

# Three more officers join Costa Mesa Police Department's rising ranks

Police Chief Rob Sharpnack praised yet another "bright spot" in the department's rebuilding efforts as he introduced two promising new officers and one new reserve officer in a swearing-in and badge-pinning ceremony Monday morning July 11.

The two officers were much-coveted lateral hires, bringing in valuable experience and leadership to a growing police department.

Kristofer Moore comes to Costa Mesa via the San Bernardino Sheriff Department and Denny Bak moved from the Fullerton Police Department. In addition, the chief announced the addition of Reserve Officer Cory Estes, who comes by way of the Los Angeles Police Department, where he is currently a field training officer.

Chief Sharpnack said he was especially proud of the new, young and enthusiastic talent that makes up a big portion of the Costa Mesa police force and the success of the department's training programs.

"Throughout the county, a number of executives and law enforcement leaders have talked about the excellence and energy this agency has shown," Sharpnack said, referring to the department's success in enforcing high-profile criminal cases. "We are at the tip of the spear when it comes to technology and advanced training."

City CEO Tom Hatch, Mayor Steve Mensinger and Councilwoman Katrina Foley also attended the ceremony and personally welcomed the new officers aboard.

“There are a lot of people here who have worked hard to make this a great organization,” Hatch told the officers. “We are the best police department in Orange County.”

Bak grew up in Laguna Beach and attended UCI, where he graduated in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in economics. He attended the Rio Hondo Police Academy in 2008 and was hired by the Irvine Police Department in 2009. In 2010, he was recognized as Auto Theft Officer of the Year. In 2011 and 2012, Bak earned MADD awards for DUI enforcement along with the MADD Hero Award in 2012.

In 2013, Bak joined the Fullerton Police Department, serving as a patrol officer and field training officer. He is also Drug Recognition Expert and Firearms Instructor and helps prepare new recruits for the police academy. Bak also earned MADD awards there as well in 2013 and 2015.

Moore has been with the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department since 2014 and attended the department’s basic academy, where he graduated top of the class. He was assigned to the custodial environment at West Valley Detention Center. Over the past two years, Moore has been exposed to a variety of custody assignments and training opportunities.

A state champion and All American swimmer in high school and college, Moore served as an ocean lifeguard for the city of San Clemente from 2006 to 2014, where he was awarded both the Unsung Hero and the Lifeguard of the Year awards.

Estes was hired by the Los Angeles Police Department in 2008 and attended that department’s basic academy. Over the past several years, Estes has been assigned to the Hollywood Division, West Traffic, and Harbor Division. He has worked collaterally in plain clothes-undercover, bike patrol and

special enforcement assignments. Currently, he serves as a Field Training Officer in the Harbor Division.

Estes grew up in Long Beach and attended UCI, where he earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and social behavior.

After having badges pinned on them by family members, the three officers were sworn in by Costa Mesa City Clerk Brenda Green. See video below:

[http://cityofcostamesanews.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/MVI\\_7923.mp4](http://cityofcostamesanews.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/MVI_7923.mp4)

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## **Costa Mesa Police Officer Lance Healey honored with CEO Leadership Award**

City CEO Tom Hatch presented Costa Mesa Police Officer Lance Healey with the June CEO Leadership Award at the monthly meet and greet on Thursday June 23.

Healey joined the Costa Mesa Police Department in 2005 after a lengthy and distinguished 20-year career in the Marine Corps, where he held the titles of Team Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Platoon Commander and Chief Instructor at Camp Pendleton's Scout Sniper Basic Course.

Officer Healey currently serves as the Sniper Team Leader for the department's SWAT team and is responsible for the section's monthly training. His involvement in the Training Bureau includes serving as a Firearms Instructor, development and execution of the new 16 hour POST-mandated firearms course, and development and administration of the Pre-Academy,

as the Lead Instructor, preparing recruits from multiple agencies for the Sheriff's Academy. Lance is instrumental in ensuring the success of our Academy recruits.

