



As the weather warms up, and spring arrives- it signals another time of year, which brings heated and spirited conversation during budget negotiations. During the next few months, I will keep you updated on all pertinent information discussed in these hearings-including contract talks involving FDSA.

2nd Vice President Appointment

During the February 6th meeting, Board Member, Anthony Gomez was appointed as the Fresno Deputy Sheriff's Association 2nd Vice President. He is replacing 'soon to be' retiree, Vince Frascona.

Anthony comes to this position after serving as an FDSA Board Member for the last 6 years. Anthony has been a part of the FDSA's bargaining team as the note taker for the last three bargaining session and over the last four years.

Anthony has the best interests of the FDSA on the forefront of his opinions and decision making strategies for the organization. Although we operate as a labor organization, one of the primary goals of the Fresno Deputy Sheriff's Association is to help make the Fresno County Sheriff's Office the best place to work. We know that takes collaboration from all ranks and personnel within the department.

Anthony's current assignment is patrol, and he brings that valuable perspective to the FDSA Board of Directors meetings. I also value the leadership Anthony has within the organization.

Although, per our by-laws, I can appoint when a position is vacated, I took the recommendation of our outgoing 2nd Vice President, Vince Frascona and the direction of the entire board of directors who confirmed Anthony for this position. I was very happy to see that a collaboration of members felt Anthony was the right person for this position.

It's very bittersweet to see "Vinny" Frascona leave this position. It's hard to put into words to the amount of heart, support and loyalty this man has given to the department, and this association over his career that spans more than 30 years. Vinny has been the 2nd Vice President since 2008. He is the "go to guy", who is always there, helping with everything from organizing fundraisers from Baker to Vegas, to helping at our monthly FDSA BBQ's. His authenticity was especially clear when Deputy Joel Wahlenmaier died. He assisted more than I could have ever imagined during this difficult time.

"Professional's Protecting and Serving Fresno County"

1360 Van Ness Avenue Fresno, California 93721
(559) 268-3372 FAX 441-8624 email address: eric.schmidt@fresnodsa.org



Vinny is another person who, like Anthony, has the best interest of the members in his sights. Everyone who knows Vinny will tell you the kind of heart he has, the type of man he is as a friend, and just how much he truly cares for the members. Vinny will be missed as a daily support person to me, and knowing just how much I could count on him to be there in a time of need. Since he is so valuable, I asked Vinny to stay and take on the role of the retiree board position on the FDSA Board of Directors. Vinny agreed to do that for at least a term, during the first part of his retirement. He will continue to be an asset serving in this capacity.

Christopher Dorner Manhunt

The start of 2013, has started with several law enforcement tragedies. Already, 6 law enforcement officers have been killed in California. At least 6 officers have been shot and wounded in the line of duty.

January began with Galt PD Officer, Kevin Tonn being shot and killed when contacting a suspect during a burglary in progress call.

Weeks after this, Chris Dorner emerged as a disgruntled "wrongly accused and terminated" ex-LAPD police officer on a cop killing spree.

We may never know the thoughts going through his mind at the time. We can only assume through the accounts listed in his *Manifesto*, why he is so angry and upset and what he plans to do about it.

Riverside Police Officer, Michael Crain was a senseless murder of a police officer, friend, husband and father. Dorner did not know him, but, Officer Crain stood in the way of what Dorner was planning to carry out. He died from multiple gunshot wounds. His partner was spared any fatal wounds. The sad part is Officer Crain will never be able to humanly experience any of the things in his family's life he intended to share with them.

San Bernardino Deputy Sheriff, Jeremiah MacKay knew exactly what he was signing up for when he volunteered to track Dorner down. He knew the Big Bear area well and was committed to do whatever he needed to capture this senseless killer. The bravery and determination displayed by Deputy Sheriff MacKay is humbling and very selfless. In death, he has sacrificed not seeing his 4 month old son grow up, not seeing his parents and siblings again on this earth, and never kissing his wife hello and goodbye again. The pain of his loss will always be felt through those he has left behind.

"Professional's Protecting and Serving Fresno County"

1360 Van Ness Avenue Fresno, California 93721
(559) 268-3372 FAX 441-8624 email address: eric.schmidt@fresnodsa.org



Unwavering Support

These two officers, although miles apart and never knowing each other, both died in apprehension of this man who ended up taking his own life. The only thing we can do is keep these officers in our hearts and minds always. Their names will be etched in stone in California and throughout our country, honoring their memory for the family and friends who knew them.

We work in a profession that is the most dangerous career. All of you who work here provide support to the public in a variety of ways. You each know your role and the job you do. Very similar to the military - - you have support personnel, that, without the mission- would fail. Then, you have the soldiers who carry out the mission and ultimately complete it.

When tragedy happens like an officer being killed in the line of duty, it weighs heavy on everyone, no matter if you were on scene of the event, or miles away in safety - - you will be affected in some manner.

Law Enforcement organizations are unique and are formed by a common bond, no matter where you are in the State or Country - - they all lend support to one another. We attend funerals honoring the sacrifice given, we lend financial support in times of desperate need, and we are just there to lend a hand when someone is in need of help.

So I offer that to you and rest assured that you are taken care of when and if a tragedy occurs. You and your family will be taken care of by your fellow law enforcement officers. The FDSA stands as the "body" to ensure this.

Santa Cruz in Shock

The killings of two Santa Cruz police officers in a shootout with a suspect Tuesday marked the first line-of-duty deaths in the Police Department's history and sparked mourning across the seaside city.

The city, about 60 miles south of San Francisco, is best known for its famed surf spots, seaside amusement park and diverse community that includes a University of California campus.

But, in recent weeks, a UC Santa Cruz student was shot in the head, another student was reportedly raped and a home-invasion robbery left residents on edge.

"Professional's Protecting and Serving Fresno County"

1360 Van Ness Avenue Fresno, California 93721
(559) 268-3372 FAX 441-8624 email address: eric.schmidt@fresnodsa.org



FDSA

FRESNO DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION

Officer Elizabeth Butler was a 10-year Santa Cruz Police Department veteran. She was killed, along with 28-year veteran Loran "Butch" Baker. The two were conducting a follow-up criminal investigation at a home, when a suspect opened fire.

According to police, the gunman, Jeremy Peter Goulet, 35, was shot dead about 30 minutes later in a second gun battle with officers.

Butler and Baker "encountered Goulet as they did a search of the area. He engaged them in gunfire and was subsequently killed," Santa Cruz County Sheriff Phil Wowak told reporters.

The loss of the two officers followed a recent series of violent incidents in the city and was especially devastating for the small Police Department, which has about 90 sworn officers.

Baker is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son who is a community service worker at the Police Department. Butler leaves behind her longtime boyfriend and two young sons, Vogel said.

As the incident unfolded, Santa Cruz police issued an alert for a Jeremy Peter Goulet, but did not explain the man's possible role in the shootings.

Jeremy Goulet sent a text message that day to his twin brother, Jeffrey Goulet, saying he was in trouble, his father told the San Francisco Chronicle.

"Why was he on the run? I'm just trying to hang with it, to make sense of it," his father, Ronald Goulet of Rosamond, told the Chronicle.

The month of February 2013, has been a dark time for California law enforcement. Let's hope this dark cloud passes and the rays of sun shine down on all of us. All of you please stay safe and keep all these officers who are LODD in your prayers at night.

Stay Safe
-Eric

"Professional's Protecting and Serving Fresno County"

1360 Van Ness Avenue Fresno, California 93721
(559) 268-3372 FAX 441-8624 email address: eric.schmidt@fresnodsa.org