

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

January 15, 2010
10.4

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

BOPC No. 10-0064

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR THE MEDAL OF VALOR AND THE POLICE
COMMISSION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CERTIFICATE

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners award the Medal of Valor for bravery.

Sergeant Charles Buttitta, Serial No. 22542, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Michael Barker, Serial No. 30693, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Thomas Chinappi, Serial No. 27571, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Floyd Curry, Serial No. 34967, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer German Hurtado, Serial No. 34865, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer David Keortge, Serial No. 30896, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Bonnie Lehigh, Serial No. 35514, West Valley Division
Police Officer Mark Mireles, Serial No. 27717, West Valley Division
Police Officer Michael Odle, Serial No. 22369, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer George Ryan, Serial No. 30193, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Anthony Samuelson, Serial No. 30676, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Stephen Scallon, Serial No. 26829, Metropolitan Division
Police Officer Randal Simmons, Serial No. 22885, Metropolitan Division (posthumously)
Police Officer James Veenstra, Serial No. 23666, Metropolitan Division

2. That the Board of Police Commissioners award the Police Commission Distinguished Service Certificate for service.

Sergeant Joseph Tafoya, Serial No. 1118 (General Services Police Department)
Senior Lead Officer Manuel Elorriaga, Serial No. 1104 (General Services Police Department)
Senior Lead Officer Felipe Graciano, Serial No. 1065 (General Services Police Department)
Senior Lead Officer Joseph Orlanes, Serial No. 1139 (General Services Police Department)
Senior Lead Officer Gildardo Vizcarra, Serial No. 1130 (General Services Police Department)
Officer Ron Armstrong, Serial No. 1158 (General Services Police Department)
Officer Isaac Burciaga, Serial No. 1159 (General Services Police Department)
Officer Alejandro Diaz-Valle, Serial No. 1138 (General Services Police Department)
Officer Luis Ortega, Serial No. 1142 (General Services Police Department)
Officer Francisco Sarabia, Serial No. 1113 (General Services Police Department)
Officer Isidro Centeno, Serial No. 18464 (California Highway Patrol)

Fire Battalion Chief John Biggs (Los Angeles Fire Department)
Fire Captain Thomas Gikas (Los Angeles Fire Department)
Fire Captain Xenophon Gikas (Los Angeles Fire Department)
Private Citizen Christopher Kozlow

3. That the Board of Police Commissioners award the Medal of Valor for bravery.

Officer Eric Hammerschmitt, Serial No. 38637, Van Nuys Division

DISCUSSION

MEDAL OF VALOR

SERGEANT CHARLES BUTTITTA
POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL BARKER
POLICE OFFICER THOMAS CHINAPPI
POLICE OFFICER FLOYD CURRY
POLICE OFFICER GERMAN HURTADO
POLICE OFFICER DAVID KEORTGE
POLICE OFFICER BONNIE LEHIGH
POLICE OFFICER MARK MIRELES
POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL ODLE
POLICE OFFICER GEORGE RYAN
POLICE OFFICER ANTHONY SAMUELSON
POLICE OFFICER STEPHEN SCALLON
POLICE OFFICER RANDAL SIMMONS (POSTHUMOUSLY)
POLICE OFFICER JAMES VEENSTRA

On February 6, 2008, West Valley Patrol Division officers responded to an "Open 911 Line" radio call at 19828 Welby Way in Winnetka. Upon arrival, officers attempted to contact the residents, and discovered that one of the residents was possibly responsible for the shooting of several individuals inside the home. The suspect failed to respond to numerous attempts to contact him and resolve the situation. Believing that the suspect was armed, Metropolitan Division, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team was notified and responded. Additional information obtained at this time indicated that there may have been up to six victims in the home, some of which were in critical need of immediate aid or rescue. The on-scene SWAT personnel determined that the urgency of the situation required emergency deployment into the residence to rescue at least one victim who was likely still alive and critically injured.

An Immediate Action Rapid Deployment team was selected to attempt a rescue. This emergency life-saving tactic required officers to go directly into harms way and confront a potentially armed and dangerous suspect in order to accomplish a rescue. The team that consisted of Officers

Randal Simmons, James Veenstra, David Keortge, Thomas Chinappi, German Hurtado, Floyd Curry, Michael Barker, Anthony Samuelson, Stephen Scallon, and Sergeant Charles Buttitta made the hazardous entry into the residence. Simultaneously, Officers Michael Odle and George Ryan initiated a diversion by breaking a front window of the residence. The team immediately encountered a barrage of gunfire. Officers returned fire and drove the suspect further back into the residence, and enabled the team to rescue a downed victim. Officers Randal Simmons and James Veenstra were struck by the suspect's gunfire and incapacitated. Officer Michael Odle, who was outside a front window providing cover, was struck by round fragments from the suspect's gunfire which resulted in injuries to his face and body. Despite his injuries, Officer Michael Odle was still able to respond to the interior of the residence with Officer George Ryan after hearing officers had been wounded.

As the gun battle continued, Officers Thomas Chinappi, Floyd Curry, and Michael Barker pursued the suspect and provided cover, enabling Officer Anthony Samuelson to move Officer Randal Simmons toward the front of the house. Officer Mark Mireles then assisted in moving the wounded officer to waiting Los Angeles Fire Department emergency medical personnel. Officer Mark Mireles and his partner, Officer Bonnie Lehigh had been called into the house for assistance by Officer Michael Odle. At the same time, Sergeant Charles Buttitta and Officer Stephen Scallon extricated Officer James Veenstra. Once Officers Randal Simmons and James Veenstra had been removed from the house, Officer Mark Mireles returned to the front door area of the house and removed one of the three homicide victims. During this time, Officer Bonnie Lehigh made her way to the front of the house and provided cover.

The critically injured officers were transported to Northridge Medical Center where Officer James Veenstra underwent extensive emergency surgery for a gunshot wound to his face. Tragically, Officer Randal Simmons succumbed as a result of his injuries. The sacrifice made by Officers James Veenstra and Randal Simmons clearly demonstrates their selfless devotion to duty. All of the officers involved that entered the residence heroically placed themselves in harm's way. They are commended for displaying extreme courage while consciously facing imminent peril.

POLICE COMMISSION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CERTIFICATE

SERGEANT JOSEPH TAFOYA
SENIOR LEAD OFFICER MANUEL ELORRIAGA
SENIOR LEAD OFFICER FELIPE GRACIANO
SENIOR LEAD OFFICER JOSEPH ORLANES
SENIOR LEAD OFFICER GILDARDO VIZCARRA
OFFICER RON ARMSTRONG
OFFICER ISAAC BURCIAGA
OFFICER ALEJANDRO DIAZ-VALLE
OFFICER LUIS ORTEGA
OFFICER FRANCISCO SARABIA

On October 13, 2008, the Sesnon fire began in the hills above Tampa Avenue and Sesnon Boulevard in the Devonshire Area. Los Angeles Police Department and General Services Police Department personnel immediately responded and were quickly briefed about the situation and the urgency for residential evacuations. On-scene personnel quickly began the task of evacuating residents as 60-mile per hour winds fanned the blaze out of control. General Services Police Department personnel risked their own safety while facing smoke, intense heat, and flying embers. Their response to this emergency helped to evacuate residents in the nearby Highlands and Renaissance developments in an orderly and prompt fashion. As a result of their swift actions, all residents were evacuated safely.

Department employees who were members of the multi-agency response were recently awarded the Police Star.

POLICE COMMISSION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CERTIFICATE

OFFICER ISIDRO CENTENO

On June 9, 2008, Los Angeles Police Department (Department) personnel responded to a radio call of a "Possible Attempt Suicide" on the 3rd Street overpass of the 110 Harbor Freeway. Upon their arrival, they were directed by an unknown individual to a male subject hanging over the freeway along the east wall of the northbound Harbor Freeway between Wilshire Boulevard and 7th Street. The officers then requested a closure of the northbound lanes of the Harbor Freeway to prevent passing motorists from possible injury. As officers approached the subject, they observed California Highway Patrol Officer Isidro Centeno already at scene speaking with the suicidal subject.

At this time, other officers started arriving and began assisting with negotiations. Several officers moved into position to assist with the rescue without regard for their own safety. Officer Isidro Centeno managed to get within a few feet of the subject and used a ruse to get him to move closer. When the subject reached out, Officer Isidro Centeno grabbed onto his right arm. The other officers realized that Officer Isidro Centeno was in a position to be pulled over the wall onto the freeway below; therefore, the officers quickly moved in to assist. Working as a team, all involved struggled as the subject attempted to pull away. The coordinated efforts of each officer resulted in the team pulling the subject over the wall to his safety. All involved knowingly placed themselves in a dangerous position that could have resulted in serious injury or death. Their efforts prevented the suicidal subject from taking his life, and brought about a successful resolution to this incident.

Department employees who were members of the successful rescue were recently awarded the Police Star.

POLICE COMMISSION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CERTIFICATE

FIRE BATTALION CHIEF JOHN BIGGS
FIRE CAPTAIN THOMAS GIKAS
FIRE CAPTAIN XENOPHON GIKAS
CHRISTOPHER KOZLOW

Recent high-profile attacks on America have signaled that terrorism is no longer a distant reality, and that both “homegrown” and foreign-based groups can and will conduct attacks on American soil. Whether the motivation is Islamic fundamentalism, eco-terrorism, anti-government or the disaffected loner, terrorism is increasingly being perpetrated by groups attracted to radical and violent ideologies. The result is that an attack upon the United States employing an improvised explosive device, or even a chemical, biological, or radiological weapon, is increasingly likely. The impact of such an attack could be potentially catastrophic. As such, it is insufficient for local law enforcement to merely prepare to respond to such an event, but rather to prevent such catastrophic attacks from occurring in the first place.

In May 2003, with the full support and guidance from Deputy Chief Mark Leap, Commanding Officer, Counter Terrorism and Criminal Intelligence Bureau, and from the Police Administrator John Miller, assigned Department personnel sought to create an all hazards Critical Infrastructure Protection Program designed to identify potential areas of greatest vulnerability specifically for the public safety community. The initial mission was to identify, inventory, and assess critical assets, to form collaborative relationships with the owners and managers of those assets, and to develop preventative, protective measures to safeguard our most valuable assets.

It was immediately apparent that members of agencies at the federal, state and local levels across the nation were struggling with many of the same issues associated with critical infrastructure protection. The City of Los Angeles and the Department approached the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to form a collaborative partnership; the Department would contribute personnel and its subject matter expertise while DHS would underwrite the creation of a new unit to be named Operation Archangel. Designed to serve as a national model, Archangel’s initiatives and products were developed to be scalable and exportable to other jurisdictions nationwide. Nearly three years later, Archangel’s accomplishments far surpass the highest expectations or requirements placed on them at the outset.

The following is a brief overview of the accomplishments Archangel has had from its inception to date:

- **Built and maintains strong working relationships** with multiple state and federal agencies including, but not limited to:
 - California State Office of Homeland Security (OHS)
 - United States Department of Homeland Security
 - Risk Management Division, DHS
 - Office of Grants and Training, DHS
- **Secured and maintains \$3.5 million DHS grant funding** for Archangel initiatives.
- **Facilitated a \$1.3 million Buffer Zone Protection plan grant funding** designed to enhance the security at critical assets.
- **Created and maintains the first and only “Core Group.”** The Core Group is comprised of representatives of the owners/managers of critical assets and representatives of the public safety agencies responsible for the prevention of and/or responses to major incidents, including terrorism. The Core Group provides input and guidance to Archangel relative to its initiatives.
- **Developed the first standardized criteria/definition and prioritization model of critical assets**, which subsequently has been promulgated nationwide.
- **Developed the Critical Asset Assessment (CAA)**, a multi-agency/disciplinary methodology for conducting assessments of critical assets.
- **Created, secured funding for, designed, and continues to develop the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS)**; a secure, web-based data management system supporting the CAA which has been adopted by the State of California as the basis for its statewide Critical Infrastructure Protection Program and currently is being made available to public safety agencies nationwide in cooperation with DHS.
 - Working in partnership with DHS and the OHS to train agencies in ACAMS throughout California in 2006 and nationwide in 2007.
- **Secured and maintains \$3.5 million DHS grant funding for the Protective Security Center (PSC).** The PSC is an off-site mission specific facility, the first of its kind in the United States and serves as the secure home of Archangel, housing a vast array of computing resources. Archangel designed and oversaw the actual construction of the PSC in cooperation with DHS and its designated contractors.
- **Developed the concept of the Protective Security Task Force (PSTF).** The PSTF is a team of sworn law enforcement officers specifically trained and uniquely equipped to provide dedicated, in-depth security augmentation to a threatened asset or event with intent to prevent, deter, respond to, and/or mitigate the potential effects of a critical incident. The PSTF will present a visible presence, leveraging technology in lieu of manpower intensive security solutions and will conduct Random Anti-terrorism Measures in order to disrupt the terrorist mission planning cycle.

