

JANUARY 2023



Sheriff's Advisory Foundation

LEADING THE WAY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY



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Message from the Sheriff



I want to first wish everyone a very happy, safe, and prosperous 2023. That's my usual greeting for the new year. The one thing that I've mentioned in past years that I won't be going into detail this time around is the pandemic. Thank goodness. Cases are down. And the resulting fear about the pandemic is also down. With that in mind, we can start 2023 on a note of optimism. And so, I wanted to present to you my annual State of the Sheriff's Office.

Perhaps, there was no story bigger this past year than the conviction of Paul Flores for the murder of Kristin Smart. After a three month trial in Monterey County, Flores was convicted by a jury of first degree murder. It's been a long process to get to this point. A 26-year-long process.



Many of you know the story. In May of 1996, Kristin went missing from the campus of Cal Poly. The last person to see her alive was Paul Flores, who was the prime suspect in her disappearance. Over those many years, investigators doggedly tracked down leads, evidence, and witnesses. A podcast about the case by Chris Lambert helped shine new light on the investigation.

The investigation began to intensify in 2020. In February of that year, Sheriff's Detectives served search warrants at the home of Paul Flores, as well as his sister, mother, and father. Physical evidence recovered during these searches led to the service of an additional search warrant at Flores' residence in April of that year. In March of 2021, Detectives served a search warrant at the Arroyo Grande home of Ruben Flores, the father of Paul Flores. Additional evidence related to the murder of Kristin Smart is discovered at the site.

And then on April 13, 2021 the Sheriff's Office arrested Paul Flores for the murder of Kristin Smart. That same day, his father Ruben Flores was arrested as an accessory to murder.

The trial for both got underway in a Salinas courtroom on July 18, 2022. The jury heard evidence that a clandestine grave was located beneath the deck of the home of Ruben Flores, believed to have previously held Kristin's body. Kristin's remains have never been recovered.

On October 18, two separate juries returned their verdicts. They found Paul Flores guilty of the first-degree murder of Kristin Smart. Ruben Flores was found not guilty of being an accessory to Kristin's murder.

I am grateful to District Attorney Dan Dow and Deputy District Attorney Chris Peuvrelle for the successful prosecution of this case. My thanks as well to all the members of the Sheriff's Office who worked on this case over the years. Because of them and their tireless commitment, we were able to bring this case to a successful resolution and a verdict that is right and just. My thoughts are with the Smart family. I thank them for their patience and support during this most difficult of times.

But this case will not be over until Kristin is returned home. I remain committed to that fact. We don't take a breath. We do not put this aside. We continue to pursue this until we bring Kristin home to her family. It is my hope that we are able to bring some closure to the Smart family. Peace to our community. And justice, once and for all, for Kristin.

I think it only appropriate to finish this article like the way I started it, with my words from last year. I'm extremely grateful to the men and women of the Sheriff's Office who day in and day out, provide safety and security to all who live in San Luis Obispo County. And I am thankful to you, the community, for making the place we call home, a better place to live. So, here's to a new year. Be good. And be good to one another.





Chairperson's Message

Renee Osborne

Someone asked me why I joined the Sheriff's Advisory Foundation (SAF). Initially, I was looking for something to do with my spare time. I had spent some time helping the Food Bank with the summer program for kids. Then I met a Sheriff's Office employee that was organizing the Sheriff's summer youth camps. He had great things to say about the new Sheriff. I met a few more Sheriff's employees and all had similar comments about the new Sheriff. He was making changes for the good of the department and had many more ideas to help change the organization. I know some people fear change, but the employees were ready and willing. I heard that SAF was looking for a secretary so I called SAF to learn about the secretary duties. It was going to be a lot of work! But after hearing about the Sheriff and how his employees felt about him, I felt he was someone that deserved my time and support. I'd like to share with you a few comments from my fellow Board members as to why they have dedicated their time to SAF.

I enjoy being a part of an organization whose main goal is to support the Law Enforcement agencies that serve our community.

Kathleen Martinelli

Sheriff's Office
Board of Director
SAF Family Day Chair

I like being a Sheriff's Advisory Foundation Board of Director because I believe in the mission & goals of SAF and enjoy working with so many diverse members in San Luis Obispo County who share the same desire to help law enforcement with funding and support. Our county is fortunate to have such a supportive community!

