



FBINAA | CA NEWSLETTER

Message from our 2021 Chapter President



Dear Fellow National Academy Associates:

It is my hope and prayer that this message finds you and your families safe and healthy. This year started off challenging for our profession and those challenges continue. Movements to defund our budgets, qualified immunity for officers being challenged, rising crime rates, changes to the laws regarding use of force, these are just a few of the ongoing issues. In over 30-years of law enforcement, I have never seen such demands on the law enforcement profession. It is now more important than ever that we collectively share our resources to make our profession better. One way to endure some of these challenges is by utilizing the FBI National Academy Associates to collaborate and collectively work together.

You can contribute to the FBINAA by becoming an Area Representative. The responsibilities include assisting the Divisional Vice President in hosting training luncheons, social events, the Scholarship Program, the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) and other trainings such as the Chapter Retrainer or California LEEDS. The position is appointed by the President for one year. Each of our four Divisions are eligible to have an Area Representative. This is an amazing opportunity for individuals to stay connected and to give back to the National Academy Associates. If you are interested, please contact your Division Vice President. Recently, Sacramento Vice President, Josh Ehlers, made a request to appoint Jim Macedo, Undersheriff of Calaveras County Sheriff's Office and a graduate of Session #262, as an Area Representative for the Sacramento Division. Since Jim graduated in 2015, he has maintained his membership and been an active member of the FBINAA, therefore, I approved the nomination and appointed Jim as our Sacramento Division Area Representative.

In March, we received a request from the FBI San Diego and San Francisco field offices to send out information for the on-line program "Combating Crimes Against Children". This was a two-hour presentation on April 7, 2021, by individuals from the FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice, focusing on programs and resources for combating crimes against children.

(Continued on P.2)

"Don't tell people how to do things, tell them what to do and let them surprise you with their results"

-George Patton

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CA CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT...

We were able to send the program information to National and also to our California Chapter members. The program was dedicated to FBI Special Agents, Dan Alfin and Laura Schwartzenberger of the Miami Field Division, who were both tragically killed on February 3, 2021, while attempting to serve a search warrant in South Florida. Both Agents had dedicated their careers to protecting our most valuable treasure, our children! The program was free, but donations were requested for the families of both agents. The California Board, in sympathy for the agents making the ultimate sacrifice, made a \$1,000 donation to each of the agent's families. Others, including myself, made personal donations for the families and I would challenge you, if you are so inclined, to also make a donation. You can make your donations through the following link: www.infragardsd.org/danandlaura. Thank you.

Along with encouraging you to help a fellow officer's family, I would strongly encourage you to renew your membership if you haven't already. In the upcoming days, you may receive an email or be contacted by Retired Chief of Police Tricia Seyler, a graduate of Session #269. Chief Seyler has graciously volunteered to contact individuals who need to renew their membership. Membership with the FBI National Academy Associates helps us provide quality training to you and provides a networking base like no other. If you know of members who need to renew, please encourage them. Your continued membership will enable all of us to grow and thrive.

Talking of training, the FBI National Academy Associates will have the following training opportunities this year:

FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (LEEDS) - May 17-20, 2021

Lake Tahoe, CA-Register at www.fbinaacc.com/2021_leeds/home.html

FBI National Academy Associates Annual Training Conference - July 7-10, 2021

Orlando, Florida-Register at <https://fbinaa2021.com>

FBI National Academy Associates California Annual Retainer - October 5-7, 2021

Carlsbad, CA-Register at www.fbinaacc.com/2021_state/home.html

Training lunches in the respective Field Divisions, the dates and events are TBD

Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego Divisions

I would like to conclude this message by saying that it is an honor to represent you as your Chapter President for 2021. Please feel free to call me anytime at 925-383-1663 or email me at :

President@fbinaacalifornia.com.

Stay safe and well.

Your 2021 Chapter President.

Craig H. Chew, NA #248



California LEEDS 2021 Announces New Dates



The Conference Team has been doing a great job arranging for an informative and safe conference. Registration is open, but as many moved their registration to this year, space is limited, so register now. Save the dates... August 30th—September 2nd, 2021.



VERIZON/FBINAA FALLEN OFFICER FUND

VERIZON/FBINAA FALLEN OFFICER FUND

Border Patrol Agent Alejandro Flores-Bañuelos was the first to arrive at the scene of a vehicle accident near Salton City, CA. The accident had occurred during a dust storm with low visibility. While assisting an elderly patient still in her vehicle, he was struck by another vehicle. Agent Flores-Bañuelos was transported to the Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Agent Flores-Bañuelos was 35 years old, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and had served with the United States Border Patrol for 12 years. He is survived by his expectant wife and three children.

