

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

IN THE  
**LINE OF DUTY**

*2023 California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony*

# THEY STAND TALL AND



They stand tall. At about nine feet, they cast a long shadow. They have to. For the three bronze figures represent the 1,680 peace officers who have died in the line of duty since California became a state.

Vic Riesau, who retired in 1977 as a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Division Chief after a 25 year career, started a new career as an artist and sculptor.

His bronze figures depict a county sheriff of the 1880s, a state traffic officer of the 1930s, and a city patrol officer of the 1980s.

The three look down on a life-size bronze figure of a mother comforting her child sitting on a bench, representing the grief-torn families left behind.

"We pledge our best efforts to stand behind the men and women who stand behind the badge," said Governor George Deukmejian in dedicating the memorial. "The job of a peace officer is perhaps the most difficult and challenging one of all in our society. We are very thankful to those willing to risk injury even death in order to provide greater protection and safety for all of us."

"While it can surely be said that these men and women who have placed their lives on the line for the safety of their fellow man are heroes, we must recognize that simply donning the uniform of a peace officer has in itself become an act of courage," said dedication speaker David Snowden, Chief of the Costa Mesa Police Department.

"Too many of our men and women paid the ultimate price. Each time an officer gives his or her life in the daily performance of their job, a piece of foundation upon which this nation was formed is chipped away."

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15th falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. Surviving spouses grieving a lost partner; or children a missing parent; parents who have survived their son or daughter; brothers; sisters; fellow peace officers—so many of us will commemorate National Police Week as participants at local, regional, state and national Peace Officers Memorial services. Since 1977, California has memorialized our state's fallen heroes by conducting the California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremonies at our State Capitol. These ceremonies honor our state's peace officers who died in the line of duty the preceding year. Equally important, we recognize the sacrifice made by the officers' loved ones left behind.



We understand that the grief of the loss still lingers on, and such proceedings renew sad memories and can be the occasion of additional pain. However, it is important that those of us left behind, particularly the children, recognize that their mothers and fathers did not die in vain.

The people of California owe a great debt to those peace officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. That is why we memorialize our fallen heroes every year...not only to reflect on their courage and sacrifice, but to also assure their survivors know they are forever part of the law enforcement family.

# CAST A LONG SHADOW

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE

☞ HONORED OFFICERS ☞

OFFICER

TYLER RYAN LENEHAN  
*Elk Grove Police Department*  
*EOW: January 21, 2022*

OFFICER

HOUSTON RYAN TIPPING  
*Los Angeles Police Department*  
*EOW: May 29, 2022*

OFFICER

NICHOLAS J. VELLA  
*Huntington Beach Police Department*  
*EOW: February 19, 2022*

SERGEANT

MICHAEL PAREDES  
*El Monte Police Department*  
*EOW: June 14, 2022*

CORRECTIONAL LIEUTENANT

STEVEN M. TAYLOR  
*Riverside Co. Sheriff's Office*  
*EOW: February 24, 2022*

OFFICER

JOSEPH A. SANTANA  
*El Monte Police Department*  
*EOW: June 14, 2022*

OFFICER

JORGE DAVID ALVARADO, JR.  
*Salinas Police Department*  
*EOW: February 25, 2022*

DEPUTY

ISAIAH A. CORDERO  
*Riverside Co. Sheriff's Office*  
*EOW: December 29, 2022*

OFFICER

MICHAEL EDWARD WALL  
*Los Angeles Co. Probation Department*  
*EOW: April 30, 2021*



## OFFICER

# TYLER RYAN LENEHAN

*Elk Grove Police Department*

EOW: January 21, 2022

Officer Tyler Ryan Lenehan, known as “Ty” by his friends, family and law enforcement family, made an impact on those who crossed his path. In both his personal and professional lives, Ty is lauded for having a vibrant personality that brightened up everyone he met. He is praised by his law enforcement brothers and sisters as being, “an amazing human being” with a sense of humor and character that “was contagious to everyone who knew him.” Ty lived in Cameron Park, was a man of God and remained active within his church, Gold Country Baptist Church in Shingle Springs. He loved spending time with his family, hunting and barbecuing. Ty even had aspirations of obtaining his pilot’s license when he retired.

A retired dispatcher who worked with Ty during his rookie years remembers “his kind, caring and easygoing nature.” Another colleague called him, “a great beat partner and an even better friend.”

Before becoming a police officer, Ty worked side-by-side with his father as an electrician and served his country in the United States Air Force as an aircraft structural maintenance journeyman. He began working towards a career in law enforcement in 2012 attending the Sacramento Regional Public Safety Training Center (SRPSTC), American River College (ARC) Academy. That same year, Ty became a reserve police officer with the Citrus Heights Police Department. In 2014, he was hired as a police officer by the Galt Police Department and transitioned into becoming a motor officer. Ty joined the Elk Grove Police Department in 2016 and again followed his passion to be a motor officer.

On January 21, 2022, an intoxicated driver with a DUI record was traveling in the wrong direction on Highway 99 in Sacramento on a divided section of the highway. Officer Lenehan was riding his police motorcycle to work that morning when the driver hit him head on. Lenehan was ejected 100 feet. Despite lifesaving efforts by emergency responders at the scene and staff at the University of California, Davis Medical Center, Lenehan died from his injuries at the hospital. He was 44.



