



## Events:

- National Night Out **August 6**
- First Day of School (BUSD) **August 12**
- Police Commission Meeting **August 21 6:00 P.M.**

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 Non-emergency: (818) 238-3000  
 For emergencies, dial 911  
[www.BurbankPD.org](http://www.BurbankPD.org)



# BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT Community Newsletter | August 2019

## Burbank Mental Health Evaluation Team Welcomes a New Member

The Burbank Police Department Mental Health Evaluation Team (MHET) recently welcomed a new member. Sonia Casanova is a licensed clinical social worker and joins MHET with an eagerness to serve the community of Burbank. Perseverance and passion have driven Ms. Casanova's education and career to work with disenfranchised and marginalized groups including foster kids, adolescent offenders, and the persistently mentally ill.



Ms. Casanova earned a Master of Social Work degree from California State University of Bakersfield. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology with a minor in Psychology.

Prior to joining the Burbank Police Department, Ms. Casanova worked with the Palmdale Mental Health Center, Challenger Memorial Youth Center, and most recently the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Mental Evaluation Team, serving the Antelope Valley.

Burbank's Mental Health Evaluation Team is a cooperative partnership between the Burbank Police Department and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Its primary mission is to address the growing needs of those suffering from mental illness and homelessness.

For more information about Burbank's Mental Health Evaluation Team, visit [www.burbankpd.org](http://www.burbankpd.org).

# New, Reduced Speed Limit Near Burbank Schools

The City of Burbank, Burbank Police Department and Burbank Unified School District are committed to creating and maintaining a safe environment for everyone near school campuses. As part of this commitment, the speed limit has been reduced within school zones in the City of Burbank.

In November of 2018, an ordinance was adopted in Burbank to reduce the speed limit of residential streets in school zones from 25 miles per hour to 15 miles per hour. In accordance with section 22358.4 of the California Vehicle Code, the ordinance was adopted following an engineering and traffic survey. The speed limit is reinforced by new warnings signs that indicate a speed limit of either 25 or 15 miles per hour in school zones while children are going to or leaving school, during school hours, or the noon recess period.



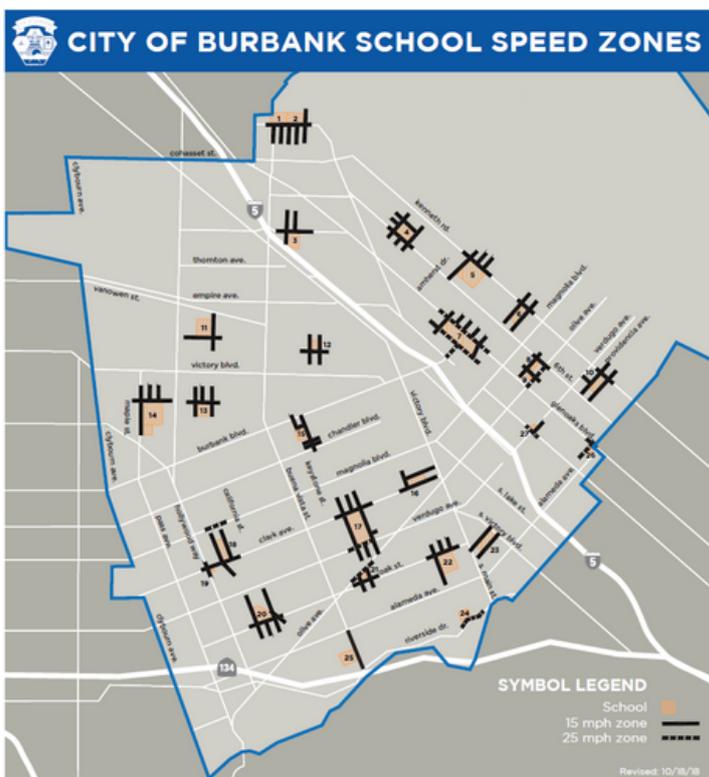
Although the majority of streets within Burbank's school zones have been reduced to a new speed limit of 15 miles per hour, arterial streets remain at a 25 miles per hour speed limit in accordance with the California Vehicle Code.

