Ceres Police Department
2019
Annual Report

Investing in Today’s Officers
Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
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[@Ceres PD](https://twitter.com/CeresPD)
City of Ceres Vision Statement:
In collaboration with the community, together we achieve a Ceres that is an attractive, livable, safe community with beautiful neighborhoods, landscaped streets, parks, trails, facilities and vibrant commercial and entertainment amenities.
Ceres Police Department

Chief of Police
Rick Collins

Chief's Community Advisory Committee

Captain Pat Crane

Emergency Services/Training
Lieutenant James Yandell

Dispatch Supervisor
Anderson

10 Dispatchers
1 Reserve Dispatcher

Critical Response Team

SWAT Team:
Sgt Travis
Hudson
13 Members

Code Enforcement
Sergeant Coley

2 Code Enforcement
Officers
1 CE Secretory

Administrative Sergeant
Yotsuya

12 Patrol Officers,
3 Shifts
Includes 2 K9 Teams

A Squad - 3 Patrol
Sergeants: Venn
Hudson
Berber

4 SROs

CNT:
Sgt. Greg
Yotsuya
9 Members

Ceres Police Department

2019 Annual Report
I am delighted to present the 2019 Ceres Police Department Annual Report. This publication will highlight a year of transition, implementation, and future goals. Before you read further, I want to recognize Administrative Secretary Marcy Pederson for the hard work and creativity it took to produce this report.

After Chief Brent Smith retired in March, 2019, I began serving as the Chief of Police. This is where the transition started throughout the entire department. With a new Police Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, and Sergeant, it was important to take a slow approach before we made any drastic changes. We took the time to interview every employee in the department. We wanted to hear their concerns, desires, and ideas for areas of improvement. While the process took a lot of time, the interviews helped form the overall vision and direction for the Ceres Police Department.

The vision and direction for the department is a four-tenet concept that focuses on the following:

- Employee wellness
- The work environment
- Community engagement
- Leadership and development

Overall good health for all our employees is an important endeavor for us to undertake. Many factors contribute to an unhealthy disposition. Some include lack of sleep, poor nutritional intake, and the fear of dealing with the mental stressors of this profession. We have given every one of our employees a wellness application on their smart phone that give them access to resources pertaining to obtaining better sleep and getting fit through physical fitness. In addition, they also have access to peer support, anonymous counselling, and a multitude of other helpful resources.

Directly connected to our employee’s wellness is their work environment. I assert, if their place of employment is fun, appreciative, and supportive, employees look forward to coming to work, instead of “having to go to work”; there is a different dynamic between the two. Our goal is to create a team-based environment filled with consistent leadership from top to bottom. A place where exceptional work is recognized and appreciated.

As a result, in 2019, we relaxed some of our grooming standards. All employees can now display their appropriate and approved tattoos. Sworn personnel can wear beards and load bearing vest carriers. The mentioned changes were a direct result of the data pulled from the employee interviews. Other goals related to the work environment include enhanced communication throughout the department and lateral movement to special assignments. Lastly, we stressed the importance of everyone sharing a role in enhancing the overall morale in the department.
Historically, we have been privileged to have tremendous support from the community we serve. Because of that continued support, it is important for us to continue our community engagement. We want to host more community events in the city to connect with those we serve. We can accomplish this by hosting events in neighborhood parks, at our police department, and simply by getting out of our cars and talking to people. We must also realize the power of social media in the digital era. We must do a better job at increasing our social media footprint.

The final and equally important focus is leadership and development. Now is the time to develop tomorrow’s leadership. In the next five to seven years, there is the potential for mass retirements. Many of those poised to retire hold positions of first line supervisor and/or command staff. With a potential void on the horizon, it is imperative we succession plan. We must identify those who possess the necessary skillsets and competencies to take over critical leadership roles in the department. Fortunately, we have a department full of individuals who meet those standards; both sworn and professional staff.

In closing, 2019 was a year of transition and small changes. We created a roadmap to what we believe is a successful destination. All the men and women at the Ceres Police Department are here to serve our community while providing the best service possible. It is an honor and privilege serve as your Police Chief.

Thank you for your continued support.

Chief’s Community Advisory Committee
Comprised of five professionals who live or work in Ceres, the Chief’s Community Advisory Committee meets once a month to discuss local, state and national issues, make recommendations to Chief Collins, and to help him keep his finger on the pulse of the Community he and his Officers serve.

