

ROCKLIN PD NEWS



Rocklin Police Department

Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

Special Points of Interest

- Message From the Chief
- Minor Decoys Needed
- Check Scam Suspect
- Captains' Challenge
- Oct 9th, A Day of Remembrance

The department recently hired a consultant named Dot Bieniex and a firm called Lominger to help with the 360 Feedback process for supervisors and managers. What does this mean to you? Well on the effort side, line-staff will be asked to complete surveys about your supervisors and managers. Supervisors and managers will be asked to complete surveys on peers, subordinate supervisors, and their managers. On the reward side for our efforts, the outcomes should build better leaders within our organization and better people to work with and for.

So far, Dot has worked with staff and RPOA leadership to develop the survey competency topics and the actual process we will employ. The leaders who will be rated, (all supervisors and managers) identified their superiors, direct boss, peers, direct reports, and others. For shift sergeants and corporals, their direct reports

included the officers on their shifts during the last two rotations. Those names and email addresses have been given to the consultant. It is likely that most, if not all of you will receive an email from Lominger inviting you to go on-line and complete a survey about one or more supervisors or managers. This process is completely anonymous. Each survey takes about 30 minutes, but the subsequent surveys will go faster than the first. Your supervisor will give you time on-duty to complete these surveys, or you may choose to do them from any computer with internet access.

The information received through the survey will be compiled by the consultant on each supervisor or manager. The consultant will then meet with each supervisor or manager, share the results and develop an Individual Development

Plan (IDP). Supervisors will share their IDPs with their boss and be accountable for implementing the plan.

This process will take three to four months and in the end I am sure that we will all grow from it. Anyone in this organization who works for a boss has a serious stake in this process. Please take the time to be thoughtful and serious in your answers to the survey. This will take some effort from everyone in the department, but I am sure the outcomes will be worth every minute we invest.



Captains' Corner by Dan Ruden and Ron Lawrence

Un-trainable?

On September 12th, Captains Ruden and Lawrence squeezed into their uniforms, grabbed a patrol car, and worked as a double unit with Sgt. Roide's Weekday Grave Team. After re-familiarizing themselves with the interior of a modern police car, and an inadvertent activation of an alert button, the enthusiastic pair set out together to fight crime and, "show those youngin's how it's done." Chief Siemens, upon hearing of the Captains'

scheme, rushed into Dispatch and pleaded, "Don't let those two get into too much trouble." Pictured here returning from a call, the captains said, "The officers and dispatchers of Weekday Graves exhibit tremendous teamwork; they were great hosts and managed to keep us safe. We'd like to talk more, but there's crime to fight. 3-Charles-1 & 2, 10-8!"

Last Month's Captain's Challenge: List all the law enforcement agencies Captain Lawrence and

Captain Ruden have been a sworn member of.
ANSWER:

- Placer County SO
- Lincoln PD
- West Sacramento PD
- S. San Francisco PD
- Folsom PD
- Palo Alto PD
- Cal. State Fair PD
- Sacramento Co. SO
- Rocklin PD

This week's Captains challenge is on pg. 2



3 Charles 1 & 2 working as a double-unit on the Weekday night shift

Investigations “On Fire” With Arson Arrest

by Detective Sgt. Lon Milka

Rocklin Fire and Police Departments recently collaborated to solve an arson within hours. During the early morning hours of August 15th, a domestic violence situation led to an arson fire at a duplex on Merrywood Drive. Rocklin Fire Department Arson Investigator Sedric Ketchum led the investigation at the scene by identifying and collecting evidence, allowing Rocklin Police Department detectives to hit the pavement running and concentrate on the apprehension of the suspect. Patrol officers responded and got clear and detailed statements from victims and witnesses even as the fire was still burning.

Detective Sgt. Lon Milka and Detective Mike Gandy obtained

statements from other witnesses and created a timeline of what the suspect did during the crucial hours before discovery of the fire, laying the groundwork for the subsequent interview with the suspect. “When we know what happened at the scene prior to the interview an investigator can determine the truthfulness of a suspect and use his lies against him,” said Milka.

The suspect in the arson fire was arrested less than 14 hours after the fire completely destroyed one-half of the duplex and severely damaged the other.

Placer County DDA Karin Bjork was thrilled at the high quality of case presented to the District Attorney.

Minor Decoys Needed by Lt. Dave Johnstone

The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control recently awarded Rocklin PD \$15,000 to reduce the number of businesses which sell alcohol to minors and reduce youth access to alcohol. The Minor Decoy Program uses persons under 20 years of age to pose as undercover minor decoys to purchase alcoholic beverages from licensed premises. The Decoy Program has been recognized as an excellent method to attack the problems associated

with the unlawful purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages by young people.

The grant will be used to pay for overtime or straight time salary costs to conduct undercover minor decoy stings at both on-sale (restaurants and bars) as well as off-sale (grocery and liquor stores) businesses with liquor licenses in Rocklin. The School Resource Officers will be the primary coordinators of the minor

decoy sting operations. We encourage sworn officers to watch for overtime postings and get involved with these operations. This is a great opportunity to experience undercover, plainclothes operations if you have not had that level of experience.



