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**Peace Officers Murdered in California with One Shot:  
The 1980s**

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CPOA  
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# **Peace Officers Murdered in California With One Shot: The 1980's**

A single shot, a life is run...

-- The Author

## **INTRODUCTION**

During the decade of the 1980's there were 63 peace officers murdered in California (see Vol. 24, No. 1, 1990, Journal of California Law Enforcement). As a result of the Author's research, he cited in expert witness testimony for a police department in a Wrongful Death Civil Suit Deposition that 28 of those 63 peace officers (44%) were murdered with only one shot striking them. It is his belief that there are significant learning points related to peace officer safety to be drawn from that fact by further examination of those 28 killings. The tabulated data was gathered in interviews with the homicide officers or commanders who investigated the murders. Learning points are presented towards the end of this article based upon the Author's continued involvement and observations in peace officer field tactics training during the past 18 years in California.

## **TABULATED INFORMATION**

Table 1 lists 18 variables beginning with date/time, the victims' agency type of incident the officers responded to or was involved in, victims' personal data as to age, years of law enforcement experience, and duty assignment. The duty assignment column also indicates if the peace officer was wearing soft body armor (17 were or 61%). Whether the officer was alone or additional officers were at the murder scene is indicated in a separate column. Information as to the murder weapon type, caliber, distance from the suspect and fatal wound location is listed. The weapon type also indicates nine peace officers (32%) were killed with their own police weapons. Ages of the suspects and which ones were killed/committed suicide is tabulated in a separate column. For viewing convenience of the approximately 500 pieces of information most of the table's contents are further tabulated in a series of Charts according to just one or two variables.

### **Table 1: Year, Month, Day, and Hours**

By year the numbers ranged from two murders, each, in 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987, to a high of five murdered in 1983 and 1988. The average was 2.8 peace officers murdered each year struck by a single shot.

According to months the range was from zero in one month (February) to five murders each in January, March, and June. Other months varied from one to three slayings each.

By Day of the week least lethal days with two murders each were Tuesday, Wednesday, and Sunday followed by Monday and Friday with four killings each. The deadliest days were Thursday and Saturday with six and eight slayings respectively.

By one-hour increments the most lethal hour was 2000 (8:00-8:59PM) with three murders, followed with two murders in each of the hours 0800, 0900, 1000, 1100, 1200, 1400, 1700, 1800, 2100, and 0100. No officers were slain 1300, 1500, 1900, 2200, and 0200-0559 Hours. Taking hours of

light as 0600-1759 Hours, 17 peace officer (61%) were murdered then and 11 were killed during darkness, 1800-0559 Hours.

#### **CHART #1: Murders by Type of Agency**

This Chart lists over half of the slain officers (15 or 54%) employed by municipal police departments; 11 or 39% were sheriff departments employees, one was a United States Secret Service Agent, and one was a Sacramento District Attorney's Investigator, the Table indicates five law enforcement agencies (Oakland, Los Angeles Police, Los Angeles Sheriff's, San Joaquin Sheriff's, and San Jose) had more than one employee murdered, which accounted for 12 victims or 43% of the total. Regionally nine of the slain peace officers were employed in the San Francisco Bay area, six in the Central Valley area, and 13 in Southern California.

#### **CHART #2: Murders by Type of Activity**

The most dangerous type of call or activity that murdered officers were engaged in was a suspicious person which accounted for seven killings or 25% of the total number killed with one shot. Robbery, man-with-a-gun, and narcotics related activities accounted for four killings each. Traffic violators and mentally deranged persons murdered two officers in each category, while one peace officer was slain in each of the following activities: suspicious vehicle, family disturbance, burglary, murder suspect, and serving a non-support warrant.

This Chart also looks to other data by indicating with asterisks (\*) which officers were murdered with their own police weapons. In both calls dealing with a mentally deranged person the peace officers were killed with their own service sidearms, and in three of the seven suspicious person calls the officers were killed with their police weapons (two with their sidearms and one with the shotgun forcible removed from the patrol car). One peace officer was killed with a police weapon in each of the categories of robbery (shotgun), traffic violator (during booking process of a drunk driver), and apprehending a burglary suspect.

