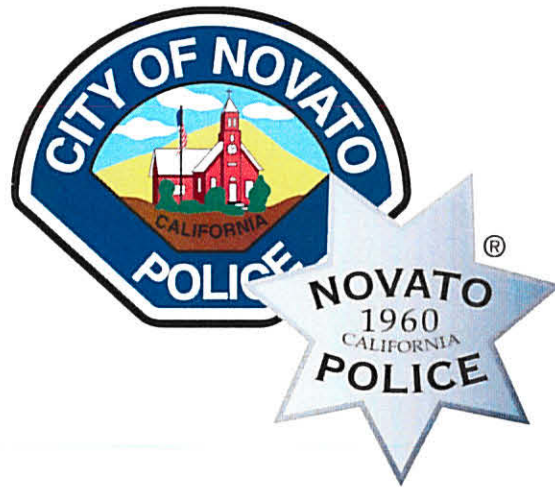


# **NOVATO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**2016 ANNUAL REPORT**



**JOSEPH M. KREINS  
INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE**

## Novato Police Department Contacts:

<b>Main Business Line.....</b>	<b>(415) 897-4361</b>
Monday thru Friday 8am—6pm	
Lobby Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am—5pm	
<b>Police Dispatch (24-hrs).....</b>	<b>(415) 897-1122</b>
<b>Office of the Chief of Police .....</b>	<b>(415) 899-7008</b>
<b>Traffic Section .....</b>	<b>(415) 899-7026</b>
<b>Investigations Section.....</b>	<b>(415) 899-7030</b>
<b>Records Section (report request) .....</b>	<b>(415) 897-4361</b>
<b>Property &amp; Evidence .....</b>	<b>(415) 899-7013</b>
<b>Operations Division .....</b>	<b>(415) 897-4361</b>
<b>Services Division .....</b>	<b>(415) 897-4361</b>
<b>Emergency Services .....</b>	<b>(415) 899-7002</b>
<b>Police Permits .....</b>	<b>(415) 897-4361</b>
<b>False Alarms .....</b>	<b>(415) 899-7017</b>

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Follow the Novato Police Department and to sign up for local community and news alerts:

- Follow us on Twitter: [@NovatoPolice](https://twitter.com/NovatoPolice)
- Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NovatoPolice>
- Sign up for news alerts: <http://www.nixle.com/>
- Sign up for community alerts: <https://nextdoor.com/>

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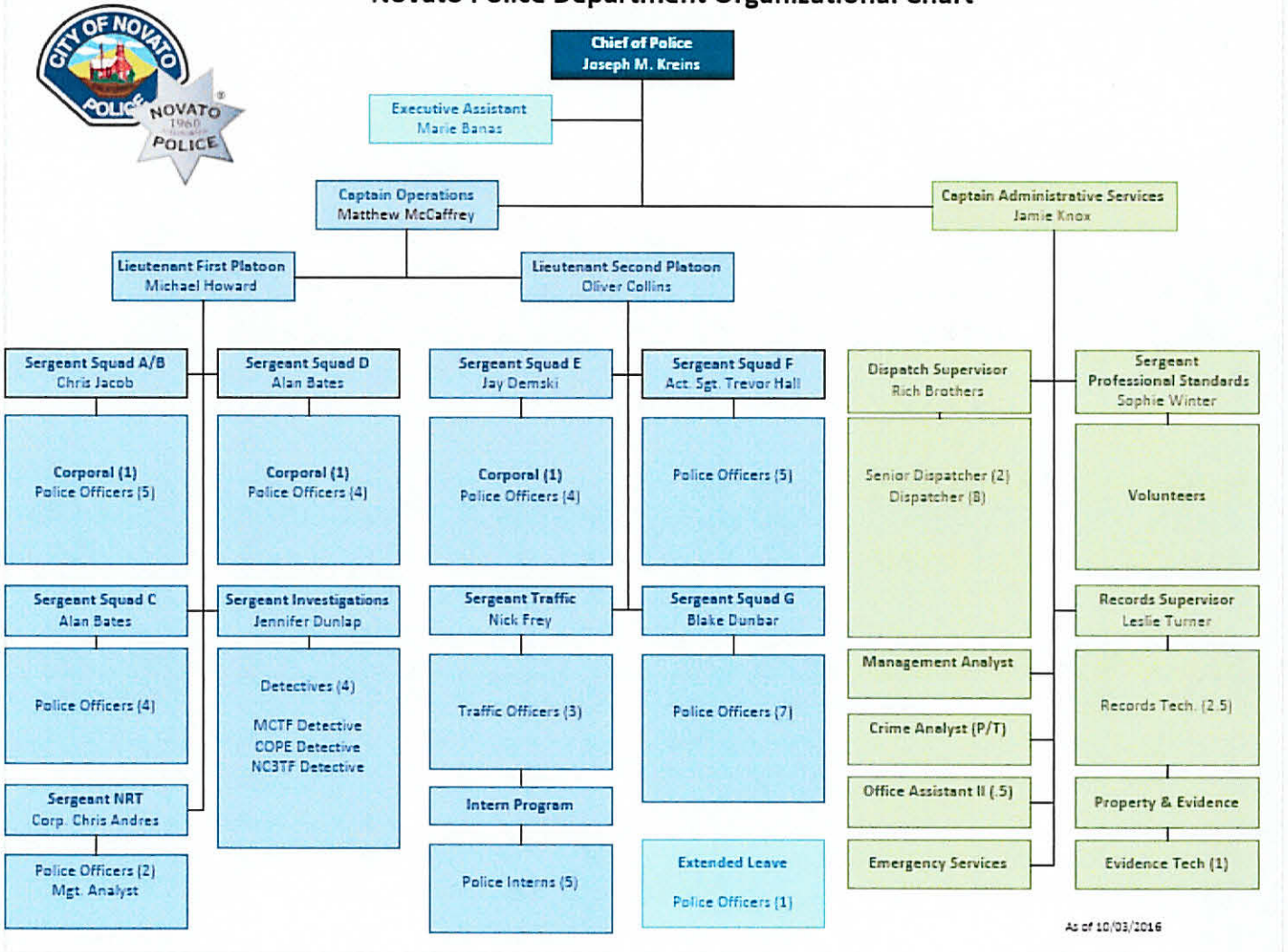
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## DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Novato Police Department serves a community of more than 54,000 residents spanning an area of 28 square miles. The Department is organized into two Divisions: Operations and Services. The Operations Division consists of Patrol Bureau, Investigation Section, and Traffic Section. The Services Division consists of Professional Standards & Training Bureau, Records Section, and Communications Section. The Department employs 60 sworn officers and 21 professional staff who provide essential services such as Records, Training, Property & Evidence, and Administrative Support. There are also 11 citizen volunteers, four Police Interns, and four Police Chaplains.



