



**Indio Police Department  
Annual Report  
FY 2005-06**

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

*January 2006*



## **Chief of Police Bradley S. Ramos**

My time as Chief of Police for the Indio Police Department has been a time of constructive change in how we deliver our service to the community.

The Indio Police Department is a department of highly dedicated professional officers and civilian personnel committed to providing the highest quality of service and protection to the community. The department continues to strengthen its relationships with the community effectuating an inclusive collaboration of law enforcement, citizens, community agencies, political leaders, and public information services.

I believe public service is a noble calling that encompasses pride, honor, and shared responsibility. Emblazoned on every police vehicle is a reminder of our core purpose: **“Our Community, Our Commitment...”** We deliver this service through emphasizing personal character, integrity and honesty.

As our City of Indio continues to grow, it is important that we do not rest on our successes, but look for new strategies to handle the challenges that face us in the future. For our department to remain effective, we must pursue innovative “best policing strategies,” along with the use of emerging technology. This will be accomplished by utilizing tools such as Crime Analysis and applying Problem Solving strategies to address our long-term goals of attacking the root of criminal behaviors. These combined efforts will be the key to Indio’s Police Department’s policing and will keep the City of Indio on the cutting edge of law enforcement.

I am proud and honored to serve the citizens of Indio as the 16<sup>th</sup> Police Chief for the Indio Police Department.

# INDIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## VISION

*The Indio Police Department will strive to be a leading law enforcement agency driven by high performance standards entrenched in integrity, ethics, and professional behaviors guided by the law enforcement code of ethics. A community free from crime and disorder remains an unachieved ideal; nevertheless, consistent with the values of a free society, it is the vision of the Indio Police Department to approach that ideal as closely as possible. In so doing, the Department desires to provide services that seek to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, keeping in mind, our real objective is to prevent and deter crime.*

## MISSION

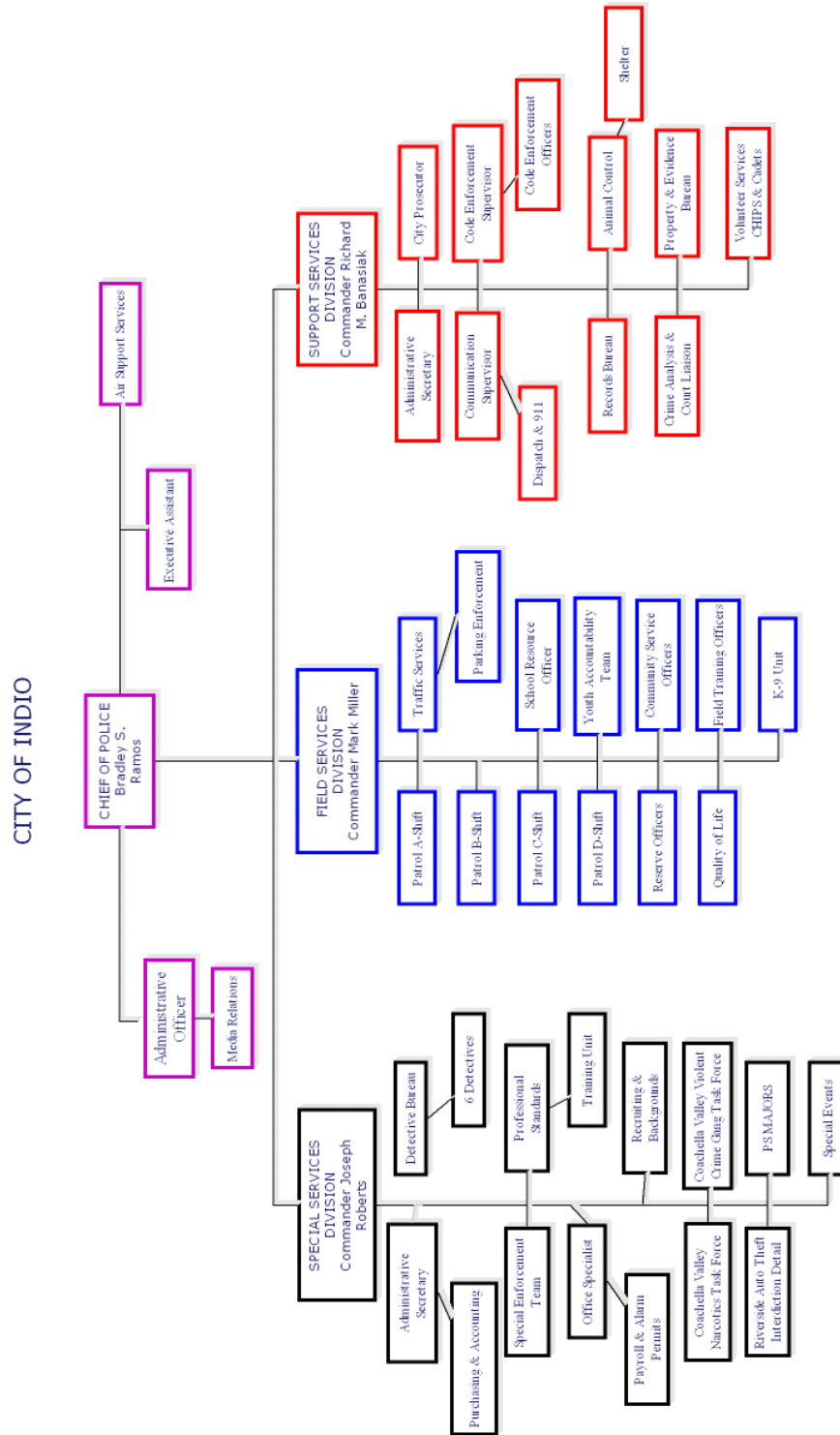
*Our Mission, in partnership with the community, is to safeguard and improve the quality of life in Indio by using traditional and non-traditional policing methods that promote trust and confidence in the Indio Police Department.*