#### **CHART #3: Murders by Age of Victims in Years**

Ages of the 28 victims are listed in five-year increments. The increment of 31-35 years contained the most murders (10 or 36%) followed by 26-30 years and 36-40 years with six slaying each. Three victims were ages 21-25 years, two victims were 41-45 years and one victim was 46 years old. The average age was 33.5 years.

The second variable, peace officers slain with their own police weapons is again marked with asterisks, and indicates 40% of the 31-35 age group provided the means of their demise. The average age of these nine victims killed with their own police weapons was 33.3 years.

#### **CHART #4: Murders by Victims Years of Law Enforcement Experience**

Law enforcement experience of the victims is listed by five-year increments starting with 1-5 which accounted for eight murders (29%). Eleven peace officers (39%) had 6-10 years experience, five had 11-15 years and four had 16-20 years experience. The average years of law enforcement experience for the 28 victims was nine years.

Three peace officers with 1-5 years law enforcement experience were killed with their own weapons while four officers with 6-10 years experience, and two with 16-20 years experience were slain with police weapons. The average years of law enforcement experience for the nine

victims killed with their own police weapons was 8.7 years.

#### **CHART #5: Murders by Victims Assignment**

The categories listed in this Chart are uniform or patrol duties, plainclothes or detectives duties, and special enforcement or SWAT type of duties. Sixteen of the 28 victims (57%) were assigned to uniform, eight were working plainclothes, and four were part of a special enforcement detail at the time they were shot.

This Chart is supplemented in Table #1 which indicates that four of the victims were sergeants. Two sergeants were assigned to special enforcement, and one, each, to uniform and plainclothes.

The Chart contains another variable with the bracketed number ( ) listing which of the 17 victims (61%) were wearing soft body armor. All four special enforcement personnel were wearing protective armor as was one plainclothes officer. Twelve of 16 uniform officers were wearing soft armor.

#### **CHART #6: Number of Additional Peace Officers at Murder Scene**

In seven of the 28 murder cases (25%) the victim did not have other peace officers at the scene; however, in 15 cases (54%) there were 1-5 additional officers at the scene. Two victims were shot while 6-10 additional officers were in or near the murder scene, and in four killings there were 11 or more officers at the scene. In two of the latter cases, both involving special enforcement actions, it was estimated there were 30 or more peace officers at the scene.

The variable of the nine law enforcement officers murdered with their own police weapon is indicated with bracketed numbers ( ). Five of the seven officers who were acting alone were killed with their own weapon, while in the remaining four cases, there was one or more officers at the scene. In one of those cases it was estimated there were 16 other officers at the suspicious person scene when the deputy was killed with his own revolver.

#### **CHART #7: Murders by Type of Weapon**

The weapon types described in this Chart are handguns, rifles, and shotguns. Handguns accounted for 19 of the slayings (68%). Rifles were responsible for six of the slaying and shotguns were involved in three murders.

The bracketed numbers ( ) indicate the nine slayings involving the victims own police weapon. In two cases the murder weapons were the police shotguns, which in one incident was a female Secret Service Agent on a surveillance who became the victim of a street robbery, and the other case was a West Covina uniform officer who responded to a suspicious person call.

#### **CHART #8: Murders by Caliber of Weapon**

There is a mixture in this Chart because the three shotgun murder weapons are 12 gauge, while the six rifle murders and 19 handgun slayings are listed by millimeter (mm) size or caliber. Among the six rifles the .223 caliber was the most prevalent, used in three killings, while 7mm, 8mm, and a .308 caliber rifle were used in the other three rifle slayings. The 19 handgun slayings ranged from .22 caliber through .45 caliber and 9mm. The handguns used most frequently were the .357 and .38 calibers, which accounted for five and four murders respectively. The .22, .380, and 9mm handguns were used in two murders, each.

The bracketed numbers ( ) indicate the nine victims slain with their

own police weapons with the two handgun calibers of .357, and .38 accounting for three and two murders respectively. Other cases in which handguns were taken from the officers involved a 9mm in a family disturbance call, and an officer's .41 revolver while booking a drunk driver. Two of the three shotgun murder weapons belonged to the victims.

