



"I am of the opinion that no other Mayor in Los Angeles history has done more to develop programs, policies and practices to prevent violence than Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. His legacy of making our families, schools and neighborhoods safer runs deep."

*- Patti Giggans,
Executive Director,
Peace Over Violence*

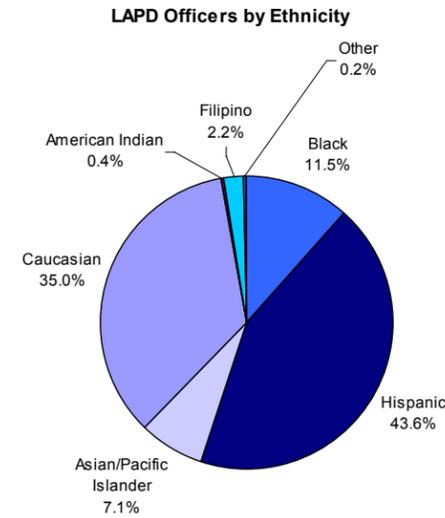
We knew that for our city to succeed, everyone had to feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods. It had to be a place where police and communities respected each other and worked together, where crimes were investigated promptly, where young people learned to make positive decisions rather than act out in violence, and anyone trapped in a violent relationship had help getting out. We knew Los Angeles could be that city. On the day the Mayor took office, our city was experiencing over 30,000 violent crimes, nearly 500 murders, and 112,000 property crimes annually.

Former Los Angeles Police Department Chief William Bratton was already in place and taking the city and the department powerfully in the right direction. His Compstat strategy of putting "cops on the dots"—bringing extra resources to the areas where crime was demonstrably most serious—utilized research to prioritize communities in need. We built on and expanded this work.

Eight years later, crime in our city is at its lowest level in nearly 60 years per capita. The year-end statistics for 2012 show that homicides and violent crime have dropped by nearly 40 percent. "Part 1" crime (serious offenses, such as rape, arson, and assault) is down nearly 30 percent. Since the inception of Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) gang crime has dropped by 43 percent citywide. Even Watts, one of L.A.'s most violence-impacted neighborhoods, has seen violent crime nearly cut in half as of the end of 2012.

Statistics for 2013 look even more promising. At the end of the first quarter for 2013, homicides were down 50 percent, rapes down 50 percent, aggravated assault down 54 percent, property crime down 30 percent, and total violent crime down 49 percent, as compared to the same period in 2005. Citywide, gang crime dropped 55 percent and gang-related homicides by 67 percent. With these numbers, Los Angeles is on track to break additional public safety records by the end of 2013.

...for a safer city



To get from there to here, we took steps and made efforts on multiple fronts and in ways that stretched across the city. To strengthen protection for all residents, we successfully enlarged our police force to a record 10,000 officers. We drew new officers from all of L.A.'s communities and emphasized community and constitutional policing as bedrock principles. Today, our police department fully reflects the diversity of our city, and officers and community members work together as partners.

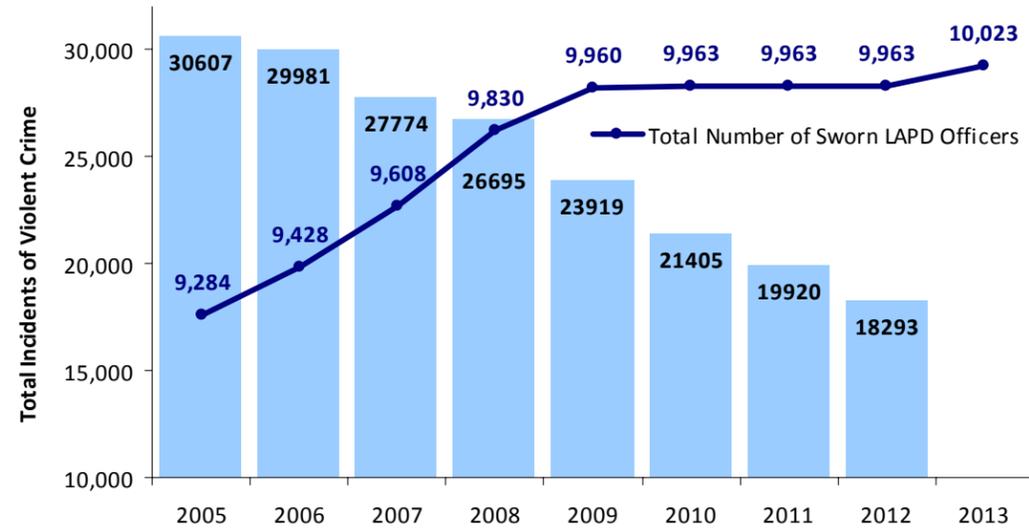
Because victims of crime must be heard—and because those who commit crime must quickly be brought to justice—we took decisive steps and cleared an evidence backlog that left some 7,000 DNA samples taken from rape victims to sometimes languish in storage for years. Today, they are tested in real time.

