

2008 Progress Report

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"Our Training Center is focused on providing the Central Valley and Mother Lode Region with professional, ethical, and competent Law Enforcement individuals. We are committed to excellence in leadership, professionalism in training, and dedication to public safety."

-Training Center Staff

From the Sheriff...

It is my pleasure to present our 2008 Progress Report for the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Regional Training Center. Our team of dedicated law enforcement professionals, representing agencies in eight counties, is committed to providing the best in law enforcement training. Our

programs are designed to meet the on-going training needs of those agencies in the region and the communities we serve. We are proud of our success and look forward to serving you in the future. Working together, we will always strive for excellence in law enforcement training.



**Adam Christianson,
Sheriff-Coroner**

From the Director, Lt. Jim Gordon

First and foremost, my personal thanks to our staff that perform the outstanding work in making our training center the finest in the State. I would also like to thank all of our partner agencies throughout the Valley and Sierra region; we appreciate and value your support!

2008 has been a great year for all of us. Since assuming management of the facility, we have trained nearly 400 officers and deputies to serve and protect our communities. Our class sizes have been the

largest in history, and our success rates through the field training program are stronger than ever.

In partnership with all of you, we hope to redefine the look of law enforcement training, ensuring that each recruit leaving our facility has a true understanding of what it means to be a public servant. Please join me in congratulating the many people who have worked so very hard to make this dream a reality!



Training Center Staff-2008

Training Center History



Basic law enforcement training was started in Stanislaus County in 1956 through a partnership with agencies from eight counties, ranging from Amador County to Mariposa County.

In 1997 the Ray Simon Regional Training Center was designed through a collaborative effort with Stanislaus County, Modesto Police Department, and the

Modesto Junior College.

In 2007, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office assumed management of the Center, in partnership with San Joaquin Delta College and agencies within the eight county region.

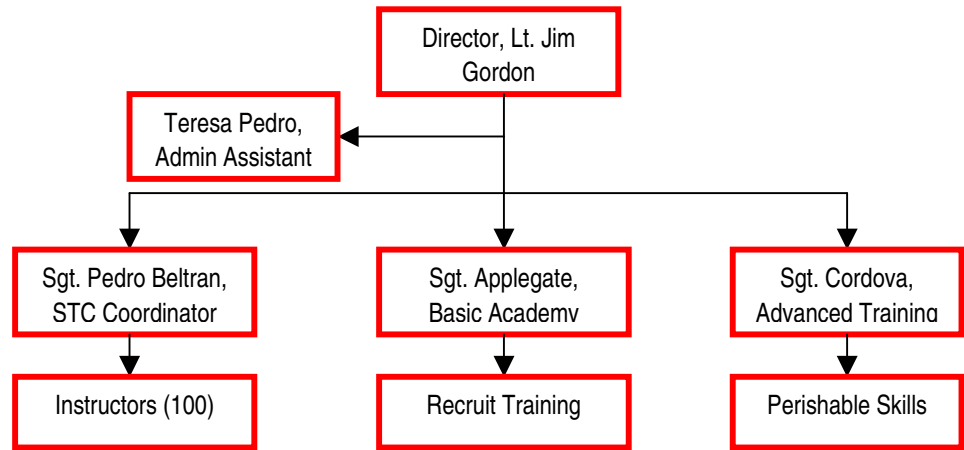
Many agencies remain very involved through their work with the Valley Motherlode Training Managers Association and support of the training center.

"Law enforcement ethics are emphasized at the Ray Simon Regional Criminal Justice Training Center, which has been revitalized under the leadership of the Sheriff's Department."

-Modesto Bee Editorial

Organizational Structure

"The Training Center employs nearly 100 part time instructors representing agencies from all over the Central Valley in carrying out our mission"



Basic Law Enforcement Training

Basic law enforcement training is regulated by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training and provided in partnership with San Joaquin Delta College as vocational education and the program is funded through an FTES sharing agreement.

The Basic Course uses a complex instructional design, employing forty-two different

learning areas, and testing which includes written and scenario exams.