Novato Police Department Organizational Chart



## Message from Interim Chief of Police Joseph M. Kreins



It is our honor to present to you the 2016 Annual Report for the Novato Police Department. It was my privilege to serve you, the community, as your interim Chief and lead the men and women of the Novato Police Department. This report provides a “snapshot” of the on-going efforts and dedication that the staff of the Novato Police Department provides to our community on a daily basis.

In 2016, we saw a 7% reduction in our violent crime and an overall 1% reduction in all crimes. The decline in crime in our City is due to the diligent, outstanding work by our staff on a daily basis, and our community’s willingness to get involved and keep us informed when they witness crimes. It is a partnership for success. This will be even more critical with the recent law changes in Proposition 47, which reduced many crimes from felonies to misdemeanors.

Our Traffic Section continues to demonstrate that we can reduce traffic collisions not only through enforcement, but also through education and engineering. We were honored to be selected as award recipients in both the California Law Enforcement Challenge and the National Law Enforcement Challenge. The selection as the recipient of the CHP Commissioner’s Award for the best overall Traffic Safety Program in the State of California was truly honorable and humbling for our Department.

We continue to invest in technology to promote safety within our community. In 2016, we deployed body cameras to all of our uniformed officers and investigators. I am confident that this tool will increase the trust and confidence that our community has in our Department. Our automatic license plate readers (ALPR) scanned over 1,204,854 license plates in 2016, resulting in a number of arrests and recovery of stolen vehicles.

We look forward to continued success through our philosophy of, and dedication to, community policing.

We encourage our residents, businesses, and visitors to follow us on Facebook and Twitter and at the City of Novato website at [www.novato.org](http://www.novato.org).



## Mission Statement

The mission of the Novato Police Department is:

*“In partnership with our community, we are committed to protect, serve, and create a safer Novato.”*

## Vision Statement

The Novato Police Department embraces the challenge of change and builds community trust while continually enhancing the safety, environment, quality of life and economic vitality of Novato's diverse communities and neighborhoods.

## Values Statement

- Fairness:** *We show fairness, respect, and courtesy to others.*
- Innovation:** *We encourage imaginative and creative thinking to arrive at solutions. We use our best judgment.*
- Integrity** *We are ethical and maintain the public trust.*
- Performance** *We are solution oriented. We respond quickly to issues, concerns and problems. We recognize and reward good work.*
- Responsibility** *We are responsible for our actions and commitments, individually and as a member of a team.*
- Teamwork** *We believe in using teams to solve problems. We communicate openly and listen actively. We encourage each other to learn new skills.*
- Trust** *We commit ourselves to building trust and being trustworthy. We are loyal to the City and to each other.*

# DEPARTMENT STATISTICS



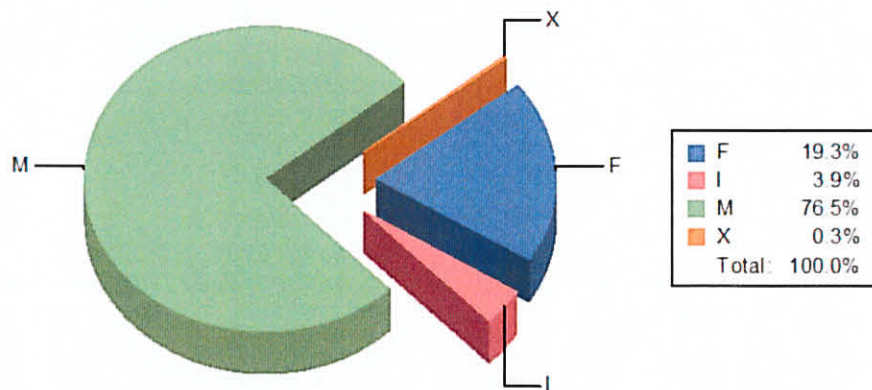


## 2016 Yearly Arrest Reports

Arrests by Offenses			
Homicide	0	<b>Burglary:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence</b> 89
Rape	7	Residential 7	Vandalism 19
Robbery	16	Commercial 8	Felony DUI Arrests 9
Aggravated Assault	65	Vehicle/Auto 2	Misdemeanor DUI Arrests 202
Simple Assault	104	<b>Theft</b> 111	<b>Total DUI Arrests</b> 211
Arson	5	Motor Vehicle Theft 12	

Arrests by Level			
<b>Felony</b>	<b>Misdemeanor</b>	<b>Infraction</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Adult = 258	Adult = 1,128	Adult = 71	Adult = 1,457
Juvenile = 54	Juvenile = 134	Juvenile = 5	Juvenile = 193
<b>Total = 312</b>	<b>Total = 1,262</b>	<b>Total = 76</b>	<b>Total = 1,650</b>