This incident is tragic, sad and true! Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident as sadly officers are being killed in the line of duty all too often. When tragedy strikes what is there for the family? Departments do their best to help the family, carry a share of the burden and provide comfort, but families find that there is a financial burden on top of everything else and that is hard to deal with.

A decade ago, a group of people got together, formed partnerships and the Fallen Officer Fund was started. The fund provides a measure of financial support for the survivors of any officer killed in the line of duty. It is funded and administered by Verizon/FBINAA and is managed by the public safety outreach team (PSOP) within their corporate security.

Once notice is received that an officer has fallen, the PSOP team immediately goes into action by identifying and consulting with a FBI NA graduate who is a member of the affected department or who is in the approximate area and who will quickly deliver a check to the affected survivors. It is PSOP's goal to have the check delivered within 72 hours of the officer's death notification.

Our own Chapter Secretary, Max Santiago, stated the following: *"I've had the solemn privilege and honor to present a check from the Fund to survivors in my role as the Sacramento Division Vice President, Chapter President and Chapter Secretary. While it is a difficult task, it is comforting to know that due to the prompt issuance of funds from the FBINAA National Office and the timely presentation of the check by a Chapter Officer, our survivors are able to use the funds to address their immediate needs. Verizon has graciously supported this Fund for over a decade with no fan fare."*

As there are still many departments who don't know about the fund, officers are skeptical when they hear from someone with news of a check for the survivors, so we need to get the word out. For those departments who have had the bad fortune to issue a check, they are always grateful and send very nice thank you letters to the PSOP team. In response to one Sheriff's thank you note, the Verizon Director of Corporate Security, Gabe Esposito said, *"I received your thank-you note for our humble support of your fallen hero...Although I was very appreciative of and humbled by your kind words, we thank You and all of the law enforcement heroes who put their lives at risk every day in support of our liberties and way of life. We are truly grateful for all you do and once again express our deepest condolences. We are honored to be able to help in a small way in partnership with our friends at the FBINAA."*

Support like that is comforting and uplifting and it warrants our gratitude, but this team is so humble they make it clear that they don't do it for the thanks. Their hope is the following, *"We hope our support somehow helps heal some of the remaining wounds"*.

The Verizon/FBINAA Fallen Officer Team says it will continue to foster deep and meaningful relationships in support of their law enforcement partners whose members have made the ultimate sacrifice. **WHAT A TEAM!**

In 2020, 210 officers were killed in the performance of their duties, up 58 percent from 2019.



SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION:

SPOTLIGHT ON A MEMBER: **BOB FRACOLLI, NA 210**

Past California Chapter President Bob Fracolli spent 18 years at the San Jose District Attorney's Office after leaving Chico PD. When he retired in 2007, after 30 years in law enforcement, he and his wife Kathy purchased a beautiful home in a rural area 30 minutes outside of Chico. Bob had always been involved in volunteer work while in the Bay Area, so after moving to their rural home, Kathy signed him up for volunteer firefighting...Mmmmmm did Kathy do that for Bob or herself?



Bob and Kathy's rural home.



Kathy clearing brush from around their home.

Bob started working with Butte County fire department and was doing 16 hours of training a month. When lightning strikes started several fires, one of which blew up, Bob and the crew responded. Below you see Bob standing behind the 3500 gallon water tender at Station 62, Harts Mill. He and a Cal Fire crew protected the station in Berry Creek while burn victims were triaged in the apparatus bay. They were surrounded by fire and no ambulances could get in or out.

When asked what he thought about being a firefighter, Bob stated, *"It is satisfying, but at times hair-raising...unlike law enforcement, everybody loves a firefighter and people are so happy to see you!"*

Well thank you Bob and stay safe!



Driving into the Camp fire. Everyone else was running away. (85 people were killed and 18,000 structures were destroyed, 11000 of which were homes.)



Bob behind the 3500 gallon fire tender, ammunition was going off across the street.



SACRAMENTO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SACRAMENTO DIVISION:

Fellow alums, I hope this finds you safe and healthy! As we continue to move forward into 2021 there are clear signs that the pandemic is slowly moving behind us. As a result of this progress, I am hopeful that we will have several events over the course of the next 6 to 7 months. In the coming weeks you will see a survey to gauge interest in a golf event for the Sacramento Division. Additionally, I am in the process of planning our first luncheon for early summer. I also have tentative plans to host a holiday luncheon in Roseville in early December.