He also hopes to reestablish Costa Mesa's K9 program and develop a new standard of excellence to ensure the program's long-term success.

In addition, Hatch honored seven newly hired employees, namely McKenna Ewing from the CEO's Office, Victoria Chavez, Ana Cordova, Rohan Ronvelia and Quinn Harter from Parks and Community Services and Kevin Suy and June Jeong from the Police Department. Jeong, the newest police recruit, graduated top of the class from the Orange County Sheriff's Academy.

Also honored was Bart Mejia from Public Services who was recently promoted to City Engineer.

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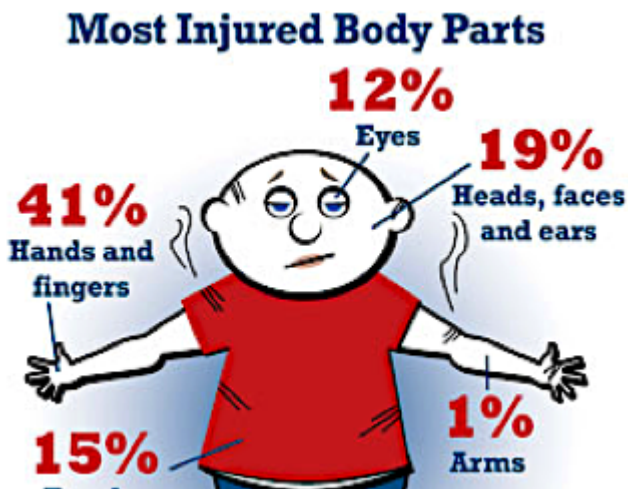
## **Be safe on July 4 and avoid injuries**

Beginning June 30 through July 4, safe and sane fireworks will be available for sale and for use in the city of Costa Mesa.

While the city encourages residents to purchase the legal fireworks, which supports local non-profit groups, there will be zero tolerance for anyone caught using the illegal versions. Sale of a illegal fireworks in California is a felony and lighting them is a misdemeanor. [Click here for more information in English and Spanish on fireworks.](#)

We urge residents to follow these safety tips provided by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission when using legal

fireworks:



- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before

discarding it to prevent a trash fire.

- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.
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## **City asks legislature to halt proposal that cripples local government review**

Mayor Steve Mensinger, on behalf of the City Council, has sent a sharply worded letter to two high ranking legislative leaders announcing the city's opposition to a proposal by Gov. Jerry Brown that would eliminate city regulations and review of specific affordable housing developments.

The city is asking Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian, chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee and state Sen. Richard Roth, chair of the Senate Budget Subcommittee, to put the brakes on any legislative action that would pass the governor's proposal, saying it undermines local government and public engagement and will increase the public's distrust of government.

"The City of Costa Mesa is supportive of efforts to increase affordable housing opportunities for California's residents, especially in Orange County," Mayor Mensinger wrote. "However, your proposed language to streamline affordable housing weakens the ability for local governments to review or approve projects in their communities."

To see the full text of the letter [click here](#).

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# Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue Unveils 90th Anniversary Badge to honor History and the Community

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue members will wear a 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge on their uniforms for the remainder of the year to pay tribute to the valued history of over 90 years of service to the community, dating back to its origins as a volunteer fire department under the leadership the first Fire Chief Fred Brush.



**CMFD Chemical Wagon, April 1929**

“Like so many great ideas in the fire service, this one came from one of our talented firefighters, Engineer Scott Purcell,” said Fire Chief Dan Stefano. “He deserves the credit for taking his idea of a 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary badge from its

conception to full implementation. We are extremely proud of our storied history serving such an incredible and vibrant community and of Scott's passion and dedication to bring the badge to life."

Engineer Purcell, who worked with others on the design, sought input from the entire organization, in addition to working with our community partners.

"The badge encompasses multiple aspects from within our city, county and the fire service as a whole," Engineer Purcell said.

