



FBINAA | CA NEWSLETTER



Parting Message From Our 2021 Chapter President



Dear Fellow National Academy Associate:

As my time as the President of the California Chapter comes to a close I want to welcome the incoming President Eric Thunberg from the San Diego Division and incoming 4th Vice President Alex Hernandez. Eric has served on the California Board for the past four years and I know his

visions to carry the chapter forward will be great, he will do an outstanding job as your 2022 President. Alex is very enthusiastic and will represent the San Diego Division well. Additionally, I want to take the time to thank the current California FBINAA board members; our Immediate Past President Eric Sonstegard; 2nd VP Josh Ehlers; 3rd VP Randy Goddard; 4th VP Scott Savage; Secretary Max Santiago; Treasurer Mike Barletta; Historian Gina Di Napoli; Training Manager Russel McKinney and Sacramento Area Representative Jim Macedo, for all of their work over the past year to help make our organization one of the most successful chapters in the National Academy Associates. Their hard work was reflected in the many accomplishments this year from YLP, Scholarship, Newsletters and the two conferences. These successes were fulfilled during extremely challenging times for law enforcement, but through it all we endured and persevered as a board and as an organization to come out successful.

As I reflect over the past year, one of the visions I had as your President, was to set up a long-term strategic plan for our chapter by developing a program for better and long-term Corporate Sponsor Partnerships. This program, designed to have our friends in Corporate America join forces with the California FBINAA and have the California NAA work on a consistent basis with our sponsors to provide them the exposure to law enforcement that their companies want. Such an alliance would help our Chapter grow financially, which in turn would allow the Chapter to give back to the members. With the Executive Board's help, we have been able to set up the structure and develop the plans for moving forward.



"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new"

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SOCRATES

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT CONT...

2021 remained very challenging for law enforcement. We faced wildfires, civil protests, and armed caravans, smash and grab robberies like we have never seen and continued negative media, all the while dealing with Covid-19 issues. Perhaps the most significant challenge now, is the fact that so many of our colleagues and staff are leaving law enforcement. For this reason, let me remind you that we are still in the noblest profession on this planet. We are the fine line between good and evil, we are still helping people and our communities every day. It is imperative to maintain that line in the sand and just know, no matter what anyone says, we are making a difference.

As we move into 2022, Law Enforcement will continue to face these challenges, together with new challenges that await us. However, I know our resolve within our profession and ourselves will give us the stamina to meet these challenges head on. It has never been more important for us to rely on each other, by collaborating and sharing ideas that will make us, our agencies and our profession more successful. It is important to remember that the FBI National Academy Associates is one of the very few organizations that has worldwide connections. With the challenges facing our profession, being able to reach someone in our FBINA family in nearly every country in the world is so important. We will be stronger together!

I encourage all of you to renew your membership. In the coming days, you will receive an email regarding renewing your dues, please look for it to renew your membership and remind other FBINA graduates to maintain their membership. I believe the dues are a small price to pay for the continued success of each of us, our agency, and our profession.

It is my sincere hope that 2022 brings us a better future. I would like to conclude this letter by saying that I was humbled and honored to represent you as your chapter president for 2021. I want to thank each and every one of you for continuing to make a difference out there, while carrying on the finest traditions within our profession of law enforcement. Please be safe and know that we are in this together.

Please feel free to call me anytime at 925-383-1663 or my new email will be pastpresident@fbinaacalifornia.com.

Thank you most sincerely,

Craig K. Chew

Craig K. Chew
FBINA California Chapter
248th Session





SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION:

DIVISION NEWS

The fourth quarter of 2021 saw a positive uptick in San Francisco Division activities. Happily, on December 2, the Division successfully returned to in-person meetings with over 50 people attending the Holiday Lunch in San Jose. FBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge Paul Zambelli served as the Keynote Speaker and provided an update on the National Academy program going into next year. While this has been another taxing year for events, it was good to reconnect and to plan for a return to normalcy in 2022.