## MOTTO

*“Our Community*

*Our Commitment”...*

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





On May 16, 1930 our City was incorporated and four months later, on August 18, 1930, the police department was established. Francis A. Koehler was appointed as our first Chief of Police. To commemorate our 75-year anniversary, we have designed an Anniversary Badge that was worn by staff in 2005.

**Department Statistics**

<b>Police Volunteers</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Community Commendations</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Police Officers</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Police Support Staff (non-sworn)</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Use of Force</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Professional Standards Investigations</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Injury on Duty</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Police Pursuits</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Reserve Police Officers</b>	<b>8</b>

## ADMINISTRATION

The Chief of Police, with the assistance of the Police Commanders, is responsible for the daily management of the department. The Chief's support staff includes an Administrative Officer and the Executive Assistant.

The Chief of Police directs Public Relations, Media Relations, Air Support, Professional Standards reviews, Police Staff representation to the City Council & Commissions, Indio Youth Task Force, management of grants, projects and reports to the City Manager's office, employee recruitment and development, and representation on various Law Enforcement Boards and Community Boards.

The Office of the Chief continues to promote Community Policing by maintaining and developing partnerships. The department's commitment is effective law enforcement services for our community through its dedication to safeguard and improve the quality of life in the City of Indio.



- Received and replied to 68 formal community and business letters of commendation.
- Attended 48 community meetings to present department crime prevention programs.
- Continued department representation at City Council meetings, City Commissions, Youth Advisory Council, City Committees, and Community Events.
- Continued researching grant opportunities. Three additional Police Officers have been hired with grant monies.
- The Police Chief participated on the Youth Master Plan Committee.

## FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

Officers from the Field Services Division are generally the first contact for anyone seeking police services, particularly during an emergency or if a victim of a crime. The division provides services to the community 24-hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Field Services Division Commander leads Patrol Operations, Reserve Police Officers, and Traffic Services which includes Motors, Community Service Officers, School Resource Officers, Youth Accountability Team, Quality of Life Team and the Police K-9 Unit.