The center of the badge pays tribute to the legendary Segerstrom Hall, with the lima beans and oranges on the sides representing the famed farming history of Costa Mesa and the County of Orange as a whole.

The bottom of the badge includes the individual identification number for each fire and rescue team member and the axes on either side of the badge are a signature tool of a firefighter.

The head of each axe highlights two significant numbers; the year the fire department was established and the number 343, which represents the number of firefighters that made the ultimate sacrifice on Sept. 11, 2001.

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## **Pilot Cup Soccer Tournament**



# founder Kirk McIntosh honored with Mayor's Award

On Tuesday June 7, Costa Mesa Mayor Steve Mensinger honored longtime resident Kirk McIntosh with the Mayor's Award for his years of involvement as the director of the annual Pilot Cup soccer tournament.

"You're one the people who make our city special," Mensinger said, noting that the event had 213 teams competing this year. "For Kirk and his legion of volunteers to pull off a tournament of this magnitude every year is extraordinary."

The Pilot Cup started 17 years ago and was the brainchild of McIntosh, a father of five soccer playing girls. He presented his idea to Daily Pilot editors and publisher Tom Johnson and the rest is history.

McIntosh, who attended the meeting with his wife Sue as well as some of his children and grandchildren, said the event wouldn't be possible without volunteers.

"As we all know it's nice to be recognized and I wish I could bring some others up here as this event requires a lot of volunteer participation.," he said. "But there is a lot of happy kids and happy families. I thank you for this award and I'll share it with the other folks who should also be up here."

The Pilot Cup originally started with only 500 players but has grown to 2,500 players from third to sixth grade and every school in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District competes as well as local private schools.

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# Two arrests made in Trump rally protests, suspect in police car vandalism sought

Costa Mesa detectives have made two arrests for the vandalism to the police vehicles that took place Thursday April 28 at the Donald Trump campaign rally at the Pacific Amphitheater at the OC Fair and Event Center and have compiled an image of the suspect they believe damaged a police car that night.

Both of the arrestees were juveniles and Costa Mesa residents.

[Click here](#) to read a bulletin regarding the outstanding suspect.

The Trump event was under the jurisdiction of the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

The Costa Mesa Police Department assisted and was primarily tasked with handling traffic control on the outlying streets surrounding the fairgrounds. Based on news sources approximately 31,000 attended the rally.

After the event ended, event attendees and protesters flooded the intersections along Fair Drive from Fairview Road to Newport Boulevard.

The Costa Mesa Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff Department responded and requested mutual aid assistance from surrounding law enforcement agencies to manage the large crowds leaving the fairgrounds.

The crowd's participation elevated to the level of civil unrest with incidents of vandalism and assaults occurring.

The Costa Mesa Police Department has proactively investigated the criminal incidents to identify and hold the responsible parties accountable for their actions. The incidents investigated by the CMPD are:

- Vandalisms – Four vandalism incidents were taken and/or reported by the CMPD. One incident consisted of the vandalism to six CMPD marked patrol vehicles. The other three vandalisms were to motorists who reported damage to their vehicles. There were no investigative leads for those other three incidents.
- Assaults – Two assault incidents were reported to the CMPD. One incident involved a CMPD officer being hit in the helmet with a rock and the second was of a citizen being hit in the head with a fist. Both assault cases are still being investigated.

In addition to the above investigations, an additional assault incident and a reckless driving incident is being handled by the OCSO. These investigations are ongoing.

The Costa Mesa Police Department continues to vigorously pursue investigative leads to identify and hold the responsible parties accountable for their involvement in the activities which occurred after the Trump rally in Costa Mesa. We will pursue all means to ensure that we recover full restitution for the cost of the city's damaged property.

Individuals with information and/or who can assist with identifying the outstanding vandalism suspect are asked to contact Detective Peters at 714.754.5198.

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# **In the Spotlight: Alma Reyes**

Fire Department Management Analyst Alma Reyes was the recipient of May's CEO Leadership Award.

Our video team spent some time with Reyes to get an idea of what her workday is like.

