

Los Banos Police Department

ANNUAL REPORT

Gary Brizzee
Chief of Police



2018



OUR MOTTO:

Pride in Service, Integrity in Action

The Los Banos Police Department is a proud organization comprised of dedicated men and women who put the needs of the community first. The Department therefore, subscribes to two basic principles that lead us in the performance of our duties:

Principle I. We have pride in the service we provide to everyone and,

Principle II. We have integrity in all our actions.



Message from Chief Gary Brizzee

The Los Banos Police Department welcomes you to the 2018 Annual Report. In the pages to come, we'll highlight and showcase the efforts of the men and women of the Los Banos Police Department.

To start off, I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank the voters of Los Banos for passing Measure H. Thanks to the passage of Measure H, LBPD is in the process of hiring:

SIX - Police Officers; ONE – Dispatcher; ONE – CSO; ONE - Code Enforcement Officer

Additionally, we will be purchasing new vehicles and supplies to outfit our new employees. These additions represent a significant increase in staffing levels and I am pleased that we will be able to better serve you with the additional staffing and equipment.

I am very proud to work alongside a great group of men and women who dedicate their days to improving the quality of life of our residents. Our core function is the safety of this community. To accomplish this goal we provide 24-hours a day, 7 days a-week coverage to respond to emergency and non-emergency calls for service. In order to accomplish this task, Police Officers, Dispatchers and Community Services Officers (CSO's) work all hours of the day/night to ensure your safety.

We are proud to continue our partnerships with both the Los Banos Unified School District and Merced County Office of Education to provide School Resource Officers to schools throughout our community. Our Code Enforcement efforts are led by Sergeant Jesse Ceja. He supervises our Community Preservation and Animal Control efforts where he and his team do an amazing job working tirelessly to improve the quality of life in our community through the enforcement of our municipal code. Officer Noah Jones and his amazing volunteer assistant Rosemary Santos continue their work with our Police Activities League (PAL). LBPD also maintains a Type-1 jail where we generally book over 1,200 individuals, each year. The jail is managed by Commander Reyna and Sergeant Ivan Mendez and is staffed by our CSO's. As we look to our future we hope to evolve our jail operations towards a shorter-stay, detention type facility requiring more frequent transports to a County jail.

I am pleased to report that our community outreach efforts continue to increase in 2018. Our National Night Out program is a great event bringing LBPD and the community together. Our food drive donates thousands of pounds of food to local pantries every year. Our Lights on Los Banos program gave out hundreds of dollars of light bulbs in partnership with PG&E to make our community safer. Our 9-1-1 for Kids program visits our schools; and our newest program, Heroes of Tomorrow (HOT) Lunch program, brings LBPD, kids, and ice cream together for a fun time!!!!

And the list goes on...Coffee with a Cop program, K-9 Officers, Property/Evidence, Police explorers, our volunteer programs, our awesome social media page; all round out what I have come to describe as one of the best Police Departments in the valley! I hope you enjoy this report. As always, I'm only a phone call or email away.

Be safe, take care of each other, and work hard every day to make a positive difference in not only your life, but the lives of everyone in this community.

Proudly serving the community of Los Banos,

Gary Brizzee

Chief of Police

(209) 827 2501

gary.brizzee@losbanos.org



Investigations Unit

The Los Banos Police Investigations Division's primary responsibility is investigating criminal cases. These cases can include homicides, assaults, burglaries, rapes, and other high profile crimes that occur in our jurisdiction. Investigators are assigned to follow up on crimes that are initially reported to the uniformed Patrol Division. Investigators are subject to call-in 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and members of the division may be called upon to work with agencies to assist with more serious or complex cases.

The Investigations Division handled 837 cases during 2018, served 67 search war-rants, and conducted 40 tactical operations. The Investigations Unit cleared 155 cases in 2018 and the team is dedicated to efficient, timely, and thorough criminal investigations.



Jail / Community Service Officers

The Police Department maintains a Type-1 jail facility that allows the Department to house twenty inmates for up to 96 hours, excluding holidays and weekends. Community Service Officers are responsible for the intake and care of inmates. Their duties include booking, photographing, and fingerprinting all inmates. They are also tasked with providing three meals a day for inmates, conducting hourly jail checks, identifying health related issues that may require medical or mental health services, maintaining cells, and ordering facility supplies.

Maintenance of the jail is a stringent and rigid process that is subject to thorough County and State inspections. The California Board of State and Community Corrections also performs a bi-annual facility inspection. The jail is inspected annually by the Merced County Civil Grand Jury.