#### **CHART #9: Murders by Distance of Victims From Suspects**

The distances at which the victims were shot are listed in five-foot increments. Eleven murders (39%) occurred within 0-5', and five additional peace officers were within 6'-10' of their killer at the time of the shooting. Two killings happened within 11'-15' and four murders within 16'-20'. Single slayings occurred in other five-foot increments with the greatest distance being 71'-75' in which the murder weapon was an 8mm rifle used in a man-with-a-gun call.

The bracketed numbers ( ) indicate the nine victims slain with their own police weapon as six within the 0'-5' range and three within 6'-10' of their killer.

The symbols R and S indicate shoulder type weapons and if the victim peace officer was shot with a rifle (R) or a shotgun (S). Absence of a symbol indicates the victim was shot with handgun. The three greatest distances for the slayings (46'-50', 55'-60', 71'-75') were all achieved with rifles.

#### **CHART #10: Location of Fatal Wound**

Two categories are listed, head and upper-torso, with the upper-torso locations being divided into front and side descriptions. Nineteen of the murdered peace officers (68%) were struck in the head, six were struck in the upper-torso-front, and three were hit in the upper-torso-side.

Bracketed numbers ( ) indicate that 14 of the 19 officers hit in the head were wearing soft body armor, and three of the nine struck in the upper-torso were wearing body armor.

Two of the three peace officers killed with shotguns were struck in the head, and the other was hit in the upper-torso-front. Four peace officers were shot in the head with rifles, one was hit in the upper-torso-front, and one was struck in the upper-torso-side.

#### **CHART #11: Murder Suspects Ages In Years**

This information is listed by five year increments for the ages of the 31 identified suspects in the 28 murders. The age group of 15-20 years contained the largest number of suspects, nine (29%), with eight of the group being teenagers. All three murders which involved two suspects each were in this age group. Two suspects were in the 21-25 years increment, six in the 26-30 years increment, four in each of the 31-35 years and 36-40 years groupings, five in the 41-45 years group, and one suspect was in the 51-55 years increment. The average age of the 31 suspects was 29.5 years.

The Chart also lists by asterisks the nine slayings in which the peace officers weapons were taken and used as the murder weapon. The average age of those nine suspects was 30 years.

Table 1 also indicates with triple asterisks which twelve suspects were killed by peace officers at or near the murder scene or committed suicide. Three of the 12 slain suspects had taken the peace officers weapon and a fourth suspect committed suicide with the peace officer's weapon. In three cases the suspects committed suicide with their own weapon.

#### **LESSONS LEARNED**

Please keep in mind that the information discussed here relates principally to the 28 peace officers murdered in the 1980's that were struck by a single shot, and is only incidental to the other 35 peace officers murdered in that decade.

### 1. Years, Months, Days, Times of Murders

There is nothing remarkable about the spread of the date, and time factors other than Saturday and Thursday remain the days with the highest murder rates, accounting for 50% of the murders. Half of the Saturday killing (4) were a man-with-gun call, and all four of those types of calls occurred on Saturday. A majority of the peace officers (61%) were killed during the hours of light (0600-1759 Hours).

*Perhaps key tactical considerations here are to make better use of silent approaches to high-risk calls, ensuring the maintenance of the "initial position of advantage," and the use of cover and concealment. Obtaining as much information as is available through the dispatcher, regardless of day, or time should always be a conscious effort on the responding officer's part.*

### 2. Types of Agencies

It was not unexpected to see over half of the slain peace officers (54%) were from city police departments as they comprise over half of sworn law enforcement in the State. Neither was it unexpected to see the very large jurisdictions (Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland) experience multiple slayings based on the large numbers of calls for service they experience. By regions the deaths followed the population patterns of the State, except the far North (north of Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay area) was spared any casualties. However, it is noteworthy that in addition to five larger jurisdictions accounting for 12 victims, there were 16 additional agencies touched by this tragedy, including a district attorney's office and a federal agency.

*Law enforcement agencies that are rural as well as urban, small as well as large, and specialized as well as generalized in providing police services must provide on-going officer safety and field tactics training.*

### 3. Type of Activity

Five types of calls, suspicious person, robbery, man-with-gun, narcotics, and mentally deranged person accounted for 75% of the 28 murders. Nearly all of these 21 incidents were dispatched calls, which means the responding victim had some time to mentally prepare for a potentially violent confrontation, and review tactical options. About one of every three victims peace officers struck by a single shot was murdered with their own police weapon. Three of seven suspicious person calls, and both the mentally deranged person calls resulted in the victims' police weapons being forcibly taken from them, or from the police vehicle.

