

Rocklin PD Newsletter

November/December 2015

Volume 10, Issue 6

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of-duty in 2015 was 40 years old, the average length of service was 12.5 years, and 92 percent of the fallen were male officers, with 8 percent of the fallen female officers. The NLEOMF statistics reveal that of the firearms-related fatalities in 2015, seven officers were shot and killed during traffic stops, six officers were killed in ambush attacks and five officers were slain while investigating suspicious persons. Officers handling domestic violence calls resulted in seven of the 2015 shooting deaths of officers. Of course, these are only the officer death statistics; officer on-duty injuries for 2015 most certainly reached into the several thousands.

Chief's Chatter by Chief Ron Lawrence



Policing is a dangerous profession; always has been. Policing does not appear to be getting any less dangerous any time soon, and although Rocklin is a safe community, the criminal and terrorist element can present itself in any community at a moment's notice. According to the *National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF)*, one law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty somewhere in the United States on average every 60 hours. Since the first known line-of-duty death in 1791, more than 20,000 U.S. law enforcement officers have made the ultimate sacrifice. This past year, Texas had the highest number of fatalities losing 12 officers in 2015. Eleven officers died in Georgia, nine in Louisiana, and six in both California and New York. Thirty-three states lost at least once officer this year. According to statistics released this week by the *International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)*, 129 U.S. law enforcement officers tragically died in the line-of-duty in 2015, down 3% from 2014 during which there were 133 fatalities. Of the 129 officers killed during 2015, 49 were the result of traffic and motor vehicle-related incidents, 41 were the result of firearms-related incidents, 18 were the result of fatal heart attacks, 21 officers died from other causes. The average officer's age killed in the line-

As we close out 2015 and memorialize those officers killed in the line-of-duty during 2015, I salute our officers who protect and serve our local communities with honor, integrity and professionalism every day, night, weekend and holiday. January 9th was national Law Enforcement Appreciation Day (LEAD), and I was fortunate to attend an event in Sacramento along with City Council members Diana Ruslin and Scott Yuill, City Manager Rick Horst, Special Projects Manager Troy Holt and our Rocklin Police Command Staff, to honor our local police professionals. I was pleased to spend the day reflecting on the importance of our brave men and women who wear a badge and do work that many chose not to because of the danger; physical, mental and emotional. The LEAD day also caused me to reflect on how fortunate I am to be the police chief for the City of Rocklin; not because policing here is any less dangerous, but because of the tremendous community support. It is clear to me and to our police professionals (officers, professional staff, and volunteers) that our Rocklin community has our backs and appreciates all that we do to keep our city safe.

1 Source: NLEOMF / www.nleomf.org

2 Source: IACP / www.iacp.org

Team Bonding and Tamales by Sergeant Adrian Passadore



After being an officer for over 20 years, I have become a huge advocate of team work. This is not a job where you can go it alone and be successful. I can't count the number of times I have needed to rely on other officers; in some of the cases they literally saved my life. There is no way I can explain the bond that occurs between people who have faced traumatic situations together but trust me it's there. When I became a patrol sergeant, I was determined to do everything I could to promote team bonding.

This year I had my team come to my house and we enjoyed some

pork tamales prepared by my wife and mother. Tamales at Christmas time are a family tradition and they are very delicious. We ate; we laughed and talked about the last 5 months working together on weekend swing shift. It was a good time. After we were done, we went into service and worked the next 12.5 hours on a holiday weekend. All in all, if I couldn't be with my family, I was glad to be with my patrol team. As the New Year came, we all went in different directions. I hope someday when I am retired the guys remember the tamales and the good times we had together as the swing shift patrol team!



Oh How the Times and "Dimes" Have Changed by Captain Lon Milka



At my previous agency prior to coming to work for Rocklin Police Department

in 1994, when the "watch desk" wanted a deputy to call from the field, the deputy would simply pull up to a payphone and dial 9-1-1 and the sergeant answered. For some, it might be difficult to imagine a world without cell phones or the thought of police officers actually utilizing public telephones.

Shortly after arriving at Rocklin Police Department, I was asked over the radio to call the watch sergeant. I simply pulled up to a payphone and dialed 9-1-1. The sergeant asked, "what the heck are you doing calling 9-1-1?" I responded, "I don't have a dime." So even back in 1994, that Sergeant wasn't surprised I was calling in from a payphone, he just didn't want me to tie up the 9-1-1 emergency line!

(NOTE: If you are too young to know what the heck I am talking about when referencing payphones and how it relates to a dime, please google it!)

An Overview of Rocklin Dog Licensing Studies and Conclusions by Captain Lon Milka



Over the years we have encouraged our employees to identify and fix or repair systems and/or procedures that were broken or could use improvement. In this article, I explain how I found that our system of dog licensing was not working well and what was done to get our system hitting on all eight cylinders. In part II of this article it will detail our continued efforts to improve our dog licensing coordination and outreach.