The Virtual Yellow Brick Road fundraiser for the FBINAA Charitable Foundation is slated to return again next year. This 6.1 mile run/walk is a tremendous opportunity to support the Foundation while getting outside with friends and family. We are planning to schedule an informal weekend event at a centralized location in the San Francisco Division where anyone interested in completing the 6.1 mile, as a group, is welcome to attend.

The California Chapter is very interested in expanding the Area Rep program to assist us in providing training and networking opportunities to members who live and/or work in outlying and harder to get to areas. We recognize that it is difficult for those members to attend events and we are seeking assistance in those areas to promote and host events closer to home. Members in the extreme parts of the San Francisco Division who may be interested in this opportunity are encouraged to send an email to sanfranciscovp@fbinaacalifornia.com for additional information.

Thank you and Merry Christmas to you all. - Scott Savage, 4th VP, San Francisco Division.



SACRAMENTO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SACRAMENTO DIVISION:

Although we are still in a pandemic, I am happy to report that we are back in person and holding events, keeping in mind that safety and everyone's health is still a priority.



Save the date- Our 2022 annual conference has been scheduled for October 24th through the 27th at the Resort at Squaw Creek, in the Truckee California area. It promises to be a great training opportunity at an incredible five star venue. Details and registration information will be posted after the first of the year. Don't forget to renew your 2022 dues early to get your registration discount!

Congratulations to our Sacramento Division scholarship recipients, **Julianna Kihmm, daughter of Michael Kihmm, NA Session 262** and **Samuel Johnson, son of Steve Johnson, NA Session 278**. Julianna is currently majoring in accountancy, with a minor in Spanish at the University of San Diego. Samuel is majoring in computer science at California Baptist University. They are both outstanding young adults, successful students, and embody so much of what our future leaders must have to be successful. The association wishes them the very best in their future endeavors!

Congratulations to **Tyson Davis, NA Session 259**, a retired assistant sheriff from Kern County, who was selected to be the new police chief of the Delano, CA Police Department. Tyson will be a great addition and leader in this Central Valley community!

Thank you,

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





SACRAMENTO DIVISION NEWS CONT...

THE SACRAMENTO DIVISION CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Sacramento Division Holiday luncheon was held at the Randy Peters Catering Event Center in Roseville California. The event was well attended and as usual there were some great raffle prizes and take aways. There to give us an update on what is happening with the FBI and the National Academy was FBI Sacramento Special Agent in charge (SAC) Sean Ragan. Also present was Brenda Afdal, the FBI Training and Civic Coordinator, who retired from the FBI earlier this year and was presented with a retirement gift.

Besides a wonderful lunch, all present were able to hear the very informative presentation given by Lee Goodridge of Customs and Border Protection. Lee was brought to us by Georgina Cervantes with the Department of Homeland Security and Homeland Security Investigations and I have to say, the presentation was enlightening but at the same time quite disturbing hearing what is coming through our borders.



Thank you to the Roseville PD Honor Guard. Members take the Pledge of Allegiance.



FBI Sacramento SAC Sean Ragan



2nd VP Josh Ehlers says thank you to Georgina Cervantes, DHS HSI (Left) and Lee Goodridge, CBP.



Right - Lee Goodridge giving her presentation.



Three FBINA graduates retired from the Sacramento Police Dept. get together after not seeing each other for many years.

L-R: Steven Campus, Gina Di Napoli and Art Venegas.



Retired FBI TRAINING AND CIVIC LIAISON COORDINATOR, Brenda Afdal, receiving her retirement gift from VP Josh Ehlers.





LOS ANGELES DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM LOS ANGELES DIVISION:

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Los Angeles Division!

Seven candidates from the LA Division will be getting a once-in-a-lifetime gift this holiday season by starting Session 281 in January. The candidates come from San Luis Obispo PD, Long Beach PD, LAPD, Whittier PD, San Bernardino PD, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, and Fontana PD.