During this past year, the Chief’s Committee has discussed topics such as homelessness, drug abuse, terrorism, and youth intervention.

In May, they awarded five Middle School Students the Ceres Police Department Positive Character Award. These students were chosen because of the leadership, resilience or growth they have shown in light of a difficult personal or school circumstance. This was the fourth year that the committee had presented these awards.
Chief’s Vision & Direction for the Department

With the retirement of Chief Smith the end of March, 2019, the Ceres Police Department ushered in a new era, with a new Chief. On April 4, 2019 Captain Collins was sworn in as the Department’s newest Chief.

Chief Collins has spent his entire law enforcement career in the Ceres Police Department, starting first as an Explorer Cadet. After attending the Police Academy, he was first hired as a Reserve Officer before becoming a fulltime Patrol Officer. His first promotion was to the rank of Sergeant, then Lieutenant, then Captain and finally, Chief. As such, he has a unique perspective on this Department. He has seen where it has been and he has a vision for where he wants it to go.

In November, Chief Collins addressed the entire Department and presented his 4-Part Vision and Direction as the Department moves forward and embraces the future.

Below are the highlights of Chief’s Address.

Leadership and Development

How the Department can develop its people:
* Enhance and improve leadership in all positions in the Department
* Coach, mentor and lead our people
* Set standards
* Work as one team—Department-wide
* Continue to train our people

How our people can develop themselves:
* Invest time, energy and effort in yourself
* Set short, mid-term and long-term goals
* Study leadership and the varying concepts surrounding it
* Create a succession plan for your position
* Put the knowledge from your trainings into action

How our people can develop within the Department:
* Work as one team—Department-wide
* Share your knowledge from trainings with the Department
Chief’s Vision & Direction for the Department

Employee Wellness

The Chief is focusing on the overall wellness of each person in the Department, which encompasses their physical, emotional, and psychological wellness.

Physical Wellness:
- Physical Fitness
- Good Nutrition
- Proper Sleep

Emotional & Psychological Wellness
- Cordico Wellness App (*)
- Peer Support Group
- Continue to strive for a fully staffed Department
- Daily peer interactions
- Settle beefs or perceived beefs
- Create a positive work environment

(*) The Cordico Wellness App is an on-demand, 24/7 phone app that has tools, resources, assessments and competent providers that can all be accessed anonymously from wherever our people are. It is available to everyone in our Department, Sworn & Non-Sworn, in an effort to improve overall wellness, reduce stress, eliminate feelings of isolation and save lives.

Community Engagement

- Bring the community to us with more events
- Attend those events hosted by the POA
- Get out and talk to the people and businesses in the community
- Increase our social media footprint and platforms
- Create our own narrative in our community
- Be respectful in our approach to everyone

Work Environment

How the Department can impact the Work Environment
- More Department BBQs, Potlucks & Events
- Continue to show appreciation for our employees
- Continue the established culture in our Department, but adjust as law enforcement changes
- Try to create movement when fully staffed
- Have solid and consistent leadership in the Department
- Reconsider the policies on beards, vests and tattoos
- Enhance communication and teamwork

How our People can impact the Work Environment
- Do their part to increase morale
- Communicate and be teamplayers
Success: [səkˈses] noun. The accomplishment of an aim or purpose.

Each year the Chief reviews the successes of the prior year with the Mayor and City Council during their annual Goal Setting Meeting.

This year, Chief Collins was able to share not only the successes he experienced during his first months as the Chief, but also the successes that were achieved due to what Chief Smith had set into motion before he retired.

The new radio communication tower was erected on the top of the Police Building.

Three new Dispatch consoles were installed and are fully functioning.

The Cordico Wellness app was made available to every person in the Department.

The Department realigned the responsibilities of the Lieutenants to enhance communication,
2019 Successes

The Drone Program was established with all necessary equipment purchased and the selection of the Drone Team. It will become active in 2020.

Chief Collins completed his goal of interviewing every Department employee to get the overall pulse of the Department. The project took four months to accomplish.

The Department entered into a contract to provide Dispatch Services for Newman PD.

The Department hired six new Police Officers (retained five), three new Reserve Officers, three Dispatchers, one Records Clerk, one Code Enforcement Officer and one part-time AVA Officer.

Ceres Police School Resource Officer Lorenzo Beltran was recognized as the National SRO of the Year at the National Association of School Resource Officers’ Annual Conference in Tennessee, June, 2019.
Patrol & Field Training Officers

The Patrol Division is the largest Division within the Ceres Police Department and is the backbone of the Organization. The Division’s primary function is to serve the community through innovative crime reduction strategies.

