We provide the highest quality public safety services in an effort to make San Diego the safest urban county in the nation.
Core Values

HONESTY We are truthful in our words and in our actions.

INTEGRITY As people of character and principle, we do what is right, even when no one is looking.

LOYALTY We are loyal to our department and our profession and committed to protecting the quality of life in the communities we serve.

TRUST We are confident in the integrity, the ability and the good character of our colleagues.

RESPECT We treat everyone with dignity, honoring the rights of all individuals.

FAIRNESS We are just and impartial in all of our interactions. Our decisions are made without personal favoritism.

DIVERSITY We embrace the strength in the diversity of our employees and our communities.
San Diego County spans over 4,200 square miles with a population over 3.1 million. It has a 70-mile coastline and a 60-mile international border. The San Diego Sheriff’s Department is responsible for law enforcement for the unincorporated area of the county and nine contract cities, protects all courthouses and courtrooms and oversees seven detention facilities. Even in ordinary times, the 3,800 employees of the San Diego Sheriff’s Department have their hands full.
These are not ordinary times.

2009 will be remembered as a time of extraordinary challenges for law enforcement in the San Diego region. Violence immediately to our south, across the Mexican border, threatened to spill into San Diego. This threat was dramatically emphasized by some high profile events: the execution-style murder of Border Patrol Agent Robert Rosas during a human-smuggling investigation, and the indictment of seventeen members of a Mexican drug gang for crimes committed in San Diego County – crimes that included kidnapping, torture, and murder.

Meanwhile, in Sacramento, federal judges directed the State of California to reduce its prison population by 40,000 felons. As the year came to a close, our preparations were in full swing for the impact of unsupervised felons, including sex offenders, coming into our communities.

These challenges were uniquely complex and historic because they arrived together. They arrived at a time of economic downturn when fewer resources were available for all public services, including the critical work of public safety.

Just as 2009 will be remembered for the scope and
drama of its challenges, it will also be remembered for the response of the men and women of the San Diego Sheriff’s Department. They stood up to the challenges; they didn’t flinch. They patrolled neighborhoods, solved crimes, secured our courts, and guarded prisoners. They rescued lost hikers in the desert and intercepted shipments of contraband arriving by sea. They worked hand in hand with tribal governments, and created a comprehensive Border Crimes Initiative to take head-on the challenges of border crime.

My pledge to the people of San Diego County is straightforward: to work to make San Diego the safest urban county in the nation.

Further, frontline law enforcement, detentions, and court services were supported by cutting edge communication and information technology, and by the current tools of crime analysis. Proud of our heritage, we are equally proud to be an agency of modern methods. In 2009, our crime lab provided forensic services, including the latest in DNA technology, to 30 different law enforcement agencies.
We are proud of our partnerships, as well.

In June, San Diego said goodbye to Sheriff Bill Kolender, a giant in law enforcement and the Sheriff of this county for 14 years. The lasting legacy of Kolender’s tenure as Sheriff and, before that as San Diego Police Chief, was the creation of effective partnerships among law enforcement and prosecution agencies at local, state, and federal levels. This is a legacy I am proud to carry forward.

The lasting legacy of Kolender’s tenure as Sheriff...the creation of effective partnerships among law enforcement and prosecution agencies at local, state, and federal levels. This is a legacy I am proud to carry forward.

I was appointed to serve as Sheriff in June 2009. My pledge to the people of San Diego County is straightforward: to work to make San Diego the safest urban county in the nation. This goal, of course, cannot be accomplished by any single organization. We in this department are committed to working with colleagues in other agencies in common purpose: to compliment our assets, forge working alliances, and imagine new strategies.

This commitment to effective, focused partnerships explains our persistence in creating the Law Enforcement Coordination Center. The LECC vision is a multi-agency operation that gathers and interprets criminal intelligence for law enforcement agencies throughout our region. In 2009 that vision became reality and San Diegans are safer today because of it.

Finally, our partnerships extend to the communities we serve.

At the Sheriff’s Department we believe in working with people in their neighborhoods. Together we identify problems, attack disorder, and enforce the law. We work with them to protect their businesses and their homes. We work to protect their children.

I am pleased to report that together we are making a difference in the quality of life throughout San Diego County.

Sheriff William D. Gore

[Signature]
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Crime is down in San Diego County. For us in the Sheriff’s Department those words have special meaning. They mean the diverse activities that make up a modern Sheriff’s Department have come together to accomplish this purpose as an organization: to protect the public we’re sworn to serve. Like a winning sports franchise, the team, made up of various units with various assignments, came together in a winning season.

In 2009, crime in the Sheriff’s jurisdiction dropped 12.8 percent from the previous year. Significantly, in areas targeted by the Border Crimes Initiative, where some predicted crime would escalate, crime was actually cut in half. This drop translated directly into fewer victims of crime.

The Sheriff’s Department’s success in attacking and driving down crime reflected exceptional professional performance. In 2009, patrol deputies responded to nearly 253,000 calls for service – up from around 242,000 calls in ‘08. Deputies made over 29,000 arrests, again a substantial jump from the year before. Perhaps most significantly, deputy initiated activity rose from nearly 241,877 in ’08 to 297,940 last year – a stunning increase of over 56,000 or 23%. Their work paid off in safer communities.

First-rate work by the Law Enforcement Services Bureau was complemented by the professionalism of the Detention Services Bureau. On any given day the population of the jails was almost 5,000 inmates at seven different detention facilities. These are men and women who must be guarded, fed and clothed, who require a bed at night and who must be treated when they are ill. When the H1N1 virus broke out in San Diego, the jails were among the most vulnerable areas; the environment was ideal for an epidemic. The Detention Services Bureau professionals and medical staff stemmed the outbreak, protecting not only the jail population but the Sheriff’s Department’s personnel and the public at large.

