Perry Phipps. Lieutenant Phipps and all of the employees at District 1 are proud and honored to serve the citizens of north Visalia.

DISTRICT 2

Besides running day-to-day operations at District 2, Lt. Allyn Wightman also meets with various community groups in his jurisdiction, which is everything south of SR 198 in the city of Visalia.



Lt. Allyn Wightman
District 2 Commander

The Mooney Boulevard Merchants have organized themselves much like the Downtown Visalians. This group of business owners meet once a month to talk about their businesses. When crime and traffic issues arise, Lt. Wightman is able to address the concerns and form action plans to combat the problem. Additionally, the Mooney Blvd. Commercial Officer, Tim Connors, works closely with all business partners on Mooney Blvd. to foster relationships and improve communication.

CITYWIDE

The District Commanders are members of the City of Visalia SMART Team. This team is a group of individuals who work for various departments in the City of Visalia that collaborate together to solve issues that arise in different neighborhoods. In D2, the SMART Team concentrated their efforts in the Washington School Neighborhood. The results were additional street lights in the neighborhood, a reduction of abandon vehicles and homeless population. These combined efforts showed an 11% reduction in police reports for this area compared to 2008.



Children play in the fountain at the District 1 substation.

Each substation has staff to help citizens with their police needs. In 2009, there were 2,074 people served.

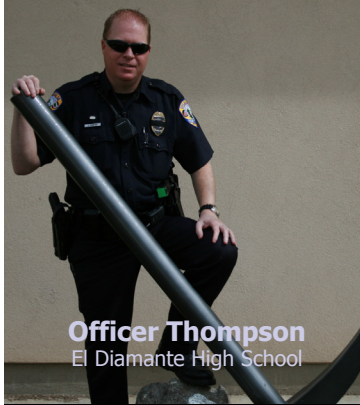
Youth Services Unit



Officer Weaver, Golden West High School



Officer Cantu, Sequoia High School

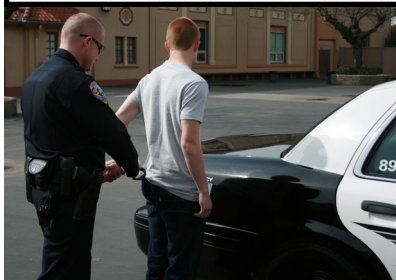


Youth Services Activity	
Cases Assigned	326
Self-Initiated Cases	611
SCAR Reports	52
Home Visits	332
Student Contacts	3,237



419 youths were cited and either released to a parent or guardian or referred to T-Bolt by YSOs

137 youths were arrested and detained in Juvenile Hall and 31 adults in jail

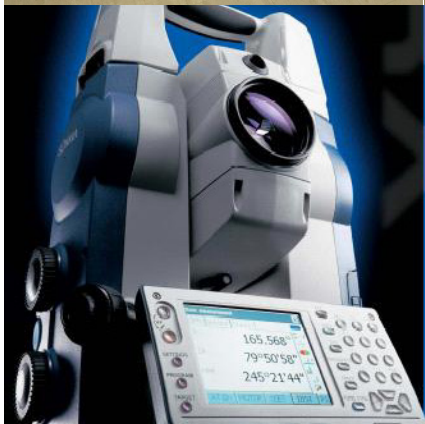


Total juveniles arrested in 2009 were 1,254. These arrests were made by YSOs, patrol, and detectives.

Crime Scene Investigation - Technology



Sr. ID Technician James Potts uses the **Electrostatic Dust Print Collector** to locate and document shoe tracks. Metallic film is placed over the track and when the equipment is turned on, static electricity causes the pattern to form and transfers it to the metallic film.



Portable Forensic Light Source is used to look for very small traces of evidence such as hair, fibers or biological fluids. Fingerprints are located on evidence by treating them with florescent powders and chemicals, then examining them with variable wavelengths of (laser) light.