- **Secured and maintains \$1.3 million in Urban Area Security Initiative grant funds for the PSTF.**
- **Developed the methodology for Predictive Analysis (PA).** Predictive Analysis is the synthesis of evaluating potential terrorist activity based upon a group(s) motivation, intent, and methodology coupled with an evaluation of probable target location (i.e., critical assets) for the purpose of deploying appropriately in anticipation of an event. Predictive Analysis is an innovative concept employed by Archangel. It is anticipated that PA will be replicated and implemented by agencies nationwide in the future.

Operation Archangel began as nothing more than an idea, which sought to intelligently and strategically address our need to protect assets from potentially catastrophic terrorist attacks. The standards, criterion, methodology, toolsets and concepts created and implemented by Archangel serve as a model for the public safety community nationwide and have immeasurably enhanced our nation's ability to prevent, deter, respond to and mitigate attacks upon our most critical assets on the new battlefield in the war on terrorism – our own backyard.

Department employees involved in the implementation of Operation Archangel were recently awarded the Police Meritorious Unit Citation. Fire Battalion Chief John Biggs, Fire Captain Thomas Gikas, Fire Captain Xenophon Gikas, and Christopher Kozlow worked with Department personnel in creating Operation Archangel, and the goals achieved by its creation far surpassed the highest expectations placed upon them, in creating this model for the public safety community.

MEDAL OF VALOR

OFFICER ERIC HAMMERSCHMITT

On June 1, 2008, a tragic chain reaction traffic accident involving four vehicles occurred on the southbound San Diego Freeway approaching Victory Boulevard. One of the vehicles immediately became engulfed in flames with two victims trapped inside. Several officers and citizens used fire extinguishers in an effort to douse the flames. Officer Hammerschmitt placed an 'Officer Needs Help' call, then proceeded to rescue the trapped victims. Officer Hammerschmitt found a small opening through the door and placed the fire extinguisher nozzle through it and began to extinguish the fire. While others attempted to douse the flames, Officer Hammerschmitt tried to open the door without success. He finally managed to break the window as the fire raged and black smoke started to fill the vehicle. The driver in a state of shock remained calm as the inferno raged all around him.

The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

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The driver reached out to Officer Hammerschmitt in a desperate effort for help. As Officer Hammerschmitt attempted to pull the victim out, he realized that the seatbelt was still fastened. After successfully instructing the victim to release the latch, Hammerschmitt pulled the victim to safety. Once out of the burning vehicle, the victim pleaded for the rescuers to save his daughter who was still inside the vehicle. Tragically, the 15-year old daughter succumbed at the scene as a result of the fire burns to her entire body. The driver was transported to the hospital, where he succumbed to second and third degree burns to over 40 percent of his body the following day.

Officer Eric Hammerschmitt clearly displayed courage, commitment to duty, and exemplified respect for human life. He knowingly placed himself in harm's way that could have resulted in serious injury or death.

Officer Isidro Villafana who was also involved in this incident was recently awarded the Police Medal.

Should you have any questions, please contact Police Administrator II Gloria Grube, Commanding Officer, Personnel Group, at (213) 486-7090.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Beck', with a stylized flourish at the end.

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

Attachments

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| DATE 12/22/2008 | |
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO. Sf Unit List | RANK DIVISION ASSIGNED |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| LOCATION OF OCCURENCE Tampa Avenue and Sesnon Street | DIVISION OF OCCURENCE Devonshire Area | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE 10/13/2008 1030 |
|---|--|---|

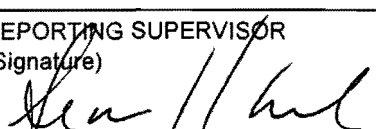
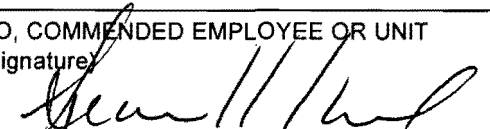
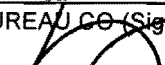
ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARREST REPORT | <input type="checkbox"/> SERGEANT'S LOG | <input type="checkbox"/> NEWSPAPER ARTICLES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CRIME REPORT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCALED DIAGRAM | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHOTOGRAPHS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER |

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

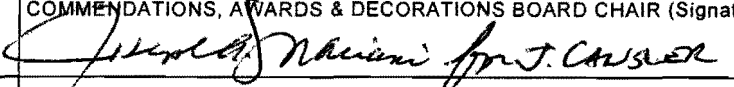
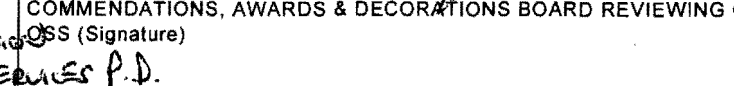
Los Angeles Police Department Personnel to be commended:

Sergeant Larry Taylor, Serial No. 21830, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer James Hutchins, Serial No. 26134, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Anthony Hotchkiss, Serial No. 34282, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Brian Sudbury, Serial No. 34823, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer George Goodyear, Serial No. 27595, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Terence Turner, Serial No. 27260, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Hector Carbaveal, Serial No. 32928, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Timothy Gallick, Serial No. 32270, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Troy Williams, Serial No. 27014, Valley Traffic Division
 Officer Sean Reinhardt, Serial No. 33691, Devonshire Area

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) Sean K. Kane, Captain III, 22270 | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) Sean K. Kane, Captain III, 22270 |
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature)  | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature)  |
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature)  |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: MICHEL R. MOORE, DEPUTY CHIEF OVB

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

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| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON MARCH 5, 2009, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD AWARDED POLICE STAR TO | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)  |
| AC TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS ALL LAPD PERSONNEL & POLICE COMMISSION DST. SERVICE CERT. TO ALL GENERAL SERVICES P.D. | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, (Signature)  |

COMMENDATION REPORT CONTINUATION SHEET

Department of General Services Police Department Personnel to be commended:

Sergeant J. Tafoya, Serial No. 1118
Senior Lead Officer F. Graciano, Serial No. 1065
Senior Lead Officer M. Elorriaga, Serial No. 1104
Senior Lead Officer J. Orlanes, Serial No. 1139
Senior Lead Officer J. Viscera, Serial No. 1130
Officer F. Sarabia, Serial No. 1113
Officer I. Burciaga, Serial No. 1159
Officer R. Armstrong, Serial No. 1158
Officer L. Ortega, Serial No. 1142
Officer A. Diazille, Serial No. 1138

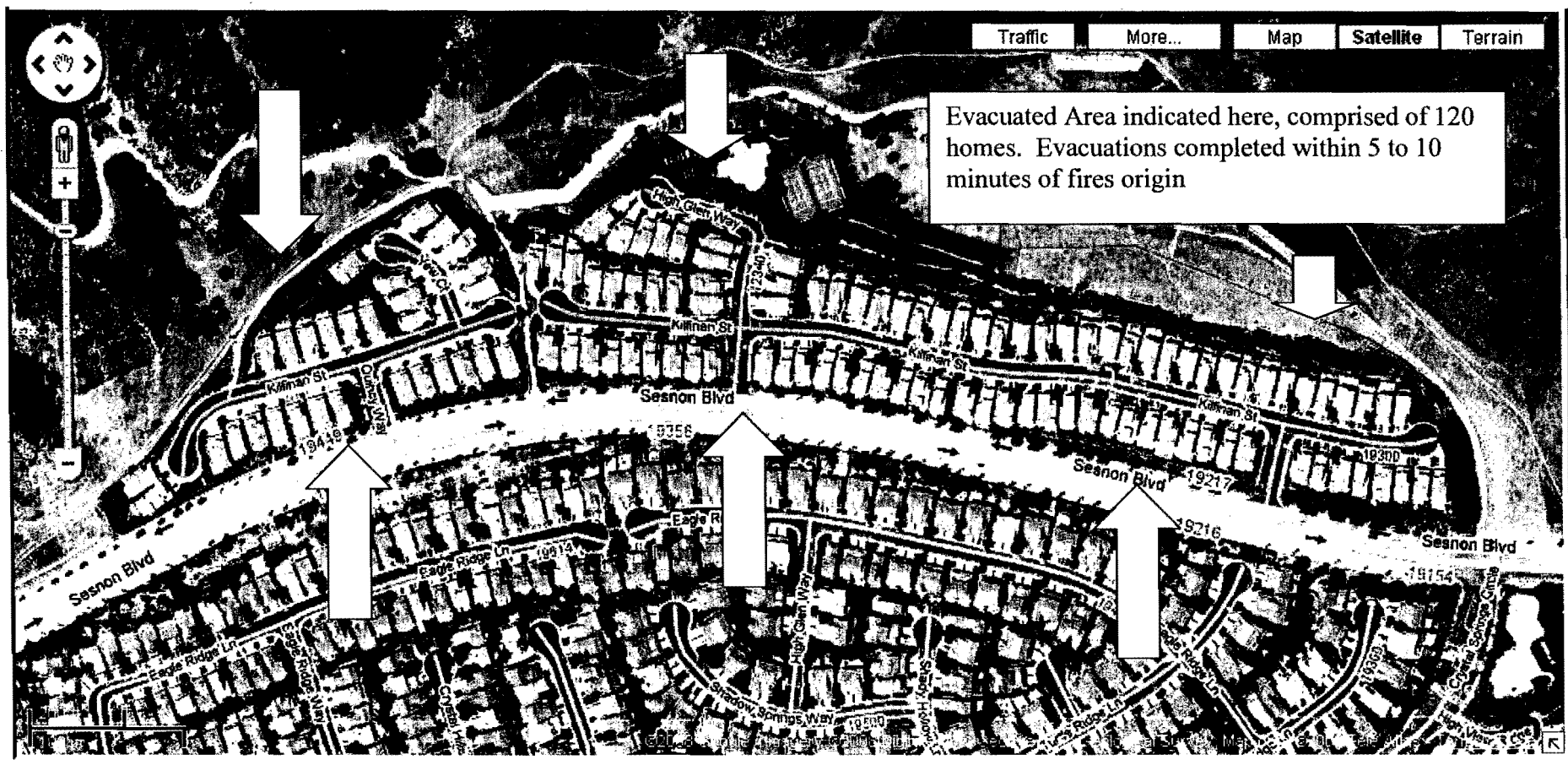
It is recommended that the "Life Saving" medal be awarded to the listed personnel for their actions on October 13, 2008. At about 1000 hours on this date, the "Sesnon" fire ignited in the hills above Tampa Avenue and Sesnon Boulevard in Devonshire Area. Captain Sean Kane, the Area Commanding Officer of Devonshire Area assumed on scene incident command and began urgently requesting personnel to effect immediate residential evacuations in the face of the 60 mile per hour wind driven inferno that was out of control. Both of the above units were the first to arrive at the scene, and with only a momentary briefing were dispatched to evacuate residents in immediate jeopardy from the blaze. Risking their own safety through smoke, intense heat and flying hot embers, they evacuated the nearby Highlands and Renaissance developments in a orderly and prompt fashion. Without their prompt actions in evacuating those at immediate risk and clearing the streets for fire access, the loss of life and property would have been eminent. As a result of their actions all were evacuated safely and fire resources were afforded prompt access for a successful and immediate defense of the homes. Therefore in the face of danger, and without regard to their own safety, the actions of these personnel warrant Department recognition via the "Life Saving" medal.

