



THE METRO NEWS

ISSUE # 1

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024



Captain Jerry Hara Awarded with the NLPOA Lifetime Award 2024

Captain Jerry Hara has been with San Diego PD for over 31 years and a Captain for 11 years. As a Commanding Officer, he has led various commands such as, 2 patrol divisions, Support Operations, SWAT, the Police Academy, and the Honor Guard. Jerry has worked in over 25 different positions within the Department. His latest assignment was to revamp the SDPD Dispatch Division of almost 200 dispatchers. Jerry has dedicated his life to mentoring, coaching, and preparing our officers for future leadership roles and promotions. He has helped coordinate dozens of training classes, and promotional prep seminars for the NLPOA San Diego Metro Chapter for the past 16 years. Jerry Hara has been an NLPOA member for several decades, and is a former President of the NLPOA San Diego Metro. Jerry has also taught several leadership classes at NLPOA training conferences. Jerry plans to retire and get his Master Degree in Christian Leadership to serve in a police ministry.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nightmare Before Christmas Bake Sale

When: October 29, 2024, 0900 hours

Where: SDPD HQ Rm 213

Why: All proceeds from the bake sale will benefit children via Shop with a Cop.

Veterans Benefits Workshop

When: November 19, 2024, 0900-1100 hours

Where: National University, 9388 Lightwave Avenue

Why: SD Metro NLPOA has partnered with VFW and Wounded Warrior Project to provide the necessary information and tools to identify and access various veterans benefits you or your family may be missing out on.