The **Sokkia Total Station** is a laser system used to map and measure crime scenes accurately within one-thousandth of an inch.

Senior ID Technician Bob Douglas can forensically examine and analyze cellular phones to obtain detailed data from cell phones such as call logs, messages, and photographs.



Technology - Evidence Processing



Crime Lab Assistant Tracy Verdugo enters data to prepare for **Live Scan Fingerprinting**.

Crime Lab Assistant Krystal Uribe burns **digital photos** onto CDs.

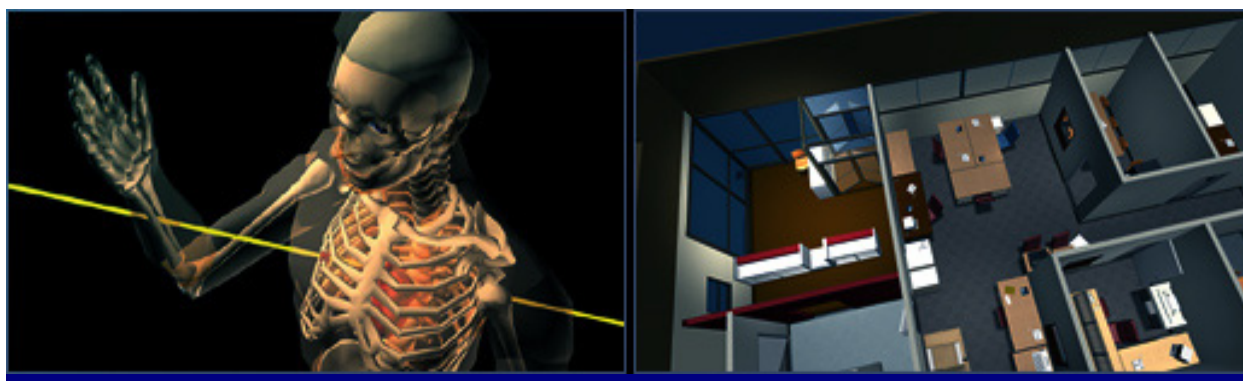
Crime scene photos are downloaded and stored on a computer server. This complex **Digital Image Management System** is housed in the Crime Lab and has a network of download stations throughout the Department. Officers can electronically and securely transmit evidence photos.

Video evidence is processed using the latest technology from **Ocean Systems and Avid**. Photoshop, dTective, dCoder, and ClearID filters are used to enhance video clarity or extract still images.

The **Laser Trajectory System** is used to visualize and document trajectory angles of bullet holes. A laser is first aligned with the trajectory path of the bullet. Photographic fog is then released across the laser beam. This allows a short time to visually document the trajectory angle with time exposure photography.



The latest technology in hardware and software is used to clarify audio recordings by removing unwanted noise patterns that may cause low volume conversations to be inaudible. **DAC Audio** software is used to filter out various frequencies.



Vehicle Technology



LED Emergency Lighting was added to marked patrol units on mirrors, push bumpers, and in the trunk. This lighting improves officers' safety by making the vehicle more visible.



Howler Siren uses subwoofers to gain the attention of drivers. It is much louder than a regular siren. Vibrations from its lower tones project along the ground and into the nearby car, getting the driver's attention. To test its effectiveness, Officer Haener's vehicle is equipped with this type of siren.

ICOP Mobile Digital Video System - In-Dash Unit - New police vehicles are equipped with an in-dash video recorder unit that captures full-VGA video images. A prime example of how an officer would use the equipment is when a subject discards contraband or throws a gun out a vehicle window. The equipment can mark the exact location utilizing GPS coordinates.

Step 1: Capture Video Evidence - The dash mounted unit is activated manually by the officer or automatically triggered by a vehicle accident, siren, emergency lighting, or if the vehicle exceeds 90 mph.

Step 2: Download Video Evidence - Officers remove the hard drive from the vehicle and download the information onto a server for review and storage.