In 2009, the Court Services Bureau provided courthouse and courtroom security for one of the largest court systems in the United States, with ten separate court facilities and over 600,000 criminal and civil filings annually. The staff screened around 4 million people entering the courthouses, executed arrest warrants, and worked extradition cases.

The professionalism of these frontline operations in law enforcement, detentions, and court services reflects the training provided through the Human Resources Bureau: nearly 43,000 hours of in-service training for current sworn employees and 12,000 hours for professional staff skills.
Weapons qualifications were conducted for all sworn personnel in October and over 2,000 weapons were serviced by the Weapons Training Unit’s mobile armory.

There’s an old saying that an army travels on its stomach – meaning that it must be supported by food and the necessities of life in order to occupy the field of battle.

Similarly, in professional law enforcement the work of those who carry the badge cannot be carried out without the support of the civilian professionals of the organization. The Sheriff’s Department carries 3,800 full-time staff: 2,400 are sworn peace officers; 1,400 are professional staff in key support roles. Much of that support comes from the Management Services Bureau, which keeps buildings operating, computers running, and keeps track of a half-billion dollar budget.

A report of this nature can only provide a big picture view. It cannot possibly tell the many stories of bravery, of selflessness, and of courtesy that make up the performance of the men and women of this department. Still, it’s worth recalling that behind every statistic and every measure of success cited in this report there are countless daily acts of professionalism that make a positive difference in the quality of life in San Diego County.
Violent crime decreased 4.1% in East County, and property crime decreased 24.5%...there were 1,474 fewer victims in 2009 than there were during the same time period in 2008. This equates to a safer environment and a better quality of life.
Assistant Sheriff Rob Ahern managed the Law Enforcement Services Bureau (LESB), along with Commanders Mike McNally, Al Skoglund and Ed Prendergast.

The bureau had 1,309 personnel, of which 940 are deputy sheriffs.

It provided services to approximately 900,000 residents living in the county’s unincorporated areas or one of the nine cities that contract for services: Imperial Beach, Del Mar, Solana Beach, Encinitas, Vista, San Marcos, Poway, Santee, and Lemon Grove.

In addition, the bureau provided regional services such as the Crime Lab, which served over 30 agencies with comprehensive forensic services; ASTREA, which offered airborne support to law enforcement and fire operations for the Sheriff’s Department and other agencies; and Licensing Division, which tracked over 9,000 criminal registrants as well as permits and commercial operations within the region.

### Notable Activities
- The bureau had a budget of $187.8 million.
- The San Diego Sheriff’s Reserve Division had a combined 36,659 hours of service with 147,511 miles driven in support of patrol, off-road enforcement, training, dive recovery, and special events.
- The bureau managed the Law Enforcement Services Bureau.
- The San Diego Sheriff’s Search and Rescue (SAR) had a combined 60,100 hours of service with 314,300 miles driven in support of approximately 70 missions, training, and special events. Notable events in 2009:
  - The acquisition of a GPS tracking solution, enabled SAR to show the location and routes of all search teams
  - The graduation of 13 Search and Rescue staff from the 220-hour-long SAR Academy
- The License Plate Reader (LPR) system went on-line in April 2009 with six patrol cars equipped. The system recorded approximately 1.6 million plate reads. Several stolen vehicles were recovered and valuable intelligence was obtained on vehicles/persons of interest involved in criminal activity.
- The Sheriff’s Department purchased land in the Rancho San Diego area for the new home of the Lemon Grove Patrol Station. Construction has been delayed due to the economic downturn.
SUCCESS STORIES

Attempted Murder And Armed Robbery Solved

In June 2007, two men entered the A Gems-N-Loans business at 925 South Santa Fe Drive in Vista. Both men displayed handguns. One suspect robbed a female employee at gunpoint. Without provocation, the other suspect dragged the business’s manager to the back room and pistol-whipped him, causing an open skull fracture. The victim required major surgery and hospitalization to overcome his injuries, and still suffers from the effects of the unprovoked beating.

The suspects fled the scene with several thousand dollars. This was one of the most egregious robberies in the City of Vista in recent memory. The case was investigated as an attempted murder and armed robbery.

During the preliminary investigation, deputies and detectives from the Vista Patrol Station collected possible DNA evidence and numerous fingerprints from the scene. In addition, surveillance video clearly showed the faces of the suspects. Detectives broadcast the video through San Diego Crimestoppers and the case was publicized in both print and television media. No viable leads were developed and no matches related to fingerprints or DNA were made in any national criminal database. The case went “cold.”

In August 2009, a DNA “hit” occurred – the first lead in over two years. The DNA of a male who had recently been convicted of robbery in Los Angeles matched DNA collected at the crime scene in Vista.

Vista detectives interrogated the suspect at a state prison in northern California, where he was being held, and elicited a full confession to the crime. The second suspect, the one who pistol-whipped the manager, had yet to be identified.

Detectives contacted authorities in Los Angeles County who provided them with lists of the identified suspect’s companions while committing crimes in the Los Angeles area. Through tenacious investigative work they identified a possible second suspect who was incarcerated in a different state prison on the California-Arizona border.

Detectives traveled to the prison and interrogated the second suspect, again eliciting a full confession to the crime. The suspect admitted to pistol-whipping the manager, claiming he did not know why he did it. The suspect admitted to being under the influence of methamphetamine at the time.

This case exemplifies the teamwork involved in crime solving: diligence in evidence collection by Vista detectives,
DNA matching by crime lab personnel, diligent investigative follow-up, and the use of skilled interview techniques.

**Graffiti Tracker**

Graffiti Tracker began operating in Vista on March 19, 2009. Since then, 13 suspects have been arrested and charged with graffiti-related offenses totaling more than $300,000 in property damage. By year’s end, the City of Vista had been awarded more than $140,000 in restitution by the courts.

**Prostitution And Human Trafficking**

In February 2009, deputies from the Vista Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) Unit began to receive numerous complaints from anonymous citizens and city officials that prostitution was occurring at several Asian day-spas and acupuncturists throughout the City of Vista. Over the next several months, nine day-spas and acupuncture businesses were identified as potentially being involved in prostitution and human trafficking.