As a friendly reminder, I would ask that if you have not already renewed your membership for this year, please do so as soon as possible. Our association thrives on the relationships that we create and the support and training we provide to one another.

We have two great training events coming up this year and I would encourage all of you to consider attending FBI LEEDS in South Lake Tahoe and our annual conference in Carlsbad. You can register at:

www.fbinaacc.com

Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Josh Ehlers - 2nd Vice President
FBI National Academy Associates, Inc.,
California Chapter
Assistant Chief, California Highway Patrol
FBINA Session 259
FBI CA LEEDS Session IV & XI



LOS ANGELES DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM LOS ANGELES DIVISION: Third Vice President, Randy Goddard

As we finish the first quarter of 2021 I was hoping for a better start to this year after all the challenges we experienced in 2020. Unfortunately the Los Angeles Division has experienced some tragic accidents over the last month losing two of our Southern California brothers, Deputy Thomas Albanese from the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department and Police Officer Jose Anzora, from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). There is nothing worse in our profession than losing one of our own, and tragically it seems to be occurring more often in our great nation. Losing Officer Anzora hit home for me as he was one of my officers assigned to Newton Patrol Division. I'm always comforted on how the law enforcement community comes together to support each other and the families of the fallen officers. We will never forget them, or their families, for the ultimate sacrifice they gave to protect the communities they served.

As a man of Faith I pray for all of my officers that God may protect them from the evils of the world. Saint Michael the Archangel is law enforcement's patron saint and we ask him to protect those who protect others. I have included the Saint Michael prayer in hopes that you can continue to pray for the protection of our officers:

'Saint Michael the Archangel defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the Divine Power of God thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls'.

Amen.

As we move into the second quarter of the year I am optimistic about our future. As more of us get vaccinated and COVID-19 cases continue to decline, I hope to see many of you at our first quarterly lunch event in June if COVID restrictions allow. I'm also very excited to be planning our state FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (LEEDS) in beautiful South Lake Tahoe, August 30th – September 2nd. The 2020 LEEDS event was planned by our Sacramento Division in Lake Tahoe, which had to be canceled because of COVID. This year the Los Angeles Division is hosting and we decided to keep LEEDS in Lake Tahoe because there was already over 80 people registered for the 2020 LEEDS and an overwhelming majority of them decided to carry over their registration to 2021. I want thank all those who have registered thus far and I hope that all of you will consider registering for our 2021 LEEDS while we still have room. We have an amazing and relevant agenda for issues we are currently facing. Here is the link to registration and additional information:

http://www.fbinaacc.com/2021_LEEDS/register.html

I would like to congratulate Commander Cory Palka (Session 246) from LAPD's Operations-West Bureau. Cory served 34 years with LAPD and I wish him nothing but the best in his next chapter in life, which will involve the FBINAA even in retirement.

Finally, please send me any updates that I can put in this newsletter like promotions, retirements, or anything you would like to share. You can email the information to losangelesvp@fbinaacalifornia.com.

I look forward to seeing you in-person soon. God Speed.

Randy Goddard, 3rd Vice President, Los Angeles Division
FBI National Academy Associates, California Chapter
LAPD Captain, FBINA Session 267



Los Angeles Division News Continued...

LA loses one member to another Chapter, but gains a member from Texas.

Those of you who knew and worked with Stacey Deal, will know how much she will be missed. Stacey wrote us the following and I am sure she won't mind me sharing her lovely letter.

Hello California NA Board and friends!

I'm not sure if you are aware, but this past week I transferred to our Charlotte Field Office in North Carolina. My husband received an excellent opportunity to open a brand new headquarters for his company and the FBI approved my transfer request. I have been in the FBI for a little over 15 years and have been working in Los Angeles for about 14 and a half of those years and I have loved working out of LA - the work and the people have been great in the LA office. For the last almost 7 years, I have had the opportunity to work as our office National Academy Coordinator and it has been the highlight of my career. I love the NA and I have loved working with the California NA Chapter. I can honestly say that leaving this position was the only thing that held me back from leaving Los Angeles. As I believe most of you know, my dad attended the NA, session 171, and ever since I went to his graduation, the NA has held a special place in my heart. I was going to NA conferences probably long before any of you were part of the NA - I was a teenager of course at that time (!), but it was still all so special to me.