Step 3: Manage Video Evidence - The management system can archive, search, copy, and view two images simultaneously. Files can be played on any computer in their original tamper-proof format. Videos are generated and used as evidence.





Visalia Police Department and OnStar Team-Up

OnStar helped recover carjacked vehicle. The story made national news and will be aired on the Discovery Channel's "Call 911" series in Spring 2010.

At approximately 3:18 a.m. on Sunday, October 18, Jose Ruiz and his cousin were carjacked by a lone assailant wielding a shotgun. The perpetrator ordered the two men out of the vehicle, robbed them of personal belongings, and sped off in the Tahoe.

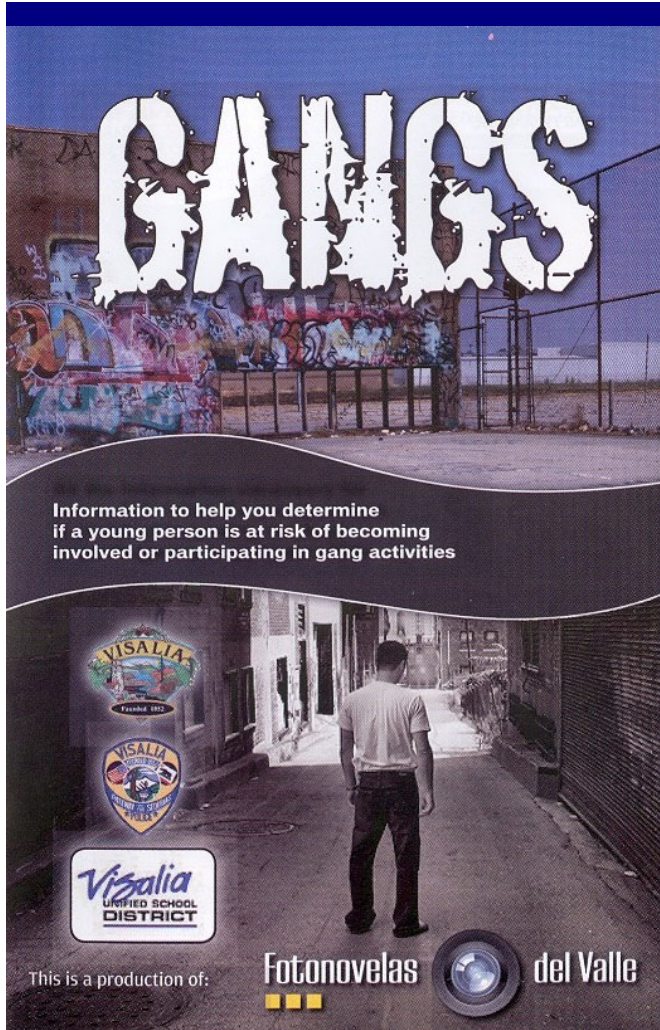
Ruiz was able to flag down a police officer to report the incident. He notified them that his vehicle was equipped with OnStar. OnStar located the Tahoe and alerted the Visalia officers of its location. Once officers had the vehicle in sight, they requested that Stolen Vehicle Slowdown be initiated. Within minutes the vehicle was safely slowed to a stop; the suspect then attempted to escape on foot, but was quickly apprehended by officers without incident.

Less than 16 minutes after OnStar was first contacted, Ruiz's Tahoe was safely recovered.

"While this was the first time that we've used the Stolen Vehicle Slowdown service, we have used OnStar in several other cases to help locate and recover stolen vehicles. It's a valuable tool for our agency," shared Visalia Police Department Sergeant Steven Phillips. "In this case, it helped us not only safely recover a vehicle for a local citizen, but also prevented a dangerous high-speed chase and allowed us to quickly apprehend a suspect. It's a win for everyone."