In its effort to reduce crime, the Division blends technology and community engagement to enhance the quality of life for those that live, work and visit the city.

When fully staffed, the Patrol Division consists of one Lieutenant, six Sergeants and 24 Officers split between two patrol squads with 3 shifts on each squad.

Field Training Officers are awarded this assignment after vigorous testing and an interview process. Once assigned, these Officers then attend an FTO Training. When a new Officer is hired, they spend the first week with the FTO Sergeant before being assigned to their first FTO. The new Officer will spend 4-6 months with 3-4 of our FTOs before being cleared for solo Patrol duties. We currently have four Officers trained to be FTOs.

The men and women assigned to the Patrol Division are committed to the Organization’s core values of Pride, Integrity and Excellence and will continue to provide prompt and exceptional service to residents and businesses within the City.
Officer Kevin Sakasegawa
Recognized by MADD for the most DUI Arrests in our Department in 2019
K-9 Officers

Started in 1993, the Ceres Police K-9 Unit currently has 4 Handler/K-9 teams. Each team is assigned to a different Squad and a different shift to ensure that we have a K-9 team on duty for the majority of a 24-hour period.

All of our dogs are specifically trained to assist our Officers and other law-enforcement personnel. Their duties include: searching for drugs and explosives, locating missing people, finding crime scene evidence, and apprehending suspects targeted by the their handler.

Once a handler is identified and their dog is purchased, they attend an 8-week basic training course. During this time, the handler and dog continue to bond and the dog is taught to respond to hand and verbal commands. After graduating from the basic course, the dog and handler are then released to regular patrol duty. On-going training is also done twice a month, with the entire Unit training together on these days.

When not on duty, the K-9s reside at home with their handlers and their families. The dogs become an intricate part of the Officer’s life and household and when the dog is ready to retire, most handlers purchase their K-9 from the City in order to care for them for the remainder of their lives.

Officer Salinas and K-9 Veko
Officer Henson and K-9 Dex
Officer Ruiz and K-9 Leo
Officer Rushing and K-9 Odin
Officer Salinas and K-9 Veko
The Ceres Police Department’s Investigations Unit consists of four full-time Detectives and a Reserve Detective which is overseen by the Special Operations Lieutenant and Detective Sergeant. One of the full time detectives is currently assigned to SDEA – Stanislaus Drug Enforcement Agency.

In 2019, the Investigations Unit underwent some significant changes: Special Operations Lieutenant Patrick Crane promoted to Captain and was replaced by Lieutenant Chris Perry. Detective Sergeant Danny Vierra promoted to Lieutenant and left the Unit. He was replaced by Sergeant Trenton Johnson. In addition, Detective Bryan Ferreira promoted to Sergeant and also left the Unit. He was replaced by Officer Matthew Berlier.

Each detective has a specific type of crime they will typically investigate. These include: Crimes against Persons, Crimes against Children, High Tech Crimes, General Crimes, Gang-related Crimes, and Drug-related Crimes.

- Crimes against Persons: Detective Bryan Ferreira/Detective Matthew Berlier (not pictured)
- Crimes against Children and High Tech Crimes: Detective Julio Amador
- Property Crimes: Detective Trinidad Viramontes (not pictured)
- Assigned to SDEA—Detective Mike Vierra (not pictured)
Traffic, Commercial Traffic & AVA

The Ceres Police Traffic Unit is responsible for traffic safety in the City of Ceres. The overall goal of the Unit is to reduce injury and fatal collisions in the City. The Traffic Unit is made up of Traffic Sergeant, Jason Coley, one full-time Traffic Officer, Freddie Ortiz, and a Reserve Traffic Officer, John Lee.

Working as a sub-unit of the Traffic Unit is Commercial Traffic, run by Reserve Officer Jerry Kessler. Officer Kessler is responsible for citing commercial truckers who violate commercial traffic laws while inside the city limits.

Officer Kessler also has extensive training on investigating traffic collisions with major injury and/or fatalities. As such, he is available 24/7 to be called out to collisions involving death or injury.