In June, based on this investigation, an undercover prostitution operation was conducted at these businesses. The Sheriff’s Vista COPPS Unit conducted this operation with the assistance of San Marcos and Santee COPPS Unit, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), San Diego Police Department, Oceanside Police Department, the District Attorney’s Office, Vista City Code Enforcement, Vista Fire Department, and the Department of Health and Safety.

As a result of this operation, six subjects were arrested for 647(b) PC, 16 subjects were arrested for Vista Municipal Code violations, and two subjects were detained by ICE for immigration issues. Several of these businesses have since closed due to civil litigation by the City of Vista.

**Teen Driver Awareness And Education Program**

In 2009, San Diego County saw an increase in fatal vehicle collisions involving teen drivers. The Santee Traffic Division and COPPS Unit took a proactive approach and teamed with the Grossmont Union School District to bring awareness to this growing problem.
Deputies conducted “high visibility” details at Santana, West Hills, and El Capitan High Schools by taking the following steps to help teen drivers become safer drivers:

- Produced and distributed educational handouts that detailed teen driving laws and recent fatal errors made by teens.
- Directed patrol enforcement, primarily focusing on provisional license violations.
- School Resource Officers interacted with teens, educating them on a one-to-one basis.

Furthermore, Santee traffic deputies teamed with the California Highway Patrol to offer “Start Smart,” an informative two-hour class taught at the Santee Station. It focused on reinforcing safe driving habits for teen drivers. This class was recognized throughout the State of California. Once a teen driver has completed the course, he or she may be eligible for auto insurance discounts.

**Operation Tip The Scale**

The Sheriff’s Department developed and implemented Operation Tip the Scale in the east region as part of the county’s multi-disciplinary San Diego Methamphetamine Task Force. The goal of this six-month operation was to “Tip the Scale” away from narcotics abuse and narcotic user-produced crime and back toward healthy lifestyles and safe families.
In 2009, the San Diego Sheriff’s Department achieved national prominence with its multi-layered, all-threats, integrated approach to combating violence and crimes associated with the escalating drug cartel wars and ongoing human smuggling from Mexico into the US.

In addition to being cited as a “Best Practice” for border violence suppression, San Diego County’s Operation Stonegarden Program received $13.7 million from the US Department of Homeland Security for FY 2009, the largest single award among all applicants across the nation. In July 2009, US Attorney General Eric Holder announced a grant of an additional $5 million to San Diego County as part of the Justice Department’s Southwest Border Strategy.

Recognizing the need for a specialized group of law enforcement professionals dedicated to combating border violence, the Department formed the Southwest Border Crime Suppression Team and funded it through the federal grants. The team consists of 14 uniformed deputies, 2 sergeants, and 1 lieutenant focused full-time on preventing border crimes and apprehending criminals involved in drug smuggling, arms trafficking, money laundering, kidnapping, and a wide range of other border crimes. The Southwest Border Crime Suppression Team later added a full-time crime lab technician and a dedicated deputy district attorney to prosecute those apprehended during border-related crime operations. The team works closely with the LECC, Customs and Border Protection agency, ICE, FBI, ATF and many other law enforcement agencies to share intelligence and plan joint border crime suppression operations.

The Southwest Border Crime Suppression Team leads efforts among state and local law enforcement agencies to evaluate border threats, develop operations targeting these threats, and implement operations in the field. Some of the most successful initiatives implemented in 2009 included a 30-60% increase in patrols to reduce smuggling and border-related crimes, traffic stops in high-intensity drug and human trafficking areas, and aerial support including night surveillance flights.

The efforts undertaken by the Southwest Border Crime Suppression Team and its local and state law enforcement partners have had tangible and lasting impacts on controlling and preventing border crimes. Since the launch of Operation Stonegarden, there has been a 50 percent decrease in violent crimes in eastern San Diego East County, where most of Operation Stonegarden’s efforts have been focused. There has also been an 85% increase in Operation Stonegarden deputy-initiated activity (hands-on activity enforcement) compared to the same period last year in the San Diego East County border area. These numbers reveal the difference made by Operation Stonegarden-funded activities.

Since the launch of Operation Stonegarden, there has been a 50 percent decrease in violent crimes in eastern San Diego East County.

2009 also saw unprecedented levels of cooperation and collaboration among law enforcement agencies in San Diego County and neighboring counties. The number of local law enforcement agencies participating in Operation Stonegarden doubled from 6 in 2008 to 12 in 2009, and the number of multi-agency border crime suppression operations increased threefold, with the Orange County Sheriff’s Department participating in some of them. This bodes well for the continued success of the department’s border crime suppression initiatives because collaboration among law enforcement agencies creates a unified and cohesive front against border violence. That makes it harder for trans-border criminals to slip through local jurisdictions and evade arrest. Additionally, the intelligence that new participants bring will be invaluable for planning and tactical purposes.
The Sheriff’s Santee Patrol Station orchestrated the first operation, which reduced problems associated with drug abuse, drug addiction, and drug-related crime in Santee, Lakeside, and unincorporated El Cajon. Violent crime decreased 4.1% in East County, and property crime decreased 24.5%. These were significant reductions and reflected more than numbers; a decrease in crime meant fewer victims. In this case, there were 1,474 fewer victims in 2009 than there were during the same time period in 2008. That’s 1,474 residents who were not victimized, who were not assaulted, or who did not have their property stolen. This equated to a safer environment and a better quality of life.

Versions of Operation Tip-the-Scale were later conducted in El Cajon, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, and Spring Valley.

The Sheriff’s Department’s partners included nearly a dozen law enforcement agencies, county and community organizations, and support groups. Among these were the El Cajon Police Department, La Mesa Police Department, Metropolitan Transit System, Narcotics Task Force, San Diego County Child Welfare Services/Drug Endangered Children, San Diego County Department of Alcohol and Drug Services, Meth Strike Force, McAlister Institute, Mental Health Systems, County Probation, the California Department of Corrections/Parole, and the Counseling Team.

