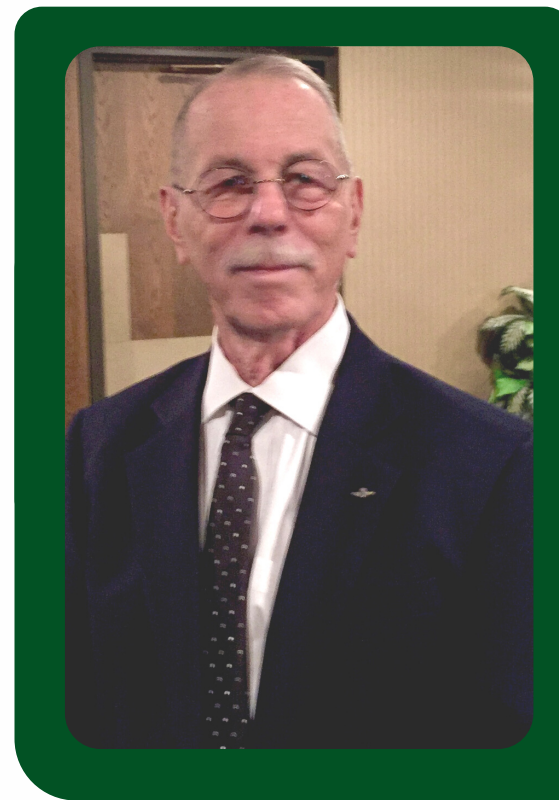


# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF THE RESERVE DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER PROGRAM

## HONORING FOUR WHO HAVE SERVED FOR THIRTY YEARS

The Los Angeles Reserve Deputy Probation Officer (RDPO) program was established thirty years ago. Our department was the first in the nation to develop a community based supplemental program to assist full time Probation Officers.

The RDPO program exists to assist Department staff in the protection of our community, by providing supplemental services in support of the Probation Department's mission. Reserve Deputy Probation Officers are volunteers from the community, they are not replacements or alternatives for paid staff, they currently have no sovereign duties and are not under the Civil Service system; they still must observe all Department rules and associated regulations and applicable laws.



*(L to R) Cliff Tatum, Art Ochoa, Pete Shutan, and Steve Gores of the thirty-year club*

Initial RDPO training can be as much as 65 hours classroom and field training covering juvenile and adult supervision issues, investigation and related court minute orders, gang intervention and other special programs followed by extensive on-the-jobsite training. The RDPO that are eligible may receive an additional 40-hour 832 P.C. class to receive Peace Officer powers.

The objectives of the program are to help increase productivity and to provide a personnel multiplier force to the Department. RDPO's can provide specialized talents (for example IT, computer/software skills, civil marketing experience, etc.), enhance and supplement community resources and provide a realistic exposure/experience for themselves, as a working part of the criminal justice system...many do go on to join the Department or other law enforcement organizations. The RDPO program has served as a recruiting pipeline for those wanting a full-time career with the department.



# HONORING 30 YEARS OF THE RESERVE DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER PROGRAM (CONT)

## HONORING FOUR WHO HAVE SERVED FOR THIRTY YEARS

Four members of the original 1991 Los Angeles Reserve Deputy Probation Officer (RDPO) program are still with it. We honor these four men for their dedication and professionalism, as well as their tireless efforts in assisting to make the Los Angeles County Probation Department the very best in the country.



Cliff Tatum

Cliff Tatum's service to country and community dates from 1960 when he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force. As a career officer he then served for twenty-four years, in both the Air Force and carrier Navy, as a fighter pilot. He retired as a combat decorated officer with the rank of colonel.

During his military service and wherever he was stationed, he volunteered much of his off-duty time serving the local communities.

This included working in three different probation departments prior to his present assignment where he accumulated over 1000 volunteer hours as a senior Reserve Deputy and an Executive Board member for the Los Angeles Probation Department's Reserve Deputy Probation Officer Program.

He has done volunteer work in such diverse areas as medical intake at an NGO, working with state parolees assisting in community reentry issues, training other volunteers, and presenting cockpit resource management to a police air unit. He currently volunteers as a field training officer as well as doing "eyes and ears" patrols for the Redondo Beach Police Department, Volunteers in Policing program.