- Handled 68,753 total calls for service in 2005. 48,635 of the calls were in response to serve reports and 20,118 were self-initiated. This is an average of 188 calls a day.
- Made 2,634 adult arrests and 233 juvenile arrests.
- Average response time is less than 6 minutes.
- Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL) has been installed in all marked police units. This helps manage emergency deployment.
- Additional police radios, digital records, and digital cameras for patrol were purchased with grant money.
- K-9 Team located and apprehended 78 felons.

The City of Indio is divided into five patrol beats with a Police Officer assigned to each beat, one Police Corporal serves as a Field Supervisor and a Police Sergeant serves as the Watch Commander on all four shifts. Patrol officers work 12-hour shifts

In addition to the Sergeant, each of five beats has an assigned Sergeant who has the responsibility of communicating, networking and problem-solving through community policing.



## **SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION**

The Special Services Division's responsibility is to conduct thorough and comprehensive investigations leading to the arrest and successful prosecution of offenders and the recovery of stolen property.

The Special Services Division Commander's responsibilities include Detectives, Special Enforcement Team, CV Narcotics Task Force Officer, CV Auto Theft Officer, CV Gang Task Force Officer, CV Majors Narcotics Officer, Training and Recruitment, Background Investigations, Accounting/Purchasing, and Professional Standards.

The Special Services Division purchased current state of the art technology that helps the Indio Police Department identify suspects for prosecution and evaluate other leads on criminal cases. The Special Services Division works with the community by providing information on Identity Theft, Computer Crimes, and Security Camera Surveillance.



- Detectives cleared 49.7 % of reported Part 1 Crime and 50.3 % of reported Part 2 Crime in 2005.
- Detectives closed 326 cases in 2005.
- The Special Services Division hired a part-time investigator to maintain registered sex offender records and monitor their compliance.
- In 2005, the police officer assigned to the CV Auto Theft Task Force helped arrest 38 career auto theft suspects.
- In 2005, the Special Services Division completed backgrounds on more than 26 prospective staff and 20 businesses, and ran 465 Live Scan fingerprint checks.



## SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Support Services Division was created by the Chief of Police to ensure the community and the police department have access to a highly developed communication system and other specialized support services.

The Support Services Division Commander's responsibilities include 911-Dispatch, Animal Control Services, Records Bureau, Crime Analysis Unit, Information Technology Support, Property and Evidence Bureau, Facility Management, and Code Enforcement.

Police Dispatchers have been added to handle the increase in calls for service. Currently, the department is developing a state-of-the-art six station 911-Dispatch Center. Animal Control Services will be expanding services to the community in a renovated animal shelter facility.

- The Property & Evidence Bureau has purged 3 tons of property including sending 430 weapons for destruction.
- An additional Records Clerk was added which has improved the quality of service in the Records Bureau.
- The Crime Analysis Unit uses "COMSAT" to target specific crime activity.
- An information Technology support services position was added to improve computers and digital technology.



## TRAINING and RECRUITMENT

On-going training of police department employees is important to the organization. Employees attend courses to maintain and improve their law enforcement knowledge and skills.

A Sergeant, under the direction of the Special Services Division Commander, manages Training and Recruitment. The Training Sergeant coordinates quarterly in house training and facilitates attendance at California Peace Officers Standards and Training seminars. Recruitment is also a responsibility of the unit which works closely with the Human Resources office to hire top notch employees.



- All police officers are trained quarterly in the use of less than lethal weapons including pepper ball, electronic devices, and bean bags.
- California Peace Officer's Standards and Training has determined Indio Police Department meets all requirements and current policies required in hiring and training.
- 7 Police Officers were hired in 2005.
- 6 Support staff were hired in 2005.

## TRAFFIC SERVICES

The Traffic Services Unit was established to reduce accidents, property damage and loss of life through education and enforcement. The State Office of Traffic Safety awarded the police department a second two year grant to fund two additional Motor Officers.



A Sergeant, under the direction of the Field Services Commander, is assigned to supervise Traffic Services. Currently, the Traffic Services unit consists of four Motor Officers, and a Parking Enforcement Officer. The City Council recently approved a Commercial Enforcement Officer. The Commercial Enforcement Officer is funded with vehicle tow release fees.