The actions of these personnel were validated in two forums. One was at a Town Hall Meeting held on October 23, 2008, wherein many of the residents of these two communities advised me of the heroic lifesaving actions of these personnel, crediting them with saving their lives and homes.

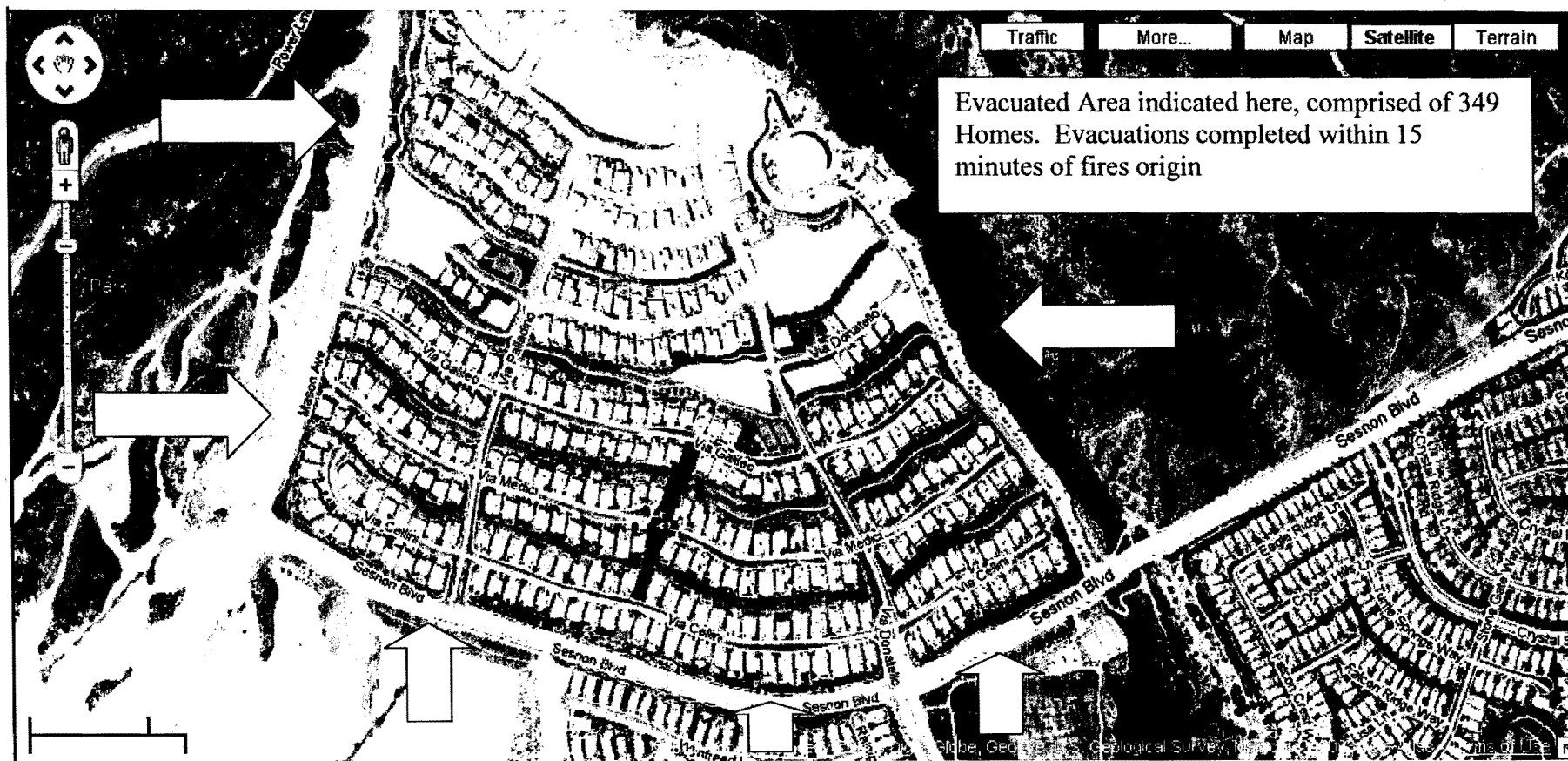
The second validation came from Los Angeles Fire Department, Division 3 Assistant Chief Gregory West, the Fire Incident Commander for the Sesnon Fire. His description of this fire event and the actions of these personnel were that as these officers were effecting evacuations of residents from the front doors, the Fire Department was fighting the fire in the backyards. West described this as some of the most extreme fire behavior he has seen, warranting the extreme actions by all to save lives. West was laudatory of the orderly and prompt manner of these immediate evacuations and pointed out most deaths in these circumstances occur in vehicles with a panic reaction. The calm demeanor by which these evacuations were conducted clearly saved lives. West estimated that the officers had only 5 to 15 minutes to evacuate all of the homes North of Sesnon from Tampa to Mason...and they did just that. The Area evacuated is comprised of 469 homes in a labyrinth of small hillside streets. Without the prompt lifesaving efforts of these personnel, a loss of life would have been a certainty. Assistant Chief Gregory West endorsed the Department's effort to recognize the efforts of these personnel via the "Life Saving" medal.

Attachments:

Photos depicting fire scenes
Evacuation Map Photos (annotated).

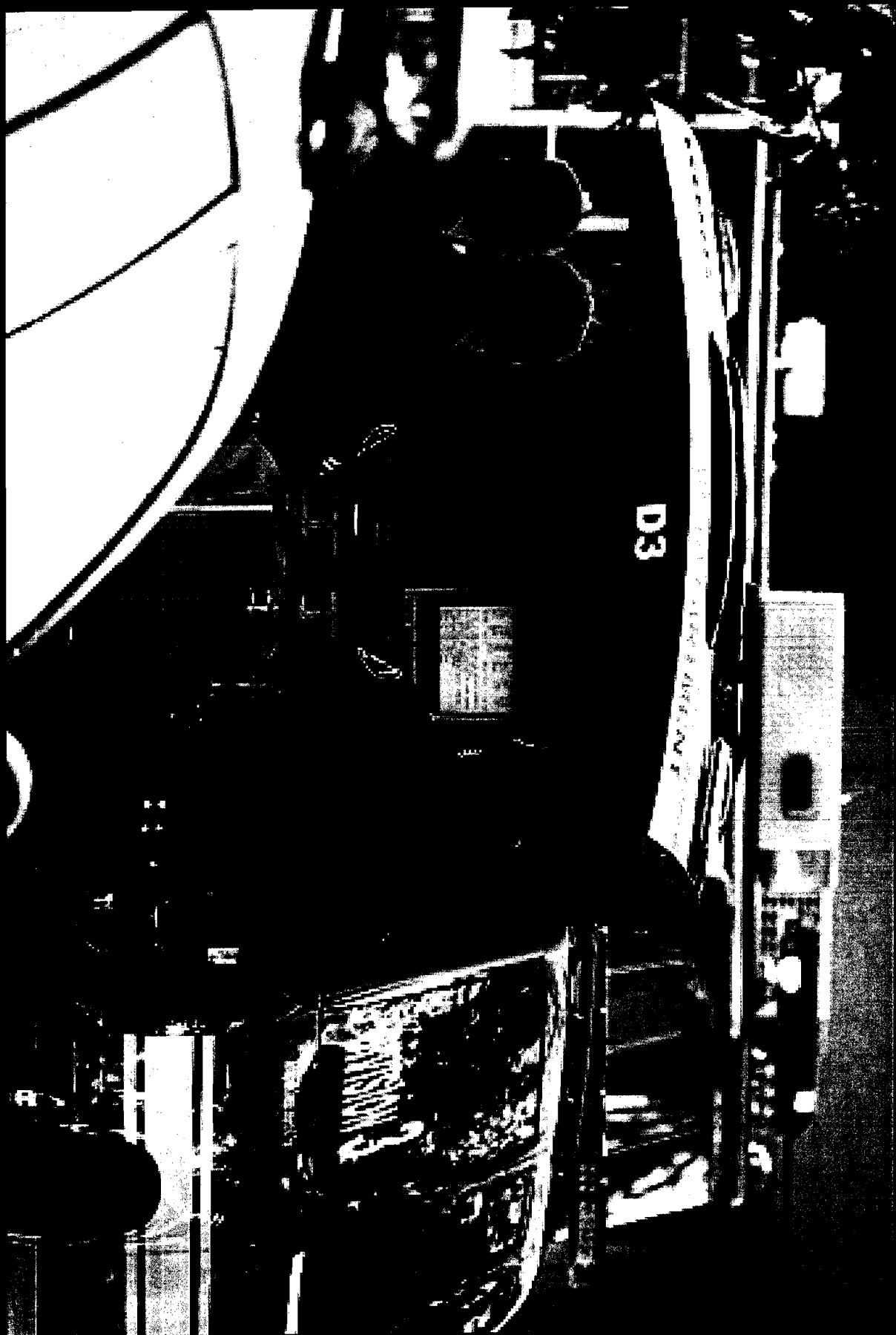


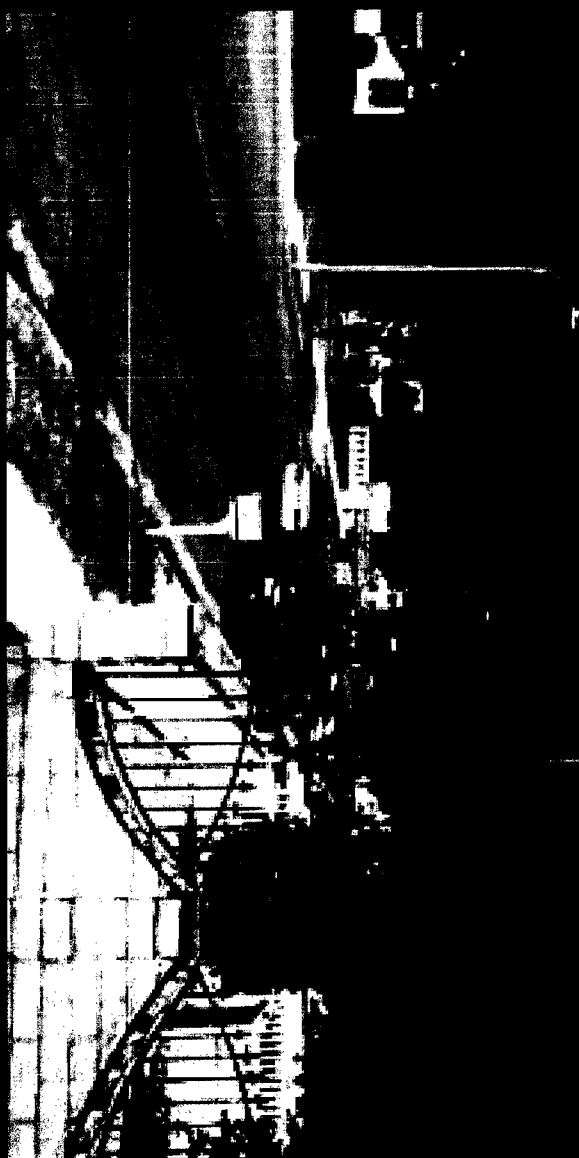
Evacuated Area indicated here, comprised of 120 homes. Evacuations completed within 5 to 10 minutes of fires origin

