



Press Release

"Action, Urgency, Excellence"

To: All Media Representatives

From: Sheriff Ken Furlong

Date: February 4, 2009

Subject: Press Release – Special Operations Division Opens

Following the defeat of the Carson City Public Safety Initiative (CC2) on the November 2008 General Election ballot, the Sheriff's Office initiated an alternative plan for realigning personnel. As a result, the department has made fully functional a new division, Special Operations. Supervision of the Division is provided by Sergeant Brian Humphrey.

In addition to Sgt Humphrey, the division is now staffed with two deputies who specialize in gang enforcement and two deputies who specialize in street drug enforcement. The drug enforcement officers were funded by the Board of Supervisors in July 2007. Sgt. Humphrey also oversees the departments K-9 program consisting of three dogs, and two officers assigned to the Tri-Net Narcotics Task Force. Together, this team is capable of adjusting not only to gang and drug activities, but can take on any specific crime trend or special event operation that may arise in the community.

In order to achieve the realignment, the department was forced to reduce the number of deputies assigned to patrol the streets of Carson. In the years past, the Patrol Operations Division was staffed with 6 supervisors and 43 deputies, 5 deputies assigned to traffic and 2 deputies assigned to the street level drug enforcement. Following the realignment and structuring, the traffic division was reduced to four and patrol officers reduced to 40. The Sheriff's Office hopes to retain the same or better response times to calls for service from the community, while at the same time direct targeted enforcement to known criminal activities. The goal is to achieve reduced crime through assertive proactive enforcement steps.

Overall, the Sheriff's Office employs 98 sworn officers. 50% are assigned to the patrol operations division, 29% to the detention division, 7% to specialized enforcement, 7% to detectives, and 4% to traffic enforcement. The administrative staff makes up the remainder of the sworn position.

--End--