The Traffic Services Unit conducts several enforcement and educational services in the community including the Walking Safe Program, Seat Belt and Child Car Seat inspections, DUI Awareness, Monthly Safety and DUI Check Points. The Unit also enforces jay walking and suspended license laws.

The Traffic Services Unit sets forth an innovative program called V-MET/Valley Motor Enforcement Team. Motor Officers from Indio, Cathedral City, Palm Springs, and Desert Hot Springs combine resources to address particular traffic issues in each community.

- Issued 9,415 Hazardous Traffic Violation Citations.
- 834 Vehicles were towed because the drivers had a suspended or no license or the vehicle violated City noise standards.
- 12 DUI and Safety check points were conducted.
- 9 Joint V-MET operations were conducted.
- 12 Community traffic presentations were made.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES



The Police Department's Public Relations Unit was created to open communications and develop partnerships to address the causes of crime and other community issues affecting quality of life.

The Public Relations Services Unit is under the direction of the Chief of Police and is managed by the Administrative Officer. The programs and services provided include participating in business relations, media relations (PIO), crime prevention, Neighborhood Watch, Crime Free Multi-Housing, Adopt a School, Valley

Crime Stoppers, Community Meetings, Schools, Youth Programs, and the Youth Advisory Council.

- Crime Stoppers has awarded \$2,100 in rewards for the arrest of suspects or recovery of stolen property in Indio.
- 3 additional Neighborhood Watch groups have been added. There are a total of 26 Neighborhood Watch groups in Indio.
- 42 rental properties are active in the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program.
- 738 Media requests were addressed in English and Spanish.



