



# NLPOA



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**EL PUENTE NEWSLETTER**  
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★ **President's Report,**  
*Jose Carlos Miramontes*

The 2003 National NLPOA Training Institute & Convention was a success! Law enforcement officers from every state attended. Our Annual event provided officers and commanders the opportunity to receive national training; to network; to receive the latest information on law enforcement related issues; and to recruit Hispanic officers from other departments. The 2003 attendees were welcomed by Able Guerra, Office of the White House; Congressman Michael Honda, D/CA and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus on Capitol Hill; and the Mexican Embassy, D.C.

The Opening Welcome was given by Joseph Lieberman, U.S. Senator, Connecticut. The Keynote Luncheon welcome was given by Carlos Acosta, Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Civil Rights. The Annual Awards Banquet was highlighted by Richard Carmona, U.S. Surgeon General.



L Richard Carmona, Surgeon General  
R Jose Miramontes, NLPOA President

The NLPOA welcomed the following new chapters: NLPOA Plainfield, New Jersey; NLPOA Georgia; NLPOA Wichita-Segwick, Kansas; NLPOA Fairfax, Virginia; NLPOA Arlington, Virginia; NLPOA Puerto Rico; NLPOA Ventura, California; and NLPOA Washington, D.C.

NLPOA continues to Bridge the Gap between Latinos and Law Enforcement and to increase membership because of our support for our members. Thank you for making our 2003 conference such a success! We look forward to seeing you this year in Miami October 14 - 16, 2004!

**The National Latino Peace Officers Association Partners With The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children!**



The NLPOA and NCFMEC Partnership will work together as a united force to protect our children from predators and others who may wish to harm them. NLPOA Chapters can receive informational brochures and posters in Spanish and English for distribution at NLPOA events. The Center is also looking for retired Spanish speaking officers to volunteer. NLPOA Chapters are invited to contact Jess Quintero, Minority Outreach Office (1-877-446-2632 ext. 6128) for information, materials requests and special events participation.



**2004**

**NLPOA  
National Training  
Institute and Convention  
October 14 - 16, 2004  
Biscayne Bay Marriott Hotel  
Miami, Florida**

**Visit  
www.NLPOA.org  
for more information**



## 2003 NLPOA Leadership Award Recipients



**Francisco Ortiz, Chief  
New Haven Police, CT**

Chief Ortiz began his career in 1978. Ortiz was appointed Asst. Chief in April of 2003. Ortiz named Chief in June 2003 and became the first Hispanic Chief of New Haven. Francisco is also an NLPOA Chapter President.



**Dora Saucedo-Falls, Asst. Chief  
Dallas Police, TX**

Asst Chief Saucedo-Falls became the first and highest ranking Hispanic female appointed Assistant Chief.



**Rolf Garcia, Chief  
Gettysburg, PA**

Chief has over 20+ years in law enforcement. He retired from the Palm Beach County Sheriffs Office, FL. He served as Chief of the Rumney Police, NH and for NY State Div. of Military and Naval Affairs. Rolf is also an NLPOA Chapter President.



**Jose Acosta, Asst. Chief  
Metropolitan Police,  
Wash, DC**

He started in 1970. He is in charge of Regional Operations Command (ROC)-East. Acosta is the first Latino to hold the rank of Asst. Chief within the MPDC.

## NLPOA Initiatives

Over the last 30 years, the NLPOA has increased its presence throughout the United States. This is a testament to the core values that each member believes in and promotes. The NLPOA will continue to promote its message and goals with the marketing of the NLPOA literature: the Recruitment Brochure; the Employment Advocacy Brochure; the Corporate/Sponsor Brochure; the Annual National NLPOA Training Institute Brochure; the www.nlpoa.com Website; and the EL PUENTE Newsletter. We have now consolidated and ordered more of these brochures for each chapter. Please remember that the name National Latino Peace Officers Association, Latino Peace Officers Association, NLPOA, LPOA, and the LOGO (badge), are all trademarked and copyrighted (the only word in combination not trademarked is "association").

Over the next month, you will receive these brochures in the mail. If you are a current member and/or sponsor, please use the brochures to promote the NLPOA's core values. If you are not a member, we invite you (field officers and command officers) to join and be a part of the largest Latino law enforcement association in the United States.

## First NLPOA Chapter celebrates 30 years!



**Noe Longoria  
Chapter President**

The NLPOA Santa Clara County Chapter was started by Vicente Calderon when he worked in San Jose, California. The NLPOA Santa Clara chapter had approximately 30 members, 22 of them were from the San Jose Police Department. The Chapter officers were: Richard Reyes, President; Lou Cobarrubias, Vice President; Carlos Paredes, Recording Secretary; and Ray Mendiola, Corresponding Secretary. Ray Mendiola, exhorted the membership into getting more involved by attending more meetings. He felt that discussions had to continue on important and relevant issues affecting Latino Peace Officers.