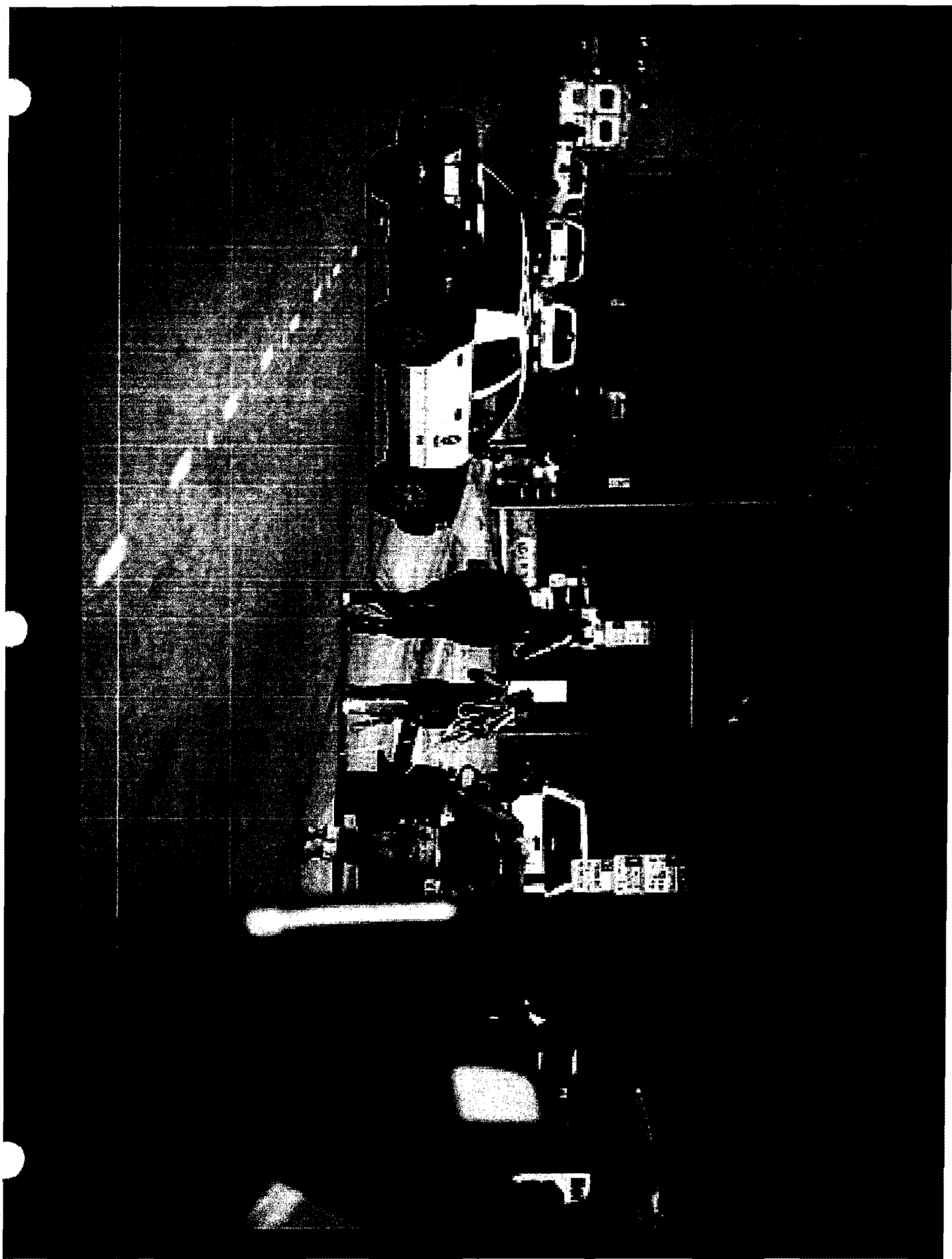




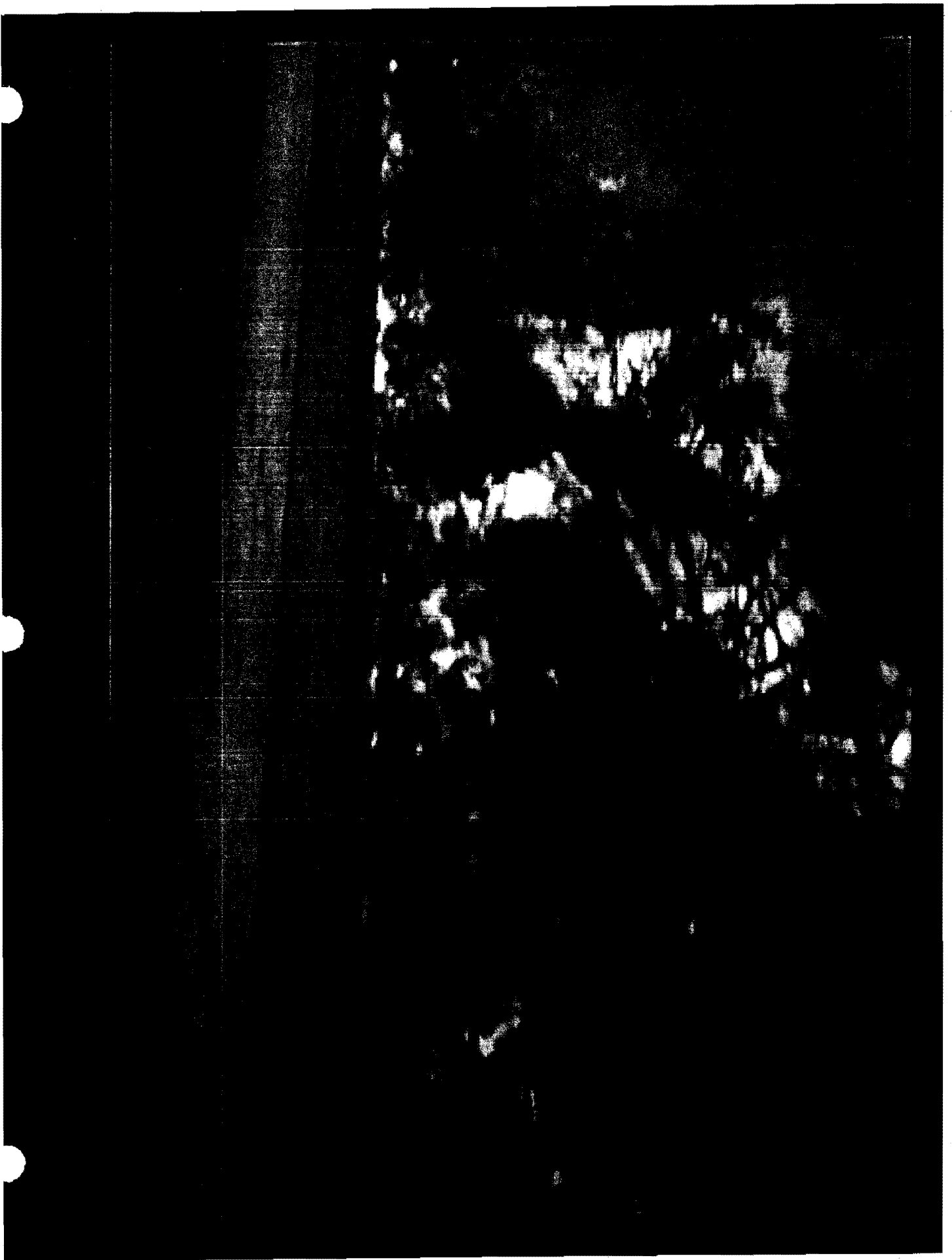


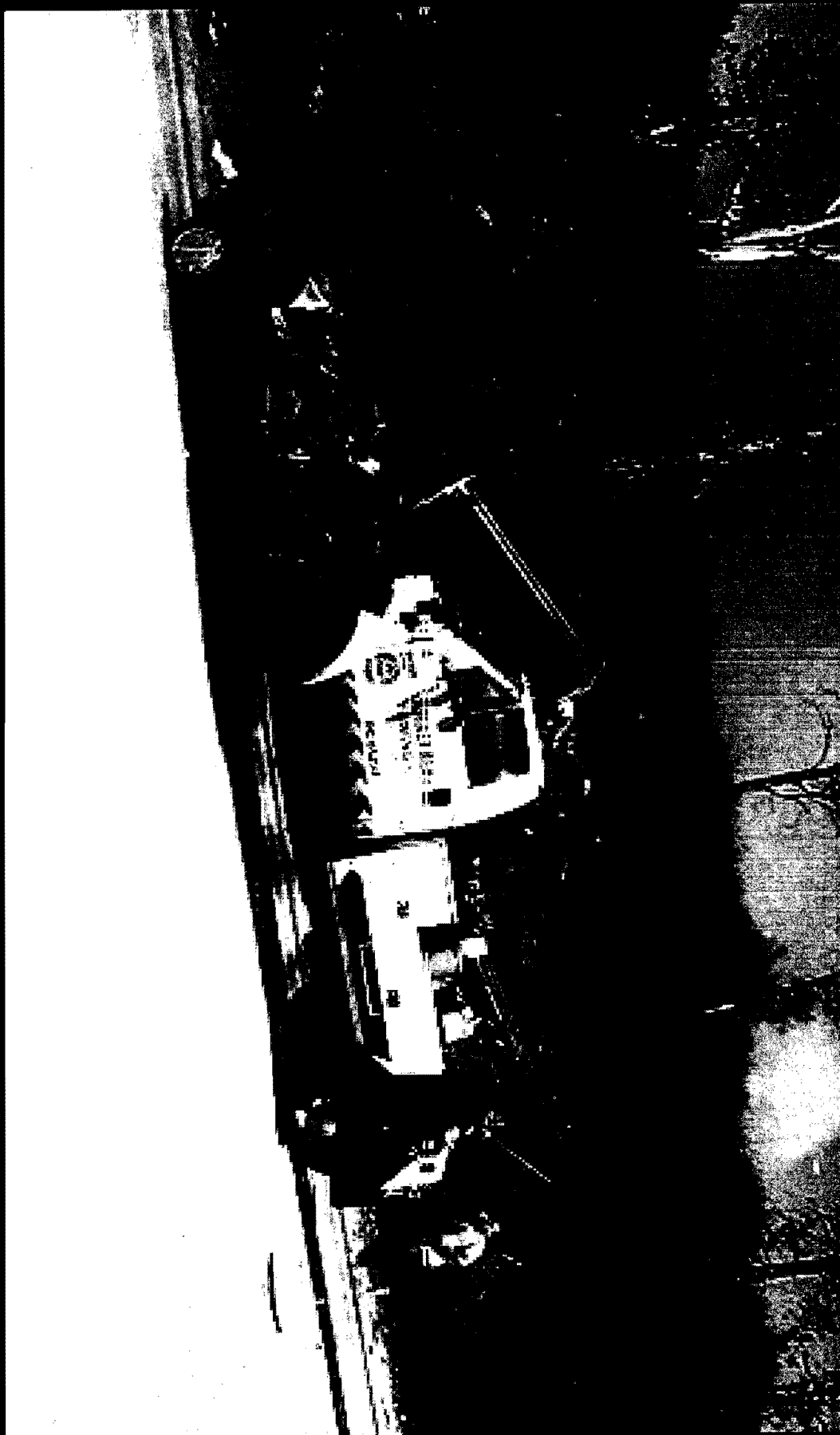




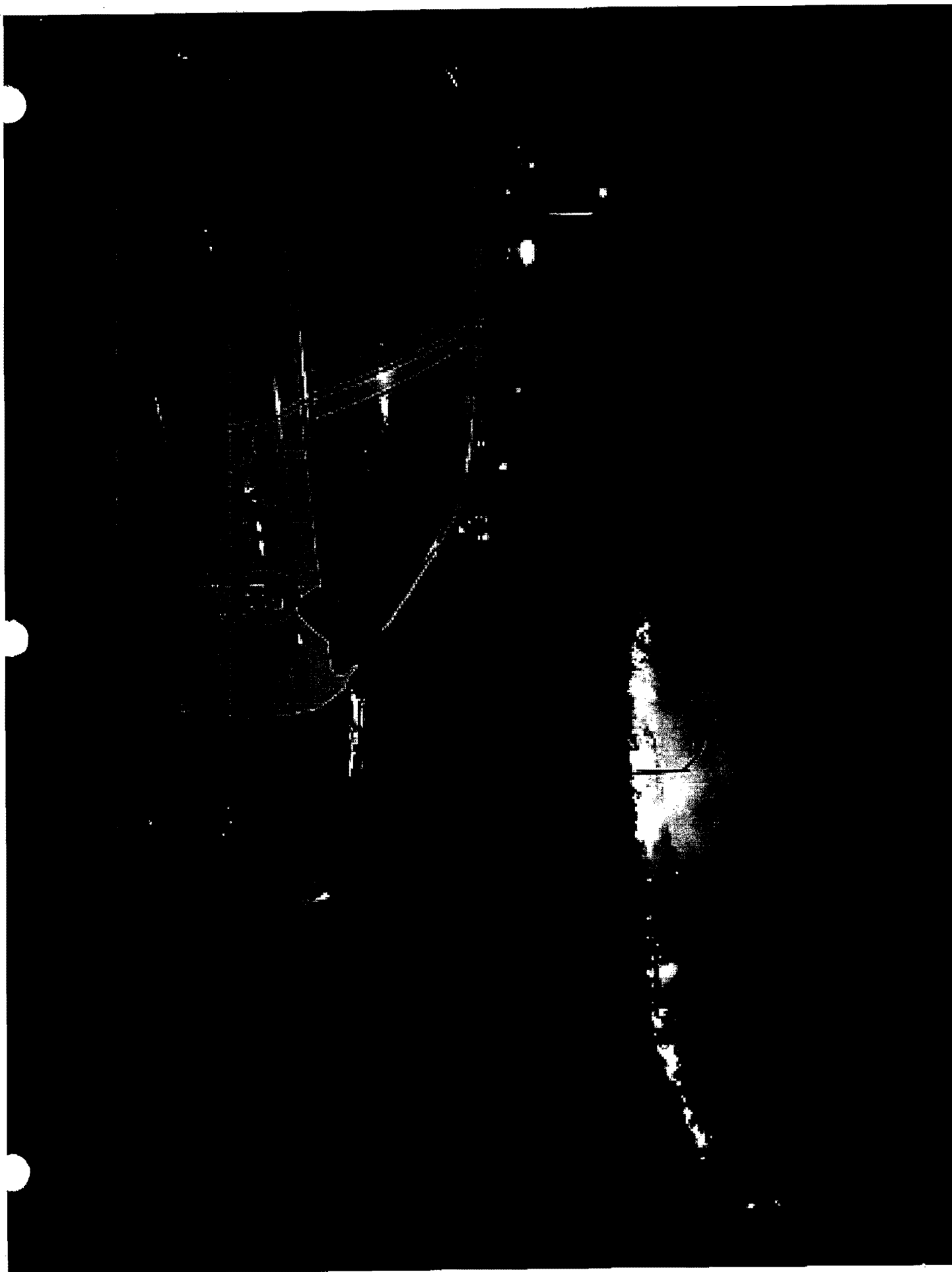


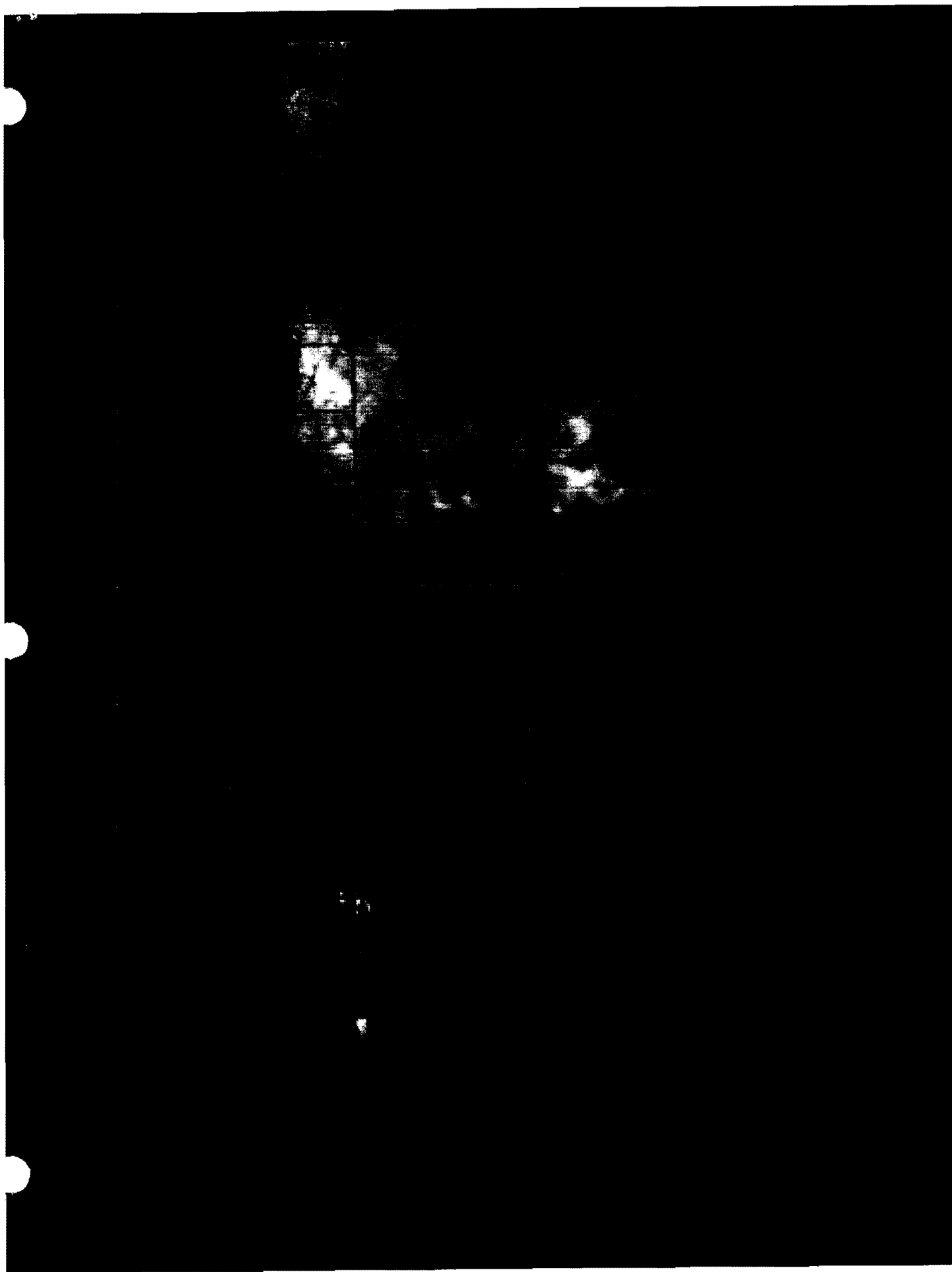














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**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT**

DATE
01/28/2009

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------|--|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) Police Officer Eric Hammerschmitt | | SERIAL NO. 38637 | RANK P2 | DIVISION ASSIGNED VAN NUYS AREA |
| LOCATION OF OCCURENCE San Diego Freeway / Victory Boulevard | | DIVISION OF OCCURENCE Van Nuys Area | | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE 06/01/2008 2138 |


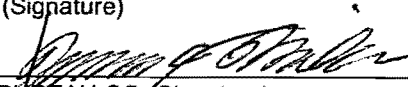

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☒ OTHER

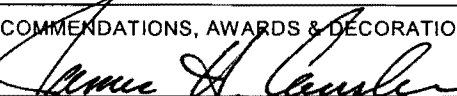
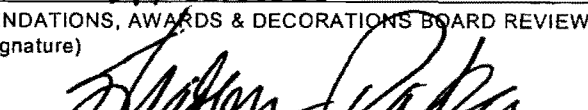
DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attachment - Commendation Narrative

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) Lt. II David Storaker, Serial No. 24229 | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) Capt. III James A. Miller, Serial No. 21825 |
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature)  | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature)  |
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | | BUREAU CO (Signature)  |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| <u>INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)</u> | <u>INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)</u> | <u>UNIT</u> |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

| | |
|--|--|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: 10/27/09 - COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)  |
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature)  |

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT**

DATE

01/28/2009

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
Police Officer Isedro Villafana 26429

RANK
P3

DIVISION ASSIGNED
VAN NUYS AREA

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

San Diego Freeway / Victory Boulevard

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

Van Nuys Area

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

06/01/2008

2138

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☒ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attachment - Commendation Narrative

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Lt. II David Storaker, Serial No. 24229

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Capt. III James A. Miller, Serial No. 21825

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

[Signature]

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

[Signature]

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☐ Recommend Medal of Valor
☒ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

10/27/09 - COMMENDATIONS BOARD
RECOMMENDED POLICE MEDAL

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

[Signature]

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

[Signature]

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

01/28/2009

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
Police Officer Edgar Cruz 37074

RANK
P3

DIVISION ASSIGNED
VAN NUYS AREA

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

San Diego Freeway / Victory Boulevard

DIVISION OF OCCURENCE

Van Nuys Area

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE

06/01/2008

2138

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☒ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attachment - Commendation Narrative

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Lt. II David Storaker, Serial No. 24229

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Capt. III James A. Miller, Serial No. 21825

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

James A. Miller

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

James A. Miller

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

James A. Miller

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☐ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

NO AWARD

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

James A. Miller

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

01/28/2009

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
Off Security Officer Pedro Pineda 45597