While obviously thrilled to have his vehicle back, Ruiz was even more pleased that no lives were lost and no one was injured in the incident. "As soon as he took my car, the first thing I thought of was to call OnStar because I knew they could get it back," Ruiz recalled. "It was a frightening situation, but I know it could have been a lot worse. I'm very grateful that police and OnStar were there for me."





Gang Suppression Unit	2009
Total Arrests	425
Gang FI's Completed	625
Gang Expert Reports	46
Gang Expert Testimony	14
Search Warrants Written	35
Search Warrants Served	17
Firearms Recovered	38
Assist Other Units	147
Special Details	91
Probation & Parole Residential Searches	262

Out of 1,736 field interview cards generated, 1,198 were gang affiliated. Of those, 242 subjects lived outside of Visalia.

GANG STATISTICS

- 1,184 Validated Gang Members in Visalia
- 14 gangs/cliques



Gang Prevention Training

Type	Audience	# of Presentations
Gang	2nd to 6th Graders	366
Gang Watch	Community Members and Parents	40

This education program was suspended at the end of 2009 and Officer Zieg returned to Patrol.

Drug Trafficking



Drugs Confiscated / Property Seized	
Seized	Value
Cocaine 131 grams	\$10,560
Methamphetamine 6.4 lbs	\$234,160
Marijuana 73 lbs	\$467,200
Marijuana 177 Plants	Undetermined Value
Asset Forfeiture Cash	\$21,919
Boat and 2 Trailers	\$35,500
2 Vehicles	\$48,500

After a two month investigation, originating in Visalia, two search warrants were served at the Universal Auto Sales and the residence of the owner in Woodlake by the Visalia Police Department Narcotics and Gang Units, Woodlake Police Department, Tulare County Probation and Tulare County Sheriff's Office. Officers seized 2 oz of cocaine and 1/2 oz of methamphetamine from the business and over 30 pounds of marijuana and 9 firearms from the residence. The estimated street value of the cocaine was \$1,200, the marijuana was \$192,000 and the methamphetamine was \$750.

The Central Valley is the dividing line for northern and southern gangs. Oftentimes, gang members are involved in drug sales and trafficking. In addition, Visalia falls along Highway 99, which is a popular corridor utilized by drug trafficking organizations to distribute illegal drugs to northern and eastern United States. Having the Narcotics and the Gang Units under one bureau increases the likelihood of success in fighting illegal drug activity.

An example of their combined efforts is the special project led by Officer Fahoum near the area of Douglas and Ben Maddox (a hotspot for gang and drug activity). Northern gang members had basically claimed it as their turf. After many hours of surveillance and investigation, a search warrant was issued for apartment complexes, storage units, vehicles, and subjects loitering in four of the complexes. A detail was assembled, which included the Gang and Narcotics Units, Patrol, K-9, MAGNET, Probation and Code Enforcement. The detail was successful in finding methamphetamine and arresting northern gang members.



Providing Options for the Homeless

Law Enforcement Efforts

Patrol officers are commonly the first point of contact with an individual who is homeless. This contact can be the bridge in helping the individual to a life out of homelessness.

The response of the Police Department is a two-pronged approach. Officers are aware of the balance in dealing effectively and humanely with the homeless and not to criminalize the behavior of life-sustaining activities in public. Homelessness is not a crime, the behavior can be.

The first approach is to identify the need for enforcement. These "quality of life crimes" are short-term responses to the issue. Enforcement of criminal activity can be effective in setting an environment of proper behaviors. Examples of activities for this approach are:

Aggressive Solicitor Ordinance - The Police Department is in the process of developing a city policy to effectively deal with the increasing behavior associated with aggressive panhandling.

Encampments - Police have conducted several details in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department to effectively remove individuals and their personal belongings from City property and park locations where they have set up living areas.