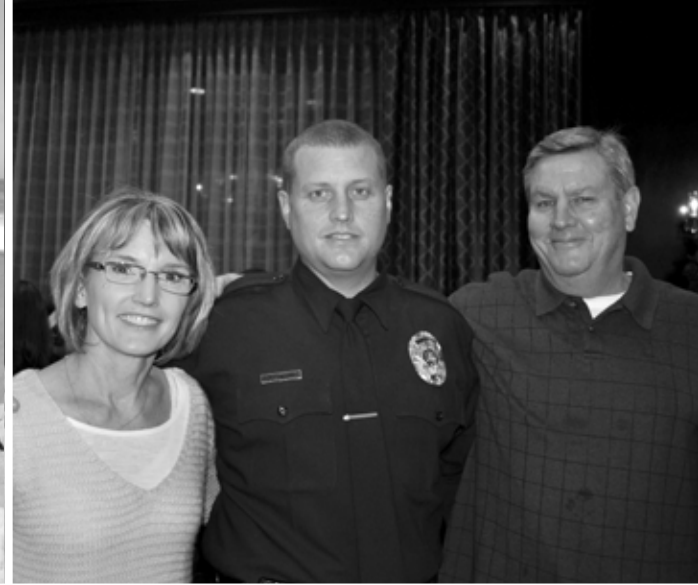
In January of 2023, nearly a year after his death, Ty was honored with a special ceremony and multiple tributes to honor his life, including a permanent memorial dedication sign being placed on both sides of Highway 99 between Sheldon Road and Grant Line Road in Elk Grove.

Officer Tyler Ryan Lenehan is survived by his parents, three siblings, two children, Austin and Sydney, and wife, Jessica, who is a Sacramento police officer. In September, she posted a personal reflection on the Officer Down Memorial Page, “Ty, you were by far the best cop. You were the one I always went to for questions and advice. I will do my best to carry on your impeccable service. Love you hubby.”

Officer Lenehan’s contributions will never be forgotten. He will be remembered for being a hard-working, devoted, genuine human being with an infectious smile that could light up a room.

### JOSHUA 1:9

*“This is my command—be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”*





## OFFICER

# NICHOLAS J. VELLA

*Huntington Beach Police Department*

EOW: February 19, 2022

**W**e remember Officer Nicholas J. Vella as a hero, but he displayed qualities of a superhero at a very young age. At his memorial service, his brother John Arthur Vella said, “Throughout his life, Nick’s smile and friendliness were almost like superpowers.” John Arthur went on to say, “He could disarm anyone with his smile and friendship.”

Nick was born and raised in Whittier, California, and moved to Laguna Beach in 1994. He graduated from St. Margaret’s Episcopal High School in San Juan Capistrano. There, he excelled in football and basketball and sang in the school choir.

Nick began his career in public service working as a lifeguard for the City of Laguna Niguel. Nick loved being outdoors and in the ocean. He enjoyed surfing at San Onofre and mountain biking. In 2002, the City of Laguna Beach hired him as a beach patrol officer. The following year, he was hired as a Laguna Beach police officer and began his law enforcement career. Nick continued at Laguna Beach PD for five years, but he had a goal to fly helicopters. In 2008, he lateralled to the Huntington Beach Police Department. At HBPD, Nick worked a variety of assignments, including patrol, beach detail and S.W.A.T. As an ancillary duty while still working patrol, he worked as a Tactical Flight Officer (TFO). In 2016, Nick was assigned to the Air Support Unit, where he earned the positions of police helicopter pilot and Certified Flight Instructor.

On February 19, 2022, Officer Vella, acting as the TFO, and another officer who was piloting the HBPD helicopter, were on their way to provide aerial support to the Newport Beach Police Department. They were responding to a report of a disturbance when the helicopter lost altitude and hit a strip of water between Lido Isle and the Balboa Peninsula. Both the pilot and Officer Vella were transported to a local hospital; however, Officer Vella did not survive. He was 44.

Nick dedicated 20 years of his life to law enforcement. At his memorial service, John Arthur Vella told the crowd that his

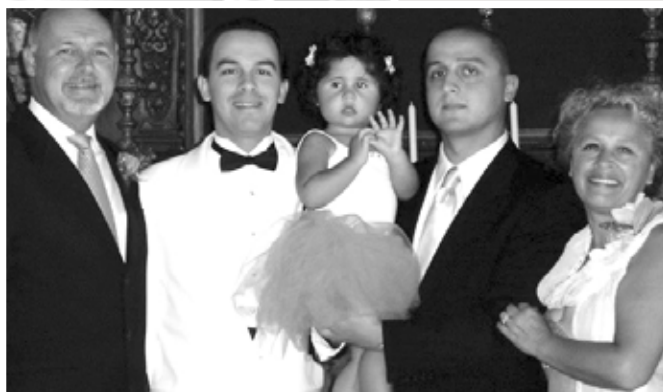
brother, Nick, had an innate desire to fight for the underdog and come to the aid of anyone being bullied. He called Nick “a guardian, a protector, a peacekeeper.” One of Nick’s colleagues said, “Protecting people was in Nick’s DNA, and he loved helping others.” Nick was known for his generosity. He was well-loved and well-respected. He was a leader. He exemplified courage. He wanted to be a police officer and he wanted to fly.

Nick was devoted to his wife, Kristi Tovar, and teenage daughter, Dylan. He is also survived by his parents, John and Marcella, brother John Arthur, and multiple extended family members.

Officer Nicholas Vella was an inspiration to many. Nicknamed “Sunshine” by his mom many years ago, it seems he spread quite a bit of sunshine during his time on Earth.

### JUST REMEMBER ME

*When you carve my name  
Into that hard marble wall,  
Please don't let my name ever be  
A name that you can't recall.  
Just remember me...  
A man whose heart was true.  
A man who proudly wore  
His badge, and the blue.  
Just remember the daddy  
Of now a fatherless girl.  
A gentle son  
A mother's pride and joy.  
The loving man  
Who held his wife under a moonlit sky.  
A strong man  
Who knew how to cry.  
Please don't let my name  
Die with me too,  
And just remember  
I was proud to wear the blue.*





# CORRECTIONAL LIEUTENANT STEVEN M. TAYLOR

*Riverside County Sheriff's Office*

EOW: February 24, 2022

Colleagues of Correctional Lieutenant Steven M. Taylor call him a “great guy” and a “good man.” Though his family would agree with those words, they are remembering Steve as a loving, compassionate, and supportive husband, father, son, brother, and uncle. He was a giving family man, a loyal friend and someone who enjoyed helping others. For fun, Steve loved to travel and eat delicious food.