Victoria O'Keeffe

Sheriff's Office
Board of Director
SAF Board & Administrative Secretary

I enjoy being a board of director because of the inclusive nature of the existing board, the community outreach and networking events we get to participate in, and for the huge impact we make in the law enforcement community!

Jax Gottwald

Wellpath
Board of Director
SAF Social Media Chair

In general, government agencies are unable to fully address the needs of folks in our communities. Being on the Sheriff Advisory Foundation Board of Directors allows me to help define and implement projects that provide the much needed additional resources to the SLO County Sheriff's department. The Board is a great group of folks all focused on a common goal, working to support local law enforcement to help as many of our neighbors as possible and leading the way for public safety.

Tracy Weed

Tech Executive, Retired
SAF Board of Director



A Board of Directors of a Non-Profit Corporation like the Sheriff's Advisory Foundation is really a team. Each of the Directors brings his or her special talents, energy and devotion to the Board. Some Directors are good with numbers, others are good planners, some have the ability to find a middle path between divergent views on a particular issue, others have the gift of asking for support for the good causes we serve and finally, all are willing to work tirelessly to achieve the goals of the organization. A successful Board has Directors who are able to work together, respect each other's views and always follow the principles set forth in the Articles and Bylaws of the Corporation. Like any team, the Directors rely on each other and the collective talents the Directors as a group bring to the Board. Serving as a Director on a Board that works together for a common goal is gratifying. Many of the most delightful and interesting people I have met throughout my life were Directors with whom I served on Non-Profit Boards of Directors.

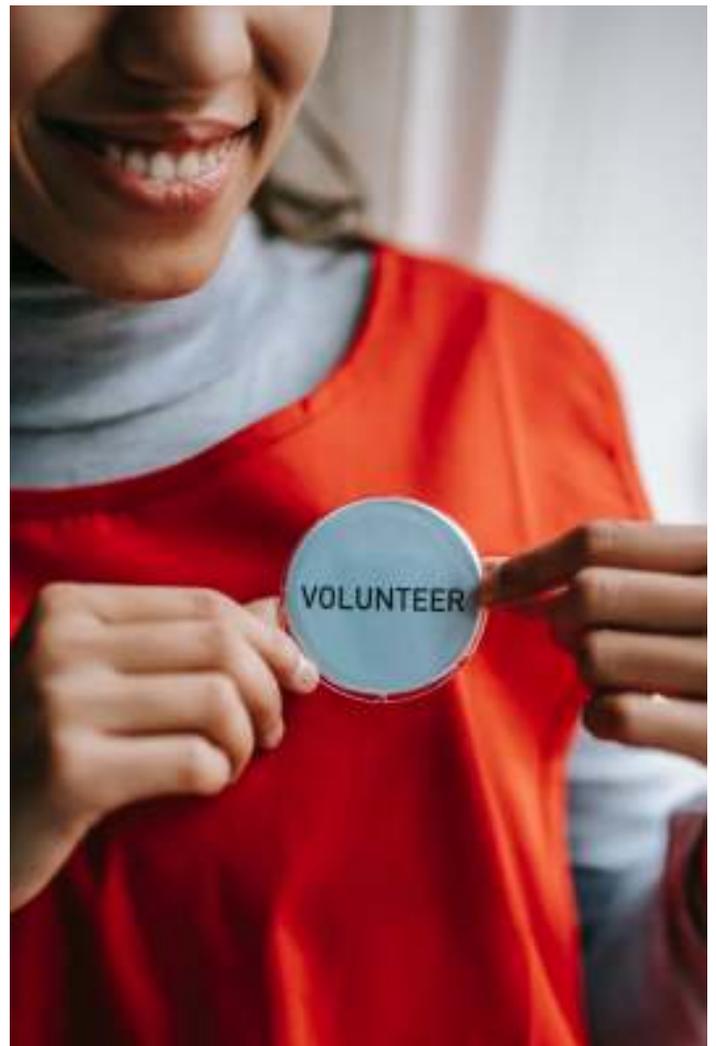
Michael Morris

Andre, Morris & Buttery
Board of Director
SAF Legal Counsel

Sheriff's Advisory Foundation is seeking volunteers to take an active part on our Board of Directors. You will be required to attend monthly meetings, help on various committees, and participate at events. Events include Sheriff's Family Day, the Annual Fundraiser, Sheriff's Awards Ceremony and more. If you'd like to help with change in your community, a Sheriff's Advisory Foundation Board of Director position is a great opportunity. Please email Osborne.Renee.09@gmail.com to find out more.