A second sub-unit of the Traffic Unit is Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA), run by Officer Wagner DeFreitas. AVA Officer DeFreitas works part-time and is responsible for citing and towing vehicles that are in violation of the City’s Municipal Code.
Traffic, Commercial Traffic & AVA

Traffic Accidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accidents involving a fatality</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fatalities</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents involving an injury</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total injuries</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI Accidents</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI Accidents with fatality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI Accidents with injury</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total DUI injuries</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commercial Traffic Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Truck drivers out of lane</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Log book violations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell phone violations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speeding</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red light violations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impaired traffic</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failing to obey stop sign</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seat belt violations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spilling load violations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrong side of road</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical violations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles placed out of service</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drivers placed out of service</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic policing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total trucks inspected</td>
<td>172</td>
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Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requests for Service</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Impounds</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Citations</td>
<td>951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AVA Officer
Wagner Defreitas

Investing in Today’s Officers
Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
The Ceres Police SWAT Team was formed in 1991 under the direction of Chief Pete Petersen. Commander John Chapman was in charge of forming the SWAT team, which consisted of 12 members, and outlining the policies and procedures. Today it is authorized to maintain 14 positions.

The SWAT Team is used in a variety of ways, from rapidly evolving critical incidents to pre-planned operations, which include serving high-risk warrants, dealing with a hostage or barricade situation, engaging a high-risk person, and responding to an armed terrorist (domestic or foreign) or a riot. They work hand-in-hand with the Crisis Negotiation Team on all of their call-outs.
Negotiate: [ni-ˈɡō-shē-ˌāt] verb. To arrange for or bring about through conference, discussion, and compromise.

The Ceres Police Department Crisis Negotiation Team is a group of Sworn and Non-Sworn personnel who are specially trained to safely defuse dangerous and life threatening situations such as high-risk warrants, a barricaded subject, hostage situations, or shots fired.

The CNT works hand-in-hand with the Ceres Police Department SWAT Team. As victims are released from the above situations, CNT engages them in intelligence gathering in order to aid the SWAT Team with information about the on-going situation inside the location.

The primary function of the CNT is to build rapport, engage in active listening, and exercise problem solving. The goal of the Team is to successfully address situations so that no injuries are sustained by anyone involved.

In 2001, Officer Danny Vierra joined the Crisis Negotiation Team. Five years later and promoted to Sergeant, Danny took over as CNT’s leader.

Under his direction, the CNT increased its training, updated and modernized its equipment, and added much needed personnel to the Team.

With his promotion to Lieutenant in 2019, Lt. Danny Vierra promoted out of the team and passed the leadership baton to Sgt. Greg Yotsuya.

In appreciation, the CNT presented Lt. Vierra with a plaque commemorating his years of service and his outstanding leadership to this vital team.
The United States Department of Justice defines School Resource Officers (SROs) as “sworn law enforcement officers responsible for safety and crime prevention in schools.” SROs are typically employed by a local police or sheriff’s agency and work closely with School administrators in an effort to create a safer environment for both students and staff. The responsibilities of SROs are similar to regular police officers in that they have the ability to make arrests, respond to calls for service, and document incidents. SROs typically have additional duties, including mentoring and conducting presentations on youth-related issues.
2019 National SRO of the Year Award

In March of 2019, the Ceres Police Department was contacted by Jasmin Barragan from Central Valley High School informing us that they were nominating School Resource Officer Lorenzo Beltran for the 2019 National SRO of the Year Award. The nomination process was extensive and included a multi-page application, a 30 minute video of students and staff voicing their support, a five-page letter of recommendation from the Chief of Police, and multiple letters of recommendation from teachers, principals and District personnel.

During the next month, while we worked to provide CVHS with the items they required, the need for secrecy was great. The Department and the School District did not want Officer Beltran, or any of the other SROs, to know that one of them had been nominated. As a result, only a handful of people in the Department knew what we were doing behind the scenes.

The application was mailed the end of April and late in May the email from NASRO was finally received. Addressed to Officer Beltran, but emailed to our Administrative Sergeant, Greg Yotsuya, it read, “Officer Beltran, we are pleased to inform you....”

Sgt. Yotsuya quickly notified Central Valley High School and the Ceres Unified School District and arrangements were made for School and District personnel to arrive the following morning to be present when the announcement was made (see photo to the left). SRO Beltran entered Report Writing the next morning to a round of applause from Department, School and District personnel.

Late in June, the Ceres Police Department sent SRO Beltran, Chief Collins, Sgt Yotsuya, SRO Carvalho and SRO Villalobos to the SRO Conference in Tennessee. Accompanying them was Brian Chandler from the Ceres Unified School District (See photo to the right). SRO Beltran shared the honor of 2019 National SRO of the Year with SRO Richard Parenti from Scituate Police Department in Rhode Island.