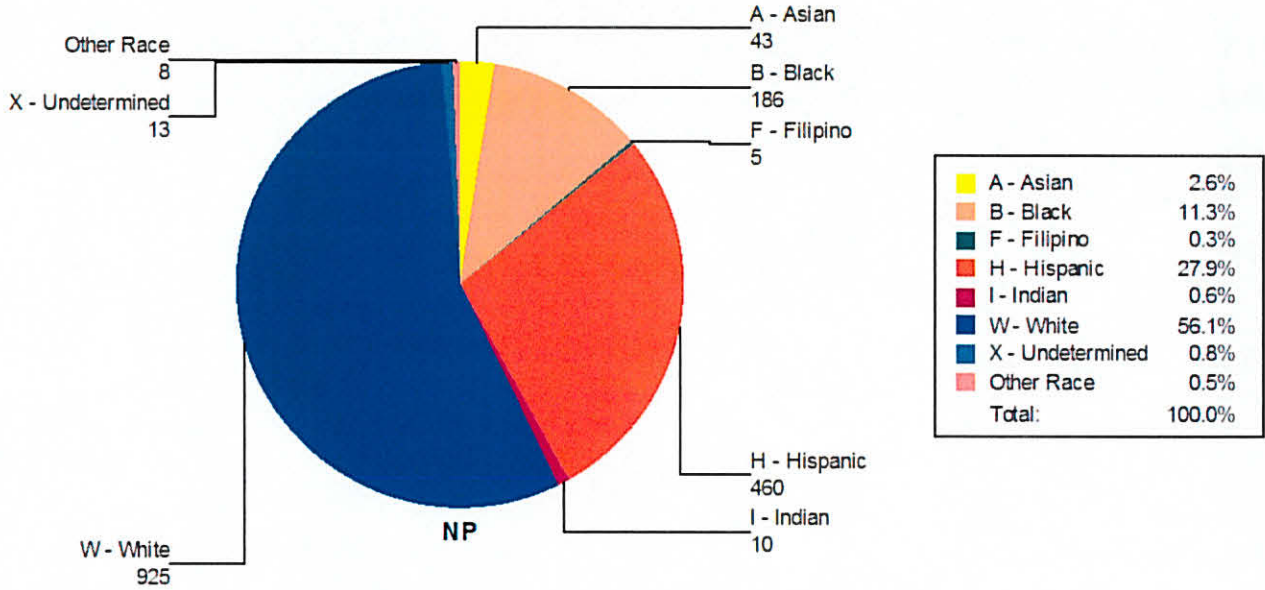
### Arrest Level Breakdown



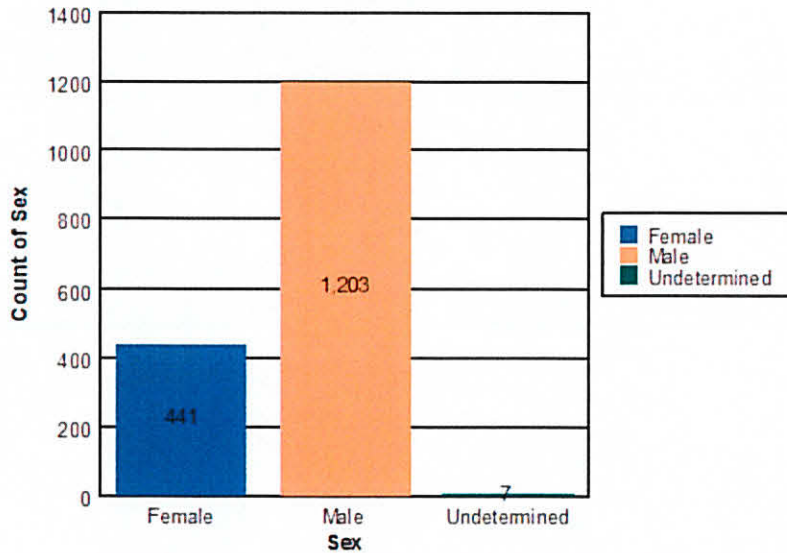
# 2016 Yearly Arrest Reports

## Continued

### Arrests by Race



### Arrests by Sex

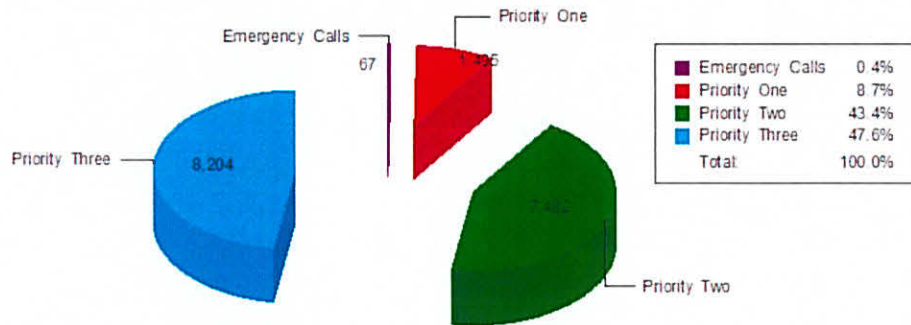


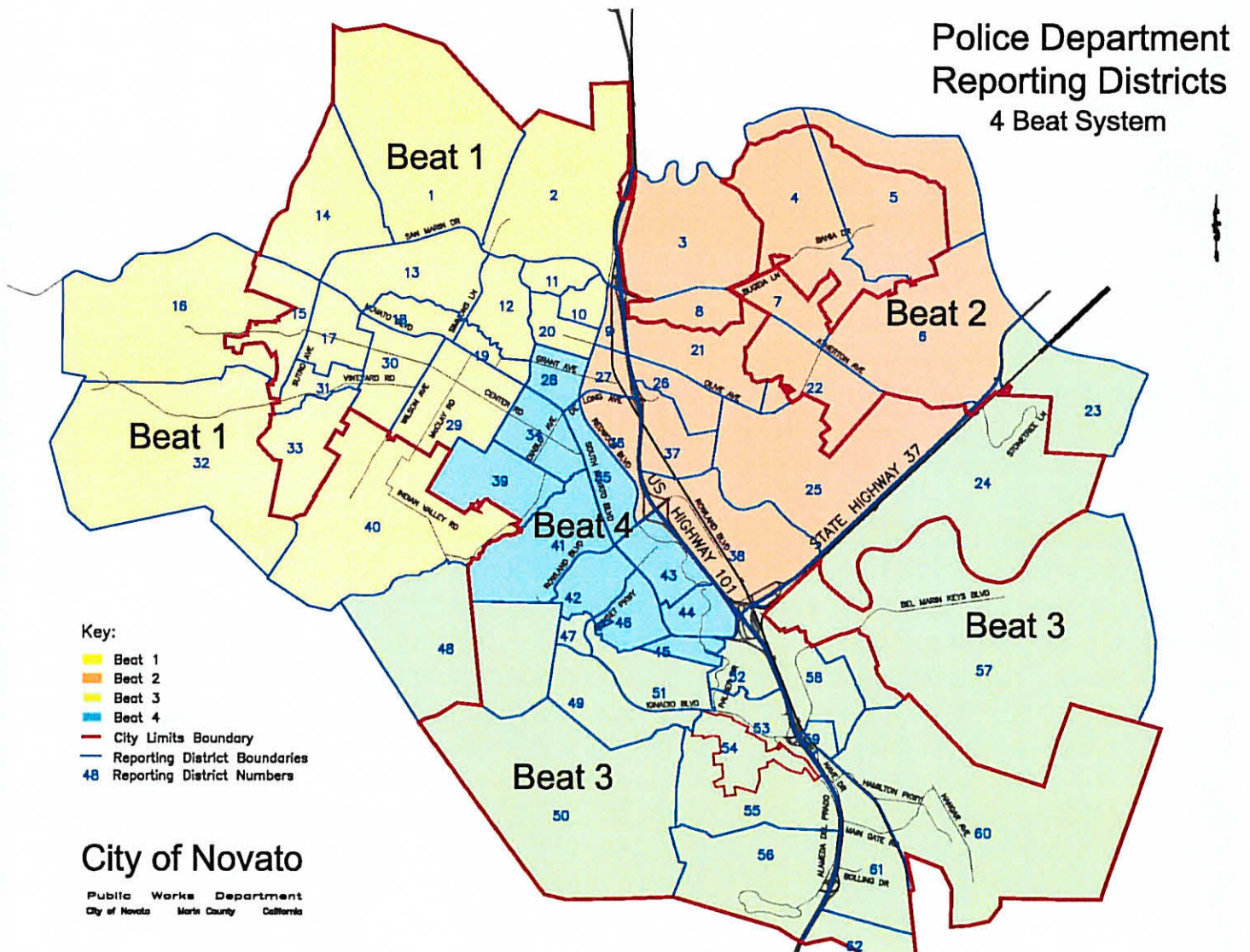
# 2016 Yearly Arrest Reports

## Continued

<b>Dispatched Calls</b>	<b>Number of Calls for Service =</b>	<b>20,738</b>	<b>Priority E Calls =</b>	<b>67</b>
			<b>Priority 1 Calls =</b>	<b>1,495</b>
			<b>Priority 2 Calls =</b>	<b>7,482</b>
			<b>Priority 3 Calls =</b>	<b>8,204</b>

**Report Totals Calls for Service**





# DEPARTMENT RECOGNITION AWARDS



## Employee of the Year



### Officer Nelson Orantes

Nelson is an exceptional leader and an absolute inspiration to all Department staff. He brings to work qualities such as integrity, professionalism, ambition, and compassion. Nelson's current assignment allows him to work on problematic neighborhood policing issues. He is the lead instructor for the Gang Resistance Education & Training Program (GREAT). Nelson maintains an excellent relationship with educators at NUSD and spends time in classrooms speaking with students about positive communication, team work, safety, and bullying prevention - with the goal of preventing youth crime and violence.

Nelson is pictured with some of his Gang Resistance Education & Training (GREAT) students.

## Employee of the Quarter



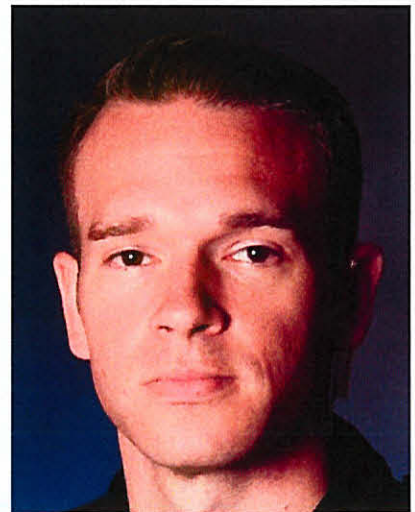
**Officer Matthew Waite-McGough**  
First Quarter



**Officer Nelson Orantes**  
Second Quarter



**Officer Paul Shaw**  
Third Quarter



**Officer Randy Powell**  
Fourth Quarter

## AWARDS

### California Law Enforcement Challenge (CLEC)

The California Law Enforcement Challenge, modeled after the International Association of Chiefs of Police National Law Enforcement Challenge, is a competition between similar-sized and type of law enforcement agencies for the best traffic safety programs in California and focuses on an agency's efforts in occupant protection, impaired driving, and speed awareness, as well as a traffic safety issue unique to the submitting agency's jurisdiction. The program allows law enforcement agencies to: set comprehensive goals, strive to reach new heights in traffic safety, share their experiences with others, and be recognized for their traffic safety accomplishments. Below Officer Tyler Cantley and Sergeant Nick Frey accepted awards for having won third in the state for best overall traffic safety program for our size agency. The Department also won first place in the Special Award category of Occupant Protection for our agency's size. This is the second time in a row the Novato Police Department won this award.



