

Carson Station Wins Statewide Community Policing Award

On September 17, 2008, California Attorney General Edmund G. Brown, Jr. presented Captain Todd Rogers and the men and women of Carson Sheriff's Station with the 2008 James Q. Wilson Award for Excellence in Community Policing. This annual statewide award recognizes law enforcement agencies that have institutionalized community policing as a "way of doing business" rather than a limited program. Carson Station is the first Sheriff's Station to ever receive the award. The following is the abstract of Carson Station's nomination:

FIELD OPERATIONS REGION II | YEAR IN REVIEW 2008

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Carson Station has a three-pronged approach to solving public safety and disorder issues. Our emphasis is on suppression, prevention, and intervention.

Our suppression efforts are focused by conducting bi-weekly Crime Task Force meetings that involve all units based at the station and our allied public safety agencies. Crime trends are analyzed down to the most basic levels and suppression missions are assigned. Our success is evaluated at the subsequent meeting and then the process is repeated.

Problem-solving efforts are the responsibility of every station unit. Although we have special assignment teams to target longstanding problems that require a sustained response, our core patrol force shares in the responsibility of addressing problems that exist within their assigned reporting districts and are a priority to local residents.

In an effort to prevent crime from occurring, we are committed to our "Playing it Straight" youth intervention program that provides instruction on various sports, teaches life skills, and nurtures long-term relationships between the youngsters and their mentor deputies. It also assists parents with mandatory parenting classes.

Our Gang Diversion Team is a partnership between Carson Station and 45 community-based organizations that collaborate to "cure" clients from gang involvement with an individualized plan drawing on existing community resources. Follow-up is conducted by a deputy case manager to ensure that each client complies with the prescribed program. This program has served approximately 200 clients and enjoys an 84% success rate.

We have a tremendous partnership with the community due to our regularly held Neighborhood Partnership Meetings, Community Advisory Committee, Clergy Council, and a wide variety of other means by which we interact and collaborate.

Our partnership with public and private organizations is equally strong. Our allied public safety agencies participate in Crime Task Force meetings and we regularly work together to address public safety and disorder issues.

At Carson Station, Community Policing is the way of doing business. We believe that Community Policing is a "generalist" position that can, and should be done by everyone, not just the appointed Community Policing "specialists."

Our commitment to Community Policing has been instrumental in producing lower crime rates, solving long-standing problems, and the tremendous support that Carson Station enjoys within the community-at-large.