On a more somber note, the National Academy family lost a true trailblazer for women in policing. **Peggy York, NA 159**, was the first woman in LAPD's history to reach the level of Deputy Chief. Here are a few excerpts from a LA Times article:



The story of Margaret "Peggy" York's groundbreaking career with the Los Angeles Police Department reads like the script for a TV show. In fact, it was the basis for the hit 1980s show "Cagney & Lacey," which depicted one of York's many firsts as half of a female homicide investigative team. That was long before she blazed a trail for other women on the force, rising to become the first women deputy chief in LAPD history. York, who spent 35 years advancing through the department, died Oct. 17 at the age of 80 after a series of illnesses, her husband, retired Judge Lance Ito, said.

"She joined policing at a time when policewomen were faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles," Chief Michel Moore said. "... Her tenacity and spirit continue to inspire generations of women joining our ranks."

When York began her career, female officers were relegated to desk jobs or working at jails. They were assigned the lowest-level detective work and could rise only to the rank of sergeant and could supervise only other women. Her first job with the LAPD was as a civilian radio operator in 1965. She attended the police academy and in 1968 signed on as an officer. Through the years, she advanced from patrol officer to investigator, supervisor, lieutenant, captain and commander before she broke the department's managerial glass ceiling to become its first deputy chief. York retired in 2002 and the following year became Chief of the Los Angeles County Office of Public Safety, a specialized police agency responsible for county facilities, parks and hospitals. With 600 sworn officers and 750 contracted security guards, it was the county's fourth-largest police agency. She retired from that position in 2009.

I would like to extend my condolences to Chief York's family and thank them for allowing Chief York to be a leader in law enforcement for over four decades.





LOS ANGELES DIVISION NEWS CONT...

On a lighter note, congratulations go out to one of my old colleagues from the LAPD, **Chief Mark Stainbrook, NA 240**, for getting sworn in as the new Chief of Police for Beverly Hills.



Chief Stainbrook comes to the City of Beverly Hills with a background in both law enforcement and the armed services. He most recently served as the Chief of Police and Vice President of Public Safety for the Port of San Diego. He began his public service at 17, when he enlisted in the Navy before switching to the Marines. Chief Stainbrook served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve for 32 years before retiring recently at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Welcome back to the LA Division Chief Stainbrook!

In closing, the LA Division Holiday Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, December 15th, at the Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach. This will be the first event the LA division will host in 2021 due to Covid. I hope to see many of my NA brothers and sisters celebrate the holidays and reconnect with each other.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Randy Goddard, 2021- 3rd Vice President (LA Division)
FBI National Academy Associates, Inc.,
California Chapter
LAPD Commander
FBINA Session 267





SAN DIEGO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAN DIEGO DIVISION 1st VICE PRESIDENT

Happy Holiday's from the San Diego Division!

I hope this finds you and your loved ones in good health. As 2021 comes to an end, things have been looking up for the San Diego Division.

In October we held the CA Chapter Annual Re-Trainer at Cape Rey Carlsbad. Although turnout was a little less than in previous years, those in attendance were treated to a slate of excellent speakers and networking opportunities. They also elected a new San Diego Division 4th Vice-President to the Executive Board. Congratulations and welcome to National City Police Department Captain Alejandro Hernandez (NA#275) who begins his 6-year term as an Executive Board Member.

In the better late than never category, I also wanted to share with you the personal experiences of the two young women who attended the 2021 YLP Program. Aloha Espiritu (David Espiritu NA#235) was the San Diego Division 2020 candidate and Olivia Green (David Green NA#268) was the 2020 Los Angeles Division candidate. They were both able to attend in 2021 instead and wanted to share their experiences with our members as well as some photos of their time in Quantico.



Olivia Green:

The FBINAA Youth Leadership Program was a one-of-a-kind experience. I arrived to find a full room of strangers and graduated with a new family. Throughout our time in Quantico, we faced early mornings of PT, numerous courses on leadership, and lots of fun field trips. Whether we were breaking down doors, speeding around the EVOC track, or out on the shooting range, there was always something to learn. Each day brought new challenges and the opportunity to learn good leadership habits. This program pushed me to raise the bar for myself and always strive for improvement. One thing that made the YLP such a unique experience was the opportunity to be around such high caliber peers. I have never met so many high-quality people in one place and if I had to describe my biggest take away it would be the intense feeling of camaraderie. Having an opportunity to join the FBINAA family was a true honor that I will cherish for many years to come.