Left to Right: CHP Captain Robert Mota, CHP Assistant Chief Mark Rasmussen, Interim Chief Joseph Kreins, Officer Tyler Cantley, Sergeant Nick Frey, and Captain Matthew McCaffrey.



## AWARDS

### National Law Enforcement Challenge (NLEC)



The National Law Enforcement Challenge (NLEC) is a traffic safety recognition program supported by a cooperative agreement between the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The NLEC focuses on the traffic safety issues of impaired driving, occupant protection, and speed awareness. Participating agencies are evaluated and awarded points on their approaches to addressing traffic safety issues based on identifying the problem, policies, training, education, enforcement, and results.

Above, Officer Tyler Cantley and Sergeant Nick Frey accepted the National Law Enforcement Challenge (NLEC) award. The Novato Police Department placed third in the nation.

# DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL CHANGES



## Employee Anniversaries



<b>5-YEAR ANNIVERSARY</b>	
DETECTIVE DANIELA BARNHILL	9/19/2011
POLICE DISPATCHER MARY SALAZAR	5/29/2011
<b>10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY</b>	
POLICE DISPATCHER KERRY EWAYS	1/10/2006
DETECTIVE ROBERT HILL	6/19/2006
<b>15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY</b>	
OFFICER JEFF AMES	9/4/2001
SERGEANT NICK FREY	12/10/2001
SERGEANT SOPHIA WINTER	4/16/2001
<b>25-YEAR ANNIVERSARY</b>	
RECORDS TECHNICIAN MARIA FUENTES	11/25/1991

## Promotions



**Mike Howard** was promoted to the rank of lieutenant on May 1, 2016. Mike joined the Novato Police Department on January 1, 1999 as a police officer trainee. Mike worked as a patrol officer, school resource officer and Field Training Officer prior to promoting to sergeant in 2006. He was the investigations sergeant from 2011 to 2015. Additionally, Mike has served in many ancillary duties to include 13 years assigned to the Special Response Team and 15 years as a firearms instructor.



**Blake Dunbar** was promoted to the rank of patrol sergeant on May 1, 2016. Blake joined the Novato Police Department on April 3, 2008 as a police officer and was promoted to corporal in 2014. He is currently a Field Training Officer.