Over the past two years since Stanislaus County assumed management of the Training Center, we have trained nearly 400 new recruits, many of which are now working at cities within the County, Stanislaus S/O, as well as

areas within our service region.

Our classes have been in higher demand than ever before, and many of our local law enforcement agencies have seen the rewards through an increased recruitment pool.

Many thanks to our partners at SJDC for their unwavering support!

State Mandated Training

For active California peace officers and correctional officers, there are significant ongoing training requirements to ensure compliance with state law, enhance safety techniques, and reduce liability.

After the Sheriff assumed management of the Training Center, existing budgeted training support positions in Operations and Adult Detention were moved to the Training Center budget unit.

Our existing training programs were opened to law enforcement agencies throughout the region utilizing tuition based courses. By doing so, officers and deputies throughout the Central Valley have an opportunity to train with neighboring jurisdictions, and the Training Center recoups some of the costs of providing our own training and reduces costs of having to send personnel out of county.

We provide full training services not only for Stanislaus County, but a significant number of smaller agencies throughout the Region.



Instructional System Design

Training regiments are a science. While the State of California prescribes what basic academy programs must teach, there is great latitude in how the material is delivered. Each of the 40 certified basic academy programs throughout the state is responsible for the delivery method, within prescribed safety regulations.

A significant portion of the type of student/recruit graduating

from any training program involves the type of training environment they are exposed to. That is, the type of discipline, daily training regiment, and training environment.

Our training staff has carefully prescribed the daily training process and recruit interactions to focus on the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, pride, humility in service,

confidence, discipline, unity and teamwork, and decision making.

Our staff also maintains strict integrity in the chain of command so our recruits will be thoroughly familiar with law enforcement's structure.

This method and format has evolved tremendously over the past year and has produced great success with our troops.

"I am very proud to be a part of this academy and will tell anyone that if they ask. I am also proud of helping class 168 leave its mark on this academy with the sign, community service projects, etc. I feel I have received a top notch course of instruction to prepare me for the rest of my life....I will never forget this academy"

-Class 168 Recruit

Public Safety Leadership Program

In 2008 we began research and development on a public safety leadership program designed to expose talented high school and college students to careers in public safety.

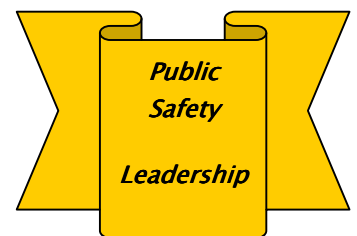
This program is designed through "service learning", meaning our students will be set up in groups and tasked with

researching crime causation and effect of a crime problem of their choosing.

Students will have full access to research materials or interviews with public safety professionals. As part of their project, students are tasked with performing a community service project in support of their findings.

This program is offered in partnership with The Simon Family Foundation and we hope to offer the first course in spring, 2009.

Basic academy classes will also be involved by hosting fundraisers for scholarships for our winning students with the best results.



"This was the best training block I have participated in during my 15 years with the S.O. I was able to retain most of the material; it was nice to actually enjoy a training session!"

"Hands on building searches, traffic stops, and bike stops were very realistic and made for some great training, outstanding!"

-STOP Course Students

Sheriff's Tactical Operations Program (S.T.O.P.)

One of the highlights of 2008 has been the creation of the Sheriff's Tactical Operations Program.

This program was created to address the significant training mandates for active duty peace officers in a "one stop shop" format. However, instead of the traditional classroom methods, we utilize scenario based training for nearly all of the

subjects, making the training program very interactive.

Focusing on firearms, defensive tactics, vehicle operations, first aid, hazmat, pursuit liability, and officer safety techniques, we utilize a variety of methods to get our students immersed in the learning environment. The results have been truly astonishing!



Academy Challenge Physical Fitness Program

Everywhere you go these days we seem to hear more and more about healthy living. That statement couldn't be truer for the public safety arena, where a significant number of peace officers retire at early ages due to injury.