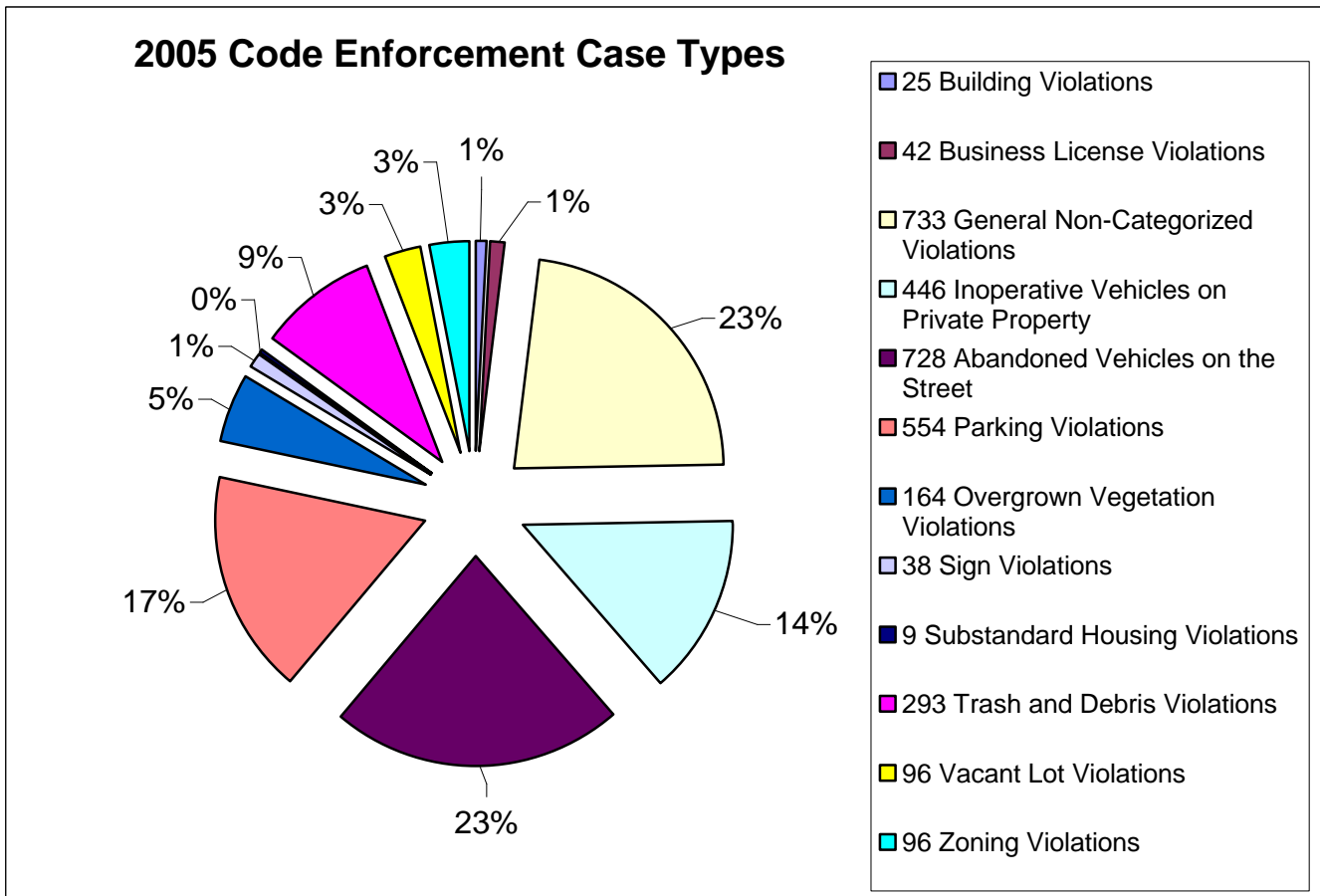
## CODE ENFORCEMENT UNIT



The Code Enforcement Unit enforces the City's Municipal Codes relating to public health, safety, and the environment.

A Sergeant, under the direction of the Support Services Commander, is assigned to supervise the Code Enforcement Unit. Code Enforcement is accomplished through education and prosecution of violators who do not comply after warnings and citations are issued.

The Code Enforcement Unit recognizes the importance of keep neighborhoods and businesses attractive and therefore healthy.



## **VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

- CHIP has volunteered 8,259 hours in 2005.
- Cadets volunteered 5,922 hours in 2005.
- We have recruited a third Police Chaplain.
- The value of Volunteer hours from CHIPs and Cadets for 2005 is \$ 232,568.40

Volunteers donate their time to better the quality of life in the City of Indio. Volunteers are directed and supervised by the Administrative Officer. Volunteers include Citizen Patrol/CHIP, Police Cadets, Police Chaplain Unit, and Air Support.

The Citizens Helping Indio Police (C.H.I.P.) is open to any adult member of the community who would like to donate a minimum of 16 hours a month. They are the eyes and ears of the police department. All new CHIP members must attend a 60 hour academy and receive field training.

Police Cadets are youth ages 14 to 20 who are members of Boys Scouts of America. Cadets must be motivated and dedicated young adults have an interest in people. Cadets must pass an oral interview and have a 2.0 grade average or above.



**Citizen Patrol  
*C.H.I.P.***



***Cadet Post 150***

## AIR SUPPORT DIVISION

The Indio Police Department - Air Support Division (IPD-ASD) was established to provide volunteer air support services for transportation, enforcement and observation needs. ASD is under the direction of the Chief of Police.

- 1000 hours donated by ASD.
- The value of Volunteer hours for 2005 is \$ 16,400
- ASD has five Pilots, five Flight Officers, and Five Ground Support Staff.

The Air Support Division has flown Detectives to Blythe, Porterville and San Jose, California and to Phoenix, Arizona for timely investigations. Air Support has helped searched for murder victim's vehicle and has done aerial searches for victims in the water areas of Indio and La Quinta. Traffic control and observation is provided each year during the Coachella Valley Music Festival. Additionally, Air Support has provided help for aerial photographs for criminal investigations.

The IPD-ASD takes great pride in being available 24-hours a day to provide this highly specialized service. The unit maintains offices at Jackie Cochran Airport in Thermal CA. The ASD Pilots provide their own aircraft and maintenance. The city pays for fuel and oil expenses during a flight mission.