Investigators Solve Crimes by Detective Sgt. Lon Milka

Rocklin Police Department’s Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), was instrumental in solving several cases recently, including a Roseville Police Department case.

The Rocklin PD Crime Lab processes dozens of fingerprint requests from patrol and investigations each month. Recently, a stolen car was processed after the driver fled on foot and escaped. However, he left behind one very important clue as to his identity: his fingerprint. Crime Lab Technician Sara Boccoleri examined the

clue and, using the AFIS system, she identified the bad guy in just a few hours after the processing had begun.

Detective Mike Gandy arrested the suspect who has an extensive criminal history of vehicle theft and vehicle pursuits among other things.

The success of the Rocklin Police Department’s AFIS program continued when a Roseville Police Department detective asked Rocklin’s Crime Lab to process a fingerprint on a “washed”, and subse-

quently cashed, personal check. The suspect was identified in less than 30 minutes. If the check would have been processed by the California Department of Justice Crime Lab, the results would not have been known for months.

These are just two examples of the success of our AFIS program. Congratulations to Wendy Smith for obtaining the grant to purchase this system.

Washington State Killer Caught In Rocklin by Lt. Steve Newman

On September 14th, 2006, Sergeant Horrillo saw a suspicious vehicle driving along Springview Dr. and stopped the car for expired registration. When the driver gave false identifying information, Horrillo and Officer Cruz checked DMV Cal photo and confirmed the driver was lying.

After Officer Natalie Constable, who speaks Russian, interviewed the other passengers to determine the driver’s true identity, the officers arrested the driver for providing false information and transported him to the police department for further investigation. Officer

Cruz fingerprinted the driver and CSO Smith identified him using the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). Using this information Detective Gandy discovered the driver had an outstanding out of state murder warrant for an execution style point blank shooting of a victim from Washington State.

Everyone involved exhibited a high degree of professionalism and teamwork as they investigated this “routine” car stop and removed a dangerous criminal from our streets.

Captains’ Challenge

Caption Contest



The author of the winning caption will receive a valuable prize. Submit entries to Virginia by Sept. 22nd.



Check Scam Suspect by Detective Sgt. Lon Milka

A case originating with not enough money in the bank turned out to be much more for Rocklin Police Detectives. In early September, I received an email from RC Willey Loss Prevention detailing purchases by a subject and an apparent accomplice using checks. The two were in the store about six times in one week, buying over \$4000 of electronic devices. All the checks were returned non sufficient funds (NSF). Due to the number of times the two were in the store over a short period of time, the large dollar purchases, and the fact that each and every check was returned NSF, I took a burglary report.

The investigation revealed the main suspect opened a checking account with \$25.00 deposited using his legitimate name, address, and CDL number. He then used an ATM to deposit a \$1200 check into the account on the same day.

Detectives Gandy, Jewell and I went to a Lincoln address in the beginning of September and recovered, among other things, a surround sound system "bought" from RC Willey.

The case now involves multiple jurisdictions, multiple victim retail establishments, and multiple financial institutions as doz-

ens of checks have been written on that same account. The deposited \$1200 check was a stolen/forged check and, as it turns out; multiple stolen/forged checks were 'deposited' into the suspect's checking account.

The suspect, arrested for burglary, was apparently told that law enforcement agencies do not investigate NSF checks. Normally victim businesses will attempt to deposit NSF checks two times and then send a letter to the check writer asking them to "clear up" the issue so that they can again submit the check for payment. This is a lengthy proc-

ess and may go to a collection agency. The suspect in this case was surprised when he was arrested for "bad" charges (actually burglary), saying he "never got a letter from RC Willey."

NSF checks are often part of a criminal enterprise and may not be as simple as a referral to the Placer County District Attorney and their NSF program.

October 9th, A Day of Remembrance by Captain Dan Ruden

October 9, 2006 marks the one year anniversary of the death of Rocklin Police Officer Matthew Redding. Officer Redding died in the line of duty while serving the citizens of Rocklin and protecting his fellow officers. Members of Peer Support, the Police Association and other employees have worked together to plan a number of remembrance activities for October 9th. These ceremonial activities are done to honor the memory of Matt, but recognition of the anniversary of Matt's death is also an important part of our grieving process and serves to pay appropriate respect to Matt's family, survivors and all those affected by this tragic loss.

The following events are planned for October 9, 2006:

- September 26, 2006 City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.: A Resolution declaring October 9th an "Official Day of Remembrance" in the City of Rocklin.
- A Special Order by the Chief of Police will officially retire radio call sign "3P20" and Rocklin PD badge number 215.
- Uniformed employees are

asked to wear a black band on their badge from Midnight to Midnight on October 9th.

