The UCIPD Classroom

New Camino Del Sol Community Assistants learn about UCIPD

Coffee With A Cop
UCIPD Personnel Chat with Students Over Coffee

Welcome Week
Officers Register Student Bicycles on Ring Road
What has now become an annual tradition, the General Manager of Camino Del Sol Housing Community, Alex Rubio, brings his new Community Assistants (CA) to our department for a Meet & Greet session. Providing our officers a chance to casually chat with the new CAs while simultaneously allowing the CAs to ask questions, there’s no doubt that these types of visits are mutually beneficial as it fosters trust and friendship between our officers and the housing staff. Sergeant Sloan did a spectacular job enlightening the CAs with safety tips and humorous stories in policing as he took the lead for this year’s group. More importantly, drawing experiences from his years in law enforcement, he offered them practical guidance on how they can better effectively perform their jobs while also re-affirming how our police department is able to support them in certain situations.

Due to his affable and welcoming nature, the CAs quickly warmed up to Sergeant Sloan and began feeling comfortable enough to ask him about common law enforcement myths (such as ticket quotas) and inquiring about common policing tools such as the taser, hobble, and OC spray. The CAs were provided an in-depth tour of the department where other officers joined in to explain the different facets of the job such as patrol operations and dispatch.

We sincerely appreciate Alex Rubio’s initiative to develop this relationship between our department and his staff. We eagerly look forward to meeting the CAs from the other housing communities to visit our station because Alex has encouraged his fellow general managers to follow suit in this fun tradition.
Top: Officer Gomex uses his humor to build rapport with the students as he shows them the vehicle's computer and lighting equipment.

Left: Officer Ramirez answers questions from a new Camino Del Sol Community Assistant.
Top: The Community Assistants laugh as they listen to Sergeant Sloan’s humorous patrol stories.

Left: Officer Ramirez gives a brief introduction to our Dispatch Center.

Right: Officer Ortega demonstrating the operation of a breathalyzer.

Bottom: Sergeant Sloan shares a fun moment with a student.
Top: Officer Gomex and Officer Ramirez pose with the new Camino Del Sol Community Assistants.

Right: Camino Del Sol staff sent UCIPD a ‘Thank You’ gift basket for providing them safety training and tour as part of the S.A.F.E.R. program.

They wrote: “Thank you to everyone at the UCIPD for all you do! Special thank you to Sgt. Sloan, Ofcs. Ramirez, Ortega, Gomex and Dispatchers Sandra Bybee and Yvette Barbari for the tour!”
With the approach of Fall quarter and students slowly trickling back to campus, it was a clear sign that summer had finally concluded and PD operations were about to be back in full swing. Middle Earth and Mesa Court was bustling with activity as excited incoming freshman moved into their new home to begin their college life. UCIPD officers hosted booths at each housing community to welcome new students and assist them with registering their bicycles as part of University policy.

Community Service Officers (CSOs) were also busy as they worked tirelessly throughout the move-in weekend. They did a phenomenal job assisting Sharon Stead, Middle Earth Housing Director, with monitoring the flow of vehicle traffic while also guiding students and parents through the check-in process. During ‘Welcome Week’, officers were assigned to the Bicycle Enforcement & Education Program (B.E.E.P.), but rather than issuing citations, they practiced good community policing by providing friendly reminders to students about the campus policies regarding usage of bicycles and skateboards. Officers took the extra time to converse with students by asking about their hometown, their area of study, and what career path they hoped to pursue upon graduation. Naturally, some students appeared shy at first, but they slowly opened up and shared their individual stories of their backgrounds and why they chose UCI as their first choice. We hope for a fantastic academic year and look forward to more positive interactions with the community.

Officer Green casually chats with a young student as he registers her bicycle on Ring Road.

Officers Welcome Students Back to Campus
Top: Sergeant Mahoney provides directions to a new student who is beginning his first quarter at UCI after transferring from a local community college.

Left: Sergeant Mahoney and Officer Green attempting to locate the bicycle’s serial number during the registration process.
Top: CSO Carlson goes above and beyond his job duties by assisting a freshman with moving in her belongings.

