

LIFELINE

The Newsletter of the LIFE at LEMIT Alumni Association

LIFE'S BRAGS

Deanna Cantrell LIFE Class #AZ-1

Deanna, formerly an Assistant Chief with the Mesa AZ Police Department, was appointed Chief of Police of San Luis Obispo, CA Police Department in January 2016. Way to go, CHIEF!

Timberley (Douglas) Battle LIFE Class #7

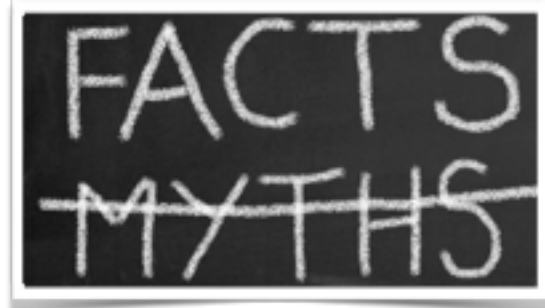
Timberley tested and placed #2 on the Sergeants' List at Beaumont ISD PD in November, and THEN she earned her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice in December. Awesome Job, Timberly!

Susie Murray LIFE Class #6

Susie and her husband welcomed their newborn TWINS in January. Congratulations, Murray Family!

Dee Donovan-Murph LIFE Class #12

Dee was named Outstanding Crime Prevention Specialist by the Central Texas Crime Prevention Association in December. Great job, Dee!



Do you ever hear these or other myths about women in policing? Try responding to them with FACTS

Myth: Women aren't thick skinned enough to be good police officers.

Fact: Police officers are exposed to undesirable and sometimes traumatic incidents. Compassion and empathy during those times serves the community well. Many of the interpersonal skills women traditionally possess are invaluable to effective policing.

Myth: Police officers aren't supposed to get scared.

Fact: All police officers, at one time or another, have faced situations that caused them to be afraid. The television and movie version of police work is exaggerated. While police work can be dangerous, even life-threatening, officers are trained and equipped to deal with these situations. The daily work of policing is relatively safe.

Myth: It is very difficult to be a mother and a police officer while working varying shifts.

Fact: Most officers are assigned permanent shifts within the first two years of their careers. Many female officers are working mothers. Some are single mothers.

Myth: Being a woman police officer is very different from being a male officer.

Fact: Badges come in gold or silver, not pink or blue. Policing is a challenging and rewarding profession limited only by the abilities of the individual officer. There are thousands of successful women in policing today. As more women have entered the profession, there is greater acceptance among

LIFE’S BRAGS

(continued)

**Sally Hernandez
LIFE Class #9**

Sally won the Democratic Primary Election for Sheriff of Travis County! Way to go, Sally - we’re all rooting for you in the general election!

**Shelley Knight
LIFE Class #4**

Shelley graduated from LEMIT’s Leadership Command College (LCC) in August, and graduated from the FBI National Academy (Class #262) in December! You go, Girl!



Upcoming Training Opportunities

LEMIT

April 13 - Crimes Against the Elderly

July 11-14 - New Supervisor Course

July 25-29- LIFE Class #16

Oct 31-Nov 4 - LIFE Class #17

Nov 6-10 - 4th Annual LIFE Alumni Association Conference
(To be held at Georgetown PD, Georgetown TX)

Visit www.lemitonline.org for more opportunities

April 4

APCO Disaster Operations and the Communication Center

Georgetown Police Department
www.pdtraining.georgetown.org

The world’s first comprehensive disaster operations course designed specifically for the public safety communications professional.

April 11-15

FBI-LEEDA Executive Leadership

Georgetown Police Department
www.pdtraining.georgetown.org

This program is designed for executive level law enforcement leaders, but enrollment is open to any level law enforcement professional. The course focuses on the emerging challenges facing our profession.

April 19-20

Brazos County Crime Victims Conference

Brazos County Expo Complex
www.evetbv.org

This 2-day conference provides law enforcement, prosecutors, medical staff, teachers, social service agencies, mental health professionals, and others working with crime victims an opportunity to learn valuable information about victim issues related to the criminal justice system.

May 3-4

Finding the Leader In You (Lifeline/Caliber Press)

Georgetown Police Department
www.pdtraining.georgetown.org

Finding the Leader in You is based on the premise that leadership, in its simplest form; is an extension of basic human relations' skills. Therefore, understanding communication principles is the foundation for successfully leading people.

Aug 22-23

Women in Command (Lifeline/Caliber Press)

Deer Park Court and Theater Building
<http://secure.calibrepress.com/event-registration/?ee=780>

Women in Command is an energetic and interactive two day course conceived, constructed and taught by successful female law enforcement executives.

WELCOME
New LIFE Sisters!



LIFE Arizona #2
November 30-December 4, 2015





For the second year in a row, the women of Georgetown PD will partner with Habitat For Humanity - Williamson County to host the Women Build Week in Georgetown. As women employees and volunteers of the Georgetown Police Department, we are passionate about supporting and empowering women in our community, and giving them the encouragement, tools and confidence to overcome adversity.

Each partner family contributes sweat equity to the construction of their home, and makes payments on a no-interest monthly mortgage, which helps fund and build more Habitat homes. We are proud and excited to join HFHWC again in their mission to give women and families a hand-up!