But the mundane is also included in the incidents, which is reflected in officers being killed on a traffic stop, booking a drunk driver, and serving a non-support warrant. A peace officer was killed with his own service sidearm taken from him in one of these "mundane/routine" activities-booking a drunk driver.

*Peace officers must prepare themselves mentally, and review their tactical options when knowingly entering potentially violent confrontations such as robbery, man-with-gun, and narcotics calls. Confrontations with the unknown (suspicious person or circumstances) should also trigger the same mental processes. Peace officers must constantly review their service*



*side-arm retention tactics because of the physical encounters required in effecting arrests. Law enforcement agencies should review the restraining capabilities of the shotgun locks in their vehicles as one suspect ripped the shotgun mechanism with shotgun from the police car and killed the officer with the shotgun (still locked in the mechanism).*

#### 4. Age of Victims

Victims ranged in age from 24 to 46 years with the five-year increment of 31-35 accounting for 10 of the 28 murders. The average age of the 28 victims was 33.5 years. Two of nine peace officers under age 31 were killed with their own weapon (shotgun ripped from the patrol car by a suspicious person, and a fleeing burglary suspect that wrestled the side arm from the officer). Seven officers killed with their own weapons were over age 31 years. The average age of the nine peace officers killed with their own police weapon was the same as the overall group, 33.5 years.

*As peace officers get older the requirements to remain mentally alert, and physically strong do not wane, rather, they should intensify because of the cumulative effects of handling an increasing number of calls, exposure to a greater number of arrest situation, and potentially violent encounters.*

#### 5. Years of Law Enforcement Experience

The average years of law enforcement experience for the 28 victims was nine years. Nearly 40% of the victims (11) had 6-10 years experience, and four of that number were killed with their own service sidearm. The nine officers murdered with their own police weapon averaged 8.7 years of experience.

The average years to retirement for a career in law enforcement is between 25-30 years. The figures in this and other surveys indicates that at about one-third of their way to retirement is when the greatest number of peace officers are killed.

*Beware of what the Author refers to as the "Sophomore Complex" when the officer has handled similar types of calls many times, and becomes careless or complacent. Perhaps with experience the officer tends to hurry the call, and does not take a few additional seconds to do a more complete assessment of the situation.*

#### 6. Victims Assignment

While 57% of the slain officers were assigned to uniform patrol (16), another eight were working plainclothes at the time of their deaths. Rather surprisingly four of the murdered peace officers were working a special weapons and tactics or special enforcement detail. One of every seven peace officers murdered with a single shot were sergeants (4), and two of that number were special enforcement supervisors. One plainclothes supervisor was attempting to assist patrol in stopping a fleeing robbery suspect vehicle, while a uniform sergeant was killed with his service sidearm taken from him in attempting to arrest a suspicious person.

Sixty-one percent of the victims were wearing soft body armor at the time of the shooting (17), and all four special enforcement detail personnel were utilizing body armor.

*Peace officers working in all the detail assignments within an agency, and ranks to include supervisors or others who may be responding to calls or making physical arrests need to be kept current in officer safety and field tactics training.*

## 7. Additional Peace Officers at the Murder Scene

The victim was acting alone in only 25% of the slayings. In the remaining cases (21) there was either a partner, backup officers. or in four cases there were 11 or more additional peace officers at the scene.

In the majority of the seven cases where the murdered officer was by himself (5) he was killed with his own police weapon; however, in four additional murders there were other officers present when the slain officers' police weapon was taken and used against them. Three of the officers acting alone were killed handling a suspicious person call, and one was murdered dealing with a mentally deranged person.

*Weapon retention skills and practice must be a continuing part of officer safety and field tactics training. While weapon retention is extremely important for officers acting alone, it must be a conscious part of an officer's tactical considerations even when other officers are present. Every effort should be made to dispatch at least two or more officers to potentially violent confrontations such as suspicious person(s), mentally deranged person, and disturbance calls. Officers responding to those calls must communicate, coordinate, and function as a team to protect each other.*

## 8. Type of Weapon

Easily concealed and maneuvered handguns accounted for almost 70% of the murders (19), and in seven of the handgun killings it was the peace officers' service sidearms which were the murder weapons. Shoulder weapons were used in nine additional slaying. In two of three shotgun killings the victims' shotguns were the murder weapons. In three of the four man-with-gun calls the suspect was armed with a rifle. Rifles were also the murder weapon in attempting to apprehend a murder suspect, robbery suspect, and in executing a narcotics search warrant.