“ **Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.**

~Martin Luther King, Jr.



Annual Fundraiser - Renee Osborne, Fundraising Chair

We continue to improve each year with new ideas and venues. The Greater Giving App was very helpful with check out this year. Despite our printer problem, everyone was out the door by 4:30. I do believe that this is a new record! This year we moved our Fundraiser to the Paso Robles Event Center. It was a different vibe, one we would like to try again in 2023. If you have any thoughts on the venue, please send us an email. We had 100 people in attendance, 78 Silent Auction items, and 12 Live Auction items. I would like to thank our donors and Corporate Sponsors for their donated items, because of their generosity, we were able to have a profitable event despite our small attendance. Our preliminary total raised for the fundraiser was \$41,030.

| | 2022* | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total gross | \$41,030 | \$44,950 | -- | \$27,104 | \$39,394 | \$22,355 |
| RSVPs/at the door tickets | \$5,390 | \$10,465 | | \$6,955 | \$7,570 | \$8,645 |
| Mail in donations | \$340 | \$3,170 | | \$1,546 | \$1,260 | \$ - |
| Live Auction | \$15,750 | \$17,350 | | \$6,565 | \$17,800 | \$6,325 |
| Live Auction "Fund a Need" | \$13,530 | \$5,830 | | \$5,730 | \$6,500 | \$2,750 |
| Bar sales | \$ - | \$ - | | \$578 | \$433 | \$ - |
| Silent auction | \$6,020 | \$8,135 | | \$5,730 | \$5,831 | \$4,635 |
| Expenses** | \$8,389 | \$12,125 | | \$4,658 | \$2,724 | \$4,073 |
| Net income | \$32,641 | \$33,325 | | \$22,447 | \$36,669 | \$18,282 |

* Preliminary numbers

** includes venue, food, printing, decorations, misc. totaled

I'd like to thank this year's Fundraiser Volunteers. Without their help, we just couldn't get it done; Vanessa Nicholson, Rebecca Larsen, Sharon Ashworth, Jax Gottwald, Kathy Martinelli, Randy Arseneau, Sue and Joe Schimandle, Lisa Ray and Lori Klemowicz.

Sheriff's Office employees Sergeant Pintor, Sergeant Nicholson, and Custody Trainer Osborne came in on their day off to do Security for us. Amanda Martinez, Jeannie Scott and Melissa Hart are also Sheriff Employees that came in on their day off to help with check out.

I would also like to thank the following companies that help us put together a great fundraiser. Julie White Chaples from Adobe Springs provided the decorations to set the atmosphere. Bonnie Bardin from Bonnie Marie Catering did our catering. Jim Glines from Community Bank of Santa Maria, was our Auctioneer.

Occasionally our honor farm and inmates assist us in making items for our events. This year Senior Russ Hebard Correctional Deputy in charge of the Graphic Arts Program made our cup cake/dessert holders. In addition, Kevin Doherty Construction Programs Manager along with the help of an inmate made our stage. Now we don't have to rent a stage anymore. Thank you guys for helping us out.





Photos courtesy of Melinda Lodge

Endowment Fund

If you would like your donation to provide funding to the Sheriff's Advisory Foundation forever, consider a donation to the "Endowment Fund".

All money stays in the fund and the interest earned is transferred to the operation fund each year.

Your tax-deductible donation of money or real estate will help fund the foundation for years to come.

If you would like to donate from your IRA, you can receive a deduction for the entire donation up to \$100,000 per year. There are no state or federal taxes due on the donation withdrawn. Tell your accountant when you receive the 1099 that it was a charitable contribution.

Let's get this fund built up!



