

ROCKLIN PD NEWS



Rocklin Police Department

Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

As of this writing, we have completed 380 of the 382 CALEA standards necessary for accreditation. Staff members are putting the finishing touches on files for the “mock” assessment in early October and the final assessment in December. All along the way we have been improving as an organization.

When we signed our contract with CALEA just two years ago, we were unsure about how much work it would take to fulfill the standards. However, we set an aggressive schedule to complete the three-year process in two years and I would say we are going to make it just under the wire!

The process of agency self-examination and development has not been easy, but few things worth doing are. This process is voluntary. So why would anyone want to place more work upon themselves? To answer that we probably need to

look at the first sentence in our Vision Statement: *“The Rocklin Police Department will be known far and wide for excellence.”* We collectively developed this **idea** of excellence. We framed what excellence in law enforcement looks like. Then, because having an idea is nothing without action, we set a course to make it so. Part of this course is accreditation.

Within our organization, some have been more actively involved than others in writing policies, procedures, and finding proofs. But, every one of us is part of accreditation. CALEA Standards in general ask an agency to define, in detail, the best way to carry out the law enforcement mission in nearly every facet. Then, prove that the agency is actually carrying out the mission in the ways defined. For some of us, our part was defining in detail the best way to carry out our mission in

writing. For the rest of us it is carrying out our mission the best way we know how - every day.

As a leader in our organization, I am very happy that we did not water down our Vision to say, *“we would be known far and wide for our mediocrity.”* Although I may have been able to spend a few more days fishing in the last couple of years, we would not be where we are today....closer to our vision....closer to this to this **idea** of excellence.



Special Points of Interest

- Message from the Chief
- Operational Readiness
- Cal Card Program Begins

Operational Readiness, by Captain Dan Ruden

Military Definition: (DOD, NATO) *The capability of a unit/formation, ship, weapon system or equipment to perform the missions or functions for which it is organized or designed. May be used in a general sense or to express a level or degree of readiness.*

Lately there has been a lot of talk around the police department about “Operational Readiness”. So what does Operational Readiness really mean? Over the past several months, many of you have seen Operational Readiness checklists or have been asked to take on new Operational Readiness responsibilities. So what’s going on?

The fact is Operational Readiness affects just about everything we do. If we’re not operationally ready, everyone is negatively affected. In any law enforcement agency there are countless supplies, devices, systems and pieces of equipment that are used routinely. Some of them are needed on a daily basis and some very infrequently. The difficult part is this: the items we use the least are often the ones whose availability and functionality are the most critical when the need arises. For example, a throw-phone can be a life-critical piece of equipment in a hostage situation. Yet

hostage situations, thankfully, are somewhat rare. When a hostage situation occurs, that device must be immediately accessible to field negotiators; it must be in perfect working condition with no missing parts and with batteries installed and fresh. So who keeps an eye on the readiness of the throw-phone and checks on it regularly? That’s the point of Operational Readiness, and there are dozens and dozens of other examples.

As you think back on your career, can you think of a time when a piece of urgently needed equipment was in less than ready condition when you needed it? Unfor-

tunately, as people come and go from various assignments, the responsibility for systems, supplies and pieces of equipment like throw-phones can get lost in the shuffle. And this goes for almost everything you can think of that a police department needs, from stocking of copy paper to ordering ammunition to testing radio systems to servicing Tasers. These issues are literally the

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“supply lines” for our field and front-line personnel. The behind the scenes maintenance of everything from generators to patrol cars to projector bulbs affects everyone. This attention to maintenance, keeping critical equipment in a ready condition and the replenishing of supplies is what we call, “Operational Readiness”.