*Responding to calls involving firearms, unknown situations (suspicious person), or potentially violent confrontations requires the peace officer to think tactical position of advantage, obtain as much information as possible from the dispatcher, particularly as it pertains to type of weapon and behavior/disposition of suspects, and to work as a team with other officers to maintain tactical advantages.*

## 9. Distances From Suspects

Thirty-nine percent of the peace officers (11) were killed within arm's reach of their assailant (0-5'), and another five victims were 6-10' from the killers. All nine peace officers murdered with their own police weapon were within 10' of their killer. The three killing which occurred at distances beyond 40' involved rifles; two of those calls were man-with-gun, while the third call was a robbery suspect apprehension. The three peace officers murdered with shotguns were all shot within 0-15'.

*The very close proximity of suspects to peace officers (arm's length) in many confrontations requires periodic arrest and control, and unarmed defense training of all peace officers who may be engaged in responding to calls or engaging in arrest situations-this includes supervisor personnel. Procedures and training for dispatchers to obtain and relay information pertaining to the involvement of firearms, including type, and violent human behavior indicators related to calls are of paramount importance for the responding officers safety. This is the foundation for the tactical approach, distance maintenance, communications with other officers, and the cover and concealment options the responding personnel select. These factors are of particular importance whenever rifles are involved.*



#### 10. Location of Fatal Wound

Nineteen of the 28 peace officers were shot in the head (68%), the other nine were shot in the upper-torso. Fourteen of the head-shot victims were wearing body armor, as were three of the nine victims shot in the upper torso. In only one case, which involved a rifle, was the soft body armor penetrated by gunfire. The other two upper-torso murders in which the officer had on body armor involved a shot in the side above the armor, and a shot below the vest in the stomach area.

*The use of soft body armor undoubtedly saves many peace officers lives, but its use by no means makes us invincible, and is no substitute for using good field tactics, and remaining current on arrest and control practices. It serves no useful purpose to advertise that fact when an officer has been saved through the use of body armor, or that the slain officer was shot in the head or below the body armor; that serves as a reminder to future assailants to shot for the head when aiming at peace officers.*

#### 11. Suspects Ages

Approximately one of every three murder suspects of the 28 peace officers were under 21 years of age, and eight of those nine suspects were teenagers. All three peace officer murders that involved two suspects in each case were in this 16-20 years age group. The next largest age grouping of suspects was the 26-30 years group with six suspects. It was that group that accounted for four of the peace officers murdered in which the police weapon was used as the murder gun. One of the youngest suspects (burglary), age 16 years, took the officers service sidearm and shot him in the head. The oldest suspect, age 52 years, shot a special enforcement detail sergeant during the execution of a narcotics search warrant. The average age of the 31 suspects was 29.5 years.

*The apparent age of suspects is not a barometer of their propensity for violence. The approach and tactical options should be based upon the available information and potential for violence, yet within the appropriate agency guidelines. The average suspect was four years younger than his victim, which points out the need for peace officers to maintain good physical conditioning and stamina.*

#### **SUMMARY**

Most of the learning points in this survey are very consistent with the survey referenced in the introduction which covered all 63 peace officers murdered in California during the 1980's. However, several major learning points do carry additional emphasis. With 44% of the peace officers murdered during the 1980's struck with only one shot, we need to constantly reinforce the need for mental alertness to danger signals. Those calls peace officers receive that are unknown circumstances (suspicious persons), robbery, man-with-gun, and narcotics related enforcement activities carry a much greater risk to life, and must be approached with greater attention to tactical options. Mental alertness, and tactical considerations must be applied by supervisors as well as field officers and deputies. The use of soft body armor as an everyday practice must be utilized by law enforcement agencies. Information on factors such as suspect descriptions, weapons involved, and violent behavior must be obtained whenever possible by dispatcher personnel and relayed to responding officers. Only through constant attention to officer safety principles can we expect to reduce the number of peace officers murdered.