Highlights from SRO Beltran’s application:

⇒ Created new evacuation plans for all 21 schools complete with color-coded floor plans.
⇒ Used personal funds to purchase shoes for a needy student that enabled him to comply with the school’s dress code.
⇒ Personally trained every teacher in the District on proper tourniquet use
⇒ Assured that every classroom in the District has an appropriate first aid kit.
⇒ Established the Criminal Justice Club at CVHS and acts as its Advisor—all on his own time.

NASRO Names 2 National School Resource Officers of the Year

This year, NASRO presented its SRO of the Year award to two recipients: Officer Lorenzo Beltran of the Ceres (CA) Police Department and Officer Richard Parenti of the Scituate (RI) Police Department.

June 26, 2019

Investing in Today’s Officers
Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
Class A Uniform Inspection
Stanislaus County Police Officer’s Memorial
Ceres Police Department is proud of its state-of-the-art Dispatch Center and its highly trained and qualified Dispatchers.

Before a Dispatcher is even considered for the position, they must pass a hands-on test that evaluates their ability to multi-task and deal with the ever-changing environment in a Dispatch Center. Those who do not pass this preliminary test are not even considered for moving to the next steps, which include an Oral Panel Interview and ultimately, a Chief’s Interview.

Prior to being hired, all Dispatchers undergo a full background, which includes a polygraph, background investigation, psychological exam and medical exam. This process can take 3-4 months to complete. Once hired, they begin their training with a Senior Dispatcher who starts them on the phones as a call-taker. When they have mastered this, they begin training on the radio, all the while learning the CAD-RMS system. It usually takes 9 months for a new Dispatcher to become proficient enough to work on their own.

Like our Officers, Dispatchers are divided into an A Squad and B Squad with a Day Shift, Swing Shift and Graveyard Shift. Their shifts are 11 hours and they work 4 days on & 4 days off. This allows for continuity between Patrol and Dispatch.

Our Dispatchers are on the job for long hours, under intense circumstances, and they are required to remain calm and professional at all times. Due to their extended hours together, they become good friends and the group becomes a 2nd family to most of them.

July, 2019 we set out on a new adventure when Ceres PD began to Dispatch for Newman Police Department. This has added an extra layer of responsibility to our already busy Dispatch Center and they have handled it with style and professionalism.
Though their work is emotionally-charged and they must be on-point at all times, our Dispatchers do take time to have fun and enjoy themselves, as seen in the photos on this page. Halloween 2019 couldn’t go by without some Dinosaur fun from Dispatchers Julia Jacobo and Allie Pineda.

They also love to eat and celebrate. Given the amount of time spent at work, we have outfitted their Dispatch Center with a kitchen as well as an outdoor patio with a grill and furniture.
The Property and Evidence Community Service Officer is tasked with checking in all evidence that is taken into custody by an Officer. Attached to the Property and Evidence Room is a property and evidence check-in room where the Officers log the property or evidence into bags and secure them into locked storage lockers. These lockers are double-sided and open into the Property and Evidence Room on the other side of the wall. Once the property or evidence is checked in, the Property and Evidence CSO label it with a bar-code and store it in a manner that is compliant with DOJ standards and can easily be located when the need comes to release it.

All of the property that is booked into evidence is required to be reviewed on an annual basis. This requires a significant amount of time to determine the status of a case and whether or not the property is eligible to be released, should be destroyed or sent to auction, or if it should be held for a longer period of time and what that time period is.

The Property & Evidence CSO is also charged with overseeing our Drop the Drugs program which includes emptying the container on a regular basis, recording the total weight of the drugs each time it is emptied, and ensuring the drugs are routinely destroyed.

In addition, our Property & Evidence CSO works directly with the District Attorney’s Office, reviewing evidence with defense attorneys before a case goes to trial.

The Department has one full-time Property & Evidence CSO, Renee Howerton. Helping Renee is Reserve Trish Panos. Between the two of them, they handle all of the detailed work that goes into properly maintaining our Property and Evidence Room.