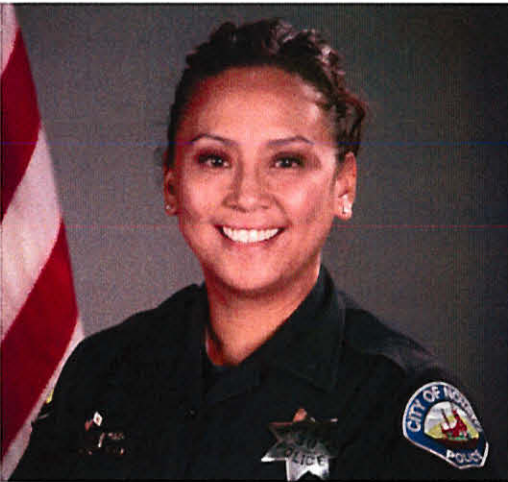


**Chris Jacob** was promoted to the rank of patrol sergeant on April 3, 2016. Chris joined the Novato Police Department on March 11, 2002 as a police officer and has worked his way up the ranks. Chris has worked as a detective in the Investigations Section and as a traffic officer. In 2015, Chris was selected as Department Bicycle Program Coordinator.

## Promotions Continued



**Alan Bates** was promoted to the rank of patrol sergeant on August 21, 2016. Alan joined the Novato Police Department in January, 2008 as a police officer and in May, 2008 he graduated from the Santa Rosa Police Academy. In July, 2016, Alan joined the Department Honor Guard and was selected as the K9 Coordinator. He provides training in Defensive Tactics and firearms and is a Drug Recognition Expert. He has worked as a patrol officer, FTO, and traffic officer.



**Melissa Hinkle** was promoted to the rank of police corporal on October 16, 2016. Melissa joined the Novato Police Department on October 7, 2002 and has served in various roles including school resource officer, detective, under cover assignments and Field Training Officer.



**Robert Hill** was assigned to the rank of acting patrol sergeant on December 11, 2016. Rob joined the Novato Police Department on June 19, 2016. He was appointed to the rank of corporal on October 16, 2016. He recently worked as a detective in the Investigations Section and has participated in numerous extra duties within the Department such as overseeing technology projects, teaching during youth and citizen academies projects, and participating in Teen Driver Safety program, which includes Top the Cops and Every Fifteen Minutes. In 2011, he was appointed to the Department's Honor Guard team.

## Promotions Continued



**Nick Zolli** was promoted to police corporal on December 11, 2016. Nick joined the Department in 2005 and has been a Field Training Officer a little over four years and during this time has trained 23 new police officers. Nick was also a CIT officer and Peer Counselor.



**Trevor Hall** was promoted to police sergeant on December 11, 2016. Trevor is a graduate of Vintage High School and Napa Valley College. Trevor was hired by the Novato Police Department in 2003 and has been assigned to the Patrol Bureau, Investigations Section, and the Marin County Major Crimes Task Force. He has also been an FTO and a member of the Special Response Team.

## Promotions Continued



**Josh Wax** was promoted to police officer on December 11, 2016. Josh joined the Novato Police Department in 2015 as a police intern. In May of 2016, Josh graduated from Sonoma State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.



**Kerryn Eways** was promoted to the property/evidence technician on July 10, 2016. Kerryn joined the Novato Police Department in January, 2006 as a Community Service Officer. After approximately two and a half years, she became a police dispatcher and held that position for approximately eight years.

## New Employees



**Trevor Vannetti** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on April 25, 2016. He has worked a wide range of jobs in the past ranging from an auto detailer to bank teller. He graduated from the Santa Rosa Junior College Police Academy in December, 2015.



**James Rinkor** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on May 23, 2016. James previously worked in Novato as a security guard and worked as a police officer for the Hawaii County Police Department for three years before accepting his position with the Novato Police Department.



**Angel Macias** joined the Novato Police Department on June 13, 2016. He served four years in the United States Marine Corps stationed in Camp Pendleton, California with 1<sup>st</sup> Light Armored Reconnaissance. After the military, he moved back home and joined the academy to pursue his Law Enforcement career.



## New Employees Continued



**Brian Ringo** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on June 13, 2016. He served 8.5 years in the US Army and spent the majority of his time as an Army Ranger. After leaving the military, he worked in oil and chemical refineries as a Safety Manager until he decided to move to California to pursue a career in Law Enforcement.



**Christopher Serrano** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on September 12, 2016. After graduating from Phillip and Sala Burton Academic High School he attended City College and completed Administration of Justice and Police Field Work courses. He interned with the San Francisco Police Department.



**Steven Maderious** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on December 11, 2016. Prior to joining the Department, Steven worked in Real Estate as a broker of a small real estate sales company primarily in Sonoma and Marin Counties. Steve had worked as an EMT and recently became a member of the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department's Search & Rescue as well as Dive Teams.

## New Employees Continued



**Jeremy Warren** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on December 11, 2016. Jeremy leaves his rank of sergeant with the Winters Police Department after 10 years of service. Prior to working in law enforcement, he worked for Kaiser Permanente in the Pharmacy Department. Jeremy worked for a period of time at the Kaiser Novato facilities as well as the Petaluma and San Rafael facilities.



**Richard Serrano** joined the Novato Police Department as a police officer on December 11, 2016. Richard attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he majored in Legal Studies and worked as a college advisor for at-risk youth. Prior to law enforcement, he worked at a marital arts studio in Mill Valley.



**Tayler Mason** joined the Novato Police Department as a police dispatcher on October 3, 2016. Tayler is a University of California, Berkeley graduate with a BA in Rhetoric. Prior to joining the Department, Tayler worked in the field of higher education.

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## New Employees Continued



**Rozan Fundy-Perry** joined the Novato Police Department as a part-time Records Technician on July 25, 2016. She graduated from College of Marin's Dental Assistant program, certified by the State of California. She has been retired for six years from Marin County Sheriff's Department where in 1985 she started as a records clerk assistant.



**Emira Cameron** joined the Novato Police Department as a part-time Office Assistant II on December 13, 2016. After graduating, she worked in underwriting for international trade for 11 years. In addition to her time in underwriting, she spent a few years as a Risk Management Analyst in a petrochemical company. In 2004, she moved to California as an International student.



**Jenna Carson** joined the Novato Police Department as a police intern on May 23, 2016. Jenna has spent her last three years at Cal Maritime working on various on-campus jobs and leadership positions.

