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## MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



Hi everyone, and welcome to another issue of the Sheriff's Newsletter. The end of summer can bring the threat of wildland fires, and this year we are also concerned about possible unrest surrounding the National elections. The Sheriff's Office plays a critical role in emergency planning and preparedness for the San Diego region. As the county's mutual aid coordinator, we provide additional resources and respond to emergencies, such as natural disasters, public safety threats, and other critical incidents throughout the region. The Sheriff's Office has a dedicated team of deputies who are responsible for and specialize in emergency preparedness and response.

Over the past few months, we've been conducting large-scale emergency response training with our regional emergency responder partners. This specialized training teaches everyone to respond quickly and effectively to large-scale public safety incidents that demand quick coordination and a unified response. Wildland fire training is focused on notifications, safe evacuations, and sheltering. In response to constitutionally protected demonstrations, and large-scale events that could become unlawful, our training emphasizes safety, de-escalation, and protection of First Amendment rights.

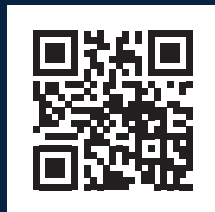
I am proud of the hard work and dedication of our teams. Please contact your local Sheriff's station or substation, to better understand evacuation routes and response should a wildland fire or other critical incident occur in your area.

This is just a snapshot of what we're doing to make sure we're prepared. Until next time, stay safe.

**Kelly A. Martinez**  
Sheriff



Scan the QR code to learn more about our fire helicopters.



## ***WOMEN LEADERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE***

We are proud to announce that members of the San Diego County Sheriff's Office recently attended the Women Leaders in Law Enforcement (WLLE) Conference. This annual event brings together law enforcement professionals from across the country to empower, inspire, and develop leadership skills among women in the field. Our participation underscores the Sheriff's Office's ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and fostering strong leadership within our ranks. Attendees had the opportunity to engage in valuable training sessions and discussions on leadership strategies, as well as network with peers from various agencies. This conference not only strengthens leadership capabilities but also highlights the importance of supporting women in law enforcement.

We are proud of our team's participation and look forward to applying the insights gained from this experience to continue building a stronger, more inclusive office.



## ***PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT***

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office is committed to helping residents protect themselves against fraud and identity theft. Scammers often obtain personal information from online sources, so it's crucial to know what is publicly available about you. Start by searching your name online and requesting the removal of personal information from websites. Set your social media accounts to the highest privacy settings to limit exposure.



Regularly checking your credit is another effective way to monitor for fraud. You can obtain a free credit report from each bureau TransUnion, Equifax, and Experian once a year. Consider staggering these checks throughout the year for ongoing monitoring. If you've been a victim of identity theft, a credit freeze is a helpful tool to prevent new credit accounts from being opened in your name. Contact each credit bureau to set up a freeze.

For more resources, visit the Federal Trade Commission at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) or the Identity Theft Resource Center at [www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org). If you need more information, contact your local Crime Prevention Specialist or the Sheriff's Fraud and Identity Theft Unit at (858) 565-5200.

Stay vigilant and always question suspicious activities.

## ***RISE ABOVE PROGRAM: EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE***

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office is proud to continue its commitment to youth outreach through the Rise Above program. Designed to inspire and guide young people, this initiative provides local youth with the tools, mentorship, and resources they need to make positive life choices and avoid the pitfalls of criminal behavior.

The Rise Above program offers a variety of activities, including workshops on leadership, conflict resolution, and career development, as well as opportunities to connect with law enforcement professionals who serve as mentors. Through these interactions, participants gain valuable insights into building a future based on respect, responsibility, and resilience.

By fostering strong relationships with the community, the Rise Above program helps bridge the gap between law enforcement and youth, empowering them to rise above challenges and build brighter futures. We are proud of the impact this initiative is making and look forward to continuing our work with young people across San Diego County.



***SCAN QR CODE  
TO LEARN MORE***

## ***HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS***

Halloween is a fun time for costumes, treats, and spooky adventures. However, safety should always come first. Here are some essential tips from the Sheriff's Office to help keep you and your family safe this Halloween:

### **1. Trick-or-Treating Safety:**

Always trick or treat with a trusted adult or in a group never alone. Plan a route in a familiar neighborhood with well lit streets. Ensure children carry flashlights or glow sticks to be visible to drivers.

### **2. Costume Safety:**

Choose bright, reflective costumes that fit properly to avoid trips and falls.

### **3. Walking Safety:**

Walk on sidewalks whenever possible; if there are no sidewalks, walk on the far edge of the road facing traffic. Be cautious of cars turning or backing up and avoid darting into the street.

### **4. Treat Safety:**

Only eat factory-wrapped treats. Avoid homemade goodies from strangers.

**By following these tips, you can ensure a fun and safe Halloween for everyone. Stay safe and have a spooky, happy Halloween!**



## 138TH LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY GRADUATES

On August 28, Sheriff Kelly Martinez welcomed 18 new Deputy Sheriffs to the San Diego Sheriff's Office, swearing them in after they graduated from the 138th San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Academy.

These deputies completed a rigorous six-month training program, encompassing nearly 1,000 hours of intensive training in various criminal justice disciplines, including crime scene investigation, criminal law procedures, courtroom testimony, traffic enforcement, emergency driving, and community policing. They are now prepared to begin their careers in law enforcement, starting with 4-6 months of field training under the guidance of experienced Deputy Sheriffs to further refine their skills.

Congratulations to the graduates of the 138th Academy as they embark on their journey in serving and protecting their communities.



## SDSO CRIME LAB YOUTH STEM EVENT



### Pizza With the Deputies - San Marcos

Thursday, October 3  
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Autumn Terrace Apartments  
251 Autumn Drive STE 101, San Marcos



### Fall Family Fun Fair

Saturday, October 19  
5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Marna O'Brien Park  
20505 Palomar Street, Wilomar



### Walk Like MADD

Saturday, October 26  
7:00 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.  
Lake Murray Recreation Area  
5650 Kiowa Drive, La Mesa

**"Your Voice Matters! Tell Us What You Want to See in Our Newsletter. Reply and Share Your Ideas!"**



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