Right: CSO Powell manages the flow of traffic at Middle Earth Housing during move-in weekend.
Top: Officer Bessolo helps a student register his bicycle while Sergeant Bolano looks on.

Left: Officer Wroblewski partners with CSOs to register over 60 bicycles in one afternoon.
Top Left: Officer Wroblewski proudly sporting his UCIPD slap bracelet.

Top Right: CSO Johnson provides information to a student interested in joining the CSO Program.

Right: Officer Bessolo educating a student on the campus' biking and skateboarding policies.

Bottom Left: Chief Cisneros attempts to recruit a new K-9 unit for our department!
Left: CSO Vera and CSO Sharma assist Officer Wroblewski with bicycle registrations on Ring Road during Welcome Week.

Bottom: A curious student tries on the drunk driving goggles and attempts to walk in a straight line as Sergeant Park educates her on alcohol safety.
On a brisk Wednesday morning, our department hosted a ‘Coffee With a Cop’ station on Ring Road in front of Aldrich Hall, the ideal location as students walked to their early morning classes. Our announcement of free coffee perked the ears for many of them as they were unabashed to take the offer for a quick caffeine boost. As our staff poured students steaming cups of delicious Starbucks coffee, they casually chatted with each student and shared general facts about our Police Department. Some students used the opportunity to ask about a career in law enforcement or how they could join the Community Service Officer Program. A group of students had a lighthearted conversation with Lieutenant Frisbee about the effects of receiving an OC spray as well as a typical day in the police academy. Because the students were pondering about a career in policing, they were curious about the training regimen. Although they seemed a little nervous about academy protocols, Lieutenant Frisbee re-assured them that they would do just fine. Thank you to Jeniffer Vallejo for organizing the event and CrystalRae Lugo-Shearer for using her network to help us secure Starbucks coffee and pastries.
Right: Three students were captivated with Lt. Frisbee’s story on the OC spray experience.

Bottom: A transfer student inquires with Detective Legaspi on the modern day challenges of working in law enforcement.
Top Left: UCIPD Staff Jacinta and Christine educate students about the Safety Escort Program.

Left: Jen providing general facts about our PD to curious students.

Right: Chief took the time to walk on campus to welcome students to Fall Quarter.

Bottom Right: Our coffee station was located in an ideal spot on Ring Road.
Emergency Preparation
The UCI Emergency Management Division hosted a two-day; 16-hour FEMA training titled “Executive Seminar: Prevention of, Response to, and Recovery from Campus Emergencies.” The curriculum provided participants with an understanding of campus emergencies involving natural or human-caused events, including acts of violence and how to effectively navigate through the difficult aspects of handling these types of situations. The course consisted of small, problem-based, integrated group activities that required a coordinated approach to solve. Through tabletop scenarios, course participants observed developing incidents and responded in a manner that was consistent with currently established campus plans, policies and procedures.

The training was made possible through FEMA’s National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) and this course was delivered by three subject matter experts from Louisiana State University’s (LSU) and the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT). The course was well attended and included both UCI staff as well as public safety personnel from other local colleges and universities which
contributed greatly to the quality of class discussions. A few of these other institutions included CSU Dominguez Hills, Loyola Marymount, Coastline Community College, UC San Diego and Los Angeles Community College District.

The training provided UCI emergency management with new “tools” and operational concepts to consider regarding campus preparedness, however, it also validated what a strong emergency management program our campus currently has in place. In fact, during the lead instructor’s final remarks, he commented that having delivered this course to more than 120 colleges and universities during his tenure, UCI has one of the strongest and most robust emergency management programs that he has ever seen. Furthermore, he requested permission to use the UCI Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and related Annexes in future courses as “best practices” to benefit other institutes of higher education.

UCI strives to be a leader in education, research, patient care, innovation and world change and the Emergency Management Division has adopted this same vision as it relates to being a leader in emergency preparedness both within higher education and the larger community as a whole. ▪