The second approach is characterized by the belief that the patrol officer has become essentially the "defacto social service provider". This response requires a long-term approach of exposing the homeless to resources and services that will hopefully sustain a better quality of life. Examples of activities for this approach are:

First Card Referral Program - The Police Department has developed partnerships with the United Way of Tulare County and Tulare County Health and Human Services to enhance the

"First Call Program". This program allows for police officers to carry a business size card that has information that will enable the recipient access to organizations that provide services such as:

- Food, shelter, and clothing
- Education and job training
- Health care
- Support groups
- Counseling

Project Homeless Connect - In the past, officers assisted the Continuum of Care on Homelessness with a one-day event at the Visalia Rescue Mission. The event provided services to the homeless that included health, behavioral health, quality of life services, government benefits, dental, vision, job training, transportation, food, and personal care items.

Warming and Cooling Centers - Officers concentrated on contacting individuals who appeared to be homeless to advise them of the availability of the City sponsored Warming or Cooling Center due to the weather conditions.



Community Involvement



Kate Penelope DeJong visits with Santa's helper (Phil Cox) during a police open house.



After a bike rodeo, which teaches youth bicycle safety, they were given free helmets. The 2009 event was the biggest ever, with more than 450 helmets fitted, adjusted or given away.



Above: As part of the Department's SMART Team efforts, district officers and VIPs participated in "community clean-up" days in the Oval Park area and Washington School area. This was a collaboration with Code Enforcement, Fire, Public Works and the Police Department to clean-up blighted neighborhoods (trash clean-up, alley clean-up, smoke detector installs, and vehicle abatements).

Below: Neighbors get together during National Night Out.



Civilian Specialists

Veronica McDermott, Support Services Manager and Chuck Hindenburg, Special Services Manager

Records Unit	
Lisa Davis	Supervisor
Kelly Cote	Lead
Teresa Nunez	Lead
Records Personnel	
Brook Alvarez	Charlotte Murch
Krystal Coursey	Diane Owensby
Kristen Lamarsna	Jeannette Polk
Juanita Leal	Noele Riedmann
Melissa Lujan	Jeane Smith
Ginny Martin	
Records Hourly Personnel	
Yolanda Berlin	Rosemary Escamilla
Jan Crawford	Mary Guillen
Shirley Dodd	Celeste Rodriguez
Maribel Dorado	
Records Activity	
Reports Processed	20,030
DA Arrest Packages and Evaluations Submitted	5,449
Total Hours of Transcription	3,736
Citizens Assisted at Front Counter HQs	21,190
Citizens Assisted at District 1	2,102
Citizens Assisted at District 2	2,210
Phone Calls Received	31,818
Traffic Citations Processed	14,062

Property and Evidence	
Chris Lewis, Sandy Tunnell, Lupe Ruiz	
Evidence processed: latent prints, photos, guns, drugs, etc.	8,584 Pieces
Items destroyed, auctioned, or returned to the owner	10,316 Items
Crime Analysis Unit	
Robin Meyst, Crime Analyst	
Judy Morgan-Ronding	
Elena Clark, Ruth Day, Jennifer Wells, Jessica Yunt	
Administration	
Carina Mello	Kris Lara
Shawna Kneeland - Professional Standards	
Specialists	
Randy George	Fleet / Bldg Maintenance
Sarah Wray	Property Crimes
Paul Chao	PAL
Angie deAlba	Crime Prevention
Priscilla Portillo and Ted Smith	Violent Crimes Investigators
Chanta Vihanexai & Michelle Lopez	Parking Officers
Shawna Doucette & Heidi Voss	Duty Officers
Ross Ruiz, Dianna Barrientos, Krista Cline	Community Service Officers
See page 14 and 15 for Crime Lab	

Pictured below: Records Supervisor Lisa Davis, Brook Alvarez, Melissa Lujan, Diane Owensby, Kristen Lamarsna, Charlotte Murch, Juanita Leal, Ginny Martin, and Krystal Coursey