Each of your division commanders has the final responsibility to ensure that your supply lines are open and

that your equipment is in a state of Operationally Readiness. But Operational Readiness goes beyond supplies and systems. Take a moment and think about your own personal Operational Readiness. For the field officer, for example, how often do you check your handcuffs to ensure they are functioning, clean and ready? We all know there won't be time to check them when you're trying to put them on a struggling suspect. Are your recorder batteries, radio battery, handgun and other equipment operationally ready? What about your own physical and men-

tal Operational Readiness? And finally, what if you encounter Departmental equipment or supplies that are not in a state of operational readiness? Do you know who to notify to get it corrected? If not, contact your supervisor to find out.

We all share the responsibility to be operationally ready, both personally and organizationally. This is a profession where our safety and the safety of those we serve literally rely on Operational Readiness. We all owe it to each other to keep the

“supply lines” open, and to keep ourselves and the Department in a state of Operational Readiness. If you discover a deficiency, take the time to “own” that problem and notify the right person or help to get it resolved. And while we're not perfect, 100% Operational Readiness should be everyone's goal. What can YOU do today to support Operational Readiness?

Score Another One for Auto Task Force, by Detective Mike Gandy

The Placer County Regional Auto Theft Task Force (RATTF) made a substantial arrest regarding multiple auto thefts from Placer and Sacramento Counties. Zachariah Thomason, a Sacramento native and career criminal was arrested and charged with multiple counts of possession of stolen vehicles, grand theft auto, possession of burglary tools, burglary, identity theft and other various charges. After receiving information from Motor Officer Steve Ortmann, RATTF Detectives were able to obtain surveillance photos of Thomason using one of the vic-

tims stolen credit cards in Sacramento. Thomason was identified from the photographs by a SACCATS (Sacramento County auto theft) detective. A probation search was conducted in North Highlands and Thomason was arrested and implicated himself in over half of the stolen vehicle investigations. During the probation search, stolen property from (2) Sacramento County stolen vehicles was located along with a large amount of tools and vehicle parts. Thomason has already pled guilty in Placer County Superior Court to (7) of the (11) stolen vehicles

he was linked to and will be sentenced on October 22, 2007.



EMD helps save a life, by Jennifer Collins

Angela Diehl played a large part in making a field save on a choking patient that eventually went into cardiac arrest on September 1st. Angie took the 9-1-1 call and began providing medical instructions to the reporting caller. The Heimlich maneuver was utilized and eventually CPR instructions were given. After Fire and Medical arrived the patient was resuscitated and was even talking by the time he arrived at the hospital. Angie, along with her field partners saved a life and should be commended. Great job Angie!

CAL-Card Program, by Aaron Robertson

The City of Rocklin is implementing a new purchase card program, known as CAL-Card, with the first wave of cards arriving at the end of October. Police employees, depending upon role, will be issued a Visa-type card to help streamline and simplify requisitioning, purchasing and payment of budgeted items.

Supervisors will carry the cards, while all other employees will be assigned a card, but the card will remain in the Training Manager's office. Training, travel and related expenses will be charged to an individual employees card and they will take the card with

them to training but return it when the training is complete. All cardholders must complete and receive a certificate for an Access On-Line Web based training prior to receiving the CAL-Card.



More Than a Partner, by Cpl. Rich Cabana

On Thursday August 23rd K-9 Officer Rich Cabana returned home from an out of town trip and noticed that his partner, Ingo (a German shepherd) was not his typical self...

"Out of concern, I called Loomis Basin and they recommended watching him for the night and if he didn't improve to bring him in the next day.

After no improvement in his condition, I took him in to Loomis Basin the following morning . He was admitted so they could conduct tests and watch him.

By Saturday morning they had performed an abdominal ultrasound on him and said they did not find any obstructions in his intestines or stomach, but did notice his colon was torsioned (turned over on itself) causing a

blockage. They also found that he had a large abdominal mass or tumor which was growing into or off of the vena cava. The vena cava is the large artery that supplies blood to the back end of the dog.

The decision was made to transport Ingo to the UC Davis Vet Hospital to correct the torsion to the colon. While at UCD, they conducted further tests and surprisingly the colon had corrected itself and was now back where it should be, no longer an emergency.

