



Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy

(PCLEC) A Non-Profit 501(3)(C) Organization

Training Manual

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Proudly serving the community of Placer County and the following agencies...



Auburn Police
Department



California Highway
Patrol



Lincoln Police
Department



Placer County
Sheriff Department



Rocklin Police
Department



Roseville Police
Department



California State
Parks and
Recreation Patrol



Placer County
District Attorney



Office of Emergency
Services



Placer County
Probation

**“As iron sharpens iron,
so one man sharpens another.”**

Proverbs 27:17, NIV Bible

PREFACE

The PLACER COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CHAPLAINCY TRAINING MANUAL was originally written as a training tool for our own local Chaplains. It was put together to help train and equip our Public Safety Chaplains (Community and Law Enforcement Chaplains) who serve in Placer County, California. After many requests from outside agencies, it soon became apparent that there was a real need for the material covered to be made available to other communities.

Eventually, the manual was put on our website and made available to any agencies that found it useful. Over the years, it has been used by many departments across the United States and has even traveled to other countries. The precepts and lessons presented in this manual have become a standard for many Chaplaincies.

The lessons in this manual are a joint effort of some of the most experienced Chaplains in Placer County. It offers a glimpse into the practical experience, and knowledge of these Chaplains. It offers suggestions on what to say and do in most situations that a Chaplain might find themselves in. It gives practical "How To's" and "What If's".

It has been said that truly great leaders stand on the shoulders of those leaders that came before them. This book is a compilation of articles and ideas that have been adopted for use by the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy. We share these ideas with other Chaplains, not to say that this is the only way to serve, but to say, this is how we serve. Take these suggestions, adapt them and use them for the good of the order of Chaplains in your agency.

This work has been compiled, prepared, and now revised by the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy for all Public Safety Chaplains as a resource for their individual ministries. Our thanks and acknowledgment to all who contributed their effort and materials to make this training manual possible.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

Blessings,

The Chaplains and Board of Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy

A Word from our Supporters...

Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy is a nonprofit 503(c) organization serving law enforcement in Placer County. Our diverse organization is called upon to meet the diverse needs of the citizens of Placer County. Without the support and endorsements of the agencies and citizens we serve, we would have to humbly consider the motivations and impact of this Chaplaincy. Always strive to meet the higher calling and never take for granted the relationships built between a Chaplaincy and the Agency it serves.



"The Law Enforcement Chaplaincy of Placer County has been an invaluable ally in our mission of service to the community. Because of the very nature of our "business", we are daily in contact with individuals suffering the most stressful of situations. In existence since 1986, the Chaplaincy has proven to be one of our greatest assets.

The Department and the citizens of Placer County are fortunate indeed to be able to rely on the dedicated members of the Chaplaincy."

Sheriff Edward Bonner
Placer County Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal



"I consider the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy to be an integral part of our entire community.

The Chaplains unwavering devotion exemplifies their commitment to law enforcement and our citizens. Having the Chaplains available as a source of support for our office, and various law enforcement agencies, lending their assistance in times of need is a valuable asset to the people of Placer County.

Over the past several years, the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy has worked closely with the District Attorney Victim Services program and has directly aided many victims of all type of crime, such as domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, drunk driving, robbery and survivors of homicide. We truly appreciate their efforts which have greatly contributed to our county's public safety and security."

Bradford R. Fenocchio
Placer County District Attorney



“On behalf of the Gold Fields District of California State Parks, I wanted to give my full support to the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy. All of the members of the Chaplaincy have been very supportive to our park visitors and employees throughout the years.

The Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy has been at the scene of numerous critical incidents that have occurred in the State Parks located within Placer County. I have personally witnessed Chaplains compassionately assisting and comforting families and friends whose loved ones have been involved in a traumatic incident. We recently lost a State Park Ranger to a sudden unexpected death and the Chaplaincy has been there offering support and assistance for our employees and the Ranger’s family.

It is comforting to know that the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy is available to respond to critical incidents within our State Parks where they are available to offer support to friends and family of the victim(s) as well as to our employees.”

Scott S. Nakaji
Superintendent, Gold Fields District
Department of Parks and Recreation



“Dear Chaplain,

On behalf of the fine men and women of the Lincoln Police Department, I would like to thank you and the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy for your service and dedication to our community. The care and compassion extended by the chaplaincy to families in need or who are experiencing a life altering tragedy is an invaluable service.

Sometimes we forget that when a community member goes through a difficult time or suffers a loss, more often than not, one of our officers are there sharing that experience with them. The Officers typically put on the brave face and say it is part of the job and they try to deal with it on their own. If an officer is experiencing such an incident on a personal level then the internal stress and emotions they endure are magnified even greater.

We count on the Chaplaincy to be there for us and the community, to walk along side of us during these times of need and leading us along the path of emotional survival. We can not thank each and every chaplain enough for always being there and allowing us to count on them to help us through the troubled times. Just as important to us is the fact the chaplaincy is always there to share our joy, our accomplishments and help us celebrate our successes.

Once again I would like to thank you and the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy for your friendship, service and support for the members of the Lincoln Police Department and the community we serve.”

Brian M. Vizzusi
Chief of Police (former)
Lincoln Police Department



"We at the Roseville Police Department truly value the services the chaplaincy has provided to the police department, our employees, and the community.

The chaplains have helped the police department by responding to critical call outs, attending officer briefings and joining the officers on ride a longs in patrol cars, assisting at DUI checkpoints, and providing in-service training for police employees. The chaplains responded to emergency callouts in Roseville 109 times in 2006. The chaplains provide an invaluable service to the department and community during these callouts. They provide support to affected family members or neighbors, provide food and other necessary supplies for police personnel or affected citizens, and provide ongoing support to those affected in addition to responding during the actual crisis.

The chaplains assisted our police employees individually by assisting with stress management counseling, just being a friendly ear to listen, and providing nationally renowned speakers who talked about the stresses of police work on employees and their families. It is difficult to measure the value the services provided by the chaplaincy have on our employees, however, I can attest it is substantial.

Lastly, the chaplains are a tremendous resource for our community. They assist officers during tragic circumstances such as death notifications and suicide incidents. The help they provide to grieving family members is immeasurable. This is something the police employees are not fully trained in or have the time to provide the ongoing support that the chaplaincy can provide. As an example, in 2006, the chaplains responded to the fatal plane crash that occurred in Roseville. The chaplains provided many hours of support to the affected neighbors and the family of the young man who was killed.

... The chaplains respond 24 hours a day, 365 days a year whenever we request their help. Their service touches the lives of the police employees and members of the community."

Joel A. Neves
Chief of Police
Roseville Police Department



We "...understand the hard work and personal sacrifices that each Chaplain makes on a daily basis as they provide support to public safety personnel throughout Placer County. Additionally, the efforts by your members to give spiritual support to the law enforcement community and those citizens devastated by criminal activity, serious accidents, or the loss of a loved one deserves recognition for their service and call to duty.

Valerie Harris
Chief of Police
Auburn Police Department

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