TOTAL BOOKINGS IN 2018:	1,239
Male Inmates:	1,038
Female Inmates:	201



DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Office of the Police Chief

Chief Gary Brizzee

Administrative Division

Commander Jason Hedden

- Special Services Unit
 - Police Sergeant (1)
 - Detectives (4)
 - Task Force Detective (1)
- School Resource Officer
 - Police Officers (3)
- Code Enforcement
 - Police Sergeant (1)
 - Code Enforcement Ofc. (3)
 - Admin Clerk (1)
 - Animal Shelter CSO (1)
 - Facilities
 - Public Safety Custodian (1)

Operations Division

Commander Ray Reyna

- Patrol Division
 - Police Sergeants (5)
 - Police Officers (22)
 - PAL
 - Police Officer (1)
 - Volunteer (1)
- Jail Division
 - CSO (5)

DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Continued

Police Support Services

Police Services Manger

Brenda Geary

- Communications

Dispatch Supervisor (1)

Public Safety Dispatchers
(10)

- Records Division

Admin Clerk (3 FT, 1PT)

- Crime Analysis

Crime Analyst (1)

- Property / Evidence

Property/Evidence
Technician (1)

Volunteers

- VITAL Volunteers

22 members

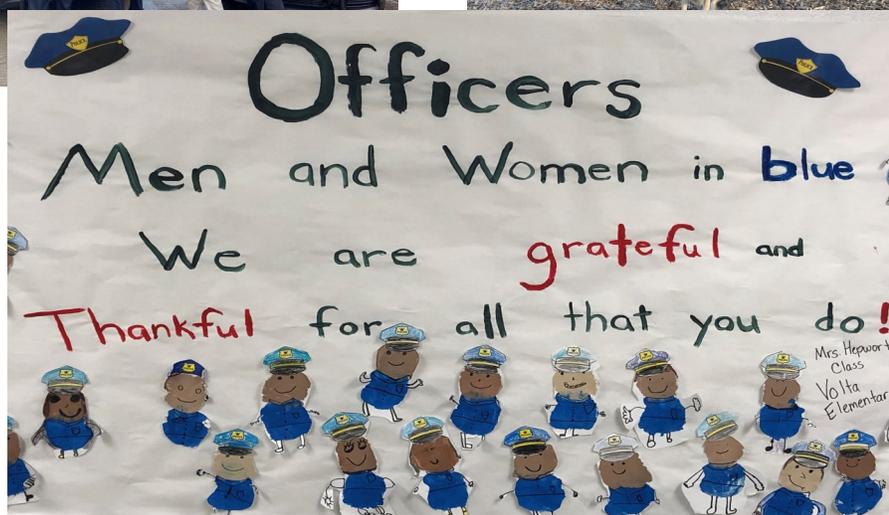
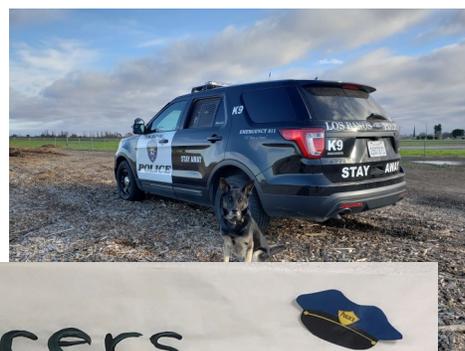
- Los Banos Volunteers
for Animals (LBVFA)

12 members

Patrol Unit

The Los Banos Police Department is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by up to 27 Patrol Officers. The Patrol Division is the most visible unit of the Police Department and the heartbeat of the organization. There are six patrol teams that cover three shifts during the week and three shifts on weekends. Officers work day shift, swing shift, or midnight shift and rotate assignments every three months.

Patrol is responsible for responding to calls for service and emergencies, providing proactive enforcement against criminal activity, traffic enforcement, and creating connections within the community in furtherance and support of our community oriented policing philosophy.



2018 Patrol Statistics

- Arrests: 2,205**
- Total Incident: 43,294**
- Calls for Service: 34,862**
- Officer Initiated Calls: 8,432**
- Traffic Stops: 1,601**
- Total Citations: 2,197**
- Warrants Served: 774**
- Reports Taken: 5,967**



Code Enforcement - Community Preservation

The Code Enforcement Division provides Community Preservation and Animal Control Services to the community of Los Banos. The Code Enforcement division is staffed by a Police Sergeant, three Code Enforcement Officers, an Administrative Clerk, and an Animal Services CSO.