Each partner took responsibility for its aspect of the operation’s combination of highly visible enforcement and simultaneous treatment and recovery provided to arrestees. In addition to counseling meetings provided to arrestees, information packets detailing treatment options and highlighting the Methamphetamine Hotline were distributed to arrestees and their families.

This cooperative approach provided cost effective force multiplication during the fiscal crisis.

The success of this effort has resulted in plans to conduct similar operations in Alpine and rural areas of the county.

**Regional Gang Task Force Operations**

The East County Regional Gang Task Force (ECRGTF) and North County Regional Gang Task Force (NCRGTF) identified, disrupted, and dismantled existing and emerging violent criminal enterprises operating in the greater San Diego County region.

Partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) allowed expansion of the federally funded Safe Streets Initiative into the county. The Safe Streets Task Force expanded cooperation and communication among
During 2009, Astrea law enforcement aircraft flew over 3,000 hours in support of agencies throughout the county. Astrea fire aircraft flew over 500 hours, assisting on 57 brush fires throughout the county and making a total of 701 water drops on those fires. Astrea helped rescue 42 individuals and fire aircraft made 21 rescues of which 11 were “hoist rescues.” Astrea and Cal Fire comprise the San Diego Helitack, which performed more rescues than any other Helitack base in California.

The Sheriff’s Department continued to play a major role in the eradication of marijuana being grown in the county. Astrea aircraft provided both aerial reconnaissance flights as well as the external load transportation of marijuana out of the backcountry areas.

In January, the Sheriff’s Department’s aircraft assisted in a two-day search for a mentally challenged 20-year-old in the Lake San Marcos area. Astrea aircraft eventually located the subject, who was returned home. In April, Astrea responded to the same area to look for the same individual; this time he was located after only a few hours of searching.

In May, Astrea spent several days assisting the Marine Corps and the US Forest Service with a Cobra Helicopter crash in the Kitchen Creek area of Mt. Laguna. Unfortunately, both crew members died in the crash, which also started a small brush fire. Astrea made water drops on the fire and transported military personnel into the area for their investigation.

In December, one of the Astrea night crews was involved in a search for a missing 86-year-old dementia patient in the Couser Canyon area of Valley Center. The crew used the FLIR (thermal imager) to locate the individual face down in a creek bottom. He was rescued by Valley Center deputies.

Also, Astrea aircraft spent several days searching the Whale Peak area of Borrego Springs for a missing 16-year-old, transporting numerous search and rescue teams into and out of the area during the search; however, the subject was never located.

Over the course of the year, Astrea acquired four new pairs of night vision goggles, sent Deputy Darren Dollard to an extensive “Safety Management Course,” and recovered eight deceased bodies by long line out of remote, rugged areas of the county.
federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, increasing productivity and preventing duplication of investigative efforts.

These task forces pursued violent gangs through sustained, proactive, coordinated investigations to obtain prosecutions under the US Code, Titles 18 and 21, including violations such as racketeering, drug conspiracy, and firearms violations.

In 2009, the efforts of the regional gang task forces resulted in the arrest of over 749 offenders and the seizure of 194 weapons, 11,000 pounds of marijuana, 80 pounds of cocaine, and 33 pounds of methamphetamine. The drugs alone had a street value of more than $33.9 million.

After a second full year of being in effect, the gang injunction reduced gang-related crime in the San Marcos command from 271 cases in 2007 to 131 gang-related cases in 2008, and 76 in 2009. Deputies made 39 gang injunction arrests in the two years since the injunction took effect. It was now difficult to find two injunctioned gang members simply walking together in the city. There is no doubt the injunction has had a significant impact on gang cases.

**Driving Under The Influence Enforcement**

The San Marcos Patrol Station increased DUI arrests by 42% and reduced related accidents by 15.4%. This was more than triple the DUI enforcement index and more than triple the statewide standard for the third consecutive year – all without additional staff or increased costs to the city.

**Search And Rescue**

In 2009, one of the more memorable and rewarding Search and Rescue missions involved a 20-year-old Down syndrome boy who routinely, as a game, would run away from his mother as she picked him up from a school bus stop. One particular late afternoon, the weather was foggy and chilly as Derrick ran into the brush-covered hills and disappeared. For the next 28 hours, Search and Rescue utilized all their units to search for Derrick in the ever-thickening fog around the San Elijo Hills area. He was discovered cold and dehydrated on a steep hillside the following day by a combined ASTREA and Search and Rescue effort.
In 2009, key provisions of Proposition 69, the DNA Fingerprint, Unsolved Crime & Innocence Protection Act, took effect. This act, initially passed by California voters in 2004, required the collection of DNA samples from convicted felons and arrestees. Starting in January 2009, Proposition 69 required the collection of DNA from all adults arrested for, or charged with, any felony offense.

As a direct result, the number of samples in the California DNA offender database grew from 270,000 known offenders in 2004 to over 1.3 million by the end of 2009. The national DNA database (CODIS—COm bined DNA Index System), which includes California’s samples, contains over 7 million offender samples and provides valuable investigative leads to detectives every day.

In 2007, to make the most of this growing DNA database, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors authorized the creation of the Rapid Response DNA Analysis Team. The goal of the team was to focus on street crimes: burglaries, robberies, and auto thefts. These are the types of crimes that most often affect the average citizen. Just as important, those who commit street crimes inevitably graduate to more serious types of crimes, if not caught.

One impetus for creating such a team was the high percentage of DNA database hits to known offenders for street crimes.

**Key facts:** Nearly 90% percent of offender hits in 2007, 2008, and 2009 were to “street crimes” (burglaries, robberies, and auto thefts), with over 50% of these hits connected to burglary cases alone. Less than 10% of all hits are to homicide and sexual assault cases.