One Riverside correctional deputy remarked on the Officer Down Memorial Page, “It was an honor to serve beside you” and that Steve’s quick wit, jokes, and comments “will always be remembered with a smile on our faces.” One of Steve’s law enforcement sisters who went through the academy with him said on the Riverside County Sheriff’s Office (RCSO) Facebook page that her best memory was his answers to the sergeant’s questions. “What was the best part of the academy?” Steve’s answer: “PT, sir!” “What was the worst part of the academy?” His answer: “PT, sir!” Besides Steve’s jokes about physical training, this colleague says his “wit, intelligence, and kindness will be sorely missed.” Someone else who served alongside Steve commented that he “so enjoyed our motorcycle rides back in the day.”

Correctional Lieutenant Taylor began his service with the RCSO as a correctional deputy in June of 1995. In September of 2006, Steve was promoted to correctional corporal and transferred to the Robert Presley Detention Center. About five years later, he was promoted to correctional sergeant. During his tenure, he also worked at the Southwest Detention Center, the Indio Jail and SITE-B. In January 2019, Steve was promoted to correctional lieutenant and once again assigned to Presley.

On December 21, 2021, Correctional Lieutenant Taylor arrived at work experiencing minor symptoms of an illness. One week later, he reported that the symptoms were getting worse. The following day, when he went to seek treatment, it was discovered

that his oxygen levels were not at the optimal range. When attempts to raise his oxygen levels failed, he was taken to the emergency room at Riverside Community Hospital. On January 6, 2022, Steve was sedated and placed on a ventilator. For the next three weeks, Steve’s condition varied greatly – from awakening and becoming somewhat responsive to being moved to a rehabilitative care facility. Tragically, after only a week at that facility, Steve suffered a sudden medical emergency. Despite lifesaving efforts by the medical staff, the team was not able to revive Steve, and he passed away. Correctional Lieutenant Taylor was 51 years old. It was determined that Steve had contracted COVID-19 while on the job at Robert Presley Detention Center, and his death was due to complications from the virus.

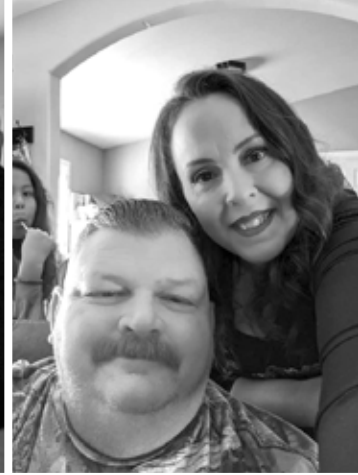


Correctional Lieutenant Steven M. Taylor is survived by his wife of 12 years, Lillia, along with his stepdaughter, mother, sister, and brother. Steve served with the Riverside County Sheriff’s Office for 27 years and his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

## AN IRISH BLESSING

*May the road rise to meet you  
May the wind be always at your back  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
May the rains fall soft upon your fields  
And until we meet again  
May god hold you in the palm of his hand*







## OFFICER

# JORGE DAVID ALVARADO, JR.

*Salinas Police Department*

EOW: February 25, 2022

Officer Jorge David Alvarado, Jr., known to loved ones as “JD or D-Boy,” was a true American hero. After graduating high school, he enlisted in the United States Army as an infantryman and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. In 2011, JD received deployment orders to Afghanistan with the legendary “Rakkasans” of the 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment during Operation Enduring Freedom. He was a decorated sergeant who received the Army Commendation Medal and two citations of the Army Achievement Medal for heroism and meritorious service in combat.

After his honorable discharge from the Army, he joined the ranks of the Colma Police Department in San Mateo County. As a Colma police officer, he was a firearms instructor, a bicycle patrol officer, and assigned to numerous deployments with the San Mateo County Gang Task Force. In 2020, after four years with Colma, JD lateraled to the Salinas Police Department, where he joined his oldest brother in serving the Salinas community. While with the Salinas Police Department, JD served as a patrol officer and had recently been certified as a Drug Recognition Expert. Prior to his tragic death, JD had been selected as the newest member of the Salinas Police Department’s S.W.A.T. team.

On February 25, 2022, Officer Jorge David Alvarado, Jr. was gunned down while conducting a traffic enforcement stop. He fought until the very end, quickly returning fire, and striking his assailant in the hand. It was that injury that led to the

arrest of the murderer who stole JD’s life at the young age of 30.

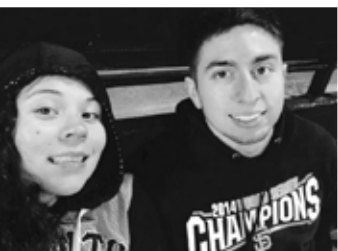
JD was the youngest of four brothers who all share their father’s first name. He comes from a family of service members and veterans who actively serve or have served in our military and civilian law enforcement. JD was an American patriot who loved his country and community, and sacrificed his life in its protection. He lived by the “Warrior Ethos,” to always place the mission first, to never accept defeat, to never quit and to never leave a fallen comrade.

JD was engaged to be married to Veronica Alvarado, his partner of 12 years and high school sweetheart. At JD’s funeral service, Veronica talked about how inseparable they were and how they were best friends. She mentioned that he took care of stray animals and fed them, loved to be outside in nature, and was a huge fan of *Star Wars* and *Harry Potter*. Though JD’s life was cut short before he and Veronica were able to exchange vows, she said in her memorial speech that he “will always be my husband.”