*SAF is looking for someone to
assist the Secretary and Treasurer*

About 2 hours every week.
Please contact Renee Osborne if you are interested.
Osborne.Renee.09@gmail.com

Sheriff's Citizen's Academy - Brandy Swain

The Citizen Academy provides members of the community an inside look at the Sheriff's Office and all facets of law enforcement. You may be surprised to learn we have approximately 450 people at the Sheriff's Office who work across almost 40 divisions and units. About 170 of those men and women are Patrol Deputies. And 150 are Correctional Deputies who work in the County Jail. We have come a long way from when the Sheriff's Office was created in 1850 with just one employee.

The Citizen's Academy is an 11-week course that's held one evening a week from 6-9 PM, starting in late August at the Sheriff's Office. Each night will have a presentation on topics like investigations, patrol procedures, drug and gang enforcement, and crime prevention. Some of the highlights include live demonstrations from our Special Enforcement Detail (our version of SWAT) and from the Bomb Task Force. You'll also get the chance to see a demonstration from our K9's and their handlers. Plus, participants will have the opportunity to do a ride-along with one of our Deputies as well as a sit-along with one of our Dispatchers. And all will have the chance to experience our state-of-the-art force options simulator that puts you right in the middle of the action making those same split-second decisions that all Deputies have to make.

The goal of the academy is not only to show all of the elements of the Sheriff's Office but to also highlight the men and women behind the badge. To hopefully give some insight into what we call our profession but also just happens to be our passion.

We would love to have you join us at this year's Sheriff's Citizen Academy. An application can be found online at slosheriff.org. For more information contact our Crime Prevention Office at slosheriff.org. For more information contact our Crime Prevention Office at (805) 781-4578.



Criminal Justice System Scholarship - Joe Schimandle

The San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Advisory Foundation's (SAF) scholarship fund has been made available by a generous donation from Retired Judge Richard C. and Mary Kirkpatrick, who donated \$100,000 to SAF. The scholarship fund honors the memory of Retired Judge Richard C. Kirkpatrick who passed away in July 2017. The scholarship fund was created to give residents of San Luis Obispo County, North Santa Barbara County, and the City of Santa Maria scholarships to advance their careers in the criminal justice system. The fund is intended to help working adults pay for educational and career advancement expenses that might not be otherwise affordable.

To be eligible to apply for a scholarship award, an applicant must be living in San Luis Obispo County, North Santa Barbara County, or the City of Santa Maria and employed in the Criminal Justice System who can use funds to advance their career in the Criminal Justice System.

Qualified applicants are required to (1) complete a SAF Criminal Justice Career Scholarship Application and (2) send the completed application and their resume to San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Advisory Foundation, P. O. Box 3752, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403 to the attention of the Scholarship Committee Chairman. The application may also be submitted to the SAF Scholarship Committee Chairman c/o Joe Schimandle at SAFSLO@yahoo.com.

Scholarship awards are intended to pay for tuition & school fees, class textbooks, supplies and materials, license and examination fees, and other qualified Criminal Justice System education expenses. Tuition and school fees will be paid directly to the school's financial aid office to be applied to the student's account. All other expenses will be reimbursed upon submitting a request for reimbursement with the appropriate receipt to the SAF Scholarship Chairman at the same address above.

Interested parties should contact Joe Schimandle through the above email address for further information or to obtain an application form to begin the process of applying for a scholarship award.



Financial Report - Donations Received

October

Zorro's - \$1000 Silver Sponsor
Senna's Insurance Services - \$2500 Gold Sponsor
Diani Building Corp. - \$2500 Gold Sponsor
AT&T / FirstNet - \$1000 2022 Sheriff's Rodeo Sponsor
Loretta Borges - \$100 Endowment Fund
Joseph Schimandle - \$100 Endowment Fund
Cambria Community Council - \$3200 Coast Summer Camp
Country Coast Classic Inc - \$300 Coast Summer Camp
Rebecca's Ice Cream Truck - \$200 Sheriff's Family Day