Unfortunately, their abdominal ultrasound also found the same mass that Loomis Basin found. The doctor I spoke with said the mass could be "debulked", but not entirely removed due to its location in

the body. In addition, the surgery to remove the tumor is typically a greater risk to the dog then allowing it to run its course. I was told the mass commonly is not painful for the dog.

There is no time frame on how long he will be with us, but he is in a fight he cannot win.

It could be days, weeks, or months before the tumor makes it impossible for him to work.

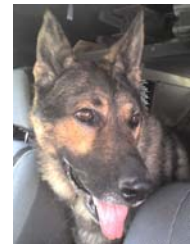
There is no way to tell.

For now, the doctor said that as long as he is acting normal and has the desire and drive to work that he can continue to work.

Ingo has been my partner for the last five years and at home he is very friendly and social; he gets along very well with everyone.

Ingo has done a fine job for The City of Rocklin and I can guarantee that he has saved officers from assaults by his mere presence. He has also saved countless hours of officer time by searching buildings and areas for suspects.

It appears that as of now, the tumor is not having any further affect on him. He seems to be his same old self, ever ready to prove that he can still run with the big dogs and eager to handle any task that is put in front of him."



"The Working Dog"

My eyes are your eyes, To watch and protect yours. My ears are your ears, To hear and detect evil minds in the dark. My nose is your nose, To scent the invader of your domain. And so you may live, my life is also yours. *Author Unknown*

California Law Enforcement Challenge Awards, by Lt. Mike Freeman



On September 17th our department was presented with two awards for our efforts in traffic safety. The California Law Enforcement Challenge, sponsored by the Office of Traffic Safety, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and the California Highway Patrol was created to promote the goals of the states strategic plan in three areas

of traffic safety. The competition focused on enforcement of occupant protection, driving under the influence and speeding laws that help reduce fatalities on California's roadways.

Six out-of-state law enforcement judges spent five days scoring the many state-wide submissions this year and awarded our department 1st place

in the overall category for agencies 51-100 sworn. We also received a special 1st place award in the speed enforcement category, competing against departments of all sizes.

Please help me congratulate the traffic unit and the many other people involved in this years challenge. Great job everyone!

Rocklin PD Investigates and Arrests "Incident Exposure", by Lt. Lon Milka

Rocklin was shaken to its core on Tuesday, Sept 11th, when 3 of its most impressionable citizens were flashed and subjected to lewd behavior by an unknown male as they traversed home from school. Reports of indecent exposure and/or annoying a minor were taken that evening and vehicle and suspect descriptions were obtained.

Based upon information given at briefing the next day, the weekday day team directed their patrol efforts to the area

of Stanford Ranch where the lewd conduct had occurred the day before.

In the meantime, **School Resource Officer Jay Newton** notified Rocklin High School of the incidents of the day before and the ball started rolling for student and parental notification. Other local schools were notified as well. This extensive notification effort led to the identification of the third victim.

Officer Sue Davis spotted a vehicle and suspect matching the descriptions in the exact same area

and within the same time frame as the day before. She initiated a traffic stop and an investigation was launched.

Sergeant Jamie Knox spearheaded the investigation and based upon the results, an arrest warrant was obtained and an arrest was made on the following Thursday: All within 48 hours of the 3 lewd incidents.

The community of Rocklin was thankful for the arrest of the suspect as evidenced by some online comments to the Sac Bee website:

[keyon](#) at 6:10 AM PST Friday, September 14, 2007 wrote:

Thank you Rocklin PD for being diligent and making an arrest. Like all communities, this is a family community and when someone goes after our children its not tolerated.

[wkgarner](#) at 8:51 AM PST Friday, September 14, 2007 wrote:

Thank you Rocklin PD for keeping our town and kids safe and working quickly to apprehend this predator.