Officer Jorge David Alvarado, Jr.’s life of dedication and service is a common trait shared among the many brave men and women in uniform across this beautiful nation. JD will be forever remembered as that selfless service member who sacrificed all for our freedom, our safety, and our way of life. “ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL.”



*“The war is over for me now, but it will always be there, the rest of my days...But be that as it may, those who did make it have an obligation to build again. to teach to others what we know, and to try with what’s left of our lives to find a goodness and meaning to this life.”*





## OFFICER

# HOUSTON RYAN TIPPING

*Los Angeles Police Department*

EOW: May 29, 2022

Officer Houston Ryan Tipping made his parents proud. He was “naturally kind,” said his father. “He genuinely cared about people. He had the perfect character to be an LAPD officer.” One of Houston’s colleagues remembers meeting him when he first joined the force. “When I got to Devonshire Division, he was the first officer to greet me and make me feel welcome,” he said. “He was a great cop and a great friend.” Another officer paid tribute to Houston calling him smart, kind, friendly, funny and a great officer. “Very helpful and always willing to go above and beyond for others,” she said.

Houston was born in Southern California but moved to Chico in Northern California, where his mom grew up. His love of wide-open spaces and the great outdoors continued into adulthood. He often spent his free time hiking, hunting, and fishing. Before joining the Los Angeles Police Department in 2017, he spent several years working for his father’s company. Officer Tipping was a five-year LAPD veteran. Besides a brief stint in the Foothill Division when he first got out of the academy, he spent his police career working patrol in the Devonshire Division, which includes Northridge, Reseda, Chatsworth, and parts of north San Fernando Valley.

On May 26, 2022, Officer Tipping was working as a bike instructor in the bicycle patrol school at the Elysian Park Police Academy. He was participating in a practice drill covering self-defense tactics. During the exercise, which involved grappling with another officer, Houston fell to the floor and suffered a spinal cord injury. He went into cardiac arrest. Other officers at the training immediately began performing CPR on Houston until paramedics arrived. He was transported to the Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center but never regained consciousness. Three days later, he succumbed to his injuries. Officer Tipping was 32 years old.

LAPD Chief Michel Moore called Tipping “an officer who held such promise for this city.” He said he was “a bright and uplifting young man with a full life in front of him.” On June 22, family, friends, fellow officers and city officials gathered at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in the Hollywood Hills to pay tribute to this fallen officer, a young hero who was taken from us far too soon.

Officer Houston Tipping is survived by his parents, Shirley and Richard, his stepfather, Bob, and his siblings, Kat and Tyler. He is remembered by “his friends and family for how he loved and made people laugh.” He loved serving as a police officer. He loved the brotherhood. He loved the camaraderie. His colleagues remain inspired by how he always treated everyone with dignity. Officer Tipping proved to be a hero in life and in death, as he was an organ donor. His true selflessness, good moral character and unending dedication to service will not be forgotten.



### DEATH IS NOTHING AT ALL

*Death is nothing at all.  
I have only slipped away to the next room.  
I am I and you are you.  
Whatever we were to each other,  
That, we still are.  
Call me by my old familiar name.  
Speak to me in the easy way  
which you always used.  
Put no difference into your tone.  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.  
Laugh as we always laughed  
at the little jokes we enjoyed together.  
Play, smile, think of me. Pray for me.  
Let my name be ever the household word  
that it always was.  
Let it be spoken without effect.  
Without the trace of a shadow on it.  
Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same that it ever was.  
There is absolute unbroken continuity.  
Why should I be out of mind  
because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you.  
For an interval.  
Somewhere. Very near.  
Just around the corner.  
All is well.*

- HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND





# SERGEANT MICHAEL PAREDES

*El Monte Police Department*

EOW: June 14, 2022

Sergeant Michael Domingo Paredes was first and foremost a family man – to his wife of 18 years, 16-year-old daughter and 14-year-old son. His wife, Janine, said while Michael was respected as a corporal, he never brought his work home. Mike’s daughter, Bella, who has been told her entire life that she’s her “father’s daughter,” spoke about their relationship at his memorial service. She said she had recently recognized “what he stood for to the others around him,” realized how much she loved him, and “how great of a guy he was.” Mike grew up in El Monte, where he was a high school sports star, and later made a home for himself and his family in Upland.

El Monte Police Chief Ben Lowry, who has since passed away, recalled patrolling with Mike in their early days. Lowry said Mike was so even-tempered and beloved that he did not have a single complaint during his decades-long career. Mike started as a cadet with the El Monte Police Department before being sworn in as a full-time officer in July of 2000. He remained with the department for nearly 22 years.

*“What is my sacrifice? I’m condemned to use the tools of my enemy to defeat them. I burn my decency for someone else’s future. I burn my life to make a sunrise that I know I’ll never see. And the ego that started this fight will never have a mirror or an audience or the light of gratitude. So what do I sacrifice? Everything!”*

- LUTHEN RAEI FROM *STAR WARS*

On June 14, 2022, then Corporal Paredes and Officer Joseph Santana were shot while responding to a domestic violence call at a motel in El Monte. The officers were taken to the Los Angeles County + USC Medical Center, where they both died from their injuries. Paredes was 42 years old. The gunman was a convicted felon, who had been placed on probation in early 2021 as part of a plea deal after he was arrested for being a felon in possession of a gun.



One week after Mike’s death, he was posthumously promoted from the rank of corporal to sergeant, “to honor his sacrifice.” He was on duty in the capacity of acting sergeant when he and Officer Santana were killed. Lowry said it was the easiest promotion decision of his career.

“Mike had always displayed excellent character, right down to his last moments on this earth,” Lowry said in a statement. “Mike was competent and had proven to be proficient in all the administrative functions that are required of a sergeant... Mike had the respect of all of us who worked with him. From this point forward, he will be remembered as Sergeant Michael Paredes.”