However, adding street crime DNA requests to the existing queue of homicide and sexual assault cases would have increased the turnaround time for all DNA cases. The Rapid Response DNA Analysis Team was created to mitigate this effect.

After receiving approval from the Board, the crime lab began recruiting highly dedicated analysts from throughout the country. The ultimate goal: analyze DNA evidence from street crimes and enter the resulting DNA profiles into CODIS, all within a few weeks of receiving the evidence, thereby providing timely information to investigators and leading to more arrests and successful prosecutions.

As of December 2009, the lab has a team of seven DNA analysts focused exclusively on street crime cases. In 2009, this dedicated team provided services to the Sheriff’s Department and over a dozen other law enforcement agencies in the county, and processed over 600 DNA street crime cases.

After years of effort, the team was at full strength and expecting even better results in 2010.
Assistant Sheriff Al Guerin directed the Detention Services Bureau (DSB), which in 2009 consisted of approximately 1,630 combined sworn and professional staff employees and a budget of approximately $200 million. 2009 will be remembered as a period of challenge for the Sheriff’s Department, but also one of progress and accomplishment. The bureau navigated many obstacles, viewing them as opportunities to further maintain its reputation as one of the premier adult detention systems in the state.

In 2009, the bureau processed 97,433 bookings, a 2% increase over 2008. A daily average population of 4,996 inmates were housed and cared for within the facilities, a reduction of nearly 4% compared to the previous year. The average cost associated with housing an inmate was approximately $118 per day. Male prisoners represented 86% of the inmate population, and on average, inmates sentenced to Sheriff’s custody spent 73 days in jail. Astonishingly, eight million meals were prepared and served at an average cost of $1.04 per meal.

In 2009, the Sheriff’s Department faced severe budget conditions due to decreased revenues. The bureau was tasked with developing strategies to assist the department in closing the budget deficit. To that end, the bureau identified areas that could be combined to save money while maintaining the same level of critical detention services. After painstaking consideration, it was determined that due to the increasing costs, it was no longer efficient to operate the Descanso Detention Facility, one of the older detention facilities. It was estimated that closing the Descanso Detention Facility would save the department $10.4 million.

To prevent overcrowding as a result of this closure, approximately 250 inmates were transferred to vacant beds at other facilities.
To mitigate any potential overcrowding at other facilities, 400 new beds were purchased and installed at George Bailey, East Mesa, and Facility Eight. Descanso staffing consisted of 76 positions; 48 were frozen and the remaining 28 were reassigned throughout the bureau.

The reassignments contributed to a reduction in overtime expenditures and ensured the highest staffing levels in recent history.

The bureau reduced its overtime budget from $12.5 million in FY 08-09 to $7.8 million in FY 09-10, a savings of $5.2 million. Efforts were focused on reducing overtime expenditures through management practices that evaluated deployments and relief factors.

**DNA Collection**

When State Proposition 69 became law in 2004, the bureau began collecting DNA samples from adults convicted of certain felony offenses. On January 1, 2009, a provision
of the law mandated that DNA samples be obtained from all felony arrestees. In 2009, DSB personnel collected 20,144 DNA samples, bringing the total since inception of Prop 69 to 44,758. DNA collections increased by 381% compared to 2008, resulting in a monthly average of 1,679 samples taken. The rapid collection and transmittal of DNA specimens into the collection database has enhanced the department’s ability to obtain critical evidence that may solve numerous unsolved cases.

**H1N1 In The Prisons**

In 2009, the bureau was faced with a large-scale exposure of inmates and staff to the H1N1 virus. At its peak, over 2,000 inmates were exposed to the virus, creating significant containment and treatment challenges to Medical Services Division (MSD) and sworn personnel. Despite the volume of inmates exposed to H1N1, only eight were confirmed to have contracted the virus. By being one of the first large detention systems in the country to undergo an epidemic of this type, MSD learned valuable lessons on how best to minimize the spread of the outbreak.

MSD implemented a rapid flu test as part of the initial intake screening protocols. This test greatly reduced the possibility of new inmates with flu symptoms being admitted into the general population. Exposed inmates were also allowed to “self-carry” Tamiflu if they were transferred to other housing units or facilities to reduce further exposures among the inmate population. To share this valuable experience, MSD staff presented an overview of their H1N1 experience at the American Correctional Health Services Association meeting in Sacramento. MSD increased case management (CM) activities related to those inmates receiving inpatient care at outside hospitals. Case management services, combined with increased capability to serve more severe cases in the Medical Observation Bed (MOB) units, has resulted in cost avoidance from reduced use of hospital bed days for inmates. The total estimated cost avoidance in 2009 totaled over $1.5 million, and hospital stays were reduced from seven to two days.

**eCommerce Site Launched**

To provide additional services to the public and inmates, the bureau introduced the eCommerce website in November 2009. The website provides inmate’s family and friends a convenient option for depositing money and purchasing telephone time or gift packs without having to visit a detention facility. The website’s first month of activation generated more than 2,000 orders. Unlike many other counties offering similar websites, the bureau’s eCommerce site is not contracted to a vendor but fully run by Sheriff’s Commissary staff.
Other Accomplishments Of Note

In 2009, the X-26 Taser was introduced to detentions as an approved less-lethal option. The first phase of the weapon's deployment was completed with DTU staff providing certification training to 100 corporals and training officers.

The bureau also forged ahead with several technological projects to make more efficient use of its data and records management systems. Supporting the Jail Population Management Unit’s (JPMU) revised classification tool, the Jail Information Management System (JIMS) team launched the inmate classification enhancement. This allowed JPMU personnel to select a third custody level option ensuring a safer and more secure inmate housing configuration without having to override the system. This initiative resulted in the successful reclassification of over 5,000 inmates.

A JIMS/NetRMS interface was activated, which allowed detention-processing staff to upload and access arrest information transferred wirelessly from patrol vehicles. Other added features allowed staff to enable smoother court scheduling without interfering with the natural return of inmates into their assigned facilities.