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Table 1

**PEACE OFFICERS MURDERED IN CALIFORNIA  
WITH ONE SHOT-THE 1980's**

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	HOUR	AGENCY	INCIDENT	VICTIMS'			L.E. AT SCENE	MURDER WEAPON		SUSPECTS' ***	SHOOTING DISTANCE	WOUND LOCATION
						AGE	YRS. EXP.	ASSIGN. *		TYPE **	CAL.			
1980	May	Saturday	0859	Pinole PD	Murder Sus.	33	10	Uniform	4	Rifle	7mm	29 ***	16'-20'	Head
1980	May	Friday	1640	Riverside SD	Robbery Sus.	39	5	Uniform	3	Rifle Semi-Auto	.223	20/17	55'-60'	Head
1980	June	Wednesday	2115	U.S. Secret Service	Robbery Victim	36	4	Plainclothes	1	Shotgun **	12 Gauge	32	0-5'	Torso-Front
1981	June	Saturday	1757	Oakland PD	Disturbance-Gun	30	10	Uniform *	1	Handgun Revolver	.357	25 ***	26'-30'	Head
1981	August	Saturday	0925	Sacramento DA	Non-Sup. Warr.	32	5	Plainclothes	2	Handgun Revolver	.357	38 ***	0-5'	Torso-Side
1982	March	Thursday	1400	San Joaquin SD	Nar. Search Warr.	30	10	Plainclothes	3	Handgun Semi-Auto	.380	31	6'-10'	Torso-Side
1982	May	Thursday	0850	Riverside PD	Robbery Warr.	35	10	Plainclothes	1	Handgun Revolver	.38	44	0-5'	Head
1983	January	Monday	1215	Santa Cruz SD	Suspicious Per.	40	10	Uniform	0	Handgun Semi-Auto	9mm	44 ***	16'-20'	Torso-Front
1983	January	Tuesday	2045	Oakland PD	Suspicious Per.	25	2	Plainclothes	7	Handgun Revolver	.32	41	0-5'	Head
1983	March	Friday	1130	Los Angeles SD	Suspicious Per.	38	16	Uniform *	16	Handgun Revolver **	.38	36	0-5'	Head
1983	April	Thursday	0610	Los Angeles SD	Nar. Search Warr.	40	17	SEE (Sgt.) *	6 - 8	Handgun Revolver	.38	52 ***	16'-20'	Head
1983	August	Wednesday	1220	West Covina PD	Suspicious Per.	26	3	Uniform *	0	Shotgun **	12 Gauge	29	6'-10'	Head
1984	July	Saturday	1819	Fairfield PD	Disturbance-Gun	34	11	Uniform *	2	Rifle	8mm	36	71'-75'	Torso-Front
1984	November	Saturday	1418	Oakland PD	Nar. Sale Sus.	31	7	Uniform *	1	Handgun Revolver	.22	19	0-5'	Head
1985	July	Monday	0830	San Jose PD	Drunk Driver Bk.	33	11	Uniform *	0	Handgun Revolver **	.41	42 ***	0-5'	Head
1985	August	Sunday	1731	Selma SD	Traffic Stop	41	14	Uniform	0	Shotgun	12 Gauge	17/18	11'-15'	Head
1986	March	Monday	0136	Rialto PD	Suspicious Per.	31	10	Uniform (Sgt.) *	0	Handgun Revolver **	.357	26	6'-10'	Head
1986	June	Sunday	2110	Santa Clara SD	Mentally Derang.	35	7	Uniform *	3	Handgun Revolver **	.357	28 ***	0-5'	Torso-Front
1987	June	Monday	2015	Los Angeles PD	Suspicious Per.	28	5	Plainclothes	1	Handgun Semi-Auto	.380	17/19	36'-40'	Torso-Front
1987	December	Saturday	1002	San Diego SD	Man-With-Gun	29	8	SED *	30	Rifle Semi-Auto	.223	37 ***	31'-35'	Torso-Side
1988	January	Saturday	0020	San Diego PD	Suspicious Per.	24	1	Uniform *	1	Handgun Revolver	.22	24	0-5'	Head
1988	January	Thursday	2300	Sacramento SD	Suspicious Veh.	36	11	SED (Sgt.) *	30	Handgun Semi-Auto	.45	28 ***	16'-20'	Head
1988	March	Thursday	1035	Inglewood PD	Robbery Veh.	46	20	Plainclothes (Sgt.)	1	Handgun Revolver	.44	31 ***	6'-10'	Torso-Front
1988	June	Tuesday	0100	Los Angeles PD	Burglary Alarm	24	1	Uniform *	4	Handgun Revolver **	.38	16 ***	0-5'	Head
1988	September	Saturday	2025	Los Angeles PD	Man-With-Gun	30	6	Plainclothes *	1	Rifle Semi-Auto	.223	16	46'-50'	Head
1989	January	Friday	1152	San Jose PD	Mentally Derang.	45	19	Uniform *	0	Handgun Revolver **	.357	35 ***	6'-10'	Head
1989	March	Thursday	1820	Kern SD	Disturbance-Fam.	32	7	Uniform *	0	Handgun Semi-Auto **	9mm	26	0-5'	Head
1989	October	Friday	0700	San Joaquin SD	Nar. Search Warr.	35	14	SWAT *	19	Rifle	.308	42	11'-15'	Head