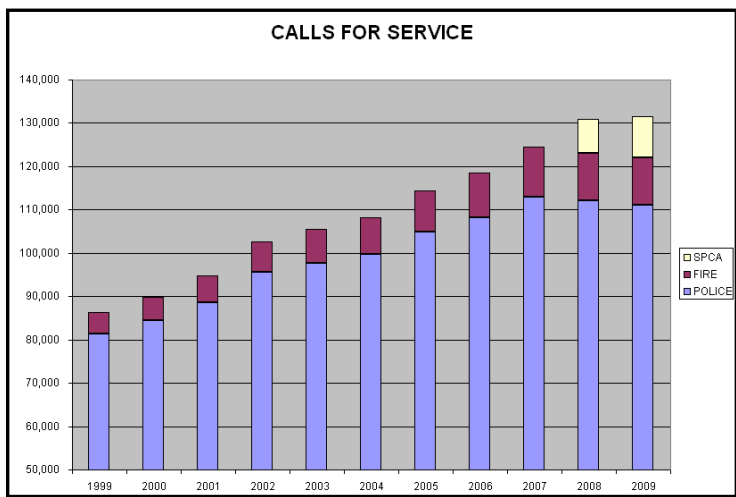


Dispatch

Communications Unit	
Veronica McDermott	Manager
Gloria House	Supervisor
Kim Mirelez	Senior
Staci Stokes	Senior
Dexter Valencia	Senior
Communications - Dispatchers	
Michelle Allen	Stacy Handley
Ana Acuna de Boswell	Katie Hamlin
Christina Carleton	Steve Hays
Christina Cortinas	Christina Landin
Linda Cuccia	Daphne Link
Pam Delong	Kristin Morton
Monica Dukes	Jessica Ontiveros
Darlene Friend	Betty Shewey
Alaina Garcia	Sharon Billups (hourly)



Pictured above: Christina Cortinas, Michelle Allen, Steve Hays, Kim Mirelez, and Monica Dukes. Upper right corner: Dispatch Supervisor Gloria House



Citizens' Academy students learn about dispatch functions.



PENDING CALLS AVERAGE PER MONTH

	Calls for Service	Less than 15 mins.	%	15-30 mins.	%	30-60 mins.	%	60-90 mins.	%	90+ mins.	%
SPCA	788	441	56%	101	13%	108	14%	64	8%	73	9%
POLICE	9,250	8,157	88%	508	6%	367	4%	112	1%	107	1%

Year-at-a-Glance

The **SWAT Team** is responsible for serving high-risk search warrants and handling critical incidents such as barricaded subjects, armed subjects, and hostage situations.



The **Bomb Squad** responded to 13 incidents last year. Of those, 6 were determined to be an actual explosive threat of some form. One involved a mail bomb, which caused injury and required extensive investigation with numerous federal agencies.



End-of-Year Statistics	2008	2009	% DIF
Population	121,498	123,670	1.8%
OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	2008	2009	% DIF
Criminal Homicide	10	10	0.0%
Forcible Rape	48	53	10.4%
Robbery	194	185	-4.6%
Assault	1,609	1,679	4.3%
Burglary	1,238	1,261	0.0%
Larceny - Theft	3,775	3,348	-11.3%
Motor Vehicle Theft	707	528	-25.7%
TOTAL PART 1 CRIMES	7,581	7,064	-6.8%
Domestic Violence Reports	771	841	9%
RECOVERED VEHICLES	2008	2009	% DIFF
Stolen here, recovered here	317	241	-24%
Stolen here, recovered elsewhere	302	228	-25%
Stolen elsewhere, recovered here	87	73	-16%
TOTAL RECOVERED	706	542	-23%
ARRESTS	2008	2009	% DIF
Adults	5,186	5,269	1.6%
Juveniles	1,583	1,254	-20.8%
TOTAL ARRESTS	6,769	6,523	-3.6%
CALLS FOR SERVICE	2008	2009	% DIF
Police	112,164	111,003	-1%
Fire	11,013	11,084	0.0%
SPCA	7,778	9,450	21.5%
TOTAL CFS	130,955	131,537	1%
Police 911 Calls	54,497	55,823	2.4%