The bureau also took the lead in implementing an exciting initiative to support the Victims’ Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy’s Law. Launching from the Sheriff’s “Who’s in Jail” website, crime victims could now access VINELink, enabling them to register on the “Victim Information & Notification Everyday” website. Significant changes in an offender’s custody status are obtained from inmate records stored in JIMS. Registered parties are notified by email or telephone message when an inmate is released from custody, enabling victims and witnesses to take necessary precautions for their personal safety. VINELink became available to San Diego County residents in July 2009, and since that time nearly 14,000 new registrations were created in reference to inmates in DSB’s custody. Subsequently, over 1,600 phone
contacts to registrants were completed and nearly 9,000 emails were delivered.

The bureau also took the lead in implementing an exciting initiative to support the Victims’ Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy’s Law...crime victims could now access VINELink to register on the “Victim Information & Notification Everyday” website.

The bureau provided valuable investigative support services in 2009 by completing 1,643 detentions criminal cases.

The Detentions Investigations Unit (DIU) presented 305 of these cases to the District Attorney’s Office for prosecution. In addition, the bureau unveiled a formalized detentions gang component to its investigative service area. Four investigators were transferred to DIU for the collection and analysis of gang intelligence and investigation of gang activity and crimes occurring within the detention facilities. Detention gang investigators additionally served as support for special investigations, and liaisons with assigned facilities and other law enforcement agencies. ✷
The San Diego Sheriff’s Court Services Bureau (CSB) provided security services for the San Diego Superior Court system, the third largest court system in the United States. The system served more than 3.1 million residents and covered more than 4,200 square miles. It had 130 judges and 24 commissioners in ten court facilities, managing more than 600,000 civil and criminal case filings each year.

CSB had an annual budget of nearly $52.7 million dollars, $31.8 million of which derived from a contract between the Superior Court and the Sheriff’s Department to provide security services. This contract was the largest single service contract administered by the Sheriff’s Department. CSB assigned 281 full time employees to duties within the Superior Courts.

In addition, CSB’s responsibilities included the safe and timely movement of in-state, federal, and county prisoners to and from court appearances, medical clinics, funerals, and those arrested on local and out-of-county warrants. In 2009, CSB’s Prisoner Transportation Detail transported 187,500 inmates and logged over 644,000 miles.

Residents and businesses in San Diego County used CSB services to help serve civil processes and enforce court orders. Also, criminals were frequently apprehended through arrest warrants served by CSB personnel. In addition, since 2002 CSB has provided security services at the
County Administrative Center (CAC). This historic site accommodates approximately 1,000 County employees and elected public officials who rely on Sheriff’s personnel for their safety. CSB provided all building tenants with training that included personal security, critical response, and emergency evacuation drills.

The CAC has approximately 381,000 public visitors a year, all of whom are screened for weapons prior to admittance. In 2009, CSB staff confiscated almost 30,000 potential weapons while screening nearly 4.5 million individuals who passed through courthouse weapons screening stations.

In 2009, the Sheriff’s Department continued assessing court security at each facility, including evaluating staffing levels and policies and procedures. Such ongoing evaluation was the cornerstone of providing a safe, secure and orderly environment in which to conduct court business.

Many security enhancements implemented in San Diego County’s court facilities, were made possible because of the excellent working partnership CSB enjoys with the Superior Court.

In 2009, CSB’s Civil Unit processed 56,160 documents and $22.6 million dollars in fees and collections. It also generated over $2.3 million dollars in revenue. The Civil Unit handles processes such as temporary restraining orders, evictions, wage garnishments, bank levies, summonses, claims, real & personal property levies and sales. This unit handled a high volume of customers in person and via telephone.

**CSB Highlights**

The Court Services Bureau consolidated its Field Services Unit under a central command allowing greater flexibility and efficiency in serving the courts and the public. This accelerated the clearing of 2,984 warrants, resulting in 1,404 field arrests. The Field Unit completed 16,369 evictions, 15,232 levies, and 34,035 other miscellaneous processes.

During 2009, CSB’s Investigation Unit reviewed 32 threats to judicial officers, conducted 2,013 follow-up investigations, and worked 757 extradition cases. Through the bureau’s efforts, the county realized savings from individuals who waived extradition. The Investigation Unit also worked with the Department of Justice to identify judicial threat subjects who may have attempted to purchase firearms.
The Management Services Bureau (MSB) provided top-quality business-related support and expertise to law enforcement personnel. Its 2008/09 budget, including Internal Services Funds, was $94.1 million.

MSB activities and accomplishments during 2009 included:

**VINE (Victim Identification And Notification Everyday)**

In compliance with Marsy’s Law, which requires notification of inmate release or escape, VINE was introduced in San Diego County through a grant from the California State Sheriffs’ Association. VINE is an anonymous, free service that provides the public with a notification when significant changes occur to an inmate’s custody status.

The public can register by calling (877) 411-5588, or by visiting www.vinelink.com. The Sheriff’s Department created a “victim’s page” on its website to assist with registration www.sdsheriff.net/victims.

**NetRMS**

The Sheriff’s efforts to provide the department’s Reporting and Records Management System (NetRMS) to all regional law enforcement partners made great strides in 2009. The system was successfully deployed in the Oceanside, Chula Vista, and El Cajon Police Departments. The system includes case management, crime analysis components, and most importantly, sharing of enhanced crime and incident information via the Automated Regional Justice Information System (ARJIS).

**LECC Support**

MSB divisions provided significant support to help create the new Law Enforcement Coordination Center (LECC). MSB activities included applying for and accepting federal Homeland Security Grants, providing accounting, procuring services, and other administrative support.

**Mobile Photo ID**

Implemented in 2008, the regional repository for mug shots and other related photos of individuals became available to all Sheriff’s mobile units to provide quick visual identification of individuals involved in field incidents. The Mobile Photo ID system searches mug shots and DMV photos.
eMUG
This system added facial recognition tools to allow a search using composite drawings, surveillance video frames and other photo media.