In May of 2009 I completed a study on dog licensing and the need to improve on how it was being managed:

- Before January 2009, dog licensing was the responsibility of the Finance Department. Responsibility for licensing shifted to the PD, more specifically, to the Records Unit.
- In 2008 there were a total of 1483 “active” dog licenses.
- During that same year, the dog licensing fee increased significantly to \$129 for a 3-year licensed for an unaltered dog and \$64.50 for an altered one.
- The city had no method of taking credit card payments for dog licenses.
- Prior to fall of 2007, the ACO’s had not issued citations to the owners of unlicensed dogs who were in violation of the municip-

pal code.

- The software program HdL was being utilized for database purposes for licensing tracking. It was somewhat awkward to use for our particular application and getting accurate data for reporting purposes was cumbersome.
- The PD had no way of knowing which dogs had received rabies vaccinations from veterinarians.
- The fees for licensing a dog were not available on our website and dog owners had to telephone or come to the police department for this information.

My recommendations at that time were to:

- Lower the cost of licensing a dog.
- Improve the website.
- Create better systems for the renewal of dog licenses.

We improved our services to the community with each of the recommendations.

I looked for ways to further increase the percentage of dogs that are properly licensed within the city and looked at outsourcing of licensing services to unburden staff from the work associated. With increased diligence by the police department staff at all levels and with the reduction in dog licensing fees to \$86 (and \$43) for a 3-year license, there

were 3870 active dog licenses as of June 20, 2011.

I recommended moving to Petdata, Inc for the administration of dog licensing and after the city council agreed, by December of that year we were up and running.

At about this same time, a previously unenforced Rocklin ordinance began to be enforced: *6.24.010 (D) - Vaccination required - Every veterinarian, after vaccinating a dog for rabies, shall issue a certificate and furnish one copy of the certificate to the owner of the dog and one copy to the animal control officer. The certificate shall be in the form prescribed by the animal control officer.*

With the main goal of dog licensing being the better deliverance of service by the department, the enforcement of the ordinance adopted in 1982 has helped the department license even more dogs.

Our efforts to enhance our Animal Control Unit goals continue to this day and are described in part II of this article written by Animal Control Officer Stacy Stout and Lt. Horrillo.

Animal Control—Goals, Efforts and Results by ACO Stacy Stout and Lieutenant Scott Horrillo



If you own a dog in the City of Rocklin you are required by city code and state law to have your pet vaccinated for Rabies. Currently there are almost 5,100 licensed dogs in Rocklin, tracking vaccinations for such a large number can be difficult, but with the help of a private company, Petdata, the Rocklin Police Department has increased our efforts and efficiency in this endeavor.

Since the department joined forces with Petdata, we have worked to find better ways to serve our clients, the citizens of Rocklin. One such improvement was for Petdata to work directly with veterinary (vet) businesses in Rocklin. The vets report all vaccination data to Petdata for dogs that live in Rocklin. Once the local vet sends their vaccination report to Petdata, Petdata checks the dog against their current dog license data base to determine if the dog is licensed. If the dog is not properly licensed, Petdata will send the pet owner a notice informing the owner of how to properly license their pet. Petdata also sends out notices for pets whose license is close to

expiring.

After three attempts by Petdata to get pet owners to license their pets, pet owners who have not responded to the renewal or billing notices will be put on an enforcement list. Petdata sends the enforcement list to Rocklin Animal Control.

Rocklin Animal Control Officers (ACO) takes the following steps from the enforcement list:

- ACO respond to pet owner's address and educate them on the requirement for licensing. If no contact is made then a door hanger and licensing application is left advising the resident to call ACO.
- If the pet owner moved or the pet no longer belongs to the owner, ACO updates Petdata and Rocklin Animal Control records. If a new resident resides at the address with a pet we will advise them on the requirement to license their dog and a 30 day fix it ticket will be issued to ensure compliance.
- If ACO contacts the pet owner who still refuses to license their pet, ACO will then issue them a citation for failure to license.

Although we work with Petdata, ACOs are responsible for a large portion of the process which is very time consuming. This is one area we are looking at to improve

the process and become more efficient, for example:

- Improve our collaborative efforts with local vets to inform pet owners of vaccination requirements. Give the client a packet of licensing information for the client to complete after vaccination is completed.
- Work with apartment complexes to include a licensing packet for their new residents.
- Hold quarterly licensing clinics to assist Rocklin pet owners with licensing.

Working with Petdata has helped to streamline the licensing process for Rocklin pet owners. In the past, pet owners were required to come into the police department to license their pet. Since working with Petdata, pet owners now can complete the process by mail or online. Pet owners can also update and or add/delete their name, address, phone number, email address, rabies vaccination, microchip information, or pet status via their online profile. Having such a strong database of licensed pets has had an added benefit of helping animal control officers reunite lost dogs with their rightful owners on many occasions.