November

| | |
|--|---|
| AT&T - \$1000 Sheriff's Rodeo Sponsor | Frances Mullan - \$100 Bicycle Fund |
| The Single Senior's Club - \$100 | Debra & Kevin Oshea - \$100 Bicycle Fund |
| Borges - \$255 Endowment Fund | Arthur & Nellie Madson - \$100 Bicycle Fund |
| J. Schimandle - \$225 Endowment Fund | Ellen Castellanos - \$25 Bicycle Fund |
| NAMI - \$2000 CIT | Rita's Rainbows - \$2,000 Bicycle Fund |
| Cambria Community Council - \$3200 Coast Summer Camp | Dignified Hope Care Inc. - \$1,000 Silver Sponsor |
| Country Coast Classic Inc - \$300 Coast Summer Camp | Christopher Meadows Memorial Fund - \$1,000 |
| Diani Building Corp. - \$2500 Gold Sponsor | Sheriff's Search & Rescue |
| Senna's Insurance Services - \$2500 Gold Sponsor | Linda Beghtel - \$50 Grover Beach Police Department |
| Richard Miller - \$100 Bicycle Fund | Donna Brown - \$40.00 General Fund |
| Dennis McKenna - \$150 Bicycle Fund | Kevin & Kitty Rice - \$1,000 Annual Fundraiser |

December

Orcutt Burger - \$2,000 Sheriff's Rodeo Bucking Chute Sponsorship
Walter Bros. - \$3,000 Sheriff's Rodeo Gold Buckle Sponsorship
Larry & Janet Koznek - \$250 Bicycle Fund
Jennie Enholm - \$100 Bicycle Fund
Ramona Gentry - \$50 Bicycle Fund
San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club - \$2,000 Bicycle Fund
Madeleine Shaw - \$200 Bicycle Fund
David & Debra Compton - \$500 Bicycle Fund
Barr Estate Winery - \$100 Bicycle Fund
Henry Chase Trust - \$5,000 Fund a Need
San Luis Ambulance - \$1,000 Fund a Need
America's Charities - \$74.68 General Fund
The Blackbaud Giving Fund - \$120 General Fund
TriStar Software - \$1,000 Fund a Need



Officers & Directors

IAN PARKINSON
Sheriff-Coroner

Officers

RENEE OSBORNE
Executive Director, Chairperson
Acme Construction

RANDY ARSENEAU
Vice-Chair
Retired Auctioneer

JESSICA YATES
Treasurer
Sheriff's Office

VICTORIA O'KEEFFE
Board & Administrative Secretary
Sheriff's Office

MICHAEL J. MORRIS
Legal Counsel
Andre, Morris & Buttery
Founding Legal Counsel

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Wellpath

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J. JOHNSON
Attorney

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Retired Businessman

JERRY LENTHALL
Former County Supervisor

KATHLEEN MARTINELLI
Sheriff's Office

SGT. JEFF NICHOLS
Sheriff's Office

LONNY W. ROLLINS
Hardware/Software Engineer

JOE SCHIMANDLE
Retired CPA
Foundation Past Chairman
Founding Treasurer

SUE SCHIMANDLE
Photographer

*We are looking for a
Board Secretary*

If you are interested in the position, please contact
Vicke O'Keeffe at vokeeffe@co.slo.ca.us

Emeritus Board Members

JAY CONNER
Foundation Past Chairman
Real Estate

JAMES W. HUNT
Retired Past Chairman
Retired Dentist

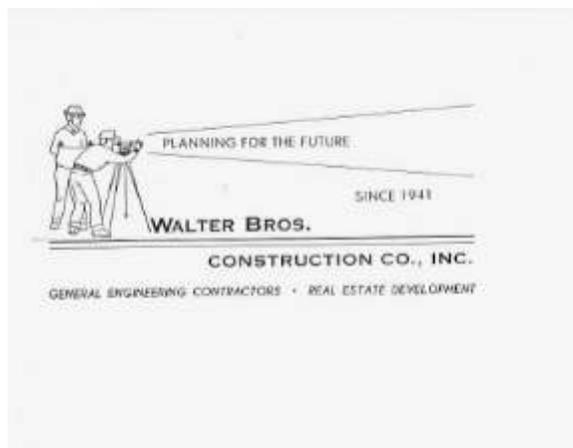
Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



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HENRY V. AND INELL CHASE



Silver Sponsors