We tackled difficult, often hidden, problems like domestic violence with technology that made information widely available to isolated victims. We crafted creative solutions that drew on the expertise of advocacy groups, then brought those groups into active partnerships with the LAPD to protect those victims. We instituted officer training, provided outreach for community awareness and established transition paths that allowed victims to leave violent partners for a more secure life.

And because young people are our city's future, we focused our dollars and made groundbreaking efforts to identify those children most at risk of joining gangs and reached out to them. We addressed the issues that put them at risk, and offered alternatives to the street—parks in our toughest neighborhoods that stayed open at night and offered free meals, recreation, and job training. And in partnership with the Advancement Project, we developed LAVITA, the L.A. Violence Intervention Training Academy, to interrupt the cycle of gang violence in impacted communities, work which is embraced by the LAPD. Today, city-wide gang crime has been dramatically reduced, and once violence-plagued neighborhoods are enjoying peace and a new sense of community. Our gang reduction program has become a local and national model.



Violent Crime and LAPD Officers



ENLARGED AND STRENGTHENED THE POLICE FORCE

Public safety has always been the Mayor's number one priority, and building a police force of 10,000 officers was a prime strategy for achieving it. When the Mayor took office in 2005, the LAPD had 9,284 officers. As of today, the department is funded for 10,023. The 2013-2014 budget maintains the strength of the department at that level. In addition, the Mayor's and Chief's commitment to building a police force that reflects Los Angeles has given us one of the most diverse in the nation. (See chart on previous page.)

The Mayor's hiring strategy was enormously successful in reducing crime. The 2005-2012 statistics (see above) show the correlation between the increase in police hiring and crime reduction. Our projected per capita crime for 2012 was below that of similar large cities—New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Houston—making Los Angeles the safest big city in the country. First quarter 2013 statistics show that we are on track to experience another historic reduction in crime. (Statistics can be found at <http://www.lapdonline.org/>)

HIRED CHIEF CHARLIE BECK

In November 2009, Mayor Villaraigosa appointed Police Chief Charlie Beck upon the departure of Chief William Bratton. During his 30-year tenure at the LAPD, Chief Beck rose through the ranks and was active

in making sweeping changes to the force. The Chief is committed to the principles of constitutional policing and transparency. His understanding of the importance of building relations with the many communities of Los Angeles and intention to instill the ideology and benefits of community policing in all officers made him an ideal choice. Under his leadership following the successful tenure of William Bratton, crime in Los Angeles continues to decline. From its peak of almost 1,200 homicides in 1992, we have had less than 300 homicides in each of the past three years.

CLEARED THE DNA BACKLOG

When the Mayor took office, the LAPD had a backlog of over 7,000 untested/unanalyzed Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEKs). The Mayor successfully eliminated the backlog by providing additional funding for more staff in the crime lab, and increased capacity for analyzing more rape kits, as well as funding to outsource testing. This process was enhanced by the creation of an advisory panel of community members who regularly met during the process of clearing the backlog and continues to meet with LAPD to discuss the number and status of all SAEKs in LAPD's custody and enhancing all communication with victims.

WORKED TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In 2010 the Mayor launched the Stop Abuse From Existing (SAFE) campaign, which provided victims, survivors and advocates with a citywide domestic violence resource guide. The SAFE campaign also championed federally funded technology enhancements and law enforcement training as well as the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART), which pairs civilian advocates with LAPD responding to domestic violence calls. SAFE has established formal partnerships between victim service providers and law enforcement, and it runs a coordinated outreach campaign during Domestic Violence Awareness Month each October. The Mayor's Office also secured \$2 million in grants, which was used for officer training, to enhance case management and tracking; and, for the first time in Los Angeles history, each of the 21 LAPD divisions now has an officer designated as Domestic Violence Coordinator to help victims transition to safety. (See more at www.safela.org)

SUPPORTED FIRE FIGHTING CAPABILITY

Since July 2005, a new fire training facility was constructed in the Valley and over 19 fire stations were built or expanded to meet the overall city's needs. In 2008, the Mayor created the Professional Standards Division and Fire Commission Independent Assessor position to bring greater accountability and transparency to the Fire Department's disciplinary system. To make certain the Department is utilizing cutting-edge technology to reduce response time and become more efficient, the Mayor and Council allocated over \$30 million to technology systems such as Automatic Vehicle Locator, new Dispatch Computer Information Statistical Analysis software, Field Data Capture and Emergency Medical Billing System.