Grant Management
The Financial Services Division supported the application process for several grants during 2009, including second-year funding for Operation Stonegarden and applications for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding.

The department again received the highest single award for any county in the United States under the Operation Stonegarden grant, $8.8 million. Operation Stonegarden received supplemental appropriations of $4.9 million, which allowed the program to expand the number of local agencies participating in the program from 6 to 13.

The department also received a $4.9 million ARRA award to Combat Criminal Narcotics Activity (CCNA) along the Southern Border. These funds were used to create a Border Crimes Suppression Team (BCST) comprised of 17 deputy sheriffs.

Records And Identification
- Processed 19,000 criminal history requests
- Processed 5,000 arrest/crime report requests
- Processed 135,000 10-print cards through the Automated Fingerprint Information System (AFIS)
- Entered/Cleared 115,000 arrest warrants
- Entered/Canceled/Updated 45,000 protective service orders
- Scanned 485,000 hard copy jail files for electronic storage and retrieval
Budget Development and Financial Management

The MSB continued to develop and oversee the department’s budget, which was reduced from $580 million in FY 08-09 to $555 million in FY 09-10. The nationwide economic slowdown reduced revenues markedly, and MSB staff worked diligently to assist department command staff in developing a plan to reduce expenditures.

The reductions required the department to close the Descanso Detention Facility and to eliminate funding for 223 personnel. This difficult process required the Sheriff and his command staff to carefully revisit all department priorities and initiatives.

San Diego County Women’s Detention Facility EIR

In June 2009, the Board of Supervisors certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approved moving forward with a preliminary design for a new women’s jail to replace the aging Las Colinas facility. This certification was the culmination of a three-year effort.

East Otay Mesa Substation

Lengthy negotiations with East Otay area property owners resulted in the installation of a temporary Sheriff’s Substation in the fall of 2009. In addition, a site was secured for a permanent substation when the need for that facility was triggered by new development.

Rancho San Diego Sheriff’s Station

Significant progress was made in 2009 toward the construction of a new Sheriff’s Station that will serve the communities of Rancho San Diego, Spring Valley, Jamul, Casa de Oro/Mt. Helix, and others. MSB staff, working with the County’s Department of General Services completed the acquisition of a 14-acre station site in Rancho San Diego in June 2009.

Regional Communications System (RCS)

The Wireless Services Division completed a multi-year effort to provide a common, coordinated radio-operating environment to the 60+ fire service agencies in San Diego. This task included implementing a consolidated fire services fleetmap for agencies operating on the RCS, and customizing the fleetmap to meet individual agency requirements.

The implementation of this fleetmap completed an interoperability goal identified following the disastrous wild fires of 2003 and 2007.

Borrego Springs Office

Departmental operations were moved to a larger, newly-renovated office that also accommodates allied agencies such as the California Highway Patrol, California State Parks, and the Federal Bureau of Land Management.
Casa De Oro Storefront Office

In December 2009, staff completed office improvements necessary to open a new storefront in the East County community of Casa De Oro. It will provide a resource to law enforcement, including the Sheriff and CHP, local fire service agencies, and community code enforcement personnel.

Contracts

The Contracts Division initiated or completed the contracting process for:

- A new Crime Lab Information Management System designed to handle DNA information.
- Acquiring a new Automated Fingerprint Identification System.
- Provision of toxicology laboratory services.
- Hiring a consultant to assist in the upgrading of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Regional Communications System (RCS). 

The Communications Center
The San Diego Sheriff’s Communications Center is the primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the unincorporated areas of the county and nine contract cities. It serves over one million county residents. The Communications Center is often the first point of contact for citizens calling for assistance, and PSAP strives to provide customers a positive impression of the Sheriff’s Department.

In 2009, PSAP received 210,503 9-1-1/emergency calls, of which 88,990 were from cellular telephones, and 403,116 non-emergency calls. The state recommends maintaining an average answering time for 9-1-1 calls within 10 seconds. PSAP has consistently maintained a four-second average for 9-1-1 calls, and a 25-second average for non-emergency calls.

Our staff consists of one captain, five lieutenants who serve as watch commanders, three communications coordinators, 13 supervisors and 101 dispatchers. Together, PSAP strives to provide immediate assistance to all those who ask, whether the requestor is a citizen, a fellow department member, or personnel from outside agencies.

Interoperability

The ability for first responders to communicate during an emergency is crucial. In addition, local, state, and federal jurisdictions all need to communicate with each other on a daily basis. Interoperability is the key to successful interagency communication, something that becomes paramount when faced with an emergency requiring close coordination between multiple agencies and disciplines.

The San Diego Sheriff’s Department is well known for leadership in the evolution of communications interoperability in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

Because of this leadership, the Communications Center can talk directly with other public safety agencies, enhancing the safety of the community.

Role of the dispatcher

The dispatcher is nationally recognized as the true first responder to an emergency. They are the ones who receive initial calls for help and determine the appropriate actions. Emergency Services Dispatchers receive, evaluate, and act upon emergency radio and telephone communications in the areas of law enforcement, fire, medical, and local government operations.

Communications Center vision statement:

Our technical and operational excellence and innovative spirit make us leaders and the first choice in the field of public safety communications. We are a cohesive team of highly motivated professionals, attentive to each other’s needs, and committed to being the best.
The mission of the Human Resources Services Bureau (HRSB) is to ensure public confidence in the Sheriff’s Department by hiring good people, training them well, and monitoring their performance on an on-going basis. The economic decline in 2009 led to numerous challenges to overcome on the way to achieving that mission.

**Personnel Division**

In 2009, the department continued to test and screen applicants preparing for future hiring needs, and the Recruiting Unit continued to fill vacant positions and seek qualified candidates.