## New Employees Continued



**Carolina Zepeda** joined the Novato Police Department as an Intern on October 25, 2016. She grew up in a large family with three older brothers who serve in the Air Force and Navy. After graduating high school, she began her studies at Sonoma State University where she will graduate in May with a bachelors in Criminal Justice.



**Antonio Rodriguez** joined the Novato Police Department as an Intern on November 15, 2016. His work experience is comprised of retail and 5 years of banking experience. Antonio also facilitates a writing workshop for incarcerated youth at the Marin County Juvenile Hall. He graduated from Santa Rosa Junior College in the spring of 2015, earning his associate's degree in Administration of Justice and Children in The Justice System Certificate. Antonio is scheduled to graduate from Sonoma State University next spring.

# CHIEF JAMES BERG RETIRES



After 31 years of committed service to the Novato Police Department and to the community, Chief James Berg has retired. Chief Berg's leadership, strong work ethic, and commitment has reflected strongly on the image of the Novato Police Department. During his career with the Novato Police Department, he served in several police specialty assignments which include traffic, professional standards, patrol watch commander, as well as commander of the Special Response Team.

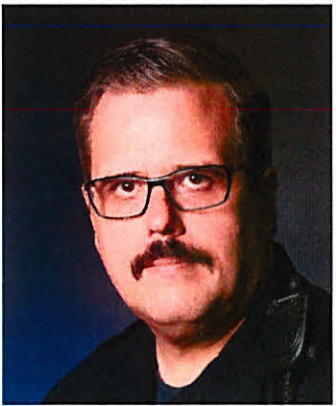
Chief Berg was hired by the City of Novato Police Department in 1985 and was promoted through the ranks to become Chief of Police in 2012. Chief Berg has been the first person in the history of the Novato Police Department to rise through the ranks to Chief of Police.



## Retirements Continued



**Lieutenant John McCarthy** retired on April 30, 2016 after serving 29 years with the City of Novato Police Department. John graduated from the Santa Rosa Police Academy in 1987 and began his career with the Department. John worked his way up the ranks starting as a patrol officer then detective, as well as school resource officer. John was promoted to the rank of corporal, sergeant, and in 2007 was promoted to lieutenant. Over the years, John was selected as a field training officer, defensive tactics instructor and a SWAT team member. He has also been the manager/coordinator of the field training program, the SRT/HNT program, the Chaplain program, Traffic Section, vehicle maintenance program, and Investigations Section. He has also served as interim Captain of both the Operations Division and the Administration Division.



**Sergeant Jim Tross** retired on August 15, 2016 after serving 26 years with the City of Novato Police Department. Jim started his career as an explorer with the Department from 1979 to 1983. In March, 1990 the Department hired him as a police officer. In July, 2006, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. Also in 2006, he was nominated as Employee of the Year. During his employment with the Department, Jim attended various community meetings, participated and was lead in many training exercises, awareness programs and events such as: evaluation drills, Every 15 Minutes, Novato Art & Wine Festivals. Jim also served as a school resource officer, liaison to the Buck Center and he was the video card coordinator as well as the MDC coordinator. Recently, in 2015, he was selected as the K9 coordinator.

## Retirements Continued



**Records Specialist Maria Fuentes** retired from the City of Novato Police Department after 25 years of service. Maria was hired in November, 1991 as a Clerk/Dispatcher. Maria was designed as the Department's employee to provide bilingual (Spanish) translation services. During her employment, Maria was appointed to the Hostage/Crisis Negotiation teams, attended and participated in many community events such as Novato Police Youth Camp, School Fuel, etc. She also attended and participated in training exercises such as suicide intervention training.



**Dispatcher Anamaria Hunter** retired from the City of Novato Police Department on December 14, 2016. Anamaria joined the Department in March of 2000. She started her career as a cadet with the Larkspur Police Department in 1976 (now part of Central Marin PD). She took a job as a call taker with the Marin County Sheriff's office in early 1980 and progressed to public safety dispatcher, communications training officer, and tactical dispatcher. Her knowledge and experience as an emergency dispatcher have been extremely valuable to the Novato Police Department.

## In Memoriam



Senior Chaplain Jo Ann Osborn served the Novato Police Department for 16 years. In addition to riding along with officers and being the “go to” person by many officers in times of needed support, she performed marriage ceremonies for several police officers including Sergeant Nick Frey and his wife, Jennie, as well as for Corporal Melissa Hinkle and her husband Micah. Sadly, on July 5th, Jo Ann passed away from ongoing health issues. She will be deeply missed.



## **Department Grants**

### **FEDERAL GRANTS**

#### **Bullet Resistant Vests**

The Bullet Resistant Vest grants allow the Department to purchase bullet-resistant armor vests for our police officers thereby improving officer safety.

#### **Justice Assistance Grants**

The JAG grants supports educational and recreational programs for the youth of Novato where officers participate in a leadership capacity and interact with participants.

### **STATE GRANTS**

#### **California Option for Public Safety (COPS)**

This state grant funds front line law enforcement capital and technology related equipment, supports specialized training for sworn personnel and is used to leverage future grants.

#### **Northern California Computer Crimes Task Force (NC3TF)**

One Novato officer is assigned to this multi-agency task force created to investigate computer related crimes, including child pornography, embezzlement, identity theft and money laundering.

#### **Urban Shield Strategy Initiative**

Homeland Security grants have funded technology related equipment purchases, including a 4-camera Automatic License Plate Recognition system (ALPR), a RADAR trailer, rescue/throw phone and a remote control robot and Special Response Team Training.

#### **Pedestrian Safety**

This grant was part of the state's program to reduce the number of individuals injured or killed in pedestrian collisions.

## **Department Grants Continued**

### **CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS**

#### **Avoid the Marin 13**

This is a county-wide grant that funds enforcement activities to reduce alcohol related fatal and injury traffic collisions in Marin County through DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols.

#### **Sobriety Checkpoint**

The Sobriety Checkpoint grants support efforts to reduce the number of victims killed and injured in alcohol-involved collisions. Sobriety checkpoints are an effective way to maximize the deterrent effect and increase the perception of apprehension of motorists who would operate a vehicle while impaired.

#### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety**

This grant allowed the Department to enhance and increase existing efforts of reducing injury and collisions involving bicyclists and pedestrians. The primary focus of the safety program is elementary, middle and high schools students, programs offered: Bicycle rodeos, Education, Community events, and Helmet safety.