RANK
Security Ofcr

DIVISION ASSIGNED
PIERCE COLLEGE

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

San Diego Freeway / Victory Boulevard

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

Van Nuys Area

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

06/01/2008

2138

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☒ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attachment - Commendation Narrative

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Lt. II David Storaker, Serial No. 24229

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Capt. III James A. Miller, Serial No. 21825

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

James A. Miller for

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

James A. Miller

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

NO AWARD

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

L. A. Miller

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

01/28/2009

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
istie Ann Williams - Good Samaritan / Santa Monica Resident N/A

RANK

N/A

DIVISION ASSIGNED

N/A

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

San Diego Freeway / Victory Boulevard

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

Van Nuys Area

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

06/01/2008

2138

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☒ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attachment - Commendation Narrative

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Lt. II David Storaker, Serial No. 24229

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Capt. III James A. Miller, Serial No. 21825

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

James A. Miller for

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

James A. Miller

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☐ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

NO AWARD

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

J. A. Miller

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

01/28/2009

| | | | |
|---|------------|------|-------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) | SERIAL NO. | RANK | DIVISION ASSIGNED |
| Michael Wayne Smith - Good Samaritan / Santa Monica Resident | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE | DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE |
| San Diego Freeway / Victory Boulevard | Van Nuys Area | 06/01/2008 2138 |

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
 ☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☒ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attachment - Commendation Narrative

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
| | Lt. II David Storaker, Serial No. 24229 | Capt. III James A. Miller, Serial No. 21825 |

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
| | <i>[Signature]</i> | <i>[Signature]</i> |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature) |
| | | <i>[Signature]</i> |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) |
| NO AWARD | <i>[Signature]</i> |

| | |
|--|--|
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) |
| | |

Recommendation for Medal of Valor

Police Officer III Isidro Villafana, Serial No. 26429, Van Nuys Area
Police Officer II Edgar Cruz, Serial No. 37074, Van Nuys Gang Impact Team
Police Officer I Eric Hammerschmitt, Serial No. 38637, Van Nuys Area

Recommendation for Citizen Recognition of Valor

Off-Duty Sheriff Security Officer Pedro Pineda, Serial No. 455978, Pierce College
Christie Ann Williams, Good Samaritan from Santa Monica
Michael Wayne Smith, Good Samaritan from Santa Monica
Several Other Unknown Good Samaritans

} HAVE
ALREADY
BEEN
RECOGNIZED

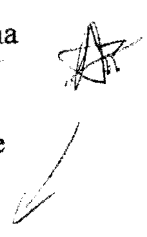
On a busy Sunday night June 1, 2008, at about 9:38 pm, a father (Homer Marcelo) and his 15 year old daughter were driving southbound on the San Diego Freeway approaching Victory Boulevard. This main North/South transportation artery runs through the heart of Van Nuys, California. It is regularly patrolled by the California Highway Patrol and is used by all local law enforcement agencies in their normal day to day operations. Other travelers were also in the midst of driving home from their weekend getaways and still others were just traversing through Van Nuys using this artery in their normal commuting activity.