Knowing your ABC's by Corporal Greg Jensen



While hiking in the mountains of Colorado, I recently got lost and had to spend a lonely night under a tree. Small items in which I brought made a huge difference in my level of comfort. Just as it is important to be prepared while hiking in the back country, having a basic knowledge in medical aid can be very useful. As it relates to CPR, it is valuable to know your ABC's. A is used for AIRWAY. If someone is located unconscious, the first thing you want to do is check their airway and be sure to clear any obstructions. Secondly, you want to check for BREATHING. This can be done by watching the chest rise, feeling for

breath and checking for a pulse. Following the breathing is CIRCULATION. If someone is not breathing you want to ensure oxygenated blood is being circulated. This is done by providing chest compressions. Chest compressions ensure blood is being circulated throughout the body and oxygen is making it to the brain. Once it is determined CPR is needed, the order is C-A-B. Start with chest compression, ensure the airway is clear and go to providing breaths. Several years ago, Lieutenant Richardson was first on scene to a child who had drowned in a pool. Using the knowledge he had in CPR, Lieutenant Richardson was able to successfully revive the child and save their life! Rocklin Police officers attend annual training on basic medical for first re-

sponders. Our SWAT team has a Tactical Emergency Medical System also known as TEMS. This TEMS team addresses medical emergencies in an area where there is potential for danger. There are more complex specifics regarding CPR which I encourage everyone to learn to understand. For anyone interested in learning more please see a Rocklin police volunteer demonstration of how CPR should be performed. Until then, learn your ABC's.



Stay Safe! Stay Put! by Corporal Joyce Metzger



As the corporal on my team, I am always looking for training opportunities in both the legal and criminal world. This week I came across a training issue that I feel benefits everyone.

We hear news reports about the expected El Nino and how to prepare for bad weather. With bad weather, comes accidents and downed power poles. Do you know how to survive if power lines come down on a car?

If you are in a car with downed wires – always assume the wires are electrical and STAY PUT! Electric voltage disperses in ripples and will go down to the ground. People inside a car are protected, but bystanders or those who want to run in and help are in danger. Anyone crossing the ground within approximately 35 feet of the accident or downed power lines can be severely or even fatally injured.

The only time you should consider trying to leave the car is because of fire. But how? You do not want to touch the ground with one part of your body while at the same time,

holding on to part of the car. You must jump from the door sill without touching the car and land WITH BOTH FEET TOGETHER. You then move away from the car using short shuffle steps. Do not simply walk away from the car. Because the ground is energized, electrical current can travel through the body if your feet are not close together.

I will admit I had never heard the part about shuffling away from the car in order to avoid becoming a human lightning rod. I hope you never need to put this into action, but remember it just in case!

Reserve Unit by Sergeant Gil Farrulla



Many people wonder what is a “Reserve” Police Officer? Are they the “same” as a normal Police

Officer? The simple answer is yes, although the real answer might be a little more complex. California Penal Code Section 832.6 defines the responsibilities and duties of different level Reserve Officers.

Level I Reserve Officers are officers that have attended and successfully completed a full police academy, just like our full time sworn staff. They can be assigned to the “prevention and detection of crime and the general enforcement of the laws of the state of California.”

Level II Reserve Officers have slightly less training, but can also be assigned to the “prevention and detection of crime and the general enforce-

ment of the laws of the state of California.” However they must be under the immediate supervision of a peace officer who has completed the police academy.

A Level III Reserve Officer has less training than either a Level I or a Level II. They can only be deployed and are only authorized to carry out limited support duties not requiring general law enforcement powers in their routine performance. Those limited duties shall include: traffic control, security at parades and sporting events, report taking, evidence transportation, parking enforcement, and other duties that are not likely to result in physical arrests. It all sounds confusing but in short, the more the officer is trained, the more they can do.

Currently, the Rocklin Police Department has two Level I Reserve Officers, one Level II Reserve Officer, and one Level III Officer. We will be recruiting in the very near future and accepting applications. Those who are

interested are encouraged to check the City of Rocklin website, Human Resources Department/Job Openings often for updates.

We use our Reserve Officers to supplement normal patrol operations and for special events. During the past year, our Reserve Unit has assisted in the following events: Patriots’ Day, Run Rocklin, Public Safety Fair, School Events and Festivals, Drug Buy Back Events, and DUI checkpoints to name just a few.

Being a Reserve Officer means being part of a larger team, giving back to our community, and serving the public. It can be a great way to get involved at your local police department, begin a career in law enforcement, or it can also be a noble way to serve your community if you are a working professional. Please visit “CalOpps.org” for more information about how to apply, <https://www.calopps.org/search.cfm>, or the City of Rocklin webpage.

