

## CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

315 Fourth Avenue, MS P-200 Chula Vista, California 91910-3801

## POLICE MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 To: San Diego Media

From: Chula Vista Police Department

Contact: Sergeant Anthony Molina, Public Information Officer

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Subject: New Police Department Division Dedicated to Community Engagement

Message: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Chula Vista Police Department is proud to announce the creation of a new Executive Operations & Community Engagement Division focused on connecting more actively with our community. The Community Engagement Division will concentrate on increasing transparency and enhancing relationships with residents, visitors, business owners, students, community leaders and advocates, and the unsheltered. The new division is part of a major change in the department's organizational structure to provide dedicated resources, including an Executive Captain, to increase its engagement with the community. The unit will help the department to expand on its mission to provide community policing with the highest level of professionalism and transparency.

Although the division is new, the department has long been a leader in engagement, transparency and innovative community policing. In recent years, a number of existing teams have worked on a variety of significant projects to engage with stakeholders in our community. This will be the first time these teams will be brought together and enhanced with new resources, operating under the direction of the Chief of Police and through the direct command of an Executive Captain.

The Executive Operations & Community Engagement Division will include:

- The Community Policing Unit, consisting of the Homeless Outreach Team, the Community Relations Team, the School Resource Officer Unit, the department's proactive Street Team and Gang Suppression Unit, and newly designated Community Liaison Officers;
- The Research, Crime and Intelligence Analysis unit; and
- A new Public Information Unit, consisting of a Sergeant acting as a full-time Public Information Officer
  (PIO) and a Public Information Specialist to focus on electronic and social media resources.

Many of these positions would not have been possible without the support of our community and the adoption of Measure A. The department would like to thank the people of Chula Vista for partnering with them to make this progressive change possible.

"We're absolutely committed to finding and hiring officers with a passion for serving people," says Chief of Police Roxana Kennedy. Under the direction of Chief Kennedy, the Chula Vista Police Department has hired 140 new officers and 98 professional staff members, of which 65 of the new positions were funded through Measure A.

The Chula Vista Police Department remains dedicated to responding to the needs of the community by actively engaging through a variety of traditional and social media methods. Learn more about the Executive Operations & Community Engagement Division at <a href="https://www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/police-department/about-us/executive-operations-community-engagement-division">https://www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/police-department/about-us/executive-operations-community-engagement-division</a>. Members of the public are invited to connect with the department on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram @chulavistapd.



Executive Captain Phil Collum



Community Policing Unit Lt. Henry Martin



Public Information Officer Sgt. Anthony Molina



Homeless Outreach Team



School Resource Officer Unit

Prepared By: Copies Sent To: Sgt. Anthony Molina San Diego Media Approved By: Capt. Phil Collum Date/Time: 06-01-2022 / 0800