CSO Renee Howerton  
(sitting)  
and  
Reserve Trish Panos  
(standing)
2019 Property & Evidence Statistics

4,680 new pieces of evidence received

28,714 pieces of Property processed, moved or disposed of

132 guns destroyed

545.5 pounds of drugs collected and destroyed from our Drop the Drug Program

7 barrels of hazardous waste removed for destruction
The Ceres Police Records Division consists of four very intelligent, hard-working and dedicated clerks who strive for excellence in everything they do. They are responsible for completing a wide variety of tasks that require great attention to detail. In addition to the paperwork they must complete each and every day, their phones ring constantly and the lobby is usually busy with citizens who require their help. It is rare that they can start and finish a project without multiple interruptions.

At the beginning of 2019, the Records Division was supervised by our Administrative Sergeant, Greg Yotsuya and Special Operations Lieutenant Patrick Crane.

However, there were several changes during 2019 which included adding a fourth Records Clerk and transitioning to a new supervising Lieutenant when Lieutenant Crane promoted to Captain. In April, 2019, Captain Crane was replaced with Special Operations Lieutenant Chris Perry as the supervising Lieutenant.

Some of the responsibilities the Records Clerks are tasked with include:
- Daily Court run—this must be done each and every weekday, even on holidays.
- Processing subpoenas
- Processing warrants
- Processing citations
- Live-scan requests
- Vehicle releases
- In-depth knowledge of the Penal Code, Vehicle Code and our CAD-RMS platform.

While their job is serious in nature, the personalities of our Records Clerks are anything but serious, as seen below. They fill their area with laughter and fun and they love to dress up to celebrate every holiday and season of the year!
Records

2019 Records Revenue = $84,696.00

- Miscellaneous Income $6,718.00
- Miscellaneous Special Services $271.00
- Vehicle Releases $66,304.00
- Fingerprints $830.00
- Police Reports $7,048.00
- Cite Sign-offs $1,274.00
- Clearance Letters $136.00
- Repossession Fees $2,115.00

2019 Records Processing

- Warrants
- Citations
- Officer Subpoenas
- Citizen Subpoenas
- Reports
The Ceres Police Department Code Enforcement Officers are responsible for evaluating private properties and public grounds against our local codes, answering citizen questions about the codes, and issuing citations for code violations. Currently we have two full-time Code Enforcement Officers, Roger Alvarez and Jeff Varni, and a Code Enforcement Secretary, Teresa Aguilar, who all work tirelessly to maintain an attractive, safe Ceres community. They are supervised by Sergeant Jason Coley.

The job duties of our Code Enforcement Officers are wide and varied and include some of the following:

- Condemning unsafe buildings
- Enforcing zoning regulations
  - Excess signage
  - Nuisance animals
  - Unsightly lawns
- Verifying business permits
Investing in Today’s Officers
Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer Roger Alvarez returning a lost dog to its owner.

Code Enforcement Secretary Teresa Aguilar
2019 New Hires—Sworn

Officer Matt Johnson
DOH: 11/19/2019

Officer Jonathan Blount
DOH: 3/21/2019

Officer Scott Faure
DOH: 10/17/2019

Officer Kao Saechao
DOH: 2/13/2019

Officer Saechao was the first Academy recruit that Ceres PD has sponsored in many years. Above is his Academy graduation.

Reserve Officers John Lee & Tony Scopesi
DOH: 1/23/2019

Officer Adam Hall
DOH: 6/19/2019
2019 New Hires—Non Sworn

Code Enforcement Officer
Jeff Varni
DOH: 4/19/2019

Dispatcher
Amber Evans
DOH: 7/1/2019

Dispatcher
Ashley Shaw
DOH: 9/23/2019

AVA Officer
Wagner DeFreitas
DOH: 5/6/2019

Dispatcher
Elizabeth Worstell
DOH: 11/12/2019

Records Clerk
Giovanna Pineda
DOH: 9/30/2019
2019 Promotions

Chief Rick Collins
Ceres Police Department’s
12th Chief of Police
Date of Promotion: 4/4/2019

When Chief Smith retired in March (see opposite page) and Chief Collins was sworn-in as the Department’s newest Chief, this left an opportunity for upward movement within the Department for three of our personnel.

Captain Patrick Crane
Date of Promotion:
4/9/2019

Lieutenant Danny Vierra
Date of Promotion:
7/14/2019

Sergeant Bryan Ferreira
Date of Promotion:
7/14/2019
After 26 years with the Ceres Police Department, Chief Brent Smith retired on March 31, 2019.

Before joining the Ceres PD, he served in the US Army in the Military Police in Germany. He began his tenure with CPD in 1993 as a Reserve Officer until he was hired fulltime in 1994.