The Code Enforcement Community Preservation Program's mission is to work in partnership with the residents and businesses to beautify and maintain a safe and desirable living and working environment. The mission is met by administering a fair enforcement program following the motto of "voluntary compliance," which means we first attempt to educate residents on violations and provide solutions before resorting to punitive action. This is carried out by working in partnership with other City Departments, public service agencies, residents, and business owners to correct violations of the Los Banos Municipal and Zoning Ordinances.



Before



After

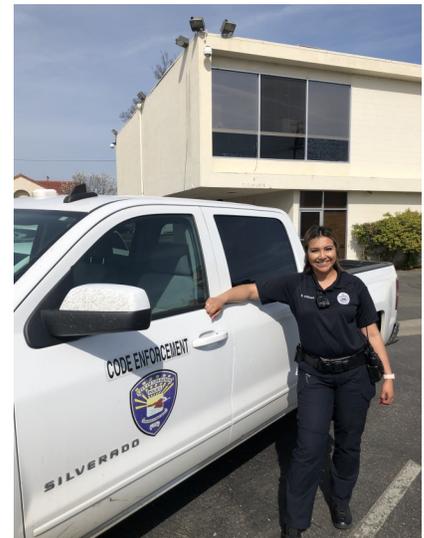
2018 Code Enforcement Statistics:

Abandoned vehicles cited: 427

Administrative Citations issued: 475

Complaints Received: 1456

Complaints Closed: 1355



Animal Control Services

One of the Department's three Code Enforcement Officers is assigned to Animal Control. This Officer is responsible for maintaining the City's Animal Shelter with the assistance of a CSO and volunteers from the Los Banos Volunteers for Animals (LBVFA). This is an enormous task considering the City's pet population. Animal Control responds to calls of unleashed, stray, injured and deceased animals. In addition, they also investigate noise complaints, the inhumane treatment, and hoarding of animals. There were 2,653 Animal Calls for Service in 2018. Animal Control Services also administers a Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program. This City program pays a substantial portion towards the cost of spay and neuter services and is funded by fines and penalties. The Los Banos Police Department in assistance with the LBVFA has an 87% save rate at the Shelter.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Dogs Impounded	1,380	1,267	1,258	1,168	1,111
Cats Impounded	1,018	1,168	1,072	914	794
Animals Adopted	266	291	345	292	208
Sent to Rescue	1,337	1,483	1,252	1,126	1,006
Reclaimed by Owner	316	260	349	295	337

Communications

The Communications Division is comprised of a Dispatch Supervisor and 10 authorized Police Dispatcher positions. Dispatchers handle both emergency and non-emergency calls for service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and play a pivotal role in the Department's efforts to meet increasing demands for police services. The Communications Unit maintains responsibility for the receipt, disposition, and documentation of telephone and radio calls in both emergency and non-emergency matters for the Police and Fire Departments.

The Police Dispatcher is the vital link between the citizen and the officer who will be sent to the call. Processing calls can be taxing at times as callers are often dealing with traumatic events. Dispatchers are trained to ask key questions pertinent to each unique situation and obtain the nature and urgency of the incident. Not only do they relay information from the caller to the officer in the field, they have the ability to access several different law enforcement databases to obtain critical information that will assist the patrol officer. Dispatchers are also the primary link to other law enforcement agencies who may be called upon for emergency assistance should the need arise.



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total 9-1-1 Calls	16,115	17,504	18,308	19,047	18,688
Total Incidents	42,211	48,941	49,082	49,516	43,294

Property & Evidence

The Property/Evidence Technician is responsible for managing all property and evidence which comes into the Police Department. This includes three distinct functions; receiving, storage, and disposition. Property received into the Department includes a wide variety of items including; bikes, personal property, guns, drugs, biological evidence, money and any items that may be viewed as evidence.

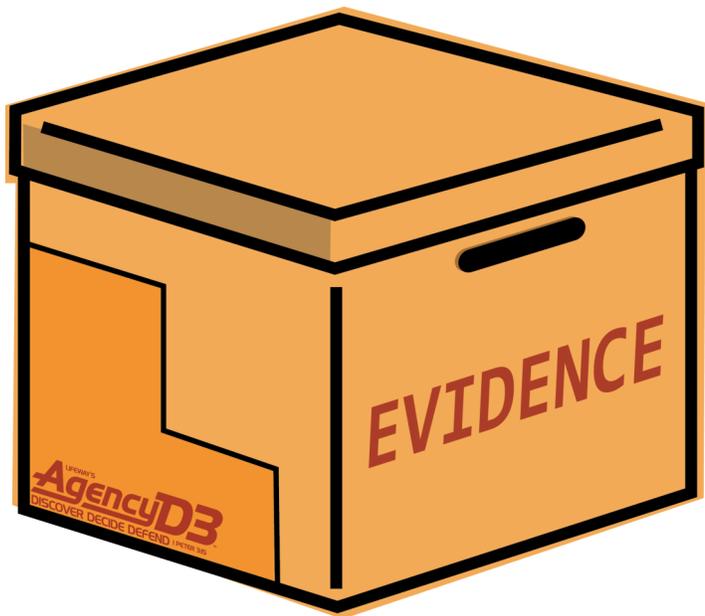
2018 Property / Evidence Statistics:

Pieces of Evidence processed: 3,128

Firearms collected: 76

Replica Weapons collected: 13

Illegal Substances collected: 216



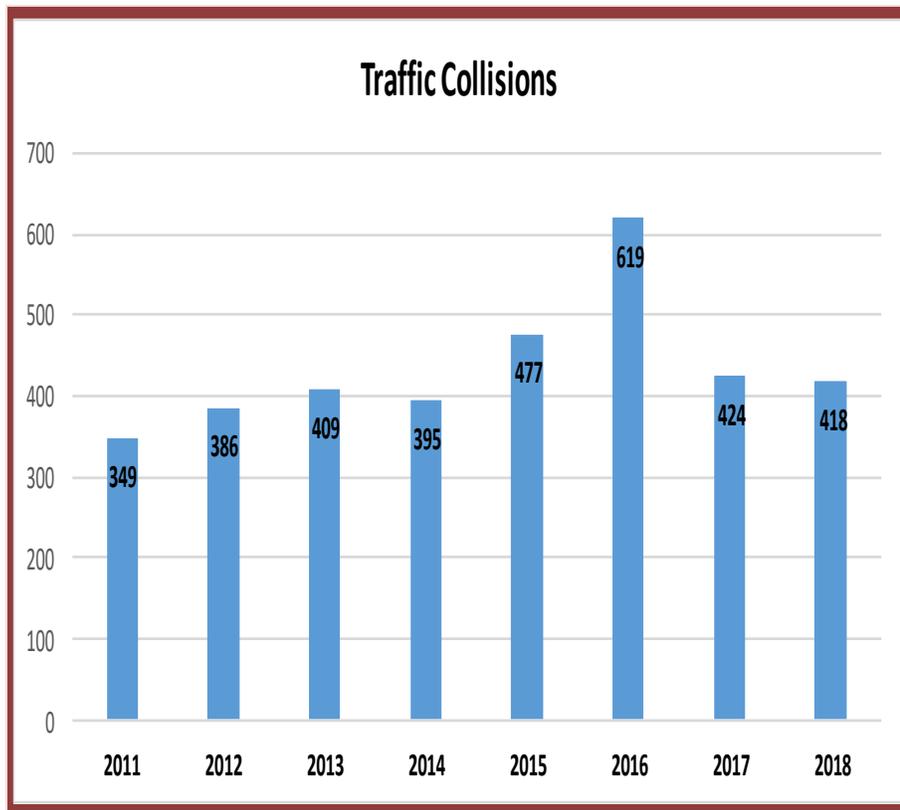
Police Records Unit

The Records Division is staffed by three full-time Administrative Clerks and one part-time Administrative Clerk. The Records Division is a central repository of records vital to an efficiently running law enforcement agency. It maintains records including crime reports, traffic collisions, citations, citizen information reports. It may also be the citizen's first point of contact with the Police Department, either through the business line or the front desk.

The Records Division is open to the public Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (excluding holidays). During lobby hours Records personnel provide assistance to citizens with crime reports, collision reports, ticket sign-offs, local background checks, fingerprinting, and other services. In addition, they assist other agencies with local records checks and other relevant information.

The Records Division is also responsible for processing reports and forwarding them to the District Attorney and other agencies for filing and prosecution. They also respond to all court record sealing requests, subpoenas, Public Information Act requests, and records checks from civilian and law enforcement agencies.

Traffic



Patrol Officers enforce traffic laws as part of their daily duties. When available Police Officers work traffic enforcement as a collateral duty assignment to target specific traffic complaints and concerns.

The Department is committed to the safety of pedestrians, especially students going to and from school. Patrol Officers are frequently assigned to patrol areas around the schools to ensure traffic laws are being obeyed.