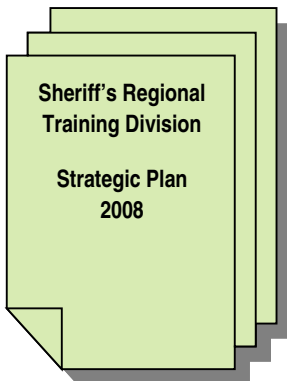
We also saw a significant number of recruits who entered the basic academy unprepared

for the physical fitness rigor of academy life.

As a result, we developed the "Academy Challenge" physical fitness program. This 5-week intense course is modeled after the daily workouts our recruits endure, and the program is open to all potential recruits or members of the public wishing to see what their law

enforcement officers endure during training.

Our first course offering was filled with 30 students, many of which continued to the academy, some who said they simply wanted to "get fit". The program was a tremendous success and we plan to continue offering the course in 2009.



Strategic Plan 2008

In October, 2008 Training Center staff hosted a workshop with representatives from agencies throughout the County and the region as well as POST in helping to develop our two-year strategic plan.

Over the day, we worked on plans for the basic academy program, advanced officer training, and public outreach programs.

At the conclusion of our workshop, we had approximately 30 different objectives for our staff to work from in moving the Center forward next year.

Our plan also allows us to report back to our regional partners on our progress on a regular basis. Thanks go to the many representatives who

took time from their day to assist us in this effort; it will definitely help to provide our roadmap for the future.

Standards and Training for Corrections

Our STC program continues to grow. Currently, the Training Center offers several 24-hour blocks of STC approved training throughout the year, primarily for Stanislaus County.

A major goal for the Training Center is to cross-certify many of our POST approved courses so that our county along with regional partners can take advantage of many more

training opportunities while still completing STC requirements. Our primary focus remains with cross certification of courses in the STOP program.

Many changes are on the horizon for STC programs, primarily within the instructor development arena. STC is currently introducing instructor competency training and we

anticipate STC will follow suit with POST agencies in ratcheting up instructor competency requirements.

Thanks to the many outstanding instructors from Stanislaus County who represent the STC programs very well.



Class 168 Pride Run!

Designed and implemented by Turlock PD Sergeant Miguel Pacheco, we established the first ever "Pride Run" to be held each May for the academy class.

The "Pride Run" involves all academy staff and students and is held during the National Law Enforcement Memorial Week, so that our students recognize and pay tribute to the many officers and deputies

who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Starting from the Training Center, we take the class through the streets of Ceres and eventually end up at the Sgt. Howie Stevenson memorial, where the recruits participate in a brief presentation to the Stevenson family for their loss. This is truly a memorable event!



2008 Pride Run

Graduating Class Conquers Half Dome

Congratulations to many members of Class 168 in completing one of the toughest hikes in California!

Just prior to their graduation, these recruits volunteered to accompany Training Center staff on a trek to Half Dome, a 16-mile strenuous hike that

takes you through the Yosemite Valley floor up a couple thousand feet to high elevations and majestic views.

These recruits tested their limits and had a very memorable experience. Great job and we hope to make this a truly event!



Cops to Communities Program



As part of our instructional design, we use a program called "Cops to Communities" which involves our recruits performing a number of community service projects throughout the entire region.

enforcement, fundraising events for tuition projects, and a host of other events.

Our recruits gain a true sense of teamwork, pride, humility in service, and an understanding of what it means to be a public servant.

By the time recruits leave our facility, they hold a keen sense of accomplishment and look back on the benefits of their labor. Great work by all!

"The Modesto Police Academy chose DYF as their community project this year and they did an incredible job helping us open camp for the season! These volunteers braved the cold and rain in the mountains in order to get our camp ready for the families we serve!"

- Diabetic Youth Foundation



As one of our best programs, our recruits have participated in a number of veteran's events, church food drives, community work projects, blood drives supporting law

The Simon Family Foundation



Special thanks to Mr. Ray and Jeff Simon and the Simon Family Foundation for their continued support of the Training Center mission!

On behalf of all of the staff at the Training Center, thank you for another great year of partnership, accomplishment, and success. We look forward to a great 2009!

- Training Center Staff