Spending a week with all of you once or twice a year was always something I looked forward to. The bond you all share as NA graduates is something that not many people share, and I can say that while not a graduate myself, I am so blessed to have been just a small part of your bond. Thanks to all of you for the friendships and memories, those weeks we spent together were a blast! I will soon be starting a new chapter of my career - back on the streets as part of the Charlotte office surveillance team, but I can assure you the Charlotte office will probably tire of my NA stories! And I hope one day to be part of the NA again. I absolutely plan on attending the National conference in Ohio next year as that is my home town, but like I said, I hope one day to have the opportunity to be in this position again. I don't think it will ever compare to the California chapter, but I can certainly hope so!

Please never hesitate to reach out to me, especially if you need something or find your way out in Charlotte. Thanks for the good times, Stacey. SA Stacey Deal, FBI

Following that, let me introduce our newest member from Texas... RICK SCOTT.

As your Historian I reached out to Rick and asked for a few words of introduction, he said the following...



"After serving 24 years in law enforcement in Texas, I am incredibly humbled having now been selected to lead the San Luis Obispo Police Department as their next Chief of Police. I look forward to building great relationships in our new community and with law enforcement leaders serving all across California. As a graduate of the FBI National Academy #248, I developed great personal and professional friendships in the spirit of cooperation for which the FBINA is so notably known. My wife Andrya and I along with our two girls, Londyn and Landrey, embrace the true spirit of family adventure and service to others and already feel incredibly welcomed in our new home, San Luis Obispo. Thanks"

Rick Scott

Please reach out to Chief Scott and let him experience that big California welcome.



SAN DIEGO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAN DIEGO DIVISION 1st VICE PRESIDENT:

Spring is here! I hope this finds you all well as we make progress towards a return to normalcy.

A lot has changed since our last Chapter event in March of 2020. But a lot remains the same. Our members are working hard, serving and protecting, enjoying well-deserved retirements and making a difference. Your CA Executive Board has continued to work behind the scenes and is prepared to resume regular activities.

Congratulations to Fred Armijo, NA 278 on his appointment to Police Chief in Oceanside, CA. Well-deserved Chief Armijo!

They two young women selected to attend last year's cancelled YLP session are slated to attend the 2021 YLP program, which looks like a GO!

Please review the following link http://www.fbinaacc.com/2021_State/exhibitor_packages.html for information on both the 2021 FBI CA LEEDS Seminar and the CA 2021 Conference.

The 2021 CA Conference is scheduled for October 5-7, 2021 at Cape Rey Resort in Carlsbad. Registration is open and we have a good start on what I hope will be a well-attended conference. The presentations already confirmed will cover topics like UAV/De-escalation programs, Social Media Engagement, Legal Update/case strategy post 2020, Officer wellness and more.

We have also begun receiving sponsors and exhibitors for our beachfront venue.

As San Diego recently moved into the Orange Tier, I'm hopeful we can all get together soon and reconnect.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Eric Thunberg

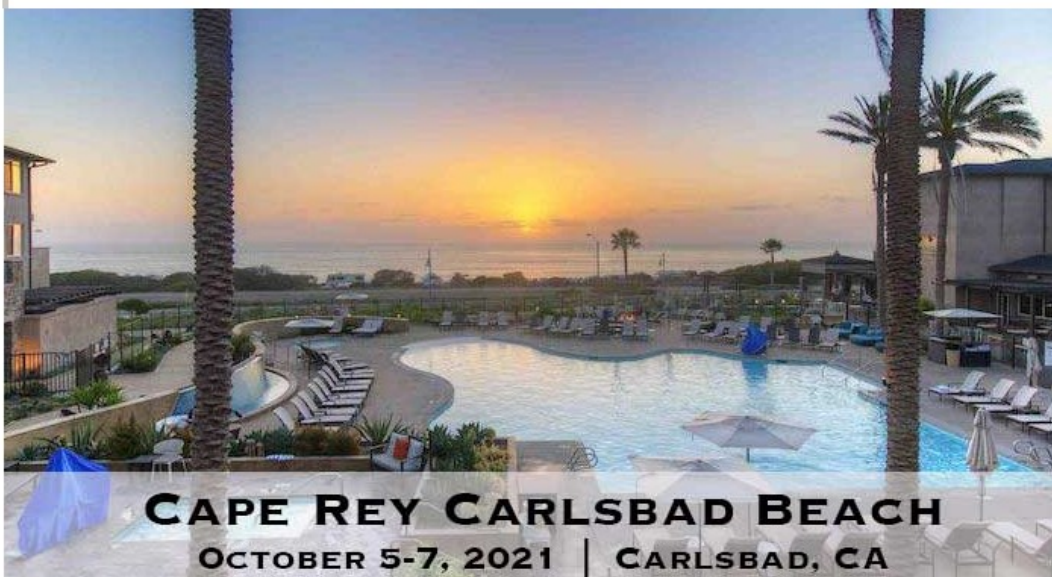
Eric Thunberg
FBINAA Inc. California Chapter
1st Vice-President
619-813-8477 - mobile
619-691-5230 - desk