Total Murdered = 28

Averages = 33.5 Yrs 9 Yrs.

Average = 29.5 Yrs.

- \* = Peace Officers Wearing Soft Armor-17  
 \*\* = Peace Officers Killed With Own Weapon-9  
 \*\*\* = Suspects killed or Committed Suicide-12

Chart #1

MURDERS BY TYPE OF AGENCY

AGENCY	NO.
Police Departments	15
Sheriff's Departments	11
Federal *	1
Other **	1
TOTAL	28

\* = United States Secret Service

\*\* = District Attorney's Investigator

Chart #2

MURDERS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY	NO.
Suspicious Person ***	7
Robbery *	4
Man-With-Gun	4
Narcotics	4
Mentally Deranged **	2
Traffic Violator *	2
Suspicious Vehicle	1
Disturbance (Family) *	1
Burglary *	1
Murder Suspect	1
Non-Support Warrant	1
TOTAL	28

\* = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9



Chart #3

MURDERS BY AGE OF VICTIMS IN YEARS

21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50
3 *	6 *	10 ** * *	6 **	2 *	1

\* = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9

Chart #4

MURDERS BY VICTIMS YEARS OF  
LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE

1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20
8 ***	11 **	5	4 **

\* = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9

Chart #5

MURDERS BY VICTIMS ASSIGNMENT

Uniform	Plainclothes	Special Enforcement
16 (12)	8 (1)	4 (4)

( ) = Wearing Soft Body Armor-17

Chart #6

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL OFFICERS  
AT MURDER SCENE

0	1-5	<sup>2</sup> 6-10	11+
7 (5)	15 (2)	2 (1)	4 (1)

( ) = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9

Chart #7

MURDERS BY TYPE OF WEAPON

Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun
19 (7)	6	3 (2)

( ) = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9



Chart #8

MURDERS BY CALIBER OF WEAPON

Shotgun-3	Rifles-6				Handguns-19								
12Ga.	7mm	8mm	.223	.308	9mm	.22	.32	.357	.38	.380	.41	.44	.45
3 (2)	1	1	3	1	2 (1)	2	1	5 (3)	4 (2)	2	1 (1)	1	1

( ) = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9

Chart #9

MURDERS BY DISTANCE OF VICTIMS FROM SUSPECTS

0-5'	6'-10'	11'-15'	16'-20'	26'-30'	31'-35'	36'-40'	46'-50'	55'-60'	71'-75'
11 <sup>(6)</sup> S	5 <sup>(3)</sup> S	2 <sup>R</sup> S	4 R	1	1 R	1	1 R	1 R	1 R

( ) = Killed With Own Police Weapon-9

R = Killed With a Rifle-6

S = Killed With a Shotgun-3

Chart #10  
LOCATION OF FATAL WOUND

Head	Upper Torso	
	Front	Side
19 (14)	6 (2)	3 (1)

( ) = Wearing Soft Body Armor-17

Chart #11

MURDER SUSPECTS AGES IN YEARS

16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	51-55
9 *	2	6 .**	4 **	4 *	5 *	1

\* = Murdered Peace Officer With Officer's Own Weapon-9