By the Numbers - Traffic Unit

Traffic Grants

Traffic Collisions
and Citations

Traffic Unit grants by the California Office of Traffic Safety address local concerns:

\$397,561 - Avoid the 11 - Alcohol related grant with joint participation from all the eleven law enforcement agencies in Tulare County. This is the final year of the three year program. We will renew this grant for an additional three years in 2010.

\$108,000 - DUI Enforcement and Awareness Program

\$21,402 - Click it or Ticket - addresses seatbelt violations

\$82,561 - DUI Mini Grant - funds DUI checkpoints

TRAFFIC	2009
Collisions	
Total Collisions	2,281
Fatality	4
Collisions with Injuries	453
Total Injuries	676
Collisions with Property Damage	1,824
DUI	110
Bicycle	40
Pedestrian	36
Citations	
Total Citations	15,660
Total Violations	18,289
Cites of Interest	
Speeding	2,509
Signs and Signals	1,006
Unsafe Turns	151
Failure to Yield	140
Child Restraint	144
No Insurance	1,381
Safety Belt	2,295



The primary collision factor and most frequently cited violations were for speeding.

Fundraisers



Wish Upon a Star - Shave the Brave - Police raised \$6,700 to go towards making wishes come true for children with high-risk and life-threatening illnesses.

Pictured from left to right are: Agent Lyon, Detective Hickey, Agent Diltz, Detective Lampe, and Lt. Figueroa



Jeannette Polk sings the National Anthem at the Relay for Life fundraiser. With 108 riders, more than \$2,700 was raised.

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 Phips
District 1 Commander



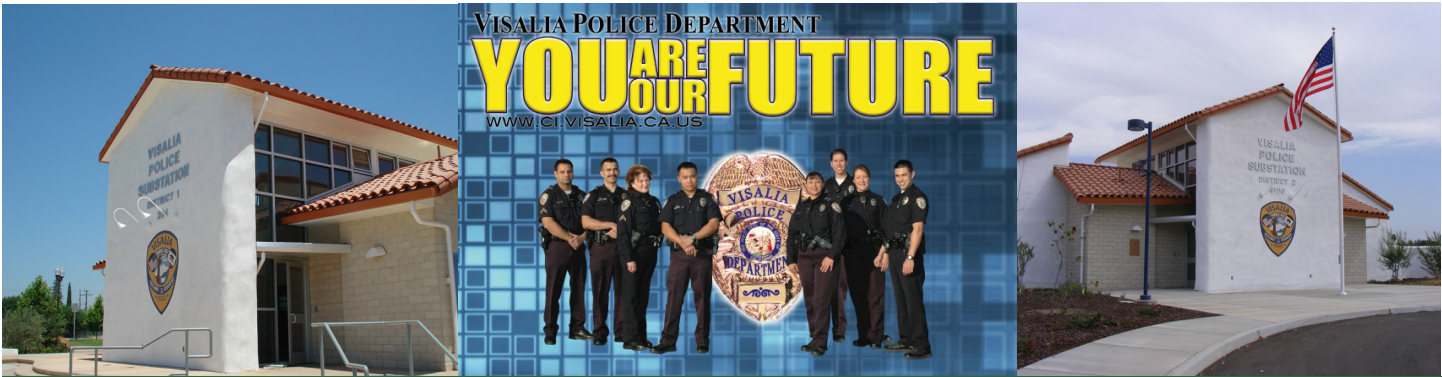
Lt. Steve Puder
Investigations



Lt. Jason Salazar
Special Enforcement Bureau



Lt. Allyn Wightman
District 2 Commander



Visit our Website -- www.vpd.ci.visalia.ca.us

