



Patrol Shift Signups

The time of year is upon us again for patrol shift signups. We will continue to be utilizing the seniority based signups, rather than the old "dream sheets." The seniority issues, from what we can gather, between FDSA and Management have all been worked out. My hope is to avoid the problems we encountered last year with people moving up or down based on a seniority number, days before signing up.

I have been working with the Patrol Captain in regards to trying to open up more slots that have weekend days off, and still comply with the preferred number of deputies for the different shifts. Again though, until we get people hired and more patrol trained deputies out of Court Services, this is going to be a challenge.

The date for signups is going to be Thursday, October 25, 2012. This will catered by Retired Deputy Mike Robinson, and will be continental style breakfast.

As a deputy signing up, if this date does not work for you, due to a scheduled vacation or a court appearance, you can designate another deputy to sign up for you, or send me an email and I can do it as well. Any questions regarding shifts signups please call or email me with them.

New Vehicles and Testing

Since the beginning of 2012, Ford is no longer building the Police Interceptor Crown Victoria. The Sheriff has had to make the decision on what vehicle to purchase for the future. Currently there really are three options out there.

1. Dodge makes the Charger model for law enforcement, which is a very popular model of police vehicle for many agencies.
2. Chevy has reintroduced its Caprice, which for years during the 1990s was an option for police agencies to purchase.
3. Finally, Ford has come up with another version of a police vehicle, its Police Interceptor. This is built as a sedan and SUV model as well.

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



The Sheriff purchased these three vehicles, and we have had them for at least 6 months or so. They have not been driven by any patrol personal for purposes of "testing," for the functionality within the Sheriff's Department and how we use vehicles for our policing purposes.

I discussed this issue with Sheriff Mims in the past weeks and voiced a concern that we would like to get an idea of how these vehicles work for our (FSO Patrol) purposes. We would like to get the testing process going so the deputies at least have an idea of what the future holds in regards to vehicles. Sheriff Mims was under the assumption the vehicles had already been tested by Patrol. I assured her they have not and many rumors are floating around the agency that Sheriff's Admin has already made a decision as what we should be buying. The Sheriff assured me she wants the most functional car for the deputy sheriff as possible. I have conveyed the message the FDSA wants what will work with size for the deputies sitting in the car and the room allocated for equipment in the trunk.

A main focus for the FDSA and why we are pushing hard on this issue is the vehicles in relation to the MOU and Take Home Care Vehicle Program. Each deputy who is assigned to patrol, is given a take home patrol vehicle as part of the assignment. Although how the Take Home program runs in relation to the "police function" in the County of Fresno, is not how the FDSA would like to see it. We still run the program as if you pick up vehicles at a substation each day. However this is a conversation for another day. Bottom line - - the FDSA does have interest in researching vehicles for the future of policing in Fresno County.

The FDSA has identified 18 vehicle testers from the three shifts and three areas. Those of you, who received an email from me, be prepared to test one of these vehicles or all three during this time. I ask for honesty about each one and the likes and dislikes. Sgt. Garcia will be setting up a schedule in the near future as to how this will roll out.

As I find out more I will pass the word on to all of you. I will also be asking for results from each tester.

Union University

The FDSA is hosting a Satellite campus for Union Institute University beginning January 2013. Union University is an accredited college with a curriculum designed to provide law enforcement professionals a "fast track" to their Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice management.

This program through Union University is the only program available that gives a student 32 college units for the POST academy, and up to 28 more units based upon your law

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enforcement training. This is the least expensive program available, as students do not have to take the classes in between based on the training credits awarded.

In as little as 8 months, and for under \$12,000, a student can achieve their degree. Military and financial aid programs are available.

Please contact the FDSA for more information regarding this program. This educational program is strongly supported by PORAC who views this as a quasi-leadership class in the future of those in law enforcement and law enforcement management.

FDSA 2012 Memorial Golf Tournament

Oct 12, 2012 the FDSA will be holding its 6th annual Memorial Golf tournament at Eagle Springs Golf Course in Friant. FDSA has been moving in a forward direction each year we host another golf tournament.

The funds we raise go directly into the FDSA Peace Officer Memorial Fund. This fund allows us to support our families who have lost a deputy sheriff in the line of duty. We help support each officer who is killed in the State of California. The fund also allows us to send our surviving co-workers to Memorial ceremonies in Sacramento and Washington DC each year -- SO WE NEVER FORGET.

As your President I made that pledge when I took over, four years ago and will hope to carry this tradition when I am not serving you in the future. Every penny earned is important to this cause. Several community members who donate to our cause understand the importance of this fund.

I challenge each of you to either come out and play, or find someone who wants to play or somehow be a part of this great event. The amount of positive comments that come from our tournament are very humbling to hear.

I look forward to seeing some new faces out there this year. Even if you don't like golf, come out, have lunch and build the bonds with the community members we serve and who allow us to continue honoring our own each and every year.

Keep your head up out there. We are all working our tails off. Take care of each other no matter where you are in this agency. We must stick together as one. Once again I offer that if you have any questions or concerns in the work assignment you are in, please get ahold of me so we can attempt a solution.

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FDSA
FRESNO DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION

Remember NO ON PROP 32

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be "ESD".

-Eric



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