At a vigil for the fallen officers, Sergeant Paredes’ wife looked back on the man her husband was, saying, “He was dad. He was brother. He was friend. And he was so good at being all those things.”

Chief Lowry praised Sergeant Michael Paredes and Officer Joseph Santana for their character and bravery, saying “...they left this world as valiant heroes; Mike and Joseph were heroes. I’m not saying that because they died. I’m saying that because of how they lived. We’ll never forget Mike and Joseph.”





OFFICER

# JOSEPH A. SANTANA

*El Monte Police Department*

EOW: June 14, 2022

Officer Joseph Anthony Santana, together with his two sisters, made up the “Three Musketeers.” That’s what they called themselves - because the trio was so close in age. Joseph was the middle child between Bianca and Jessica. They adored their brother and will always remember how empathetic he was. Joseph was a loving father who would do anything for his children, his nine-year-old daughter and two-year-old twin boys. “They were like the perfect family,” his mother, Olga Garcia, said. “They were very united, did a lot of things together.” Joseph grew up in El Monte and graduated from El Monte High School, where he played football and basketball. That’s also where he met Sasha, the woman who would later become his wife. The couple and their kids lived in Upland. Joseph’s mom praised her only boy, saying, “He was a good son, respectful and everybody just loved him. His silliness, the things he would do and say, he was a prankster.”

*The moment that you left me,  
my heart was split in two;  
one side was filled with memories;  
that other side died with you.  
I often lay awake at night  
when the world is fast asleep;  
and take a walk down memory lane  
with tears upon my cheek.  
Remember you is easy,  
I do it everyday;  
but missing you is a heartache  
that never goes away.  
I hold you tightly within my heart  
and there you will remain;  
you see life has gone on without you,  
but will never be the same.*

Joseph had dreamed of following in his stepfather’s footsteps. Joe Garcia was on the El Monte Police Department and a role model for Joseph. The young man wanted nothing more than to become an El Monte police officer and give back to his hometown. He spent six years working for El Monte’s Public Works Department and three years as a deputy for the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department. Then, in 2021, his dream came true when he joined the El Monte Police Department. He was described by colleagues as being “exactly what we want to see in a new police officer” and “the example of what a trainee and officers should behave like.”

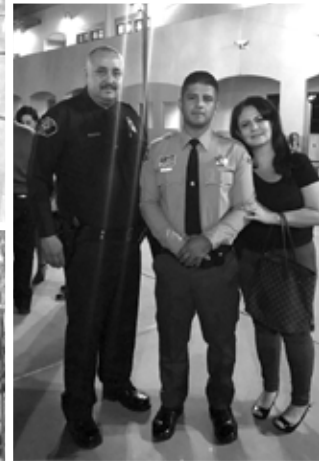


Tragically, Officer Santana’s dream was cut short by a convicted felon on probation. On June 14, 2022, Officer Santana and Sergeant Michael Paredes responded to a reported stabbing at an El Monte motel. When they arrived at the domestic violence call, both officers were met with gunfire. Santana and Paredes later died at a local hospital. Officer Santana wasn’t even scheduled to work that day, but he agreed to pick up an extra shift. A few hours later, he was dead, at the age of 31. Joseph was with the El Monte Police Department for less than a year.

At Joseph’s service, his sister, Bianca, said, “We gather to say farewell to a son, brother, father, husband, grandson, nephew, and friend. To those of you who are here - and everyone who knew Joseph - you are already aware of the type of person he was.”

El Monte Police Chief Ben Lowry, who passed away a few months later, said of Officer Joseph Santana and Sergeant Michael Paredes, “They were the greatest of us. I’m a better man having known each of them.” These two hometown heroes paid the ultimate sacrifice to the community they so loved and will be greatly missed.







DEPUTY

# ISAIAH A. CORDERO

*Riverside County Sheriff's Office*

EOW: December 29, 2022

Deputy Isaiah A. Cordero is remembered by the Riverside Sheriffs' Association as "a ray of sunshine... a person who was dedicated to protecting others." Called "a bright and dedicated public servant" and "a pleasure to work with" by his colleagues, Isaiah is also recognized "as a man of outstanding ethics and moral values." Isaiah graduated from Cajon High School in San Bernardino in 2008, but his uncle, Carlos Padilla, noticed his nephew's moral character much earlier than that. He said he had known since Isaiah was a kid what career he would gravitate toward, even if Isaiah didn't know it himself. Carlos refers to him as "the boy who wouldn't curse, let alone cause trouble."

Isaiah's mother, Rebecca Cordero, delivered an emotional message at her son's funeral, saying, "Your life was one of selfless service. You knew what it took to earn that badge. You fought the good fight, my boy."

Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco attributed Isaiah's mom for being the one who taught Isaiah "the value of serving and helping others." He said the eight-year law enforcement veteran "embodied our motto, 'Service Above Self.'" Sheriff Bianco went on to say that Isaiah "was a jokester around the station, and all of our deputies considered him their little brother."

Isaiah was initially hired as a correctional deputy for the Riverside County Sheriff's Office in 2014. He entered the sheriff's academy in 2018 and was promoted to deputy sheriff. His work assignments included the Robert Presley Detention Center in Riverside, the Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility in Banning, and the Indio Jail. In 2020, he was assigned to the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station. From the day Isaiah was hired, it was his goal to become a motor deputy. In September of 2022, he did just that. He completed motor school and was assigned to traffic enforcement.

Just a couple months later, on December 29, 2022, Deputy Isaiah Cordero was shot at a traffic stop in Jurupa Valley by a three-strike felon. A community member who witnessed the shooting called 911. Residents tried to keep Isaiah alive until law enforcement and paramedics arrived, but their efforts were not enough. Deputy Cordero was transferred to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead. He was just 32 years old.