Read Aloha's experience on the next page...





SAN DIEGO DIVISION NEWS CONTINUED...

Aloha Espiritu:



The FBINA Youth Leadership Program allowed me to develop a variety of skills, which I will utilize throughout my education, and continue to use throughout my life. I remember on the first day of being in the classroom, the counselors asked, "By a show of hands how many leaders were in the room." With a few hesitant hands raised, the counselors suggested that we identify something within ourselves which we wished to improve in order to evolve as aspiring leaders. As expected, this program pushed me out of my comfort zone, allowing me to overcome various challenges and see my full potential, not only as an individual, but as a future leader. It was this development and eagerness to succeed which bonded all 59 students in such a short amount of time. What started off as persistent small talk, soon turned into hours of out of tune but enthusiastic singing, hilarious conversations, and many emotional group embraces. And as the end of the program approached all too fast, I realized that a key component of leadership are the relationships that you develop along the way and the true takeaway of the program was the family we had created. All of a sudden, we surprisingly wished for one more boxed sandwich lunch in the humidity of the afternoon, so long as it was shared with the many friends we had made. It is for this reasons that I am forever grateful for the opportunity to have attended the FBINA Youth Leadership program. Thank you!



Please join me in congratulating the following San Diego Division members:

Congratulations to San Diego Harbor Police Chief Mark Stainbrook (NA#240) who was selected as the new Chief of the Beverly Hills Police Department and will be sworn in on November 30th!

Congratulations to Coronado Police Department Captain Jesus Ochoa (NA#197) on his well-earned retirement in December!

Here's to a very Happy New Year!

Eric Thunberg

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





October 2021 Re-Trainer in Carlsbad, California

The California Re-Trainer was held in Carlsbad. The location was terrific, literally across the street from the beach, giving walkers, runners and those who love a wonderful view, a place to enjoy and take advantage of. The conference was full of great presentations and speakers who presented on relevant, timely and interesting topics. Being back in person was probably the greatest highlight and attendees were happy to be around others and reconnect with old friends and acquaintances. Thank you to 1st VP Eric Thunberg for all the work he did into putting this together.



Opening ceremonies with the Honor Guard. Chapter President Craig Chew addressing the attendees followed by Historian Gina Di Napoli



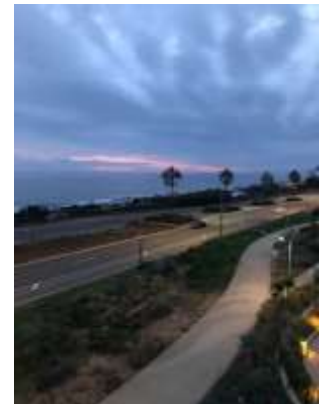
The Board working behind the scenes



Members attend the presentations and 1st VP Thunberg presents thank you gifts to the speaker.



Carlsbad, CA. Graduate Nina Jamsen admiring the neighborhood Halloween decorations after a run along the nearby beach.





October 2021 Re-Trainer in Carlsbad, Cont...

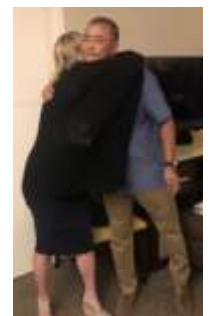
A major part of the California re-trainer is the swearing in of the new Board and the vote for the 4th Vice as the 1st Vice President moves into the position of Chapter President. Here the Board is being sworn in.



The Executive Board for 2022 (L-R) Past President Craig Chew, Treasurer Mike Barletta, Secretary Max Santiago, 4th VP Alex Hernandez, 3rd VP Scott Savage, 2nd VP Randy Goddard, 1st VP Josh Ehlers and President Eric Thunberg. Congratulations to our Board members.



Our two newest members who were voted in by the membership, on the left, Alex Hernandez and on the right Scott Savage. In the middle is 2021 President Craig Chew congratulating them both.