#### **Click It or Ticket Seatbelt**

This grant maintains an enforcement presence towards persons who fail to use seat belts during pre-established periods.

#### **Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)**

This grant supports the Department's effort to reduce DUI related traffic collisions that include speed, red light violations and distracted driving enforcement and funds the purchases of specialized traffic equipment.

### **YOUTH GRANTS**

#### **Minor Alcohol Access Prevention**

This grant supports the Department's efforts toward reducing Youth Access to Alcohol through increased enforcement activities of local and state alcohol control laws.

#### **Drug Free Communities Grant**

Grants received through the Blue Ribbon Coalition provide the Department the opportunity to target Social Host Ordinance violations, through compliance operations, enforcement of underage drinking laws and analysis of data surrounding social Host violations.

## Department Grants Continued

### COMMUNITY GRANTS

#### **Target Corporation**

The Target grants allow the Department a unique opportunity to participate in community public safety events such as the National Night Out, Shop with a Cop, Heroes and Helpers, Coffee with Cops, Safe Holiday events and crime prevention related purchases.

#### **Elks National Foundation**

This foundation grant funded the purchase of needed working equipment for the Department's newest K-9 unit, including a canine protective vest, and also supported the Heroes and Helpers community event.

#### **K9 Working Foundation / Vested Interest K-9**

These two grants purchased canine safety equipment and ballistic canine protective vests.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Novato Youth Camp

The Department hosted its annual Youth Camp from June 20-24, 2016 for middle school students. The students learned about patrol operations, canine units, the Special Response Team (SWAT), CSI/evidence processing, traffic enforcement, and dispatch. They learned how to fingerprint evidence, use police radio codes, and how to write a traffic citation. The students had fun and the 23 participants graduated from the camp.




### radKIDS

The Department hosted the radKIDS Safety Education Program from June 20–24, 2016. The program was taught by Sergeant Sasha D’Amico and Officer Nelson Orantes. The kids learned to have a plan to stay safe by yelling very loudly “No!” and running to safety (i.e. cashier in a store) and telling a safe person about what hurt them or made them feel uncomfortable. Safety and defensive skills were taught and the children got to demonstrate those physical skills learned (hand strikes and kicks) to escape violence (a bully or abductor). They also learned how to seek help (call 911 or tell a safe adult) to end the danger. The children did wonderfully and 22 kids, ages 5-12, graduated from the safety program.




## Coffee with the Cops



*Coffee*  
with  
*Cops & Firefighters*

Saturday, February 27, 2016 - Novato Youth Center  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
680 Wilson Avenue, Novato, CA 94947



Join personnel from the Novato Police Department and the Novato Fire District as we sit down with the public over a cup of coffee. We will answer your questions, provide safety tips, and get to know the public we serve.

Coffee and snacks provided free of charge.

For more information, please contact Novato Police Lieutenant Oliver Collins:  
[ocollins@novato.org](mailto:ocollins@novato.org) or 415-897-4361.

*Coffee with the COPS & Firefighters* event was held on February 27th at the Novato Youth Center, 680 Wilson Avenue. This event takes place all over the county and offers an opportunity to strengthen the bond between police departments and the community to help keep cities safer.

## Heroes & Helpers



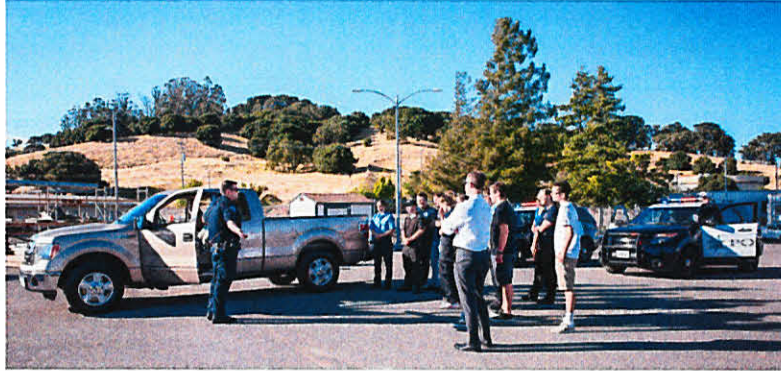
On December 10th, the Novato Police Department partnered with Target of Novato for this year's Heroes & Helpers event. Generous donations from Target, the City of Novato, and the Novato Rotary Club allowed the kids to go shopping with police officers! Many children decided to purchase something special for others and their families this year for the holiday season.



ADDITIONAL  
DEPARTMENT  
PROGRAMS

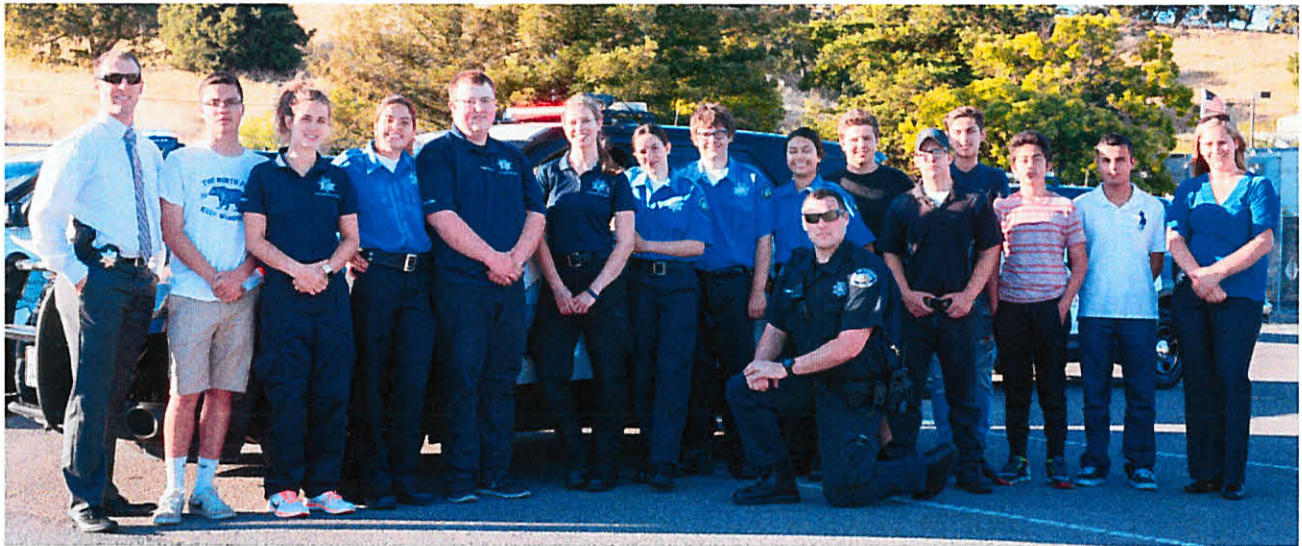
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## Police Explorer Post



