



“Reagan adds signature to Senate Bill 1228”

“A reasonable labor relations law for California public employees”

“League fighting for Sgt Jesus Barron to get his full pension after Dept removes him from the Dept at 19 years and 10 months of service”

“Evaluation of unused sick time by the City Administrative Officer (One could not get reimbursement for unused sick time in the past)”

“LAPPL presents a 11-point meet and confer program to the city as a basis for collective bargaining and negotiations”

“LAPPL asks members to help with sending out 150,000 cards to friends and family regarding better wages charter amendment”

Reading these old *Thin Blue Line* articles from the 1960s makes me feel honored to be part of an organization that has always waged righteous fights on behalf of the membership.

The nature of the beast has not changed since the inception of the LAFPPL (Los Angeles Fire and police Protective League) in 1923 when fire and police joined:

1. To bind the members together in a closer bond of fraternity for mutual protection.
2. To promote and improve social intercourse and welfare between the members.
3. To promote efficiency within the ranks and maintain a library of technical books relating to the latest fire and police methods and practices for the benefit of the members, so that they may learn what is being done elsewhere and that the citizens of Los Angeles at all times have the best.

The “social intercourse” and “library maintenance” aspects were eliminated in 1934, as the major function of the LAFPPL became almost exclusively “mutual protection.”

In 1973, firefighters decided to become an affiliate of AFL-CIO, which created a conflict with the police officers as they felt that it would dilute their goals and influence locally. The simple proportion of membership created by a smaller number of firefighters and a greater number of

police officers also added to an imbalance of interests and money to support them. These, along with other issues, led to the fire and police parting ways to form two separate unions in 1973. As the firefighters formed United Firefighters of Los Angeles City, the police officers dropped “Fire” from the name and became known as the Los Angeles Police Protective League. Since the restructuring of the LAPPL, the League Constitution now provided that the objectives and purposes of this organization shall be to:

1. Promote a closer bond of fraternity for mutual protection.
2. Encourage and improve social intercourse between members.
3. Further efficiency within the ranks of the Department.
4. Maintain and improve insurance benefits, pension benefits, working conditions, job tenure and all other rights of the members.
5. Protect the civil rights and all other rights of the members.



As times changed, the mission statement evolved into its current form: The mission of the Los Angeles Police Protective League is to vigilantly protect, promote and improve the working conditions, legal rights, compensation and benefits of Los Angeles police officers.

In future articles, I intend to highlight some of the events and achievements of prior LAPPL Boards. I am humbled to be part of such a great organization and want to thank all prior Boards and delegates for creating a foundation and a framework for the current Board to work with. Our job is now to build on the hard-fought legacy you have left behind and to leave this organization

better than we found it. That ought to be the goal of any future Board as well, and to tirelessly be looking out for the best interests of our current and future members.

I would like to give credit and extend a special thanks to Research Analyst Helen Robles, who provided me with most of the historical perspective on the Police Protective League. Her detailed accounts of the League history and events have been a blessing for still a relatively new Director who yearned to learn about the historical challenges and issues the League has faced.

Lastly, I would like to thank Director **Kristi Eckard** for the years of hard work on behalf of the membership. Kristi's attention to detail and knowledge base will be missed, and we wish her good luck in her new assignment at the ORS.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at TJTarjamo@lappl.org or contact me at (213) 798-2286.