The San Diego Sheriff’s Recruiting Unit made several changes in its method of operations to adjust to budget and staffing cuts. Recruiters sought out and utilized innovative, low- or no-cost ways to recruit top-quality candidates. The unit proactively remained in the forefront of law enforcement recruiting in San Diego County, using numerous free recruiting and public relations events, educational institution events and job fairs. In addition, recruiters responded to more than 10,000 telephone and email queries about employment with the department. The unit tested nearly 3,000 applicants, affording us the luxury of being highly selective in our hiring. In 2009, the department added 12 sworn deputies including one lateral hire.

The department achieved budgetary reductions by moving personnel, retaining our currently employed personnel with no layoffs. In some cases, HRSB was able to hire county employees who were facing layoffs from other departments into our professional staff positions.

The Background Unit provided background checks, performed Computer Voice Stress Analyzer tests, and processed new employees. The unit also provided career path assistance for all sworn and professional staff, and worked closely with HRSB Command Staff to process promotions and retirements.

The unit helped achieve the objectives of the County of San Diego “going green” initiative by reducing paper usage and scanning employee background and personnel files. Additionally, the unit updated the department’s internal personnel and recruiting website.

The Background and Payroll Units worked closely together to ensure the accuracy of all information in our system.

Department Human Resources Officers (DHROs) conducted 454 interviews versus 1131 the previous year, a 60% reduction. DHROs interviewed hundreds of applicants resulting in the hiring of 38 professional staff employees; compared to 222 in 2008, a decrease of 83%.

**Human Resources Services Bureau**
DHROs teamed up with the Professional Staff Training Unit to roll out some very successful classes, including Developing Interviewing Skills, The Art of Communication, Coaching for Supervisors, Introduction to Detentions, Performance Management, and the County of San Diego’s Knowledge Worker course. In addition, DHROs partnered with the Business Office of Technology at Grossmont College to provide training to students on how to interview, including holding live mock interviews.

Training Academy

HRSB was responsible for various types of training for the department’s new and tenured employees.

The department continued to recruit and train Sheriff’s deputies to maintain a high level of public safety and security. This challenge was not easily met due to recession-driven budget constraints and reduced funding. Despite this, the San Diego Regional Academy successfully trained 198 law enforcement cadets for various law enforcement agencies in San Diego County, including 11 cadets for the San Diego Sheriff’s Department.

The In-Service Training Unit continued to watch local, state, and national trends to best train its employees. Course subjects included tactics, supervision, traffic, and drug recognition. The In-Service Training Unit was also responsible for adhering to the POST mandate of Continuing Profession Training (CPT), which required that every law enforcement officer in the department must receive 24 hours of training on specific subject areas every two years. The In-Service Training Unit successfully completed this difficult task. Overall, the unit conducted approximately 37,000 hours of POST certified training for the department’s sworn members.

The Professional Staff Training Unit (PSTU) was responsible for the department’s professional staff training, ensuring the department stayed current with county training mandates related to professional staff. It often designed
and delivered the training. Course topics included supervision and management, new employee orientation, and computer-based classes. The unit conducted more than 7,548 hours of training to 1,787 employees. The Sheriff’s Department welcomed 41 new professional staff employees in 2009.

**Weapons Training Unit**

The mobile armory provides services to personnel at their assigned work locations, saving considerable time and money in servicing deputies’ weapons. In 2009, the mobile armory visited 18 facilities and serviced 729 weapons for 211 deputies. In addition, the mobile armory conducted routine maintenance on facility weapons, including 208 shotguns, 84 less-lethal shotguns, and 9 SL-6 launchers.

The Weapons Training Unit conducted seven patrol rifle courses during 2009, in which 98 deputies were equipped with patrol rifles at the end of the training.

During 2009, the Weapons Training Unit updated the Miramar training facility by completing several projects. One important project was building several large classrooms close to the range. This project increased efficiency by enabling personnel to attend classes and then shoot without wasting time traveling between two separate locations. An important completed project at the Otay Mesa Range was installing an eight-foot tall security fence around the perimeter of the facility, greatly enhancing the security of the buildings and ranges.

**Risk Management and Payroll**

The Risk Management and Medical Liaison Unit was responsible for coordinating health and safety issues for approximately 3,800 employees. It handled issues with worker’s compensation, illness, injury leave, and leaves under the Family and Medical Act. The unit also helped ensure a safe work environment.

The Payroll Unit was responsible for ensuring accurate and appropriate compensation for approximately 3,800 employees. The Payroll Unit handled issues with regular pay, overtime and holiday pay, and numerous pay codes related to the grants utilized by the department.
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Award Recipients for 2009

Department Awards
Sheriff's Distinguished Service Medal
Norma Nares

Extraordinary Achievement Award
Harres Karim
Joe Prescott
Lita Santos

Medal Of Merit
Kirby Beyer
David Myers
Scott Rossall
Margaret Sanflippo

Meritorious Unit Citation
Client System Services Team
Fugitive Task Force
Lemon Grove Detective Unit
Lemon Grove Gang Suppression Team
NetRMS Unit
Operation Stonegarden “Sand Castle Nights”

Certificate Of Lifesaving
Edward Augustine
David Dorroh
Michael Farrell
Scott Kennedy
Cydney King
Marc Snelling

Certificate Of Commendation
James Cady
Colin Ingraham
Roy Mayne
Margaret Sanflippo

Letter Of Commendation
Scott Adkins (Chula Vista PD)
Joe Barry
Thomas Fletcher
Marco Garmo
Wade Gregg (US Marshal)
Yosh Kakkad
Mike Krugh
Orlando Martinez
Don Root

Outstanding Employee Award
Sandy Curry
Jody Mays
Brian Sampson

Civilian Awards
Distinguished Service Medal
Alvaro Brander
Debra Fraser
Victor Hensley
William Keefer
Steven King
Rory Mezzanatto

Credits
Editor Office of Public Affairs
Design BrainShine Design
Photography Sandy Huffaker