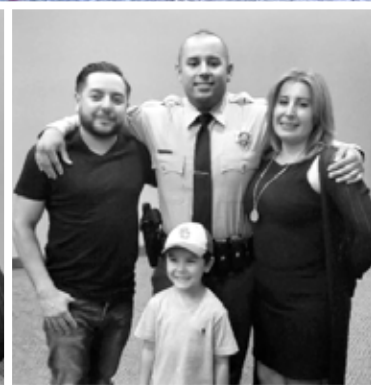


Isaiah's best friend and colleague, Deputy Kenneth Shinn, reflected on his special partnership with Isaiah, "He had a complete heart. He wanted his partners to succeed. He just wanted everybody to do their best and he always put forth his best foot."

Deputy Isaiah A. Cordero leaves behind his parents, brother, girlfriend, and many people who will hold him close in their hearts forever. Perhaps Deputy Shinn summed it up best, saying, "Isaiah was the best of us."

ISAIAH 57:1-2 NLT

*Good people pass away;  
the godly often die before their time.  
But no one seems to care or wonder why.  
No one seems to understand  
that God is protecting them from the evil to come.  
For those who follow godly paths  
will rest in peace when they die.*





## OFFICER

# MICHAEL EDWARD WALL

*Los Angeles County Probation Department*

EOW: April 30, 2021

Detention Services Officer Michael Edward Wall made a difference – in the lives of his teen daughter and family, as well as the young offenders under his charge. He is remembered by colleagues in Los Angeles County and surrounding counties as a “dedicated guardian of justice” and someone whose commitment and “fidelity to impacting our youth and fostering positive change in their lives” will not be forgotten.

Officer Wall was a longtime resident of Long Beach. He had a reputation as being a mild mannered, “glass half full” kind of guy, but he wasn’t afraid to defend others. As a child, if a kid was being bullied, he would be the one to stand up for them. Michael attended Long Beach Polytechnic High School. As an adamant sports fan, it was quite fitting that he would go to the school Sports Illustrated magazine called the “Sports School of the Century.” He loved basketball, but football was his sport of choice. He played for his high school team and went on to attend New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces on a football scholarship. Though Michael initially had aspirations to play professional football, by the time he graduated college, he had changed his mind. Michael got a job at the Mesilla Valley Hospital in his college town working with mental health patients. After that, he joined a nonprofit organization, also in New Mexico, called Families and Youth, Inc. It was a residential treatment center where he worked with teens and their families.

Michael got married and started a family of his own. He loved spending time with his daughter. His friends talked about how his quiet, nonjudgmental approach to life made him a pleasant person to be around. When Michael’s mother became ill, he worried about being so far away from her, so he returned to his Southern California roots. With the right skills, experience, and temperament, he joined the Los Angeles County Probation Department.

On April 30, 2021, Officer Wall was on duty at Central Juvenile Hall when one youth led a group attack on another minor. After

physically restraining one of the youths, Michael chased two others involved in the assault outside and suddenly collapsed. Staff members performed eight rounds of CPR before he was transported to a local hospital. Officer Wall had suffered a heart attack and passed away during emergency surgery. He was 49.



Detention Services Officer Michael Wall dedicated 14 years of his life to the Los Angeles County Probation Department and the youths in the juvenile division. As an officer, Michael strived to serve as an empathetic counselor and a role model to the young offenders.

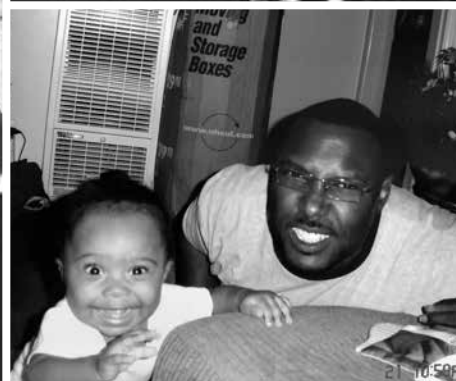
This beloved, kind-hearted, humble man, who gave so much of himself to others, is survived by his daughter, Aubrey, brother, Sylvester, and his three sisters, Dionn, Jewel, and Angelique. The family encourages those who knew Michael to focus on the good memories that captured their loved one’s humor, kindness, and smile.

