

Introduction

The population of Los Angeles County grew to over ten million people for the first time during 2004, a milestone that no other county in the United States can claim. Projections show an annual population increase of 1% - 1.5% per year during the foreseeable future; an extra 100,000 residents per twelve month cycle. Protecting the life, health, and property of these residents is the job of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, a task that can best be described as daunting. Yet, even in the face of a second straight year of draconian budget cuts, the 8,100 sworn personnel, along with 6,000 professional staff members, have kept up the fight against crime.

Deputies answering calls for service must navigate through the intricacies and customs of nearly a hundred cultures and languages, on a day-to-day basis. Diversity permeates the population of this County, as well as the topography. At any one time, deputies patrol the coastal beaches, through city streets, along mountain roads, even in the water and the sky. At the same moment, detectives from Homicide, Arson/Explosives, Operation Safe Streets, Family Crimes, and Major Crimes may be initiating or completing another investigation. Additionally, 64 Courthouses must be opened, dozens of transportation buses take suspects to those courts, and 17,000 inmates must be housed and fed each day in six custody facilities. Flying in the face of financial adversity, the Department began many new community outreach and safety programs, continued several popular existing programs, further prepared Department members in anti-terrorist scenarios, opened new satellite stations and service centers, and even began a campaign to hire new personnel to fill vacancies in the ranks.

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A Tradition



Of Service

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Major Accomplishments 2004-2005

- Developed the Sheriff Trainee on-line application program, making the initial step in the application process accessible worldwide to qualified candidates.
- Contracted for the installation of an additional 75 closed-circuit television cameras and video-recording capabilities for the Pitchess Detention Center • East Facility.
- Continued personnel training and equipment upgrades to combat and defeat terrorist acts within Los Angeles County.
- Destroyed another six tons of illegal weaponry confiscated by deputies and police officers from Los Angeles County, bringing the ten year total of "Project Isiah" to over 50,000 tons of weapons transformed into steel re-enforcement bar, used in building and highway construction.
- The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department University (LASDU) propagated the education of several hundred sworn and professional staff, all of whom earned either their Bachelor of Arts/Science or Master of Arts/Science from a diverse selection of institutions of higher learning, including Boston University, Woodbury University, California State University at Fullerton, California State University at Long Beach, California State University at Los Angeles, University of La Verne, Touro University International, National University, and the Irvine University School of Law.
- Broke ground and began construction of the new Sheriff's Crime Lab on the campus of California State University at Los Angeles.