Within seconds a tragic chain reaction accident involving four vehicles that was caused by a vehicle that would rear end Homer Marcelo's vehicle would bring together Van Nuys police officers Villafana, Cruz, and Hammerschmitt along with, Off-Duty Sheriff Security Officer Pedro Pineda, Good Samaritans Christie Ann Williams and Michael Wayne Smith, and several other Unknown Good Samaritans in a heroic effort to save the father and daughter who were center stage trapped in their vehicle, which was fully engulfed in flames. The night temperature was 60 degrees and there was no precipitation in the air. The multi-four vehicle accident caused the southbound traffic to slow to an abrupt stop. Christie Ann Williams and Michael Wayne Smith along with several Unknown Good Samaritans pulled to the side of the road and focused on the vehicle containing the father and daughter. It had caught fire and the father and daughter were seat belted in and injured or in a state of utter shock. Several fire extinguishers were deployed by these Good Samaritans as they tried to reach the engulfed vehicle.

At the same time, Officer Villafana and Hammerschmitt were returning from Olive View Hospital using the southbound San Diego Freeway. As they passed the Sherman Way exit, they could see from their vantage point that a tragic traffic collision had occurred near the carpool and number one lane at least one off ramp south of their location. The roadway appeared to be in flames and almost immediately an explosion with a large fireball engulfed one vehicle in the roadway. Traffic in front of Officers Villafana and Hammerschmitt came to an abrupt stop as many other travelers avoided becoming a part of the tragedy. Officers Villafana activated his emergency lights and traversed through the stopped traffic to get to the scene.

Once at the chaotic scene, The Good Samaritans had already jumped into action with portable fire extinguishers attempting to douse the flames. A universal appeal of the Good Samaritans was shouted to Officers Villafana and Hammerschmitt that there were victims trapped inside the vehicle who needed to be rescued. Officer Hammerschmitt placed an Officer Needs Help call over the radio explaining the situation. The Officers now became part of an extraordinary life saving effort with a combined effort of the Good Samaritans and the two officers. Officer Hammerschmitt approached the fully engulfed vehicle and took control of one of the fire extinguishers that was being used by one of the Good Samaritans. Officer Hammerschmitt found a small opening in the door frame, placed the nozzle of the fire extinguisher inside and began to extinguish the fire inside the passenger compartment. Simultaneously, several other fire extinguishers were being utilized by Officer Villafana and the Good Samaritans in a near futile effort to get the fire under control and allow Officer Hammerschmitt the opportunity to enter the vehicle. Officer Hammerschmitt began to test the driver side door in an effort to open it with his bare hands. The flames were all around him as he braved the inferno without any protective gear other than the collective efforts of Officer Villafana and the Good Samaritans attempting to shield him with the retardants from their fire extinguishers. Off Duty Sheriff Security Officer Pedro Pineda, who was traveling northbound on the San Diego Freeway stopped his personal vehicle, jumped the center divider with his flashlight in hand and joined the effort to rescue the father and daughter. Officer Villafana kicked the driver's side window, Pineda used his flashlight to hit the window and Good Samaritan Smith kicked at the window. It was all for not until Officer Hammerschmitt used his portable asp to break the window.

The rest of the fire extinguisher retardant was deployed inside the vehicle where fire raged and black smoke started to fill the vehicle. The driver was on fire. His pants had flames and the rest of his clothing was smoldering. The black smoke was so thick that none of the rescuers could see the daughter in the passenger seat. The driver in a state of shock remained calm as the inferno raged all around him. The driver reached his arms out to Officer Hammerschmitt and in a desperate gesture for help. Officer Hammerschmitt pulled on the driver, but the seat belt was still fastened. Unable to pull the driver out, Officer Hammerschmitt was forced to release the driver or risk getting charred by the flames that were all around the driver and the car seat. Officers Villafana and Hammerschmitt collectively yelled clear instructions to the driver to unfasten the seatbelt and climb out of the vehicle. The driver, although stunned and in shock, patiently complied and became instrumental to his own rescue as he was somehow able to unfasten the seatbelt and raise himself out of the burning car seat with his hands desperately reaching outside the vehicle. Officer Hammerschmitt along with Pineda made a second effort to grab the desperate driver and yanked him out of the vehicle. The extraordinary effort by Officer Hammerschmitt and Pineda took its toll as they dragged the driver away from the heat of the flames. They then exhaustingly passed the driver off to Officer Villafana and Good Samaritan Smith and several other Good Samaritans. Good Samaritan Williams removed her shawl and doused the flames that still were ablaze on the driver's clothing as the driver pleaded for the rescuers to save his daughter, who was still in the vehicle.



This extraordinary rescue was being conducted while back up units were simultaneously responding to the scene. The first unit to respond to the Officer Needs Help call was Officer Cruz working a local gang unit by himself that night. He was at Woodley Avenue and Victory Boulevard when he heard the desperate request and he confirmed the tragedy unfolding with his own eyes when he saw dark black smoke rising from the nearby San Diego Freeway. Officer Cruz made his way to the scene maneuvering through stopped traffic. When he arrived, the driver had just been extracted from the burning vehicle. Officer Cruz recovered the fire extinguisher from the trunk of his car and was greeted by frantic cries of bystanders who indicated that there were kids still in the vehicle.

The original rescuers were refocused on the plea to get the driver's daughter out of the vehicle. Officer Hammerschmitt along with Officer Cruz and several unknown Good Samaritans then approached the vehicle. With the new fully charged fire extinguisher and at least two other fire extinguishers nearing the end of their usefulness, the fire was met with as much fire retardant that the officers could muster. Unfortunately, the passenger was fully engulfed in fire and her voice had been silenced as she was overcome by the flames. Officers Cruz and Hammerschmitt still made efforts to enter the vehicle, but Officer Villafana saw the effort was futile and the passenger had obviously succumbed to the raging inferno. Officer Villafana pulled Officers Cruz and Hammerschmitt back to avoid further unnecessary injury to these heroic officers.

The 15 year old daughter was fatally wounded at the scene with massive fire damage to her entire body. Her father survived that night with second and third degree burns over 40 percent of his body and he had numerous broken ribs. Despite the heroic efforts from Officers Hammerschmitt, Villafana, Cruz, Off Duty Sheriff Security Officer Pineda, Good Samaritans Michael Smith and Christie Williams, and several other Unknown Good Samaritans, the driver succumbed to his injuries a day later at the hospital.

It is with great pleasure we introduce to you Off Duty Sheriff Security Officer Pedro Pineda, and Good Samaritans Christie Ann Williams, and Michael Wayne Smith, who had stopped to render aid and conduct a rescue while placing themselves in grave danger. Several other Good Samaritans should also be acknowledged, but their identities are forever lost as their bravery and kindness of the human spirit was done anonymously. Certainly, they are worthy of a Citizen Recognition of Valor.

In complete respect for the actions of these police officers, it is my honor to introduce to you recently promoted Police Officer II Eric Hammerschmitt, recently promoted Police Officer III Edgar Cruz, and Police Officer III Isidro Villafana who displayed unflinching courage, unwavering commitment to duty, and exemplified respect for human life, at great peril to themselves. These are officers who displayed individual bravery and exemplified the best of the Los Angeles Police Department. Certainly they are worthy of being recognized with the Medal of Valor.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

16)

DATE
03/17/2008

| | | | |
|---|------------|----------|-------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) | SERIAL NO. | RANK | DIVISION ASSIGNED |
| Sims, Randal (Posthumously) | 22885 | PO III+I | METROPOLITAN |

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE | DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE |
| 19828 Welby Way | West Valley | 02/07/2008 |

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
|----------------------|--|--|

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|

BUREAU REVIEW
 ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION
 ☒ FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |

| | |
|--|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 6/11/09, THE COMMENDATION BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) |
|--|---|

| | |
|--|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) |
|--|---|

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE
03/17/2008

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO. Vr...stra, James 23666 | | RANK PO III+I | DIVISION ASSIGNED METROPOLITAN |
| LOCATION OF OCCURENCE 19828 Welby Way | DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE West Valley | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE 02/07/2008 | |

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

| | |
|---|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 03/17/08 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, O&S (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
Kortge, David 30896

RANK

PO III.

DIVISION ASSIGNED

METROPOLITAN

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURENCE

West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE

02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

ON 6/11/09 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD
RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE
03/17/2008

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO. C. Chappi, Thomas 27571 | | RANK PO III | DIVISION ASSIGNED METROPOLITAN |
| LOCATION OF OCCURENCE 19828 Welby Way | DIVISION OF OCCURENCE West Valley | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE 02/07/2008 | |

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |

| | |
|--|--|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 6/17/08 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.

H. Gado, German

34865

RANK

PO III

DIVISION ASSIGNED

METROPOLITAN

LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR

☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW

☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

ON 3/17/08 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR.

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.

C. v, Floyd

34967

RANK

PO III

DIVISION ASSIGNED

METROPOLITAN

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR

☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW

☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

ON 6/11/09, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR.

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
Baker, Michael 30693

RANK

PO III

DIVISION ASSIGNED

METROPOLITAN

LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police/Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

ON 6/11/09, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD
RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE
03/17/2008

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO. S. Nelson, Anthony 36676 | | RANK PO III | DIVISION ASSIGNED METROPOLITAN |
| LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE 19828 Welby Way | DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE West Valley | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE 02/07/2008 | |

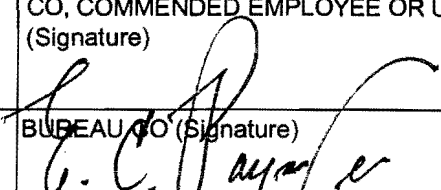
ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
☐ OTHER

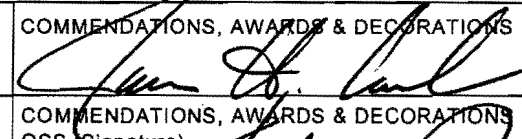

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature)  |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |

| | |
|---|--|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 6/11/08, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)  |
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature)  |

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE
03/17/2008

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO. B. Motta, Charles 22542 | | RANK Sergeant II | DIVISION ASSIGNED METROPOLITAN |
| LOCATION OF OCCURENCE 19828 Welby Way | DIVISION OF OCCURENCE West Valley | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE 02/07/2008 | |

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

| | |
|--|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 6/1/08 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR. | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE
03/17/2008

| | | | |
|---|------------|--------|-------------------|
| NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) | SERIAL NO. | RANK | DIVISION ASSIGNED |
| Sr "on, Stephen | 26829 | PO III | METROPOLITAN |

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| LOCATION OF OCCURENCE | DIVISION OF OCCURENCE | DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE |
| 19828 Welby Way | West Valley | 02/07/2008 |

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) |
|----------------------|--|--|

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature) |
|--|--|-----------------------|

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |

| | |
|---|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 6/1/08, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) |
|---|---|

| | |
|--|--|
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) |
|--|--|

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.

R. George

30193

RANK

PO III

DIVISION ASSIGNED

METROPOLITAN

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE

West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE

02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

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☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:
ON 6/1/08 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD
RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
L...gh, Bonnie 35514

RANK

PO II

DIVISION ASSIGNED

WEST VALLEY

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURENCE

West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE

02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:
ON 6/11/08, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD
RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR.

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE

03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
C... Michael 22369

RANK
PO III+I

DIVISION ASSIGNED
METROPOLITAN

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE
19828 Welby Way

DIVISION OF OCCURENCE
West Valley

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE
02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

☒ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

UNIT

☐ Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation
☐ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:
ON 6/11/09 THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD
RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
OSS (Signature)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

DATE
03/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO. RANK DIVISION ASSIGNED
Miles, Mark 27717 PO II WEST VALLEY

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE
19828 Welby Way West Valley 02/07/2008

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:
☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☒ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See Attached

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature)

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION ☒ FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD BUREAU CO (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON 3/17/08, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED MEDAL OF VALOR COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature)

On February 6, 2008, West Valley Patrol Division officers responded to an "Open 911 Line" radio call at 19828 Welby Way in Winnetka. Upon arrival, the officers attempted to contact the residents. After doing so, it was determined that one of the residents was possibly responsible for the shooting of several individuals inside the home. The suspect failed to respond to extensive and ongoing attempts to contact him in an effort to peacefully resolve the situation.

Believing that the suspect was armed, the Metropolitan Division Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team was contacted and responded, arriving at 2345 hours. Additional information was obtained that indicated there may have been as many as six victims in the home, some of which were in critical need of immediate aid or rescue. The on-scene SWAT personnel determined that the criticality of the situation required their emergency deployment into the residence to effect the rescue of at least one downed victim who was likely still alive and critically injured.