Pilot requirements include a minimum of 700 hours as Pilot in Command, an Instrument Rating, FAA approved Bi-Annual Review and Medical Certification.



Average Activities in a 24 hour period

188

Calls for Service per day

8

**911 Emergency Calls**  
**High Priority Response**

6 minutes

Response time to  
**911 Emergency Calls**  
or less.



7.8

Arrests per day

37

Volunteer Hours

31

Police Reports

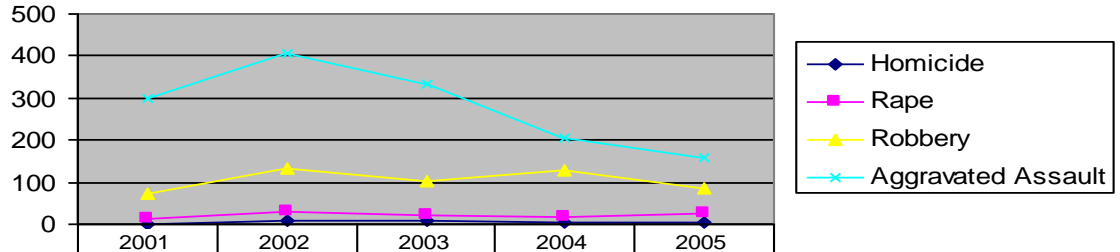
42

Hazardous Citations



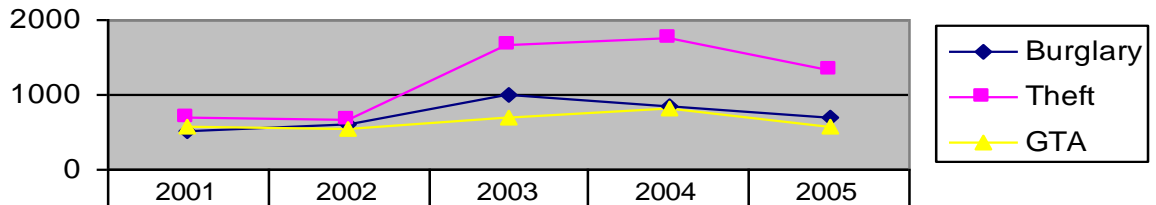
# CRIME STATISTICS

## Violent Crime 2001-2005



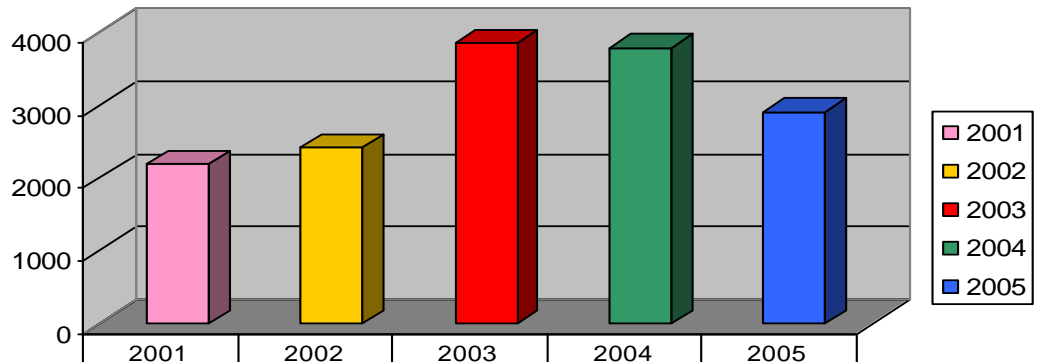
Homicide	2	7	10	5	6
Rape	12	32	23	18	27
Robbery	72	133	103	127	84
Aggravated Assault	300	406	332	204	159

## Property Crime 2001-2005



Burglary	518	616	1004	844	712
Theft	707	663	1680	1763	1335
GTA	583	557	690	821	580