IMPROVED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Los Angeles opened its state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center in 2009, which was used to coordinate responses for many events. From the 2008 Chatsworth Metrolink crash, Sayre fire, "Carmageddon" 405 freeway closure, Japanese Earthquake response, Occupy L.A. protests, Presidential

visits to playoff games, the Oscars and the Grammys—the City was prepared. The Mayor also issued six Executive Directives on emergency management, instructing the City in how it should respond to disasters, and implemented Disaster Service Worker training citywide. We also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Red Cross, and established partnerships that brought together private, non-profit, and faith-based organizations to create a comprehensive emergency planning and response strategy.

STRENGTHENED HOMELAND SECURITY MANAGEMENT

The Los Angeles region received over \$650 million in homeland security grant funding since 2005. The Mayor's Office served as the administrator for these funds and managed them on behalf of the region. The funding greatly increased the City's ability to respond to and recover from disasters, whether natural or man-made. In addition, the region was awarded a highly sought-after \$30 million Securing the Cities grant to enhance its ability to prevent a radiological or nuclear attack. These efforts culminated in Los Angeles hosting the National Homeland Security Conference in June 2013.





REDUCED GANG ACTIVITY AND FOSTERED YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2007, Mayor Villaraigosa established the Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD), with a mandate to hold gang-related violence at or below existing levels, while simultaneously reducing the underlying risk factors that lead youth to join gangs. The data-driven GRYD Model was to be implemented in L.A.'s high-need communities (GRYD zones), those with a 40 percent higher level of gang violence than other parts of the city. With this choice, the Mayor, with Council support, set new funding priorities, directing resources to the geographic areas most in need.



Collaborating with researchers from the University of Southern California in 2008, GRYD developed the Youth Services Eligibility Tool (YSET), which identifies youth between 10-15 years old at the highest risk for joining a gang. GRYD then designed its multi-generational family model to address these risks, which has been found to reduce risks below the threshold level for gang-joining in 56 percent of the youth that have been re-tested, according to a recent evaluation by the Urban Institute.

The GRYD program has been an imitable success. From 2007-2012, there has been a reduction in gang crime of 43 percent citywide, and gang-related homicides have been reduced by 34 percent. First quarter data for 2013 shows even more improvement. This achievement has created a model that is now being used internationally. In 2012 the Mayor signed an agreement with the United States Agency for International Development to allow GRYD to provide hands-on technical assistance to service providers combating gang violence in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Crucial elements of the GRYD program include:

INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION CONTRACTING

The GRYD Strategy consists of prevention, intervention, violence interruption, re-entry, and targeted suppression as a collaborative effort that addresses key risk factors at a family, peer, individual, and community level. All GRYD programs are firmly rooted in public health, family systems, and criminal justice theories and practices. GRYD's \$24 million annual budget covers over 40 contracts with community-based organizations, academic institutions, and research entities to provide services that directly address the causes that lead young people to join gangs.



SUMMER NIGHT LIGHTS (SNL)

Summer Night Lights, an innovative public-private partnership that keeps parks open and available to families after dark, was implemented in 2008 to address the typical summer months peak in gang crime. Over five years, it expanded from eight parks to 32, in the process creating 5,189 jobs and providing 1,585,784 free meals to the communities surrounding the parks. In 2012, gang-related crime around SNL park locations was down by a stunning 47 percent.

THE LOS ANGELES VIOLENCE INTERVENTION TRAINING ACADEMY (LAVITA)

LAVITA was created in 2009 in collaboration with the Advancement Project and serves as an academy for the certification of community/crisis intervention workers, who are peace ambassadors working with both law enforcement and the community. By 2013, 166 intervention workers had graduated from the program. The increase in communication between GRYD staff, community intervention workers, and law enforcement created an efficient on-the-ground "triangular" collaboration which has facilitated the response to over 2,682 gang-related incidents citywide.

GUN CONTROL REFORM

One of Mayor Villaraigosa's key priorities in creating safer communities has been gun control reform, which he has supported on a local, state and national level. As part of its gang crime prevention strategy, GRYD, in collaboration with the LAPD, established an annual Gun Buyback Program funded by the private sector. Since 2009, the LAPD has successfully "bought back" or collected over 10,000 firearms. These guns are now permanently off the street.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Violent Crime Down 50%
- 32 Summer Night Light Parks
- Gang Crime Down 43%
- 10,000+ Police Officers
- Safest Big City in the U.S.

Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) is one of the best things this city has done in the last 10 years.

- Chief Charlie Beck, Los Angeles Police Department