To accomplish this rescue, the tactic of deploying an Immediate Action Rapid Deployment (IARD) team was selected. This emergency life-saving tactic required that officers to go directly into harms way and confront a potentially armed and dangerous suspect in order to rescue victims in peril.

In this particular incident, and fully aware of the extreme danger involved in confronting an armed and violent suspect, Police Officer III+I Randal Simmons, Serial No. 22885, Metropolitan Division, SWAT, and Police Officer III+I, James Veenstra Serial No. 23666, Metropolitan Division, SWAT, formulated an IARD tactical rescue plan to rescue any victims in the residence.

The IARD team consisted of the following officers who would enter the house in the following order:

- Police Officer III+I Randal Simmons, Serial No. 22885, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III+I James Veenstra, Serial No. 23666, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III David Keortge, Serial No. 30896, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III Thomas Chinappi, Serial No. 27571, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III German Hurtado, Serial No. 34865, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III Floyd Curry, Serial No. 34967, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III Michael Barker, Serial No. 30693, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III Anthony Samuelson, Serial No. 36676, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Sergeant II Charles Buttitta, Serial No. 22542, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
- Police Officer III Stephen Scallon, Serial No. 26829, Metropolitan Division, SWAT

Within minutes of their arrival, knowing time was of the essence, the SWAT team element made the hazardous entry into the residence. Simultaneously, Police Officer III+I Michael Odle, Serial No. 22369, Metropolitan Division, SWAT, and Police Officer III George Ryan, Serial No. 30193, Metropolitan Division, SWAT, initiated a diversion by breaking a front window of the residence.

Immediately upon entry, both the entry team and the diversionary team members were met with a barrage of gunfire from the suspect. Officers Chinappi, Curry, and Barker returned fire and drove the suspect further back into the residence, enabling the team to rescue a downed victim.

Tragically, during the heroic rescue attempt, Officer Veenstra and Officer Simmons were struck by the suspect's gunfire and incapacitated. Officer Odle, who was outside a front window providing cover, was struck by round fragments from the suspect's gunfire resulting in injuries to his face and body. Despite his injuries, Odle was still able to respond to the interior of the residence with Ryan when they heard that officers had been wounded.

As the gun-battle continued, Officers Chinappi, Curry, and Barker pursued the suspect and provided cover; enabling Officer Samuelson to move Officer Simmons toward the front door of the house. Police Officer II Mark Mireles, Serial No. 27717, West Valley Area, then assisted in moving the wounded officer to waiting Los Angeles Fire Department emergency medical personnel. Officer Mireles and his partner, Police Officer II Bonnie Lehigh, Serial No. 35514, West Valley Area, had been called into the house to assist by Officer Odle.

At the same time, Sergeant Buttitta and Officer Scallon were able to extricate Officer Veenstra. Once Officer Veenstra and Officer Simmons had been removed from the house, Officer Mireles returned to the front door area of the house and removed one of the three homicide victims. While the downed officers and the victim were being rescued, Officer Lehigh made her way to the front of the house and assisted in providing cover.

The critically injured officers were transported to Northridge Medical Center where Officer Veenstra underwent extensive emergency surgery for a gunshot wound to the face. Officer Simmons tragically succumbed to his injuries.

During the hours following the initial entry into the residence, there were several additional violent confrontations between the suspect and officers, ultimately resulting in the suspect's demise.

The sacrifice made by Officer Veenstra and the ultimate sacrifice made by Officer Simmons clearly demonstrate their selfless devotion to duty. All of the officers that entered the residence heroically and bravely placed themselves in harms way and faced a violent suspect who had just murdered three members of his own family. In a valiant effort to rescue victims in desperate need of help, these officers chose to march forward, into the extreme danger they knew existed, in the ultimate act of professionalism and commitment to the citizens of the City of Los Angeles.

It has been said *"There is no greater love than this. There is no greater gift that can be given. To be willing to die, so another might live – there is no greater love than this."* This quotation embodies the spirit and essence of the officers involved in this incident in that they knowingly and willfully risked their own lives and safety in order to rescue a victim. Tragically, Officer Simmons made the ultimate sacrifice and gave his life in this effort. Although the victims that the officers so valiantly tried to save did not survive, the bravery and valor demonstrated on that day was not diminished. To the contrary, the officers' efforts even in the most adverse of moments is a shining beacon of perseverance and commitment to duty.

It is offered to the members of the Commendations Board that the brave, heroic, and selfless actions of the following officers be considered for the Department's **Police Medal**:

Police Officer II Mark Mireles, Serial No. 27717, West Valley Area
Police Officer II Bonnie Lehigh, Serial No. 35514, West Valley Area

It is also offered to the members of the Commendations Board that the brave, heroic, and selfless actions of the following officers be considered for the Department's highest award; the **Medal of Valor**:

Police Officer III+I Randal Simmons, Serial No. 22835, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III+I James Veenstra, Serial No. 23666, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III David Keortge, Serial No. 30896, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III Thomas Chinappi, Serial No. 27571, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III German Hurtado, Serial No. 34865, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III Floyd Curry, Serial No. 34967, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III Michael Barker, Serial No. 30693, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III Anthony Samuelson, Serial No. 36676, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Sergeant II Charles Buttitta, Serial No. 22542, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III Stephen Scallon, Serial No. 26829, Metropolitan Division, SWAT
Police Officer III+I Michael Odle, Serial No. 22369, Metropolitan Division, SWAT, and
Police Officer III George Ryan, Serial No. 30193, Metropolitan Division, SWAT

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT**

⑦ A

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| DATE 09/04/2008 | |
| RANK | DIVISION ASSIGNED |
| DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE 06/09/2008 1840 | |

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
OFFICER CENTANO (CHP) #18464

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE 7TH STREET AND 110 FREEWAY | DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE CENTRAL |
|--|-----------------------------------|

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT
 ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG
 ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
 ☒ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)

☐ CRIME REPORT
 ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM
 ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS
 ☐ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURRENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) Rick Wall, Captain I, Serial #23255 | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.) Rick Wall, Captain I, Serial #23255 |
|----------------------|---|---|

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12 MONTHS | REPORTING SUPERVISOR (Signature) | CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT (Signature) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| BUREAU REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> BUREAU COMMENDATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORWARD TO COMMENDATIONS BOARD | BUREAU CO (Signature) |
|---|-----------------------|

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

| INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY) | INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE) | UNIT |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Medal of Valor | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Commission Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Police Meritorious Unit Citation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awarded Police Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Meritorious Achievement Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Saving Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Commission Integrity Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Policing Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Medal | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commendation | |

| | |
|--|---|
| ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD: ON MARCH 5, 2007, THE COMMENDATIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED THE POLICE | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature) <i>[Signature]</i> |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|--|
| ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS COMMISSION DIST. SERVICE CERTIFICATE. - OTHER INVOLVED REC'D | COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER, OSS (Signature) |
|---|--|

COPY

Commendation

4.1.1

Page 2

On June 9, 2008, at approximately 1840 hours, Police Officer II Gary Parker, Serial No. 37654, and Police Officer II Tan Trinh, Serial No. 36520, assigned to Central Patrol Division Unit 1X14, received a radio call of a "Possible Attempt Suicide" on the 3rd Street overpass of the Harbor freeway. Upon their arrival, they were contacted by an unknown individual who informed them that there was a male subject hanging over the freeway along the east wall of the northbound Harbor Freeway between Wilshire Boulevard and 7th Street.

As they responded to the 7th Street freeway overpass, the officers observed the subject hanging perilously atop of the 25 foot wall, clinging onto the safety wire cables which extended horizontally over the top of the wall. Officer Parker coordinated the response of additional units to the location. As he did so, he observed that should the subject decide to jump to his death, his position over the freeway would, in all likelihood result in him falling onto the vehicle of a passing motorist causing serious bodily injury or death to them or the subject would be struck by a vehicle should he survive the fall. The officers then requested that officers from the California Highway Patrol (CHP) shut down the northbound lanes of the Harbor Freeway to prevent passing motorists and the subject from potentially becoming seriously injured.

As Officers Trinh and Parker approached the subject on foot, they observed CHP Officer Centano, Serial No. 18464, already at scene where he had initiated dialogue with the distraught and suicidal subject. However, his efforts to have the subject climb over the wire cables to safety was futile as the subject continued clinging onto the wire cables by positioning himself over the freeway side, threatening to jump to his death.

At this time, Police Officer III Garret Bush, Serial No. 34512, assigned to the Systemwide Mental Assessment Response Team (SMART), Detective Support and Vice Division (DSVD) arrived at the scene to assist with the incident. Officer Bush, who is certified as a member of the Department's Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) began to work with Officer Centano to continue with the negotiations. Due to the noise of the freeway and responding emergency vehicles, Officer Bush moved closer to the subject to better communicate with him. Recognizing that the subject was at great risk of committing suicide and without regard for his own safety, Officer Bush scaled the wall and placed himself in a position to be near the subject to better assist with the negotiations. At the same time, Police Officer II Francisco Martinez, Serial No. 36823, and Police Officer II Joseph Dudas, Serial No. 36934, assigned to Central Entertainment Detail, scaled the fence to be in a position to assist Officer Bush. Officers Bush, Dudas, and Martinez all placed themselves in a position without regard for their safety recognizing that if the subject grabbed at one of the officers before jumping, the officer would likely fall to his death on the freeway below. However, they also believed that by working as a team, they would be able to support each other and prevent the other officers from falling.

CHP Officer Centano continued his dialogue with the subject as assisting officers cautiously approached the subject, getting within a few feet of him. CHP Officer Centeno then used a ruse by waving \$40 and offering it to the subject if he would climb over the wire cables to safety. The subject proceeded to reach for the money, at which time, Officer Centeno grabbed onto the subject's right arm in an attempt to prevent him from falling onto the freeway below.

Commendation

4.1.1

Page 3

The officers recognized that Officer Centano was in such a position that if the subject jumped, his weight would pull Centano over the wall to the freeway below. In a joint attempt to help Officer Centano, and with complete disregard for their own safety, Officers Bush and Trinh grabbed onto the subject's other arm while Officer Dudas grabbed onto the subject's leg in an attempt to prevent him from falling and pulling Officer Centano over the edge with him. The officers then coordinated their efforts to pull the subject over the wire cables to safety. However, the subject resisted and attempted to pull away from the officers' grasp while standing atop the 25' wall. In further defiance of the rescue attempt, the subject wrapped his leg around the cable wire to gain leverage as he tried to pull away from the officers. This placed the subject in a position of advantage that prevented the officers from pulling him to safety while continuing to jeopardize their own safety as they began to fatigue from the struggle.

Recognizing that the subject's position had now placed the rescuers in a dangerous situation, Officer Parker, with complete disregard for his own safety, climbed out over the wall and onto the cables where he leaned over the wire cables to unwrap the subject's leg from the anchoring cables. Officer Parker did this with full knowledge that in doing so he could fall and suffer fatal injuries on the freeway below. Recognizing the dangerous position that Officer Parker was in, Officer Martinez, with complete disregard for his own safety, reached out over the wall and grabbed onto Parker's Sam Browne belt to help stabilize him. Martinez did this with full knowledge that if Parker fell, he would also fall over the wall to his death.

As the team of officers began to solidify their grip on the subject, Officer Bush grabbed the subject around the torso and pulled him tightly into himself, preventing the subject from wrestling away from his rescuers. The coordinated efforts of all of the officers involved resulted in the team pulling the subject over the wall to his safety by pulling him over the wire cables and onto the dirt path below. Due to his position on the subject, when they fell onto the path, the subject landed on top of Officer Bush who had fallen backwards due to his momentum. This caused Officer Bush to strike the back of his head onto the hard dirt soil, resulting in his sustaining a concussion. The subject was subsequently placed on a hold pursuant to Section 5150 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

California Highway Patrol Officer Centano and Officers Bush, Parker, Trinh, Dudas and Martinez are commended for their heroism, selflessness, dedication to duty and teamwork in knowingly placing themselves in a dangerous position that could have resulted in being seriously injured or killed. Their successful rescue effort resulted in saving the life of a suicidal and distraught subject and achieving a successful resolution to this potentially tragic event.