### A POEM FOR MY DAD IN HEAVEN

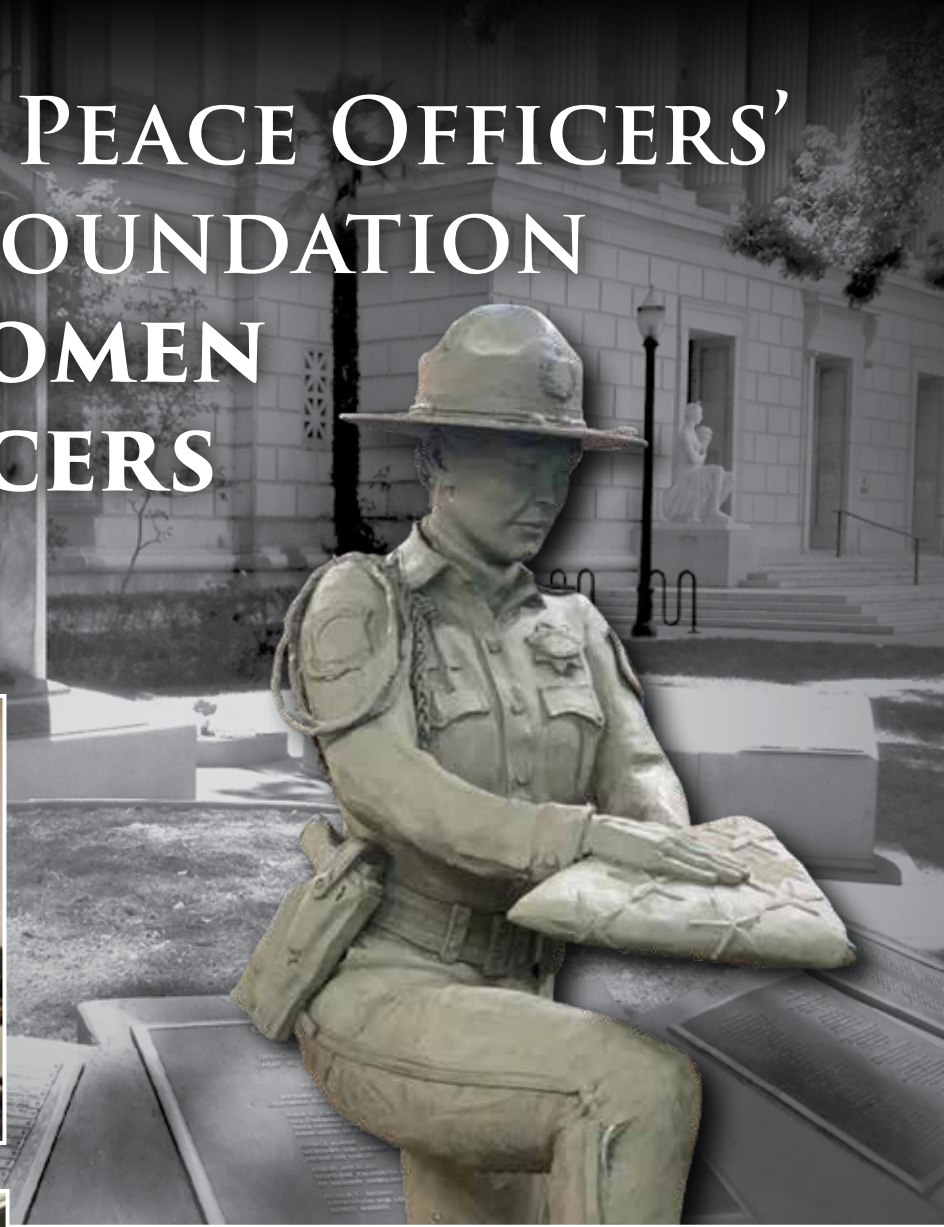
*The world asked so much from you yet I needed you more.  
Now the thought of not having you as a part of my life  
shatters my heart to the core.*

*I didn't expect your heart to give away that day.  
Now the emptiness I feel from your absence will forever remain.  
All I have left are my years of memories with you.  
With all of my sadness comes teardrops too.  
If you don't know already, you will be missed.  
I love you Dad even though I didn't say it enough.  
You are my father. I am your daughter.  
I love you very very much!*

- AUBREY LEE WALL



# CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL FOUNDATION HONORS WOMEN PEACE OFFICERS



## THE PROJECT

After interviewing several renowned sculptors from across the state, it was Christopher Slatoff's vision that resonated, and in late 2019 he began work on the project. Slatoff's sculpture depicts a modern-day Honor Guard Officer on one knee presenting a folded flag in "heroic scale" – approximately seven feet tall. The completed bronze sculpture will be placed in the circle planter of the monument at the main entrance to the memorial grounds, which faces the honored families of our fallen heroes during the annual California Peace Officers' Memorial ceremonies.

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**UNVEILED ON  
SUNDAY MAY 1, 2022**

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[WWW.CAMEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.CAMEMORIAL.ORG)





# CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

## WHO WE ARE...

The California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable foundation whose mission is to recognize and honor California's peace officers who gave their lives 'In The Line of Duty' serving the citizens of this great state.

The CPOMF has grown to not only recognize our fallen heroes, but to provide services, financial assistance, advocacy, and support to the surviving families left behind. Our foundation is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of the memorial monument.

Our board of directors is composed of active and retired peace officers from across California, representing all ranks of law enforcement appointed by their respective associations. Our Special Advisory Committee includes law enforcement personnel, survivors and other individuals fully dedicated to the CPOMF mission. We are proud and fortunate that all directors and advisors volunteer 100% of their time and resources.

The California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation is funded solely by donations from individuals, corporations, and law enforcement associations.

[www.camemorial.org](http://www.camemorial.org)

# CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ADVISORS AND STAFF

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*Huntington Beach Police Officers Association*

**Secretary, Ezra Salomon**  
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*Sacramento County Sheriff's Office (Ret.)*

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<b>Noemi Garcia</b>	<i>Riverside Co. Sheriff's Department Honor Guard</i>
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<b>Michelle Gray</b>	<i>Survivors' Representative</i>
<b>Derrek Kaff</b>	<i>California Police Chiefs Association, Northern California</i>
<b>John Kenney</b>	<i>California Narcotics Officers Association</i>
<b>Anthony Kilmer</b>	<i>San Jose Police Officers Association</i>
<b>Craig Lally</b>	<i>Los Angeles Police Protective League</i>
<b>Brian Marvel</b>	<i>Peace Officers Research Association of California</i>
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<b>Nate Seger</b>	<i>Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs' Association</i>
<b>Gerry Serrano</b>	<i>Santa Ana Police Officers Association</i>
<b>Robert Trostle</b>	<i>San Bernardino County Safety Employees' Benefit Association</i>
<b>Grant Ward</b>	<i>California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations</i>
<b>Bill Young</b>	<i>Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement</i>

### COMMISSIONERS

**Arthur C. Brown**

**Richard Moore**

### STAFF

**Mark Nichols,**  
**Santa Ana Police Department (Ret.)**  
*Executive Director*

**Michelle Mendoza**  
*Deputy Director*

**Dana Perryman**  
*Program Coordinator*



# WHAT WE DO...

## IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Upon the death of a peace officer in the line of duty, CPOMF representatives personally deliver financial assistance to the primary survivor to help in their moment of need.