At that time, The San Jose Police Department had 445 officers of which only 34 (7.6%) had Spanish Surnames. The main issue at hand was a Civil Rights investigation conducted as the result of the allegation that the City of San Jose was in violation of Office of Revenue Sharing hiring requirements, and that the Police Department discriminated against Mexican-Americans because of their national origin. Yet, the Mexican-American population of San Jose was approximately twenty-two percent (22%). Soon after these statistics were published, eight (8) Spanish-Surname officers were eliminated from the Field Officers Training Program. This meant that the percentage of Hispanics in the San Jose Police Department dropped to 1.8%. According to Noe Longoria, Chapter President, on February 14, 2004, a 30 Anniversary was held at the Fairmont Hotel, with over 750 attendees.

## Law Enforcement Statistics

**Local Police Departments 2000** - Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics: Ending June 30, 2000, there were 440,920 sworn local law enforcement personnel. Minority officers were represented as follows: an estimated 10.6% (46,659) were woman; an estimated 11.7% (51,363) were African-American; and an estimated **8.3% were Latino (36,442)**; and Asian and Native Americans represented 2.7%(11,800). The number of Latino officers increased by 17,600 or by 93%, since 1990. It is interesting to note that within departments serving populations of more than one million, the percentage of Latino officers in those jurisdictions was 17.3%; and within jurisdictions serving population of between 250,000 to 499,00 residents, the Latino officers represented 10.7% (BJS, January 2003, NCJ 196002).

**Sheriffs' Departments 2000** - Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics: At the end of June 30, 2000, there were 164,711 sworn sheriff's department personnel. The breakdown of minority officers included: female sheriff's deputies were represented by 12.5% (20,589); African-American sheriffs' deputies were represented by 9.4% (15,483); **Latino sheriff's deputies were represented by 6.1% (10,047)**; and Asian/Native Americans were represented by 1.6% (2,600). Latinos had a higher representation (15.4%) in sheriffs' departments with one million or more residents (BJS, January 2003, NCJ196534).

**Federal Law Enforcement 2002** - Bureau of Justice Statistics: At the end of June 30, 2000, Federal agencies employed more than 93,000 full-time personnel authorized to make arrest and carry firearms. The breakdown of minority officers included: **Hispanics were represented at 11.7%**; African-Americans were represented at 11.7%; Asians were represented at 2.5%; and Native Americans at 1.2% of the federal law enforcement personnel. From 1996 to 2000, the percentage of Hispanic Officers increased from 13.1% to 16.8% (BJS, August 2003, NCJ 199995).

## U. S. Department of Energy



National Nuclear Security Administration  
Office of Secure Transportation  
Federal Agent, Nuclear Materials Courier  
Apply April 19, 2004 - April 30, 2004  
<https://jobsonline.doe.gov>

**Vacancy No. NNSA-QH-DE-O4-0018**

## 2003 NLPOA Officer of the Year



**Frank Balkcom, Sr., Lieutenant  
Glendale Police Department, Arizona**

Frank Balkcom Sr., Lieutenant, Glendale Police, Arizona has worked over 20 years in the Patrol Division, Undercover Detective, Tactical Operations Unit, Community Housing Officer, and as a Supervisor in the General Investigations Bureau, Training Sgt. at the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy, Sector Lieutenant in the West and Central Patrol Sectors. He holds a B.S. from Grand Canyon University and a Masters Degree from Northern Arizona University. Frank is also an NLPOA Chapter President.

### **policetraining.net** *the calendar for law enforcement training*

APRIL		
20-22	PATC Court Security	Bloomington, IL
20-22	Drug Abuse Recognition	Folsom, CA
20-22	Cold Case Analysis	Richmond, VA
21-22	PATC Search & Arrest Warrants	Reynoldsburg, OH
21-23	PATC First Line Supervision	Massillon, OH
21-23	Police Shotgun Instructor	Hamilton, OH
22-23	PepperBall Instructor/Armorer	Wilmington, NC
26	Writing Search Warrants	Hamilton, OH
26-27	PATC Fingerprints	Longview, TX
26-27	Homicide Investigation (ITP)	Oakland, CA
26-27	Computer Forensics Basics	Hagerstown, MD
26-27	Handgun Retention	Springfield, MA

## National Law Enforcement Recruiters Association

# NLERA

### 2004 National Diversity Training Conference

September 20 - 21, 2004



Contact 703-528-5600 or [www.NLERA.com](http://www.NLERA.com) for more info

# NLPOA

## National Latino Peace Officers Association Membership Application



To become a member of NLPOA, please fill out the following information and mail or fax it along with payment to:

**NLPOA**  
**351 East Washington St.**  
**Petaluma CA 94952**  
**PH: (877) 657-6200**  
**FAX: (415) 897-3961**  
**www.NLPOA.org**

(circle one) **Membership Dues**

**\$60** Individual Member  
per year (Law Enforcement)

**\$60** Associate Member  
per year (Non-Law Enforcement)

**FREE** Educational Member  
(Academic or Career Center)

**Payment Method**

- Check
- Purchase Order  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
# \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Department or Agency** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City** \_\_\_\_\_  
**State** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone & Extension** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

All applications are subject to review. Upon acceptance by NLPOA, a membership will be mailed to you along with additional information and your chapter contact information.

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Las Vegas, NV

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