2021 FBINAA California State Conference Re-trainer

2021 FBINAA CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE

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Conference Links

[Registration Opening Soon](#)
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SPONSORS

[Visual Labs, Inc.](#)
Wednesday Lunch

[Thermo Fisher Scientific](#)
Thursday Lunch

EXHIBITORS

We are excited to hold the 2021 conference... in person! Yes, all the safety measures will be put in place and cleaning, sanitizing, mask wearing and social distancing will all be taken into consideration. It isn't just your education and training that we care about, it is also YOU!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

GLAD NEWS:

- Congratulations on their promotion goes out to:



- Congratulations to **Jeff Smith, NA 266** who has been named the next Chief of Police for Pismo Beach Police Department. Jeff is currently the interim Chief at San Luis Obispo PD and has been with the that department since 2003



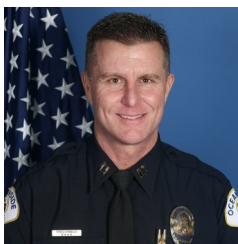
- Congratulations to **Rick (Richard) Scott, NA 248**, who has been named the next Chief of Police for San Luis Obispo Police Department. Rick is currently an Assistant Chief with North Richland Hills PD, a suburb of Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, where he has done 24 years in law enforcement. Let's give him a big California welcome!



- Congratulations to **Troy Bergstrom, NA 252**, who will be the next Chief of Police for the Roseville Police Department.



- Congratulations to **LeRonne Armstrong, NA 261**, who was sworn in as the new Chief of Police for the Oakland Police Department.



- Congratulations to **Manuel "Fred" Armijo, NA 278**, who was appointed to Chief of Police for Oceanside Police Department effective March 21st.

MORE GLAD NEWS:

Retirements:



- Captain **John Wilson, NA 262**, retired in December 2020 from the Scotts Valley PD after a 28 year career with the agency.



- Commander **Rory Lakind, NA 234**, retired from Pacific Grove PD after 5 plus years. He previously worked at Houston PD for over 21 years and retired there as a Lieutenant



- Congratulations to Commander **Cory Palka, NA 246**, from LAPD's Operations-West Bureau. Cory is retiring after serving 34 years with LAPD. We wish him nothing but the best in his next chapter in life.

- Congratulations to **William Roche, NA 261**, who retired from the Concord Police Department after over 30 years of service to that city.

SAD NEWS:

We are sad to report the passing of:

NONE OF OUR MEMBERS

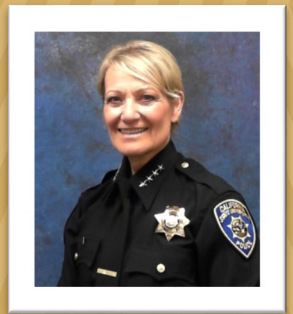
NOTICE TO MEMBERS:

BIG REMINDER FOR THOSE BEING PROMOTED, TRANSFERING TO ANOTHER AGENCY OR RETIRING...PLEASE UPDATE YOUR EMAIL INFORMATION, SO THE CHAPTER CAN STAY IN TOUCH AND KEEP YOU UPDATED. THANK YOU!

Contact Us

Please call our Historian, Gina Di Napoli, if you have information you would like to have put in the Newsletter or if you have information you feel our members would enjoy reading.

We are also interested in any events which would include our members.



Gina Haynes Di Napoli

(916) 849-4462

Historian@fbinaacalifornia.com

Visit us on the web at
www.fbinaacalifornia.com



MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER



AmazonSmiles Program & 5.11 program

Dear California Chapter member or friend,

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that at **no cost to you**, .5% of all of your Amazon purchases can be donated to the California Chapter of the FBINAA!

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