STATEMENT OF WITNESS SASANK P. REDDY, RN

On June 9, 2008, Mr. Reddy was assigned to the SMART unit as the Registered Nurse from the Department of Mental Health (DMH). Reddy interviewed the subject and completed the 5150 Hold. Due to restrictions of the health Insurance Privacy and Portability Act (HIPPA), Reddy was unable to go into extensive detail of his interview of the subject in this incident.

Mr. Reddy stated that the subject in this incident was at a high risk for suicide. He was despondent over what were perceived as personal failures in his life and had been planning his suicide for several days. This included giving away some personal possessions, which is a strong indicator that the subject is at serious risk for suicide. The subject had looked at several locations to determine which would best accomplish his suicidal effort.

Prior to the incident, the subject had ingested alcoholic beverages to help him have the "courage" to follow through with the act. Once he got onto the wall, he realized that by jumping he may injure a motorist so was working to identify the timing of the cars to avoid injuring someone else when the officers intervened. The subject stated very clearly that had the officers not taken the decisive actions in this incident, he would have succeeded in his suicide plan.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMENDATION REPORT

(20)

DATE

09/17/2008

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/UNIT (If unit, list individuals at beginning of narrative) SERIAL NO.
ARCHANGEL

RANK

DIVISION ASSIGNED
EMERGENCY SERV

LOCATION OF OCCURENCE

DIVISION OF OCCURENCE
EMERGENCY SERVICES

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURENCE

ITEMS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT:

☐ ARREST REPORT ☐ SERGEANT'S LOG ☐ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ☐ WITNESSES STATEMENTS: E.G., (Fire or Paramedic Personnel)
☐ CRIME REPORT ☐ SCALED DIAGRAM ☐ PHOTOGRAPHS ☒ OTHER

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY, TYPE OF ACTION, OR OCCURENCE: RELATE FACTS INDICATING DEGREE OF HAZARD INVOLVED AND QUALITIES DEMONSTRATED (COURAGE, INITIATIVE, ETC.). INCLUDE TACTICS USED BY THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IF APPROPRIATE. LIST WITNESSES INTERVIEWED.

See 15.2 attached for employees to be commended and narrative.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Capt. Horace Frank, Serial No. 25958

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(NAME, RANK, SERIAL NO.)

Archangel ²⁵⁹⁵⁸ Horace E. Frank, CA PT
Horse CD ESB

RECOGNITION FOR FOUR MINOR
☐ COMMENDATIONS WITHIN 12
MONTHS

REPORTING SUPERVISOR
(Signature)

Horace E. Frank

CO, COMMENDED EMPLOYEE OR UNIT
(Signature)

Horace E. Frank

BUREAU REVIEW ☐ BUREAU COMMENDATION

☒ FORWARD TO
COMMENDATIONS BOARD

BUREAU CO (Signature)

M. P. Mancini

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD

INDIVIDUAL (BRAVERY)

INDIVIDUAL (SERVICE)

UNIT

☐ Recommend Medal of Valor
☐ Recommend Police Medal
☐ Awarded Police Star
☐ Life Saving Medal
☐ Bureau Commendation

☐ Recommend Police Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Service Medal
☐ Police Meritorious Achievement Medal
☐ Police Commission Distinguished Service Medal
☐ Police Commission Integrity Medal
☐ Community Policing Medal
☐ Human Relations Medal
☒ Bureau Commendation

☒ Recommend Police Commission Unit
Citation
☐ Recommend Police Meritorious Unit
Citation
☒ Bureau Commendation

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMENDATIONS BOARD:

ON MARCH 5, 2009, THE COMMENDATION
BOARD RECOMMENDED POLICE MERITORIOUS

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD CHAIR (Signature)

M. P. Mancini for J. Anderson

ACTION TAKEN BY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

UNIT CITATION FOR ALL DEPT. PERSONNEL

COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS BOARD REVIEWING OFFICER,
SS (Signature)

& POLICE COMMISSION CERTIFICATE FOR

Copy

EMPLOYEES TO BE COMMENDED

1 Captain Thomas McDonald, Serial No. 24144

Sergeant Christopher Gomez, Serial No. 33237

Sergeant James Gordon, Serial No. 23850

6 Sergeant James Harpster, Serial No. 24056

Sergeant Craig Kitchener, Serial No. 30105

Sergeant James Lewis, Serial No. 31339

Sergeant Timothy Swift, Serial No. 30803

2 Detective Shannon Geaney, Serial No. 35012

Detective Stephen Lurie, Serial No. 33959

13 Police Officer John Bertino, Serial No. 27839

Police Officer Mark Castillo, Serial No. 30932

Police Officer Mark Cohan, Serial No. 34916

Police Officer Shiou Deng, Serial No. 35049

Police Officer Steven Diaz, Serial No. 27197

Police Officer Ray Galluccio, Serial No. 31357

Police Officer Michael Glenn, Serial No. 31422

Police Officer Kevin Grogan, Serial No. 30230

Police Officer Vanessa Keortge, Serial No. 30898

Police Officer Lawrence Koreen, Serial No. 27222

Police Officer Steven Much, Serial No. 30844 (Retired)

Police Officer Allan Ramirez, Serial No. 33872

Police Officer Craig Rensch, Serial No. 31379

Police Officer Jeff Shattuck, Serial No. 30337

Police Officer Kenneth Thatcher, Serial No. 30377

Police Officer Pedro Ugarte, Serial No. 24899

Police Officer Edgar Villalta, Serial No. 26093

Police Officer Brian Whetsel, Serial No. 30532

3 Fire Battalion Chief John Biggs, Serial No. 41553

Fire Captain Tom Gikas, Serial No.

Fire Captain Yo Gikas, Serial No. 85184

Senior Management Analyst Sandy Wallace, Serial No. V8315

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Alfredo Garcia, Serial No. N3119

5 Management Analyst Jude Helfman, Serial No. N3174

Management Analyst Stacy Rafter, Serial No. N1077

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Captain -
Did this ever
go anywhere?
Juke

The Oklahoma City bombing in 1995 sounded a warning that “homegrown” terrorists represent a potentially catastrophic threat in our own back yard. Similarly, the 9/11 attacks signaled that international terrorism was no longer a distant reality - that foreign-based groups can and will conduct attacks on American soil.

Whether the motivation is Islamic fundamentalism, eco-terrorism, anti-government or the disaffected loner, terrorism is increasingly being perpetrated by independent “home-grown” groups attracted to radical and violent ideologies. The result is that an attack upon United States (U. S.) soil employing an improvised explosive device, or even a chemical, biological, or radiological weapon, is increasingly likely. The impact of such an attack could be potentially catastrophic. As such, it is insufficient for local law enforcement to merely prepare to respond to such an event – which is in and of itself an acceptance of failure. Rather, we must *prevent* such catastrophic attacks from occurring in the first place.

The intelligence community diligently works to ferret out plots against us. However, despite our best efforts, the public safety community often operates in an environment absent of clear intelligence indicating an impending terrorist attack. In this light, a Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Program is designed to identify our areas of greatest vulnerability – a terrorist’s potential targets – and to formulate strategic plans to effectively protect our most critical assets. Prior to 9/11, the public safety community had yet to fully adopt CIP as a primary anti-terrorism strategy. Historically, CIP had by and large been seen as a military initiative. However, given the scope of potential “targets” within the Los Angeles area, a methodology for strategically prioritizing our vulnerabilities and focusing our limited resources (i.e., personnel, funding, etc.) directed at our most “at risk” assets was required to enable us to work smarter not harder.

An old maxim of military strategy warns, "He who protects everything protects nothing."

In May 2003, with the full support and guidance from Deputy Chief Mark Leap, Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Criminal Intelligence Bureau, and from then Police Administrator John Miller, the listed personnel sought to create an all hazards CIP program specifically for the public safety community. The initial mission was to identify, inventory, and assess critical assets, to form collaborative relationships with the owners and managers of those assets, and to develop preventative, protective measures to safeguard our most valuable assets.

It was immediately apparent that members of agencies at the federal, state and local levels across the nation were struggling with many of the same issues associated with critical infrastructure protection. The City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) approached the U. S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to form a collaborative partnership; the LAPD would contribute personnel and its subject matter expertise while DHS would underwrite the creation of a new unit to be named Operation Archangel. From its inception, Archangel’s programs and initiatives were designed primarily to develop initiatives that would serve to prevent and/or deter terrorist activities directed at critical assets and to assist in the mitigation and response to major incidents involving those assets. Designed to serve as a national model, Archangel’s initiatives and products were developed to be scalable and

exportable to other jurisdictions nation-wide. Nearly three years later, Archangel's accomplishments far surpass the highest expectations or requirements placed on them at the outset.

The following is but an overview of the accomplishments Archangel from its inception to date. Archangel has:

- **Built and maintains strong working relationships** with multiple state and Federal agencies including, but not limited to:
 - California State Office of Homeland Security (OHS)
 - U. S. Department of Homeland Security
 - Risk Management Division, DHS
 - Office of Grants and Training, DHS
- **Secured and maintains \$3.5 million DHS grant funding** for Archangel initiatives.
- **Facilitated a \$1.3 million Buffer Zone Protection plan grant funding** designed to enhance the security at critical assets.
- **Created and maintains the first and only "Core Group."** The Core Group is comprised of representatives of the owners/managers of critical assets and representatives of the public safety agencies responsible for the prevention of and/or responses to major incidents, including terrorism. The Core Group provides input and guidance to Archangel relative to its initiatives.
- **Developed the first standardized criteria/definition and prioritization model of critical assets**, which subsequently has been promulgated nation-wide.
- **Developed the Critical Asset Assessment (CAA)**, a multi-agency/disciplinary methodology for conducting assessments of critical assets.
- **Created, secured funding for, designed, and continues to develop the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS)**; a secure, web-based data management system supporting the CAA which has been adopted by the State of California as the basis for its state-wide Critical Infrastructure Protection Program and currently is being made available to public safety agencies nation-wide in cooperation with US DHS.
 - Working in partnership with DHS and the OHS to train agencies in ACAMS throughout California in 2006 and nation-wide in 2007.
- **Secured and maintains \$3.5 million DHS grant funding for the Protective Security Center (PSC).** The PSC is an off-site mission specific facility, the first of its kind in the United States and serves as the secure home of Archangel, housing a vast array of computing resources. Archangel designed and oversaw the actual construction of the PSC in cooperation with US DHS and its designated contractors.
- **Developed the concept of the Protective Security Task Force (PSTF).** The PSTF is a team of sworn law enforcement officers specifically trained and uniquely equipped to provide dedicated, in-depth security augmentation to a threatened asset or event with intent to prevent, deter, respond to, and/or mitigate the potential effects of a critical incident. The PSTF will present a visible presence, leveraging technology in lieu of manpower intensive security solutions and will conduct Random Anti-terrorism Measures in order to disrupt the terrorist mission-planning cycle.

- **Secured and maintains \$1.3 million in UASI grant funds for the PSTF.**
- **Developed the methodology for Predictive Analysis (PA).** Predictive Analysis is the synthesis of evaluating potential terrorist activity based upon a group(s) motivation, intent, and methodology coupled with an evaluation of probable target location (i.e., critical assets) for the purpose of deploying appropriately in anticipation of an event. Predictive Analysis is an innovative concept employed by Archangel. It is anticipated that PA will be replicated and implemented by agencies nation-wide in the future.

It is said that necessity is the mother of invention. Operation Archangel began as nothing more than an idea, which sought to intelligently and strategically address our need to protect assets from potentially catastrophic terrorist attacks. The named personnel have worked tirelessly to achieve the goals of Archangel and have far surpassed even the highest of expectations placed upon them. The standards, criterion, methodology, toolsets and concepts created and implemented by Archangel serve as a model for the public safety community nation-wide and have immeasurably enhanced our nation's ability to prevent, deter, respond to and mitigate attacks upon our most critical assets on the new battlefield in the war on terrorism – our own backyard. The men and women of Operation Archangel have consistently demonstrated intelligence, creativity, dedication, determination, attention to detail, and selflessness that is in the highest standards of the Los Angeles Police Department.