



# 2021 YEAR-END REVIEW

In this report, the Santa Ana Police Department provides an overview of our accomplishments in 2021.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE



As we conclude now a second year in this unprecedented global pandemic, while addressing the challenges to provide equitable services, we have taken stock of our organization and prioritized enhancement of genuine community engagement, community trust-building and further leveraged investment in youth services across the City. We recognize as a public safety service provider what challenges, gaps and opportunities have been presented during this year in our community.

Our focus on building and sustaining community trust continues to center our dual policing framework, in community based and traditional policing initiatives. We have and will continue our focus of learning from critical high profile incidents in an honest, accountable and responsive manner. Our continued training focus on de-escalation and learning through debriefings, exceeds the extensive analysis of whether incidents are legal and within policy. We also evaluate incidents on whether they were necessary, humane and whether other options could have been considered, depending on incident circumstances. For a consecutive third year, our response times to emergency calls for service have decreased, while at the same time our community engagement events and interactions have increased. While our overall crime rate was down for the year, our traditional policing response to violent crime has resulted in significant increases of illegal firearms and unserialized "ghost" gun seizures. We have partnered and redirected appropriate calls for police service involving homelessness to civilian non-profit service providers that focus on short and long term support and problem solving. We have reorganized our Department with intentional focus on enhancing support and youth investment in our Community Engagement Division. Internally, we developed and implemented a customized employee wellness app (*Lighthouse Health and Wellness App*), available confidentially to all current employees, their immediate family members and retirees to support mental health wellness. We also developed and initiated the Inaugural "31 FOR 31" Holiday Fun Walk/Run, which raised over ten thousand dollars for direct support of our most impacted children and families during the holiday season.

I am proud of the manner in which our employees responded to the various challenges and opportunities throughout 2021, which was focused on servant leadership and placing our **Community First** - a focused theme now branded throughout the Department.

**DAVID VALENTIN**  
Chief of Police



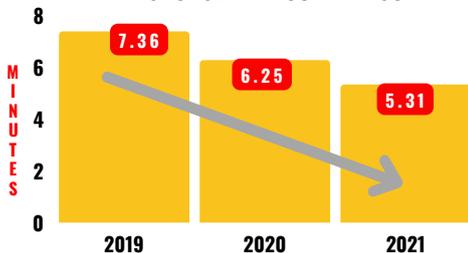
## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

While observing the day-to-day restrictions brought upon the COVID pandemic, the Department stayed committed to its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan and continued to make community engagement a high priority under the ethos of *Community First!* During 2021, SAPD hosted, participated, supported and contributed to a total of **152 events** throughout the year. Such events included the Car Seat Check Events, Safety Presentations, Teen Academy, Helmet Distribution, Red Cross of America, Parent Academy, Coffee with a Cop, International Children's Day, Donuts with Dispatch, SAPD Open House and Hiring Expo, Red Ribbon Week, Spark of Love, Toy Distributions and much, much more. **353** SAPD members of various ranks and units volunteered and contributed their time to support these events. A total of **23,269** community members attended these events.

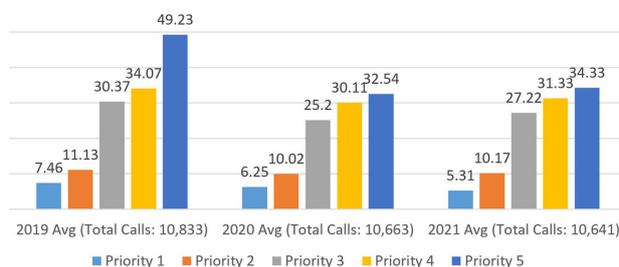
## FIELD OPERATIONS RESPONSE TIMES

SAPD's current staffing levels have now been at the highest levels with a total of 160 members dedicated to the total Field Operations Bureau, and a total of 131 patrol officers dedicated to handling calls for service and general patrol duties. SAPD patrol officers handled a total of 127,703 Calls for service in 2021, averaging 10,642 (avg. mean) calls each month. July was notably the busiest month with a total of 12,019 calls for service. For the third consecutive year, there has been continued improvement in reducing response times to high-priority emergency calls for service.

