

Chief Craig T. Steckler

Chief Craig Steckler began his law enforcement career in 1968 with the City of San Clemente, California, which is a coastal city located almost exactly between Los Angeles and San Diego, and is the north border city to the Marine Corps' largest base in California, Camp Pendleton. During his twelve years with San Clemente PD, he saw the agency grow from sixteen officers to thirty-six when he left in 1980. While with the San Clemente Police Department, Chief Steckler worked a variety of assignments including Patrol and Narcotic Detective. He was promoted to Sergeant and returned to Patrol as a Watch Commander and then to Detectives as a supervisor. He attained the rank of Lieutenant, which was the second in command of the agency, and directed the Operations Division. In 1974, while with the San Clemente Police Department, Chief Steckler was chosen by his peers as Police Officer of the Year in an award presented by the local Exchange Club.

In 1980, Chief Steckler tested for and accepted the position of Chief of Police for the Piedmont, California Police Department, an agency with twenty officers. During his time with Piedmont, Chief Steckler modernized the agency, increased training, and created the Neighborhood Watch Program, the Citizen Volunteer Program, and a Canine Program. He was elected as President of the Alameda County Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association.

In 1986, Chief Steckler tested for, and accepted, the position of Deputy Chief of Police for the Fremont Police Department, located in Alameda County, which at the time was an agency serving a community of 145,000 citizens. During his five years as Deputy Chief, he was responsible for the Operations and then Support Services Division. Under his leadership, the agency became the first police department in California to install laptop computers in the patrol fleet in 1988. During this time Chief Steckler also taught law enforcement courses at a local community college and co-authored two college textbooks, *Fundamentals of Police Administration*, and *Written and Interpersonal Communication Methods for Law Enforcement*. Chief Steckler has also published articles in the *California Law Enforcement Journal*.

In 1992, Chief Steckler competed for and was appointed Chief of Police for the City of Fremont Police Department, an agency which currently provides police services for a diverse community of 215,000 citizens. Chief Steckler is active in the California Police Chiefs Association and served as President in 2000. Chief Steckler created the website for the Association as well as started the e-mail notification system in 1999, which still serves the members of the Association. Chief Steckler has worked in both smaller and medium-size police agencies. This experience gives him a unique perspective of the challenges that come to a Chief in departments of both sizes.

Chief Steckler is a Life Member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) having joined in 1978 as an active member. He was first appointed to the IACP Executive Committee in 1997, where he served in that capacity as the Group 11 (California, Nevada, Alaska and Hawaii) Representative until 2004. Chief Steckler also served on the Patrol and Tactical Operations Committee, Financial Review Committee, Constitution Review Committee, and Ad Hoc Election Committee. In 2004, he ran for

Chief Craig T. Steckler
Page 2

Vice President at Large and won the three-year term for that position. In 2007, his term ended as Vice President at Large. During his ten years of service on the Executive Committee and Board of Officers, Chief Steckler missed only two meetings out of more than 40 regularly scheduled meetings. This shows his dedication and commitment to the IACP.

Chief Steckler is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the 128th Session, and also LEEDS in 1996, and is a member of the FBI LEEDA. Chief Steckler is a graduate of the California State University at Los Angeles where he earned his degrees in management and public administration.

During his time with the Fremont Police Department, Chief Steckler has created a number of programs which have been adopted by other agencies in California. Chief Steckler created a 40-hour diversity training course which all new employees attend as part of their introductory training for the Department. The course has been in existence for more than twelve years and is held as a model by California POST for diversity training. Chief Steckler created the Citizens Academy in 1994, and the Department has presented the course twice a year since 1994, graduating over 600 citizens. In 1998, Chief Steckler created a Citizens Advisory Panel, a group of sixteen citizens selected by Chief Steckler to advise him on policy issues for the Department. This group of citizens reflects the diversity of the Department.

Chief Steckler is a Past President of the Niles (Fremont) Rotary Club, which is the largest and oldest club in the area, and he is a Paul Harris Fellow. Chief Steckler is also Past President of the Salvation Army Advisory Board. Since 1992, Chief Steckler has been a member of the Board of Directors of SAVE (Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments), which is a domestic violence shelter and counseling organization.

Chief Steckler has been recognized by a number of groups for his leadership ability. He was given the Senator Liz Figueroa Domestic Violence Leadership Award, in 2007; the Fremont Chamber of Commerce Leadership Award, in 2004; and the Alameda County Board of Education and Superintendents Education Award, in 1999. Chief Steckler has been active in his community and involved in numerous community events which reflect the diversity of the City of Fremont. He has been recognized for his leadership by the Federation of Indian Associations of Northern California, the Indo-American Community Federation, the Gurdwara Sahib of Fremont, the Washington Healthcare Foundation, and the Fremont Chamber of Commerce.

Chief Steckler is married to Casey and recently celebrated more than 40 years of marriage. He has four children and ten grandchildren. He is active in his parish church, enjoys the hobby of antique collecting, and is an avid golfer.