Art Ochoa

Arthur P. Ochoa has been a Reserve Deputy Probation Officer for thirty years and served as Chairman of the Executive Board of Directors for the RDPO Program for eight years. His vision for the RDPO Program is to assist the Probation Department in achieving the highest levels of proficiency and become the foremost Probation Department in the nation.

After receiving his P.D. in Technology of Information Management (Computer Engineering) from UCLA, Arthur spent two years in the U.S. Army working in Intelligence in the Army European Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. While there, he volunteered for special CIA service in East Germany to extract a man held by the communists. He had previously been trained by the FBI under the auspices of an investigative corporation in his civilian job prior to being drafted into the army.

After his discharge from the Army, Art went to work on the Apollo Moon Project in the Space Division at North American Aviation, Inc. He later was assigned to programming the new IBM Computer. Being the only programmer on the project, he soon became project manager. Mr. Ochoa was awarded Outstanding Employee-of-the-Year for the Apollo Project.

Mr. Ochoa worked as a Computer Systems Engineer for the County of Los Angeles from 1969 - 2004. He spent twenty-nine years with the Los Angeles County Probation Department where he was successful in bringing a working cooperation between County departments in the development of computerized information systems.



# HONORING 30 YEARS OF THE RESERVE DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER PROGRAM (CONT)

## HONORING FOUR WHO HAVE SERVED FOR THIRTY YEARS

The RDPO program resides within the Professional Accountability Bureau – Staff Training Office. If you would like to discuss the possibility of having one of our RDPOs working with you, please contact Steve Gores at [steven.gores@probation.lacounty.gov](mailto:steven.gores@probation.lacounty.gov) or 909-469-0745.



Pete Shutan

Along with being a former prosecutor with the Los Angeles City Attorney for over 32 years, Peter Shutan has held numerous positions assisting law enforcement and helping at-risk-youth throughout his career.

Mr. Shutan was the first county-wide Director of the Community Law Enforcement and Recovery Program (C.L.E.A.R.) for the City and County of Los Angeles, work he considers the highlight of his career. Peter has worked with youth-at-risk for 30 years, and had been the Director of the Come Together Workshop for hard core gang members. He mentored youth involved in the gang culture, espousing the issues of responsibility and accountability. He has spoken all over the Country on issues including gang prosecution, gang legislation, sociology of gangs and identification of gang issues at home and in school.

He has also been involved for 25 years with the California Gang Investigator's Association (C.G.I.A.) and assists in the coordination of its annual National Gang Violence Conference in Anaheim with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. He is currently the Vice President-Legal Affairs of the C.G.I.A. and the first non-sworn law enforcement official to be on the Board.

In the summer of 2006, Peter was appointed by L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich to the LA County Probation Commission. He served with distinction until the Commission was "sunsetting" in January of 2021. His numerous awards and commendations include the 2012 Distinguished Service Medal from the Los Angeles Police Department, and the Certificate of Appreciation from the Los Angeles Unified School District in 2005.

After working in the private sector for many years, Steve Gores volunteered to be a Reserve Deputy Probation Officer. His enthusiasm and work ethic prompted Chief Cal Remington to hire him for the Probation Department. Mr. Gores also sat on the Probation Commission for 17 years serving the First District. As an institutional inspector, Steven would examine and review the then sixteen camps and three juvenile halls.

Now as full-time coordinator for the Reserve Program, working out of the Pomona area office, Steven runs the program working closely with Director Katherine Falcon. The program currently has sixty-two active reserves. He is also involved with coordinating the upcoming Probation Department Chaplaincy program.

Mr. Gores has received his share of awards. He was recognized by Michael Antonovich and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for his work with helping newly released youth find success in the transition to community college. Steven also was awarded for his work inspecting Juvenile Camps and halls by the Chief Probation Officers of California. Steve has also received commendations from three of our Probation Chiefs.

While the accolades are rewarding, he shares that what he likes most is working with the people of probation. "Meeting the people in all of the units, interacting with the kids, that's what I really enjoy," he says. "Helping to try and improve the system. Working together to make it a little bit better."

Thank you to all the volunteers in the Reserve Deputy Probation Officers Program, and especially to Steve Gores, Cliff Tatum, Arthur Ochoa, and Peter Shutan for their fine work and perseverance in continuing to bring excellence to the Los Angeles County Probation Department. Probation News



Steve Gores