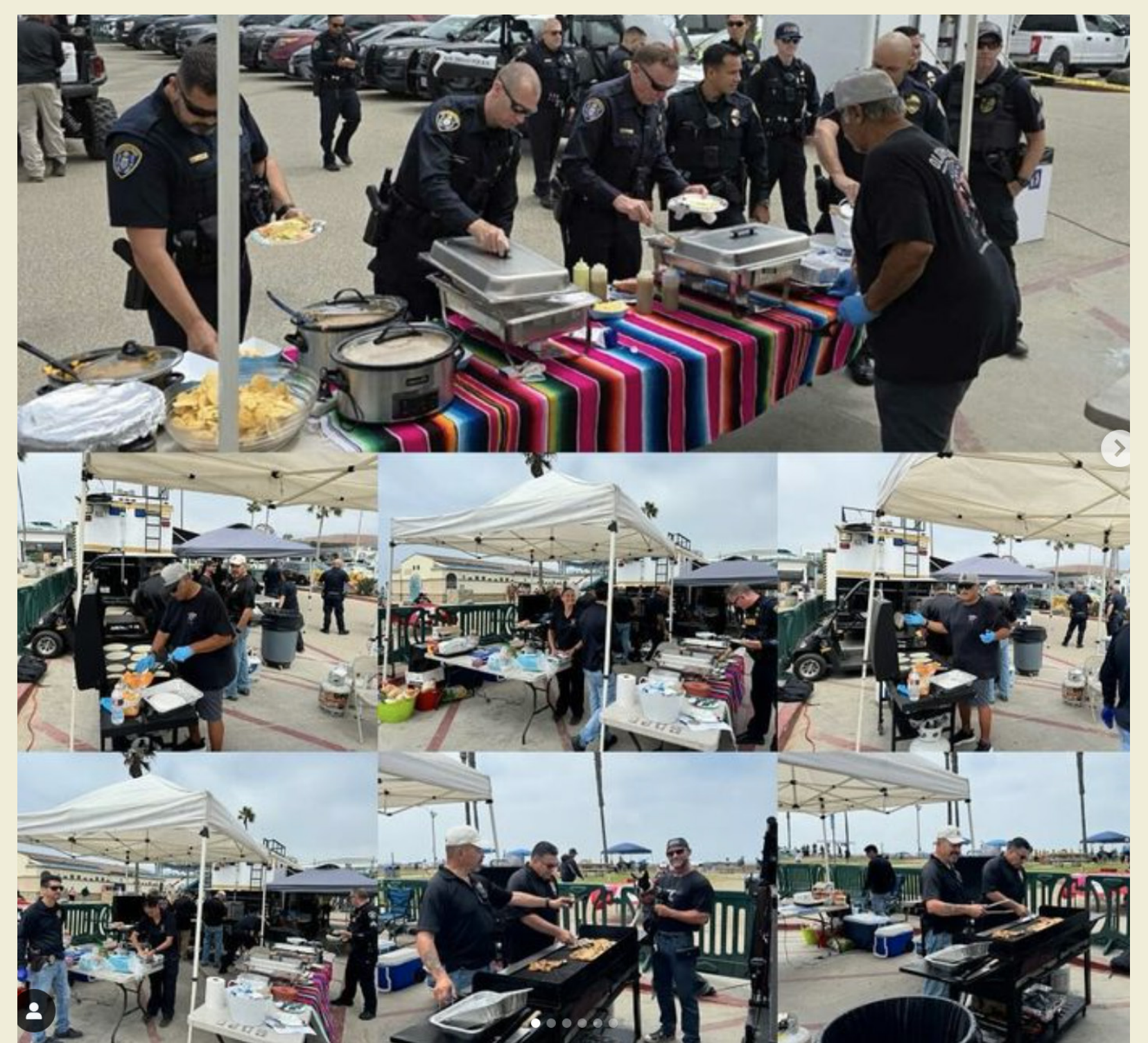
2025 NLPOA ANNUAL LE CONFERENCE

When: October 1 to October 5, 2025

Where: Hilton Garden Inn, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Why: Essential Training, insightful Guest Speakers, and valuable networking opportunities!

SERVING COMMUNITIES



NLPOA's own Joe Nunez serving up tacos for Labor Day

If you would like to contribute contact us at: cs@sandiegometronlpoa.org

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
SEP 15 - OCT 15
CHECK FB AND IG FOR MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS!

IG @ NLPOA_SANDIEGOMETRO
FB @ NLPOA SAN DIEGO METRO



Honoring Our Fallen: Rededication of Grape Street Park to Officer Tonahill & Officer Ruopp Memorial Park

On September 14, 1984, Officer Timothy Ruopp encountered two adult men drinking with two underage girls at Grape Street Park. Officer Ruopp requested back up. Officer Kimberly Tonahill responded. As Officer Tonahill was patting down one of the suspects, he opened fire, shooting her 4 times. The suspect then walked up and execution style-shot Officer Timothy Ruopp. Officer Gary Mitrovich was on his way to the park when he heard gunshots. Officer Gary Mitrovich was shot in the shoulder and seriously wounded. Officer Tonahill died that evening. Officer Ruopp died two days later. Officer Mitrovich survived. After an extensive overnight search, the main suspect was found hiding in a nearby bush. He was apprehended and taken into custody.

Officer Tonahill was a rookie officer with eight months on the job. She was 24 yrs old. Officer Ruopp was 31 yrs old, married, with four young children.

On September 14, 2024, the City of San Diego re-dedicated Grape Street Park to honor the lives of fallen Officers Tonahill and Ruopp.



SDPD OFFICER AUSTIN MACHITAR
JULY 26, 1994 – AUGUST 26, 2024
FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

CONSOLATION
BY ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

THOUGH HE, THAT EVER KIND AND TRUE,
KEPT STOUTLY STEP BY STEP WITH YOU,
YOUR WHOLE LONG, GUSTY LIFETIME THROUGH,
BE GONE A WHILE BEFORE,
BE NOW A MOMENT GONE BEFORE,
YET, DOUBT NOT, SOON THE SEASONS SHALL RESTORE
YOUR FRIEND TO YOU.

HE HAS BUT TURNED THE CORNER — STILL
HE PUSHES ON WITH RIGHT GOOD WILL,
THROUGH MIRE AND MARSH, BY HEUGH AND HILL,
THAT SELF-SAME ARDUOUS WAY —
THAT SELF-SAME UPLAND, HOPEFUL WAY,
THAT YOU AND HE THROUGH MANY A DOUBTFUL DAY
ATTEMPTED STILL.

HE IS NOT DEAD, THIS FRIEND — NOT DEAD,
BUT IN THE PATH WE MORTALS TREAD
GOT SOME FEW, TRIFLING STEPS AHEAD
AND NEARER TO THE END;
SO THAT YOU TOO, ONCE PAST THE BEND,
SHALL MEET AGAIN, AS FACE TO FACE,
THIS FRIEND
YOU FANCY DEAD.

PUSH GAILY ON, STRONG HEART! THE WHILE
YOU TRAVEL FORWARD MILE BY MILE,
HE LOITERS WITH A BACKWARD SMILE
TILL YOU CAN OVERTAKE,
AND STRAINS HIS EYES TO SEARCH HIS WAKE,
OR WHISTLING, AS HE SEES YOU THROUGH THE BRAKE,
WAITS ON A STILE.

On September 23rd, Officer Zach Martinez returned home to Lubbock, Texas to continue his road to recovery. Wishing you strength and a swift recovery, Zach!



SDPD OFFICER LAWRENCE ORSO
PASASED AWAY ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

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 NLPOA San Diego Metro

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK.

CONTACT US @ SANDIEGOMETRONLPOA@GMAIL.COM