During the last six months, the City of Burbank Public Works Traffic Engineering Division and City of Burbank Sign Shop staff designed and installed 200 new street signs reflecting the new speed limits. The reduced speed limit was implemented near 24 schools in Burbank and includes 114 blocks of roadway. Additionally, staff created 12 new, all-way "STOP" sign-controlled intersections and installed 24,000 square feet of crosswalks. This entire project has been completed prior to the upcoming 2019-2020 school year.

In early 2020, additional 15 miles per hour speed limits zones, crosswalks, and stop signs will be installed at Jefferson Elementary, Muir Middle, and Washington Elementary Schools. These improvements will be made as part of a Safe Routes to School grant.

The reduced speed limit is an effort to improve safety near schools in the City of Burbank by requiring motorists to slow down and be cautious when driving through or near school zones, especially when children are present.

## CLICK MAP BELOW TO VIEW SCHOOL SPEED ZONES



## CRIME STATS: June 2018

Robbery	Aggravated Assaults	Burglary	Petty Theft	Auto Theft
4	10	25	196	14
<b>Total Calls for Service: 3,921</b>				
<b>Avg. Response Times (Emergency Calls): 3:11</b>				
<b>Avg. Response Times (All Calls): 18:13</b>				
<b>Traffic Citations: 635   Arrests: 406</b>				
<i>For a complete listing of FBI UCR crime reporting statistics, please visit <a href="http://burbankpd.org">burbankpd.org</a> or <a href="https://ucr.fbi.gov">https://ucr.fbi.gov</a>.</i>				

# Recap: National Night Out 2019

On August 6, the Burbank Police Department hosted its annual National Night Out event along the Chandler Bike Path. Dubbed "America's Night Out Against Crime," this was the 36th anniversary of National Night Out, an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

Hundreds from the local community came out to enjoy the festivities, which included bounce houses, ice cream and Kona Ice trucks, a fresh taco bar, bicycle obstacle course, and several local businesses and charity organizations. Throughout the event, members of the Burbank Police Department, Burbank Police Commission and Burbank City Council met with residents to discuss concerns, ideas, and explore ways that we can all work together to improve safety in our neighborhoods. Burbank Police Officers and members of the Command Staff also visited several block parties hosted throughout the city.

The Burbank Police Department would like to thank everyone for their support and for helping make this year's National Night Out event a huge success.