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## **Water main break shuts down Northbound Fairview Street**

Northbound Fairview Road (Baker Street to McCormick) is closed due to a Mesa Water District (MWD) water main break.

Northbound traffic will be detouring at Baker Street.

The Bismark Way neighborhood will be affected by the water main shut down.

Public Services is working with Mesa Water District on the road closure, signal timing and traffic control and coordination.

Our Engineering Division will be assessing the road condition and determining the extent of the damage.

The duration of the closure has not been determined at this time.

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# **There will be smoke but no fire in wild land fire training that begins Friday in Canyon Park**

Beginning Friday May 27, 2016, Costa Mesa Fire and Rescue will be conducting wild land fire training in the Canyon Park area beginning at 8 a.m. until about 3:30 p.m. to prepare for the upcoming brushfire season.

The department will be using cold smoke from canisters to give a sense of realism to the training and assist firefighting personnel with locating the source of the simulated fire.

Fire and Rescue wants the public to know that while smoke may be visible to nearby residents, the canisters pose no safety or fire risk.

Additional training will take place on the following days:

## **June 1**

8 a.m. to 12 noon

1 p.m. to 3:30

## **June 3**

8 a.m. to 12 noon

## **June 6**

8 a.m. to 12 noon

1 p.m. to 3:30

## **June 9**

8 a.m. to 12 noon

**June 20**

8 a.m. to 12 noon

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# **Costa Mesa to hold Community Meetings on Mapping for Voting District Boundaries**

Costa Mesa citizens are invited to attend several community meetings throughout the city with demographic mapping expert David Ely, of Compass Demographics, to discuss the process of creating maps for voting district boundaries.

The meetings are scheduled June 2, 4, 15 and 18 and are designed to give residents an opportunity to discuss and interact with others on the district mapping process.

Ely will typically use sample maps as a starting point to give an idea of how equal population district boundaries might be distributed and solicit input and mapping ideas during these meetings.

The meetings will be held:

- Thursday June 2 at 7 p.m. at the Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Ave.
- Saturday June 4 at 10 a.m. at Halecrest Park, 3107 Killybrooke Lane.
- Wednesday June 15 at 7 p.m. at St. Joachim Catholic Church, 1964 Orange Ave.
- Saturday June 18 at 10 a.m. at the Balearic Community Center, 1975 Balearic Drive.

Translators will be present to assist with language needs in Spanish and Vietnamese.

R.S.V.P.'s are requested, but not required, to help plan for the number of attendees and translation needs.

For more information or to R.S.V.P., please email [districtelections@costamesaca.gov](mailto:districtelections@costamesaca.gov) or call the City Clerk's office at (714) 754-5225.

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## **Estancia High teacher and coach John Carpenter presented with Mayor's Award**

Longtime Costa Mesa resident John Carpenter, who is retiring this year after 38 years as both a teacher and coach at Estancia High School, was the recipient of the Mayor's Award at the Tuesday May 17 City Council meeting.

"Tonight, we are honored to have long-time Costa Mesa resident John Carpenter here to receive the Mayor's Award," Mayor Steve Mensinger said. "John has touched the lives of many throughout this community, especially youth through his work as a teacher and coach at Estancia High School."

Carpenter move to Costa Mesa from El Paso Texas when he was 10 and attended Sonora Elementary, Davis Jr High, Costa Mesa High School and Orange Coast College.

In high school he was an All-American swimmer and a starter on the OCC National Champion Water Polo Team in 1972. In 1985, he was named Newport Beach Lifeguard of the year.

At Estancia, Carpenter spent his career both as the school's water polo and swim coach and also as a biology teacher, serving as the Science Department Chair.

"I'd like to thank Mayor Steve Mensinger for this outstanding and humbling honor, I am deeply touched by it," Carpenter said. "I'd also like to thank the City Council for all you do. I can't believe 38 years have gone by, it's been the most wonderful time in my life and it's going to be harder to leave it."