TPD History in 1970's - 1980's



The year 1970 saw the appointment of a Chief who would serve the longest tenure in the Department's history. On February 4th of that year, **Donald E. Nash**, a Torrance Police Captain, succeeded Walter Koenig as Chief of Police. The organizational development and training begun under Chief Koenig continued under Chief Nash. Donald Nash is credited with providing leadership necessary to ensure the community received the highest level of police service.

During the 1970s, Chief Nash instituted several innovative programs including a Community Relations Detail, Neighborhood Watch, Police Explorers, Crime Scene Investigation, Field Training Officer program, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Crime Impact Team (undercover officers who work career criminals), Driving Under the Influence Team (DUI), and an automated Records Management System.



Chief Nash inspects TPD officers

During the 1980s, the Department's growth continued under Chief Nash's guiding hand. The current police facility at 3300 Civic Center Drive was constructed and the first "substation" was opened in the Del Amo Fashion Center mall. Additional programs were developed including the Canine Detail, Shopping Center Detail, Beach Patrol, D.A.R.E., Narcotics "Majors" Team, Traffic Enforcement Safety Team, Crime Analysis Detail, Identification (ID) Section, and Eliminate Alcohol Sales to Youth (EASY).