



Captain Jonathan Tom
West Los Angeles Police Department
1663 Butler Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

October 15, 2020

Re: Community Relations and WLAPD Senior Lead Officers

Dear Captain Tom:

The SORO NC would like to recognize the success of the LAPD Community Policing program, and specifically praise the Senior Lead Officers that have been assigned to the South Robertson area over the past 4 years. They have regularly interacted with Stakeholders at Public Safety Committee meetings and are an important part of several annual SORO NC sponsored events such as Coffee with A Cop, SOROFEST and the Los Angeles Homeless Count.

Among the numerous emails, calls and reports the Public Safety Committee has received about LAPD, there has been a growing number of good comments from the community regarding how our SLOs are addressing situations and affecting positive outcomes in their service to South Robertson.

Examples:

- SLO Chris Baker- meeting with Reynier Park neighbors to address various problems (Reynier Park calls to LAPD have significantly decreased since SLO Baker took over.)
- SLO Matt Kirk- meeting with Crestview Neighbors in efforts to reduce home burglaries and thefts.
- SLO Chris Baker and Officer James Allen (Acting SLO)- assisting Social Workers to provide residents of several homeless encampments with City and County Services.
- SLOs Chris Ragsdale and Matt Kirk- mitigating complaints by neighbors of the owner of 8755 W Olympic.
- SLO Chris Baker- Stepped up to expedite LAPD response to several 911 calls that were ignored
- SLOs Matt Kirk and Chris Baker- Distributing Fireworks Advisory letter to all the students.
- SLOs Chris Baker and Matt Kirk- Coordinating a successful Citizen Patrol Program (CPP).
- SLO Chris Baker- Town Hall meetings addressing Anti-Semitism in the Jewish Community and racism.
- Neighborhood Watch Meetings (multiple).
- SLO Chris Baker- Personally walking the beat on Pico Blvd., proactively identifying safety needs of businesses and religious institutions along Pico Blvd.
- SLOs Chris Baker and Matt Kirk- Personal dedication to protecting houses of worship from terrorism threats.
- "Active Shooter" Training presentations in the community.
- SLO Matt Kirk- has been very responsive in dealing with gang graffiti and communication with the WLA Gang unit on their activities.
- SLO Chris Baker- Coordinated with narcotics officers and City Attorney to shut down illegal marijuana dispensaries and drug trafficking.

VACANT
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Charlie Stein
Secretary

VACANT
Corresponding Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920
F: (310) 295-9906
E: info@soronc.org

soronc.org



These Senior Lead Officers demonstrate all of the positive attributes that make community policing work. They are a shining example for Senior Lead Officers throughout LAPD to follow, as well as a success story for all police officers throughout the country.

The SORO NC and South Robertson Stakeholders hereby recognize Senior Lead Officers Chris Baker, Chris Ragsdale, Matt Kirk, and Officer James Allen for their high level of service, communication, and dedication to the safety of the South Robertson Community.

We would also like to thank you for the leadership you have shown to support the SORO community the short time you have been here.

Sincerely,

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President
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

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