Attendees came from all over the State, but four of them were retired San Jose PD. Here L-R are: Scott Savage, NA 237, Mike Kihmm, NA 262, Ken Tanaka, NA 228 and Ruben Chavez, NA 262.



LOOK CLOSELY... here Ken Tanaka, Mike Kihmm and Ruben Chavez get photo bombed by 1st VP Eric Thunberg.



President Craig Chew gets a hug after presenting Elizabeth Ward (FBI) with a thank you gift for her collaboration and help throughout the years. Historian Gina DiNapoli also receives a thank you gift.





4th Vice President For 2022

San Diego Division

WELCOME TO OUR NEW 4TH VP, ALEX HERNANDEZ



Alejandro "Alex" Hernandez was sworn in as our newest Vice President for the San Diego Division and will begin his term starting in January. Alex is currently a police Captain at the National City Police Department, overseeing patrol operations.

During his 24-year career, Alex has worked various patrol shifts, as a school resource officer, a SWAT team member, and a detective before being promoted to sergeant, lieutenant and now captain. Alex holds a Bachelor's Degree from San Diego State University in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership.

Alex is excited to have the opportunity to work in the California Chapter of the FBINAA and looks forward to giving back to the program that he states was instrumental in his professional growth. His hope is to help our California Chapter continue to grow, while at the same time being part of a team looking to provide our members with excellent training and opportunities.

Welcome aboard Alex.

GLAD NEWS:

- Congratulations on their promotion goes out to:



- **Ron Lawrence, NA 230**, formerly the Chief of Citrus Heights PD, now transferring to Southern California to take his position as the new Chief of the Costa Mesa Police Department. Many Congratulations.



- **Jeff Calvert, NA 266**, who was recently appointed to Chief of Police for Laguna Beach Police Department. Congratulations Jeff!



- **Jennifer Gonzales, NA 271**, who is the new Chief of Police for the Napa Police Department. Way to go Jennifer, congratulations.



- **Mark Stainbrook, NA 240**, has been named the new Chief of the City of Beverly Hills Police Department. Mark came from the Port of San Diego where he was the Chief and Vice President of Public Safety.



- **Aniceto Ortiz, NA 269**, has been promoted to Chief of the California Highway Patrol, Central Division Commander. Congratulations Aniceto.

MORE GLAD NEWS:



- Congratulations to retired Kern County Assistant Sheriff **Tyson Davis, NA Session 259**, who was selected to be the new police chief of the Delano, CA Police Department. Congratulations Tyson.



- Congratulations to **Roberto Filice, NA 255**, who has been named the new Chief of Police for Salinas Police Department. Roberto has served as the interim Chief since the previous Chief stepped down and he was the assistant Chief of Police for four years prior.

• Congratulations on their retirements:



- Congratulations to Captain **Chomnan Loth, NA 275**, who has announced his retirement from Newark Police Department. We wish him all the best in his retirement.



- Congratulations to Captain **Jesus Ochoa, NA 197**, who plans to retire from the Coronado Police Department at the end of December this year. Thank you for your service Jesus and we wish you well in the next phase of your life.



- Many congratulations to Chief **Derrick Abell, NA 257**, who will be retiring from the Manhattan Beach Police Department after 33 years in law enforcement. We wish him well.



- Congratulations to Capitola Police Chief **Terry McManus, NA 245**, who retired on November 14th, 2021.

Capitola Police Chief Terrence "Terry" McManus

SAD NEWS:

We are sad to report the passing of:



- Condolences go out to the family, friends and loved ones of **Jack Woodall, NA 160** Retired San Jose PD Lieutenant, who passed away in July 2021.



- Our sympathies go out to the family, friends and loved ones of retired Los Angeles Police Department's Deputy Chief **Margaret "Peggy" York, NA 159**, who passed away on October 17th after a series of illnesses.



**WISHING ALL OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A
HEALTHY AND SAFE CHRISTMAS SEASON**

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

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Historian@fbinaacalifornia.com

Visit us on the web at
www.fbinaacalifornia.com



MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER



AmazonSmiles Program & 5.11 program

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