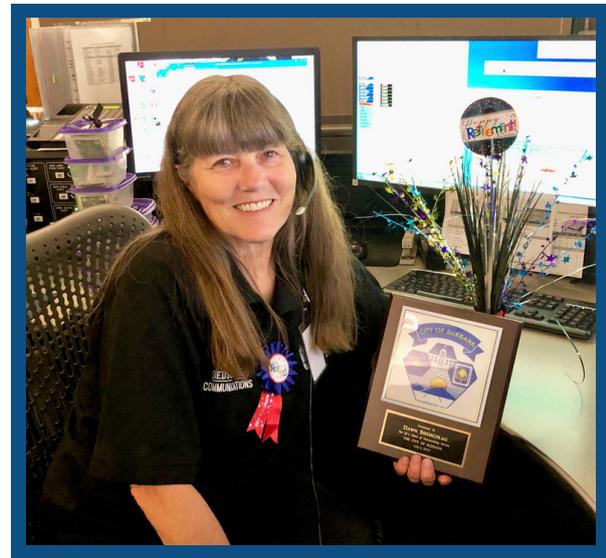


# Recent Retirements and Promotions

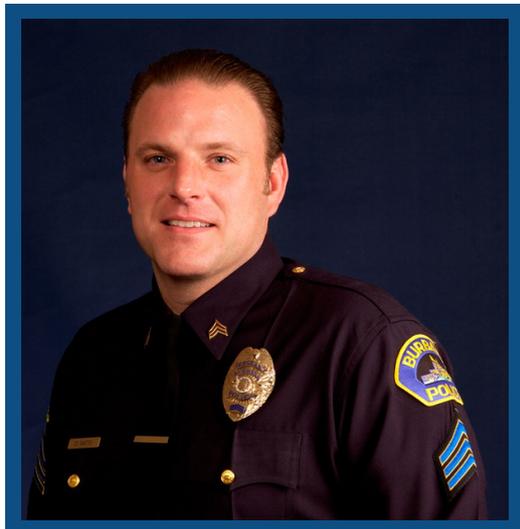
July saw the retirements of two veteran Burbank Police employees as well as several newly promoted employees. July 4th marked the end of a 21+ year career for Burbank Police Communications Operator Dawn "Deni" Siedschlag. Deni grew up in the City of Burbank, attended Burbank schools and played in local youth sports.

Deni joined the Burbank Police Department in 1997. She has always been known for her sense of humor and sometimes snarky (and loving) personality. Deni is a true professional and has always had a passion for emergency services. As one of the most tenured dispatchers prior to her retirement, Deni was known for always working the graveyard shift. Throughout her career, she demonstrated a sharp and keen sense of responsibility when it came to public safety and the safety of police officers.

Deni is looking forward to enjoying her retirement. She has a lifelong love for animals and will continue to help raise money and awareness for various animal causes.



*Burbank Police Communications Operator Dawn "Deni" Siedschlag retired on July 4, 2019 after 21+ years of service to the community.*



*Sergeant Tony De Santis retired on July 25, 2019 following over 27 years of service in law enforcement.*

Sergeant Tony De Santis retired on July 25 following over 27 years of service in law enforcement. Sergeant De Santis joined the Burbank Police Department in 1992 after two years with the El Segundo Police Department.

During his law enforcement career, Sergeant De Santis worked a variety of assignments including Patrol, School Resource Officer, Investigations as both a Detective and Sergeant, and Professional Standards in the Police Administration Division.

Sergeant De Santis is looking forward to enjoying his well-deserved retirement.

Lieutenant Travis Irving was recently promoted to the rank of Captain following the retirement of Eric Deroian. Captain Irving has been with the Burbank Police Department since 1998. During his 21 years with the Department, Captain Irving has worked various assignments, including Patrol, Air Support, Investigations, Community Outreach and Personnel Services, and Support Services.

Captain Irving has a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and is a graduate of Leadership Burbank.

Captain Irving is now the Commanding Officer of the Support Services Division where he oversees the Communications Center, Jail, and Evidence Room operations.

Other Department promotions include Sergeant Mark Stohl to the rank of Lieutenant; Detectives Brent Fekety and Mike Macias to the rank of Sergeant; Officer Paul French to the rank of Detective; and Communications Operator Selena Espinosa-Barcus to Communications Supervisor.



*Lieutenant Travis Irving was recently promoted to the rank of Captain and will oversee the Department's Support Services Division.*

# Back to School

## Traffic Safety

With the new school year upon us, the Burbank Police Department would like to remind the community that traffic safety around our schools is everyone's responsibility. By following a few simple rules and tips, parents and students can assist the Burbank Police in creating a safe environment for everyone near school campuses.

## The Do's & Don'ts

### DO:

- Be patient, especially in heavy traffic. Slow down, plan ahead, and arrive early.
- Use the safe delivery/valet drop-off areas when and where available.
- Always remember to pull to the curb when dropping children off at school.
- Have your children exit your vehicle on the right (sidewalk side), away from traffic.
- Stay alert and refrain from using cell phones or anything else that might distract you.
- Park your vehicle in the appropriate areas, obeying all posted parking restrictions.
- Obey all traffic laws and speed limits.

### DON'T:

- Park or leave your vehicle unattended in the delivery/valet drop-off area.
- Block driveways or stop/park in red zones.
- Stop your vehicle in the middle of the street to let your child in or out of your vehicle.
- Walk between vehicles in the drop-off areas.
- Allow your child to cross the street outside of designated crossing zones.
- Pass vehicles on the wrong side of the road.

### Additional Tips:

- Consider parking your vehicle away from congested areas and walk your child to school.
- Always cross the street at the corners and use crossing guards for assistance.