Chief Smith promoted first to Sergeant and then to the rank of Lieutenant. In June, 2014, he was appointed as Interim Chief of Police. He was sworn in as the permanent Chief in February, 2015.

Chief Smith was responsible for many technological changes, improvements, and promoting community engagement during his tenure.

Chief Smith and his now family live out of state on a small ranch, where he continues to ride horses and hone his roping skills for competitions.

Officer Randy Moore retired from the Ceres Police Department on February 28, 2019. He joined Ceres Police Department on March 9, 1998. During his time with the department he served as a Field Training Officer, a School Resource Officer, and as a Detective assigned to the Investigations Unit. Officer Moore and his wife remain in the area and he is the owner of Code 7 BBQ.

Officer George Woodward retired from the Ceres Police Department on September 4, 2019 after 4 1/2 years with the Department. Before coming to CPD he was a Deputy with the Tuolumne County Sheriff’s Office. As a note of interest, Officer Woodward and retired Chief Brent Smith graduated together from the Police Academy.

Officer Ron Collins retired from the Ceres Police Department on October 19, 2019 after more than 23 years with the Department. He joined the CPD on June 13, 1995 as a Reserve Officer and was hired fulltime on May 6, 1996. During his time with the department he served as a Field Training Officer and School Resource Officer.
The Every 15 Minutes Program is an emotionally charged program designed to dramatically instill teenagers with the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol and texting while driving. This powerful program challenges students to think about drinking, texting while driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved.

During the first day’s events, students, who have been selected from a cross-section of the entire student body, are called out of class. One student is removed from class every 15 minutes.

A simulated traffic collision is set up on the school grounds and the student body is escorted to bleachers to watch and listen as rescue workers treat injured student participants. These participants experience first-hand the sensations of being involved in a tragic, alcohol-related and texting-while-driving collision. The coroner handles fatalities on the scene, while the injured students are extricated by Fire-Fighters and Paramedics. Police Officers investigate, arrest, and book the student "drunk driver".

Student participants continue their experience by an actual trip to the morgue, the hospital emergency room, or to jail for the purpose of being booked for "drunk driving".

At the end of the day, those students who participated in the staged accident, as well as those who were made-up as the "living dead," participate in an overnight student retreat which includes additional awareness activities.

The following day, the student body is again brought together for an assembly which stresses that the decision to consume alcohol and text-while-driving can affect many more people than just the one who drinks and texts.

This very emotional and heart-wrenching event illustrates to students the potentially dangerous consequences of their use of alcohol and texting while driving, regardless of how casual they believe their use is.

It takes an entire year to plan each Every 15 Minutes Program. Ceres PD is proud to partner with Ceres Unified School District, Ceres Fire Department, American Medical Response, the Sheriff’s Department-Coroner’s Unit, California Highway Patrol, Ceres Pro Tow and a selected group of community volunteers and business donors who work tirelessly to make this program a success each year.
Engaging our Community & Community Appreciation

Interacting with our local students

Investing in Today’s Officers
Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
Engaging our Community & Community Appreciation

National Night Out

Dennis Wallace Memorial Golf Tournament

Smash & Grab SWAT Softball Tournament

Peace Officer Memorial Run
Engaging our Community & Community Appreciation

Run with a Cop

State Police Officer’s Memorial

National Coffee with a Cop Day

Join your neighbors and police officers for coffee and conversation on National Coffee with Cop Day.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019
Sam’s Cafe
3612 Fifth St. Ceres
7 am to 9 am

The mission of Coffee with a Cop is to break down the barriers between police officers and the citizens they serve by removing agendas and allowing opportunities to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your neighborhood.

This event is presented by the Ceres Police Department & Sam’s Cafe

Questions? Please contact
Lt. Chris Perry
cpperry@0.ceres.ca.us

coffeewithacop.com

Down Syndrome Awareness Day: Rock your Socks!

Investing in Today’s Officers Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
Engaging our Community & Community Appreciation

Bears & Cookies, Cake & Goodies, and a BBQ!
Engaging our Community & Community Appreciation

Christmas Carols, Christmas Festival & Christmas Donations

Investing in Today’s Officers Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
Beards for Kids

Collecting, Wrapping & Giving

Ceres Police Officers Beards for Kids Association

Investing in Today’s Officers Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders
Ceres Police Vision Statement:
We will set the standard for best practice police services in the Central Valley.