School Resource Officer Program

The City of Los Banos is committed to helping keep our schools safe. The Department has three Police Officers assigned as School Resource Officers with two assigned to the Los Banos Unified School District and one assigned to the Merced County Office of Education. SROs take an interactive approach with students at their schools. They not only investigate crimes on campus, but also participate in a variety of activities including:

- Presentations on traffic safety, alcohol and drug prevention
- Assist in the coordination and presentation of “Every 15 Minutes” program
- Act as a liaison between school administration and the Police Department
- Patrol campuses and surrounding neighborhoods
- Coordinate and implement campus security and “active shooter” training
- Provide security at home football games and graduation ceremonies

The SROs maintain an open and honest relationship with students working to promoting a positive image of law enforcement.



Crime Analysis / Crime Statistics

The crime analyst supports the Department by compiling crime statistics. The range of data includes patrol activity by officer, traffic collision data, and crime data for a certain area or within a certain radius. The crime analyst also provides general neighborhood crime prevention information to residents and businesses as requested.

The California Department of Justice (DOJ) requires law enforcement agencies to provide monthly Part 1 crime offense data which become part of the FBI's Uniform Crime Report (UCR). UCR Part 1 crimes are eight crimes or offenses including; murder and non-negligent homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny theft, and arson. These offenses were chosen because they are serious crimes, they occur with regularity in all areas of the country, and are likely to be reported to law enforcement.

PART 1 CRIMES	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Difference 2016-2017
HOMICIDE	1	2	1	2	1	-50%
RAPE	3	5	11	6	7	14%
ROBBERY	29	39	35	41	36	-12%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	91	88	74	89	99	10%
BURGLARY	207	309	253	220	242	9%
LARCENY	607	815	733	699	658	-6%
VEHICLE THEFT	87	243	175	162	168	4%
TOTAL	1,025	1,501	1,282	1,219	1,211	-1%

Police Activities League



Los Banos PAL completed its 29th year providing crime prevention programs in Los Banos. PAL is led by Officer Noah Jones who receives administrative support from Rosemarie Santos, a 20 year full-time volunteer who donated over 2,000 hours of service in 2018. The PAL program remains a popular program among residents. In 2018 PAL organized the following programs:

- Girls Softball - 247 participants and 171 volunteers
- Junior Giants - 400 players and 118 volunteers
- Sober Graduation - 293 students and 17 volunteers
- Flag Football - 132 participants and 36 volunteers
- Kops for Kids - Toys provided to 217 families

VITAL Volunteers

The Los Banos Police Department is privileged to have a group of 22 dedicated VITAL members. VITAL stands for Volunteers Interacting to Advance Law Enforcement. VITAL members are residents of Los Banos who have the desire and drive to give back to their community by volunteering their time to better our community. Annually, VITAL donates over 1,500 hours of service to the Department. VITAL provides services that the Police Department would not be able to offer without their dedicated commitment. Some of the duties include traffic control at Spring and Fall Street Fairs, Veteran's Parade, May Day Parade, National Night Out, Harvest of Fun, Christmas Parade and Los Banos High School and Pacheco High School homecomings. They also spend hours patrolling our City to document road hazards, abandoned vehicles and report graffiti.

Los Banos Volunteers for Animals

Annually, the Los Banos Volunteers for Animals (LBVFA) donates thousands of hours of service to open the Animal Shelter to the public every Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for animal adoptions. During the remainder of the week, the volunteers feed and groom the animals, sanitize kennels, maintain the grounds, launder pet bedding, and interact and socialize the pets to prepare them for adoption. LBVFA also works closely with animal rescue groups to transfer dogs and cats who have not found a home. Their work helps to contribute to the 87% save rate for Animal Control Services.



Community Involvement

The Los Banos Police Department is committed to working with the Community of Los Banos to engage and participate in many of the events we have each year.

- **Coffee With A Cop** - this event brings police officers and the community together to learn about each other and discuss issues affecting the community.
- **Heroes of Tomorrow (HOT) Lunch Program** - Police and Fire Staff attend lunch at each Elementary and Jr. High School to create positive relationships with Los Banos youth.
- **9-1-1 Education Program** - classroom education program.
- **Operation Chill** - 7-11 partnership for youth outreach.
- **National Night Out / Taco Truck Throwdown** - this annual event brought community members to meet and interact with local law enforcement, fire, and other public service agencies.
- **Canned Food Drive**—The Department collected over 15,000 pounds of non-perishable food items that were donated to local charities.
- **Shop with A Cop** event - Over 45 students were treated to a shopping spree with Police Officers at the local Wal-Mart.
- **Blaze Pizza**—Local Partnership for Youth Outreach



2018 Los Banos Police Department Awards

Officer of the Year: Todd Carter

Dispatcher of the Year: Brittany Soares