Novato Police Department Explorers are young men and women, ages 14-20, who are interested in a career in law enforcement. They meet at the Department on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. In the past month, explorers assisted with RadKIDS, Youth Camp, DUI checkpoints, decoy operations, and various community events. On August 15th, Novato Police Department recognized three outstanding Explorers: Explorer Lieutenant Ashley Schneider, Explorer Sergeant Ella Anderson, and Explorer Marina Escobar-Vazquez for their dedicated years of service.

Our Explorer Post began in 1969 and remains as the only Police Explorer Post in Marin County. The program's goal is to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement and challenge them to become responsible citizens. Several Novato Police Department employees, including Sergeant Jim Tross, Sergeant Jennifer Dunlap, and Officer Laura LeDuc, have been Explorers.





## Crime Free Multi-Housing

The Novato Crime Free Multi-Housing Program was started in 2014 and is designed to help residents, owners, and managers of rental property keep drugs and other illegal activity off their property. This program is honest, direct, solution oriented, and designed to be easy yet very effective in reducing the incident of crime in rental property. Ignacio Gardens Apartments has been certified as a crime-free property in February.



## Novato Canine Unit

The Novato Police Department is proud of its newest addition to the family, Leo, a two-year-old Belgian Malinois. Leo will be working with Officer Christopher Gamboa.

Canines assist the Novato Police Department with the following to name a few:

- Tracking/locating missing persons (civilian or criminal)
- Preventive patrolling of high crime areas and crime prevention
- Building searches and apprehension of criminals
- Crowd control
- Locating lost or hidden articles or evidence and illegal narcotics
- Physical detention of fleeing criminal
- Public relations



Above: Officer Chris Gamboa and Leo



Above: Officer Kendrick Pilegaard and Lex



Above: Officer Sean Sinnott and Koa

# YEAR-END REVIEW

## YEAR END REVIEW

### Traffic Section

The mission of the Traffic Section is to reduce injuries, deaths, and property damage caused by traffic collisions within the community. Preventative patrols, pro-active enforcement, community education, analysis of traffic collision data, investigation of traffic collisions, and active problem solving are used to accomplish this mission.

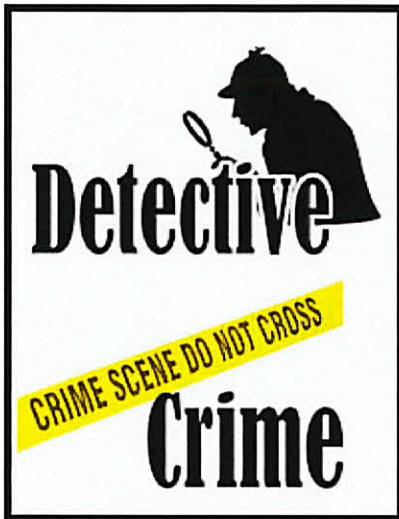


Novato Police Department was awarded the OTS Step grant 2016/2017. This grant provided \$70,000 for 29 operations, two of which were checkpoints conducted from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. The Department as a whole investigated 431 collisions and made 241 DUI arrests. Of the collision, 123 resulted in injuries and 51 were DUI related.

The Department purchased the following with the grant monies: Car counter to help capture the number of vehicles and traffic volumes to better deploy resources for traffic enforcement; 28 cones for sobriety and driver's license check points, and 12 power flares.

## YEAR END REVIEW

### Investigation Section



The Investigations Section works collaboratively with the Patrol Bureau to identify and arrest individuals involved in criminal activity and produce thorough and complete investigative reports that will support prosecutorial efforts. The Investigations Section consists of four detectives and a detective sergeant. Three additional detectives, under the indirect supervision of the detective sergeant, are assigned to multi-agency investigative teams to include the Marin County Major Crimes Task Force and Northern California Computer Crimes Task Force.

The Investigations Section investigates a broad spectrum of criminal activity ranging from property crimes, including identify theft, fraud, burglary, and arson, to person crimes, including sexual assault, child physical/sexual abuse, death investigations, and homicide.

The Investigations Section also actively participates in activities including conducting surveillance, authoring and serving search and arrest warrants, and probation and parole searches.

Additionally, Investigations Section personnel are responsible for issuing police permits related to business operations, monitoring and registering habitual offenders, and assisting the Patrol Bureau when the need is apparent or patrol resources are exhausted.

# YEAR END REVIEW

## Communication Section

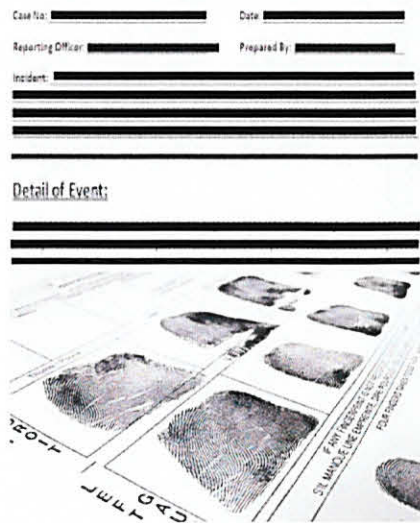


The Novato Police Department’s Communications Center is the key link between police officers and the community they serve. The Communication Center provides around-the-clock call answering and radio dispatching to deliver police services to the community. The Center is the primary 9-1-1 public safety answering point for all incorporated areas within the city. In 2016, there were 14,009 9-1-1 calls received and 40,825 calls for service were dispatched.

## Records Section

Records personnel pride themselves on providing quality customer service. The services provided to the public by the Records Specialist’s include: reproducing documents, releasing vehicles, and providing directions. Additional services include answering questions about crime prevention, locating towed vehicles, instructing the public on obtaining/enforcing court orders, educating the public about pertinent laws, and fielding questions on a wide range of subjects. Records Specialist also research police records, maintaining files and purging obsolete records.

### POLICE REPORT





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