



We've had several phone calls lately about officers missing days in court for being sick and whether that is an automatic 1.28. Apparently, there has been some confusion among the command staff, and while Dep. Chief Mark Perez and Cmdr. Jeri Weinstein get all the captains on the same page (thank you both), I wanted to pass on the answer.

Calling in sick to court is not an automatic 1.28. If you are sick on a day you have court, whether it's on a workday or a day off, you are supposed to notify your watch commander that you are sick. The watch commander should notify subpoena control, who in turn should make notification to the court liaison officer. If this process is followed correctly, the court doesn't call the Department looking for the officer.

On the flip side, if the notifications are not made correctly (either late or not at all) and the court doesn't find out in time that you have called in sick, someone is likely to call the Department and report that the subpoenaed officer "failed to appear." And, if someone does call, because the court is an outside entity Department policy mandates that a 1.28 be initiated. If you did notify your watch commander and the sick report was done, but the information got to the court late, the investigating supervisor should find the sick report and the 1.28 should be *quickly* dispo'd with "No Misconduct" — the end.

The sick report is key, which is why, even on an RDO, if you are calling in sick only for court, the watch commander should complete a sick report and mark it "for court only," making it clear that you are on a day off. The sick report shouldn't be forwarded to the medical liaison or affect any sick time benefit reporting, but should be used to document the excused absence from court. For more on this topic, read LAPPL General Counsel Hank Hernandez's article on the next page.

Eagle & Badge Foundation gala

The Eagle & Badge Foundation held its annual fundraising gala in August. The accounting is still being done with donations trickling in, but it was a fun night with a great turnout of some very generous people. You can visit EagleandBadgeFoundation.com or see the Eagle & Badge Blotter on page 26 for more, but I want to share a picture of a few of my favorite attendees. The LAPD Mini Mounties program has been a beneficiary of the foundation, and they have adopted the Leo Politi Elementary School. Ofc. Russ Vincent and Ronnie Daniels, and Leo Politi Principal Brad Rumble and four of his students attended the event and thanked the foundation for supporting the Mini Mounties program. The program allows them to continue working with the school and developing positive relationships with the kids there. Mr. Rumble was very clear that through the Mini Mounties program, the Eagle & Badge Foundation has made a positive impact on the lives of many children in his school.



Leo Politi Elementary School students and Principal Brad Rumble with Director Kristi Sandoval and Ofc. Russ Vincent and Ronnie Daniels

NAPO

For those who aren't aware, the League is a member of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), which is a coalition of police unions and associations from across the United States that serves to advance the interests of America's law enforcement officers through legislative and legal advocacy, political action and education. NAPO represents more than 2,000 police units and associations comprising 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers, and is very active in Washington, D.C., on our behalf. As LAPPL members, you are entitled to the special offers extended to NAPO members. You should visit their website at NAPO.org and take a look at the deals in the left column, which include discounts at 1-800-Flowers, Ford dealerships and the online Apple store. They may come in handy during the holidays!

Give thanks

There is always, always something to be thankful for. Whoever coined that phrase couldn't be more right. November celebrates Veterans Day and Thanksgiving, so to start we should all be thankful for the men and women of our military, past and present. Then we should remember that it's our family, health and friends who surround us that make us rich, not how much "stuff" we have.

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." — Oprah Winfrey

I wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful Thanksgiving. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to email me at kristisandoval@lappl.org. ❖