### 3 YEAR 911 EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIME COMPARISON



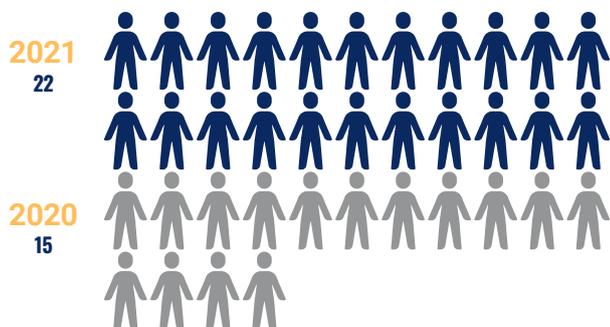
### ANNUAL AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES



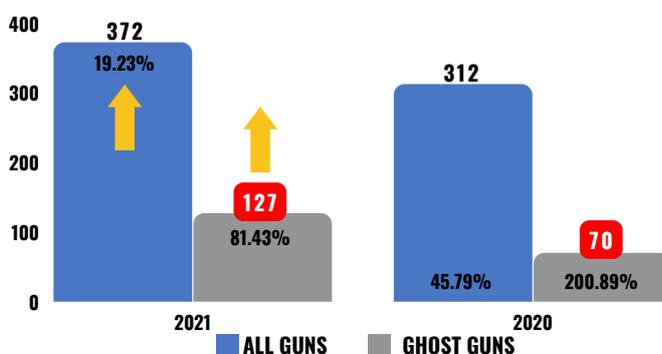
## PROACTIVE RESPONSE TO CRIME

In 2021, there was an increase in homicides, however, we have continued our focus on increasing seizures of firearms. There is a direct correlation in removing guns off the streets which saves lives and enhances community safety. Field personnel and specialized units continue to serve the community with traditional enforcement and community oriented policing, which aided in preventing crime and proactively addressing crime in areas and neighborhoods through traditional policing efforts.

### 2 YEAR HOMICIDE COMPARISON



### TOTAL GUN SEIZURES



## RECRUITMENT, SKILL RETENTION & DIVERSITY



We have remained focused on recruiting a diverse workforce and maintaining high staffing levels. For 2021, SAPD hired 20 new officers and 29 professional staff members (Dispatchers & Correctional Officers). 2021 also experienced 78 promotions of various ranks and positions within sworn personnel and professional staff members.

## QUALITY OF LIFE TEAM (QOLT) / ALTERNATIVE POLICE RESPONSE

The fully-staffed Quality of Life Team continues to have a meaningful impact in addressing homelessness issues and providing services and resources to members of our displaced community. Over 2,862 individuals were contacted, of which 1,928 had ties to Santa Ana. A total of 7,538 proactive responses with 12,216 encampment clean ups were conducted. A total of 611 individuals were sheltered by the QOLT and its outreach partners. We have partnered with non-profit resource providers to address appropriate calls for service for the houseless community including mental health.



## COLLISION AND RACING ENFORCEMENT



During 2021, the division handled over 3,800 traffic collisions. The newly added Police Service Officer handled 231 traffic collisions. Eight DUI checkpoints were conducted, offering both enforcement and education to the community. The division also conducted traffic enforcement throughout the city totaling over 8,800 traffic citations issued and 174 DUI arrests.

The traffic division was involved in **104** Strategic Traffic Enforcement Against Racing and Reckless Driving (STEARRD) operations. These operations included outside law enforcement agencies. The enforcement was conducted within our city as well as other participating cities within the county. 3,091 citations were issued for various violations along with 206 impounds and 222 total arrests for street racing and other crimes. As a result, street racing and sideshow incidents have been significantly decreased in Santa Ana.