## Total Crime 2001-2005



Total Crime 2001-2005	2194	2414	3842	3782	2903
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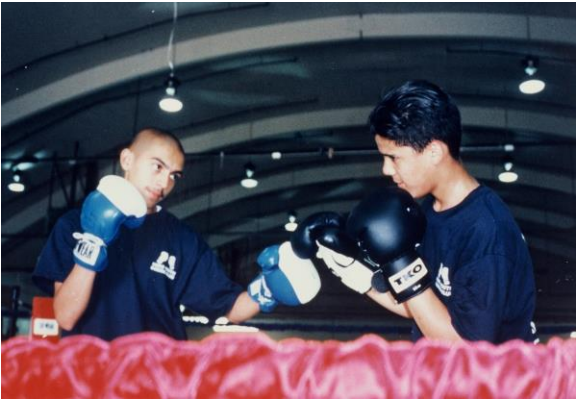
## Indio Police Department Achievements



- Office of Transportation (OTS) Grant for two motor traffic officers, bringing total to four.
- Auto Theft Grant added a Police Investigator to the valley wide auto theft unit called RAID.
- An Investigator assigned to the Major Narcotics Valley Task Force.
- 19 new police volunteers were recruited.
- An Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL) has been installed in all marked police units. This allows our Dispatch / 911 to manage unit locations for emergency deployment.
- Part 1 crime reduction: robbery by 56%, aggressive assault by 15%, violent crime by 17%, burglary by 11%, theft by 17%, auto theft by 24%, and property crime by 17% .  
*15% reduction in crime over all.*
- We have added five 911/Dispatchers, and three Police Officers.
- A Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer was added and is funded from the vehicle tow release fees.
- Additional police radio communications, digital recorders, and digital cameras were purchased with grant funds.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Staff volunteers time in various areas of our community by helping at events or fund raisers with the Indio Youth Task Force, California National Guard Cadet Program, Adopt a School, Social Clubs, Police Cadet Program, City Festivals, Chambers of Commerce Events, Police Honor Guard, CV Parks and Recreation District, Kids Clubs, CV Boys and Girls Club and Santa Claus Gifts for Kids.



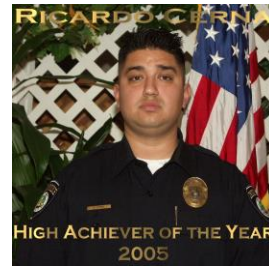
## ANNUAL RECOGNITION

The Indio Police Department is proud to recognize and acknowledge the excellent service of all members of the organization. Our Annual Awards and Chief's Breakfast is attended by members of the department and their families every March. The following members were recognized for their exemplary service to our community in 2004. Other awards given for Meritorious Service, Distinguished Service, Safe Driving, Bravery, Valor, Golden Bear finger print award, Auto Club and California Highway Patrol auto theft recovery award.



*Officer of the Year*

Police Officer Donald Studdard



*High Achiever of the Year*

Police Officer Ricardo Cerna



*Reserve Officer of the Year*

Reserve Police Officer Larry Hammers



*Employee of the Year*

Community Service Officer Ed Figueroa



*Volunteer of the Year*

CHIP James Downes



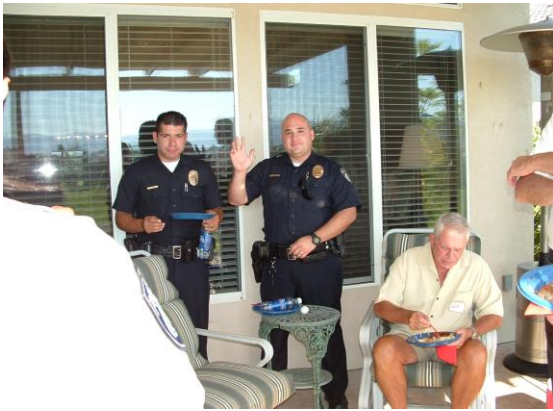
*Police Cadet of the Year*

Police Cadet Darren Cinatl

# Indio Police Department

We thank you for your time, support, interest, and efforts in making your police department the best in the Coachella Valley.

*“Our Community, Our Commitment...”*



***WWW.INDIOPD.ORG***