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Children and spouses of California peace officers who died in the line of duty are eligible to receive annual scholarships from the CPOMF. In the past 10 years the scholarship program has granted more than 100 scholarships totaling over \$350,000 in assistance.

## SURVIVOR SUPPORT GROUPS

The CPOMF financially supports the three California chapters of Concerns of Police Survivors, a peer support group made up of survivors, which provides on-going assistance to the families of our fallen officers.

*“My sincere gratitude to the Memorial Foundation board members for their dedication and respect shown to the fallen officers and their families. The honor bestowed upon me has been a pivotal point in my strength and healing.”*

=====  
**KELLY J. BAKER**

Widow of Sergeant Loran “Butch” Baker  
Santa Cruz Police Department  
EOW: February 26, 2013

## ANNUAL CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS’ MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Every May preceding National Police Week, the CPOMF underwrites a two-day memorial service honoring California’s fallen heroes. Thousands of surviving family members, citizens, and public safety officers join at the Memorial Monument in unity to pay tribute to California’s fallen heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice protecting our communities. The names of peace officers lost the previous year are added to the monument in a formal ceremony attended by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Chief Justice, and other state dignitaries.

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*Remembering Our Heroes...*

# YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

There are many ways to show your support for California’s fallen heroes:

### **STATE TAX RETURN “CHECK-OFF”**

The California resident income tax form allows taxpayers to make charitable contributions to the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation. Ask your tax preparer, or simply indicate the amount to be donated where instructed on the tax return form.

### **BECOME A SPONSOR OR CORPORATE PARTNER**

Without the assistance of our sponsors and corporate partners, the programs and support provided by the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation would not be possible. For more information on how you can become a sponsor or corporate partner, please contact the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation administrative office.

### **ONE-TIME DONATION**

Make an on-line donation with your credit card directly from our website:

**[www.camemorial.org](http://www.camemorial.org)**.

### **PEACE OFFICERS PAYROLL PROGRAM**

Participants designate an automatic monthly donation of their choosing through their employer’s payroll system.

For more information in establishing this program, please visit our website:

**[www.camemorial.org](http://www.camemorial.org)**.

# RECENT CPOMF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

CPOMF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ASSISTS SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN

SAVANNA ARRUDA  
*Deputy Michael R. Arruda*  
*Los Angeles Co. Sheriff's Department*  
*EOW: June 15, 2004*

CHANDLER MILLER  
*Officer John Miller*  
*CHP – Dublin Area*  
*EOW: November 16, 2007*

OLIVIA YOUNG  
*Deputy Terrell D. Young*  
*Riverside Co. Sheriff's Office*  
*EOW: April 2, 2020*

SAMANTHA COHEN  
*Sergeant Harry Cohen*  
*Riverside Co. Sheriff's Office*  
*EOW: October 18, 2020*

AMANDA WALKER-ROSE  
*Lt. Michael Walker*  
*CHP – Santa Cruz*  
*EOW: December 31, 2005*

ALEXANDER YOUNGSTROM  
*Officer Kenyon M. Youngstrom*  
*CHP – Contra Costa*  
*EOW: September 5, 2012*

LINDSEY HAMILTON  
*Officer Rick C. Cromwell*  
*Lodi Police Department*  
*EOW: December 09, 1998*

CALEB YOUNG  
*Deputy Terrell D. Young*  
*Riverside Co. Sheriff's Office*  
*EOW: April 2, 2020*

CAMERON GRAY  
*Officer Stephan G. Gray*  
*Merced Police Department*  
*EOW: April 15, 2004*

MADDISON LOBO  
*Deputy Daniel Lobo, Jr.*  
*San Bernardino Co. Sheriff's Department*  
*EOW: October 11, 2005*

JOSHUA MEYST  
*Deputy Jeremy Meyst*  
*Tulare Co. Sheriff's Office*  
*EOW: December 24, 2013*



Dependents of California peace officers who have died in the line of duty are eligible to receive annual scholarships from the California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation.

Since 2003, the CPOMF has awarded over \$1,048,000.00 in grants to survivors attending graduate school, four-year colleges and universities, two-year community colleges, and trade schools. Funded by donations from member law enforcement associations and corporate sponsors, the CPOMF's Scholarship Program continues to award scholarships on an annual basis.

Dependents of CPOMF's Honored Officers are eligible to apply. Applications must be received by June 1 to be considered for that year's scholarship awards. Donations to this tax-deductible program are accepted on an ongoing basis. More information and an electronic application can be found on the CPOMF website at <https://camemorial.org/scholarship-program/>



# THE CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

*proudly recognizes* OUR 2023

# “WALK OF HONOR” SPONSORS

*Thank You To All Who Support  
The California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation*



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WE **PROTECT** AMERICAN HEROES

45th ANNUAL CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL CEREMONIES

May 7 & 8, 2023 • 10th Street at Capitol Mall • Sacramento

**In the Line of Duty Volume 27.** *In the Line of Duty* is an annual publication of the CPOMF. Design and layout by Commerce Printing. Honored Officers' biographies written by Lynda Halligan. The CPOMF is a tax-exempt, non-profit charitable organization. Please visit our website at [www.camemorial.org](http://www.camemorial.org).

# HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES

*I never dreamed it would be me, my name for all eternity, recorded here at this hallowed place, alas, my name no more my face. "In the line of duty," I hear them say; my family now the price will pay. My folded flag stained with their tears; we only had those few short years. The badge no longer on my chest, I sleep now in eternal rest. My sword I pass to those behind, and pray they keep this thought in mind. I never dreamed it would be me, and with heavy heart and bended knee; I ask for all here from the past, Dear God, let my name be the last.*

**GEORGE HAHN, RETIRED SERGEANT**  
**Los Angeles Police Department**



California Peace Officers' Memorial May 7 & 8, 2023  
California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation  
10th Street at Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95811  
[www.camemorial.org](http://www.camemorial.org)