April 30-May 7, 2016 is International Women Build Week for Habitat For Humanity - contact your local HFH affiliate, grab some co-workers and/or BFFs, and go spread the sisterhood by helping women and families in your communities work for a better LIFE!



Conference Connection



The 4th Annual LIFE at LEMIT Alumni Association Conference is scheduled for Nov. 6-10 in Georgetown, Texas!

We are ready to form a Conference Planning Committee, which will be responsible for creating the conference agenda, scheduling classes and activities, securing instructors, and much more. If you are organized, detail-oriented, creative and well-connected (just kidding! But not really - connections would help, big time!), and if you would like to have a hand in planning this year's conference, please send an email to life.lemit@gmail.com.

10 Influential Female Police Officers Who Paved the Way

By [Will Erstad](#) on 3/23/2015



There was a time in our history when the very idea of a female police officer was unheard of. We've come a long way since then. Today, there are more than 100,000 sworn female police officers in the United States alone!

This progress didn't just happen overnight, though. It took years of smaller breakthroughs brought on by these determined female officers in the face of a world that thought of them as nothing more than caretakers and housewives. This list highlights and celebrates some of the most influential female police officers and explains how they impacted the field of law enforcement.

10 influential female police officers who should be remembered

1. Aurora 'Lola' Baldwin – Portland, Ore.

In 1908, Lola Baldwin became one of the first* sworn female full-time police officer in the United States. She dedicated her life to assisting troubled young women—spending years essentially as an unpaid social worker prior to her official police duties. Baldwin was required to pass the civil service exam after securing funding from the Portland mayor for a program to assist the city's "straying daughters." From 1908-1922, she supervised the Portland Police Department Women's Protective Division and spent her remaining years as a strong advocate for female police officers.

2. Isabella Goodwin – New York City, N.Y.

Isabella Goodwin became the first female police detective in 1912. She spent years working long hours as a police matron, which was the best she could hope for at the time. However, her fearlessness in the face of danger and penchant for undercover work helped her [solve one of the most brazen bank robberies of her time](#), earning her a promotion to police detective.

3. Penny Harrington – Portland, Ore.

In 1985, Penny Harrington became the first female to lead a major police department in the United States. Despite her excellent service record, the road to the top was not an easy one—she filed more than 40 sexual discrimination lawsuits from 1969-1985 without losing a single suit. After leaving her position as the Portland Chief of Police, Harrington spent several years advising the Los Angeles Police Department on women's issues and eventually co-founded the [National Center for Women and Policing](#).

4. Beverly J. Harvard – Atlanta, Ga.

Beverly Harvard enrolled in the police academy training as part of a [\\$100 bet with her husband](#). Upon completion of the program, she worked her way up through the ranks of the Atlanta Police Department to become the department's first African-American female police chief.

5. Marie Owens - Chicago, Ill.

Marie Owens is one of three women to hold the claim of the United States' first female police officer*. Owens' story is much less established than those of her contemporaries as records of her service were only [recently publicized by the Chicago Tribune](#). The Canadian-born Owens joined the Chicago Police Department in 1891, where she was responsible for enforcing child labor and welfare laws.

6./7. Elizabeth Robinson & Betty Blankenship – Indianapolis, Ind.

Robinson and Blankenship are widely recognized as the first female patrol officers after taking on the role in 1972. Their move into patrol marked a large shift in thinking among police, considering women were previously relegated to working in 'desk' positions or with juvenile offenders.

8. Georgia Ann Robinson - Los Angeles, Calif.

Georgia Ann Robinson became the first African-American female police officer in 1916—not a small feat considering the prevailing attitudes of the time toward women and African-Americans. She was an active volunteer in several community organizations around Los Angeles prior to being approached by an LAPD recruiter about joining the force. She accepted the position as a jail matron and eventually began working juvenile and homicide cases.

9. Alice Stebbins-Wells - Los Angeles, Calif.

Alice Stebbins-Wells was also considered one of the first* female police officers in the United States when she was hired by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) in 1910. Like Baldwin, Stebbins-Wells spent several years as a social worker before petitioning her city government for the opportunity to become a female officer. The publicity surrounding her hiring paved the way for many other cities to hire female police officers. She also played a key role in organizing the [International Policewoman's Association](#) in 1915.

10. Mary Sullivan – New York City, N.Y.

Mary Sullivan became the first female homicide detective in 1918. Sullivan grew up in a police family, so when the combination of financial strain from the passing of her husband and the opportunity to join the ranks presented itself, she jumped at the chance. Sullivan finished in the top five of her class and [her penchant for taking on and succeeding in undercover roles](#) helped prove her value as an officer, culminating in her appointment to the NYPD homicide squad.

**Marie Owens, Lola Baldwin and Alice Stebbins-Wells have all held claim to the title of "First Female Police Officer" in the United States. There is some debate over who is truly first, but all three have made significant contributions to the advancement of women in law enforcement and within the spirit of this article deserve to be recognized.*



Will Erstad

Will is a Content Marketing Specialist at Collegis Education. He researches and writes student-focused articles on a variety of topics for Rasmussen College. He is passionate about learning and enjoys writing engaging content to help current and future students on their path to a rewarding education.