- October 9, 2006, 04:08 hours: Dispatch will request a period of radio silence in r e m e m b r a n c e o f "3Paul20", Officer Matthew Redding.
- 07:00 hours: A wreath, photo and comment book will be placed in the police lobby and remain accessible to the public through Friday, October 13th.
- 12:00 hours: A Rocklin PD Honor Guard detail will decommission Officer Redding's mailbox and locker, placing the name plates in a special frame to be posted in the Patrol area of the police department.
- 18:00 hours: There will be a private reception for Rocklin PD employees and their families and the Redding family in the EOC/Community Room. Food and refreshments will be served.
- Comments and reflections

at the front plaza of the police department and a Candlelight vigil will follow the reception. Members of the public will be invited to participate at 19:00.

Officer Matt Redding was killed by a drunk driver in the early morning hours of October 9, 2005 on Highway 65 near Stanford Ranch Road while he was directing traffic away from his fellow officers. Officer Redding served as a Rocklin police officer for 4 years. He was a member of the Regional SWAT team and was decorated for Valor, Life Saving and Meritorious Service. Officer Redding was a champion in the fight against drunk driving and maintained the highest levels of activity in DUI enforcement. Matt was a man committed to his family and friends, his fellow officers and the community of Rocklin.



KUDOS



Dispatcher Ericka Kenady, along with others in the communications unit, recently designed and implemented a new dispatcher training program, including a training manual and classroom style instruction. The innovative classroom training includes a scavenger hunt to help new dispatchers learn city streets, flash cards, and quizzes to learn about co-workers. Rocklin's two newest public safety dispatchers, Angela Diehl and Barbara Blansett, gave the program rave reviews. Thanks Ericka for creating this fun and educational training.

City Employees Receive Emergency Operations Center Training by Bill Mikesell, Fire Chief

On Thursday, August 31, 2006, forty five city employees, along with eleven individuals from outside agencies, participated in a training exercise at the City of Rocklin's Emergency Operations Center (E.O.C.). Trainers from Police, Fire, Public Works, and Administrative Services Departments helped familiarize other city employees regarding activation and operation of the E.O.C. during a disaster.

The one hour walk-through was designed to help employees learn about E.O.C. Security, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. This exercise was a training opportunity to help Rocklin employees be prepared, and meet the requirements of the National Incident Management System (N.I.M.S.).

This training helped de-mystify the Emergency Operations Center for non-public safety employees, and helped our **Team Rocklin** prepare for the disaster management process.



Homeland Security Training

Matt Diridoni, Anisha Harper, Jennifer Stroble, Jennifer Collins, Rocklin Fire Captain Joe Siminski, and Rocklin Fire Battalion Chief John Shelton participated in a Homeland Security Communications Interoperability drill at Arco Arena on August 31st. The drill simulated two suicide bombers who detonated themselves during a sold out Kings game! The point of the drill was not to focus on our logistic or operational performance but our ability to communicate via radio to outside agencies. In the event we would require mutual aid or respond to aid another agency we proved we can

communicate successfully. The drill went off without a hitch with special thanks from the state-of-the-art Folsom Communication van.



Matt Diridoni, Anisha Harper, Jennifer Collins, and Jennifer Stroble

Rocklin Police Volunteer Wins Special Award by Mike Nottoli

I am pleased to announce that Rocklin Police Volunteer John Adams was selected Northern California Crime Prevention Volunteer of the Year by the California Attorney General's Office. John will receive his award at a special awards luncheon at the California Crime Prevention Officers Association Conference in San Mateo on September 27, 2006. Captain Ron Lawrence and I will accompany John when he receives his award.

John was nominated for this award because of his outstanding efforts to improve child safety in Rocklin. For the past two years, Mr. Adams has done an exemplary job designing, promoting, and managing the Rocklin Police Department's "Child Identification Program". Mr. Adams is a retired teacher and has dedicated his professional and retired life to the education and safety of children. His passion to educate parents and children about the importance of safety, awareness, and child identification has caught on in our community.

Since January of 2005, John has donated over 507 hours planning

and executing 30 large-scale "child identification and safety fairs". His efforts have resulted in more than 2,200 children being fingerprinted and receiving valuable information. He also recruited, scheduled, and trained 46 Rocklin Police Volunteers to run child identification booths! Mr. Adams is very well liked and respected by the rest of the volunteer staff and paid employees.

John is involved in the "Every 15 Minutes Program", volunteer patrol, and is currently developing a new child safety curriculum to present to elementary school children. His tireless effort to promote child safety and child identification in Rocklin makes him an extremely valuable crime prevention volunteer, and someone who is very deserving of this special recognition.



Volunteer John Adams

WELCOME OUR NEWEST OFFICER

Patrick O'Brien, our newest Police Officer, started work on Monday, September 11th, on day shift with Officer Ortman as his first FTO. He joins us from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, where he has been a deputy for the past eight years, and a Field Training Officer since 2003. Patrick and his wife Tona have two children, ages 21 and 15, and extended family living in Roseville. He is also a member of the Army National Guard in Sacra-

mento, where he is a Staff Sergeant in a Military Police Unit. Please take the time to introduce yourselves to Patrick as you see him around the Police Department. His official swearing-in was at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 12th.

Officer O'Brien is the first officer recruited through the new recruiting incentive program, recruited by Officer Brad Alford.



Patrick O'Brien Jr. pins his dad's badge during the swearing in ceremony