

HARBOR

Port Police: Prepared

Port Police inaugurates new Tactical Planning Division to handle emergency events.

Story and photos by Dong Lee, Senior Lead Officer, Port Police

The Port Police is introducing its newest division: the Tactical Planning Division, an assembly of Port Police officers and staff dedicated to preparing for emergency events.

The recent movie *2012* depicts scenes of epic catastrophe and utter carnage happening all around the world. Earthquakes, tidal waves and asteroids engulf the mass public in panic and hysteria as the world comes to an end. This is just a movie, but how will we prepare for a real catastrophe? Will we be able to bring cargo into the country so that there will still be fruit in supermarkets, blankets for warmth, or children's toys for the holiday mornings? This is the question on the minds of the Los Angeles Port Police.

The Port Police has assembled an emergency preparedness team, under the leadership of Capt. Don Farrell, called the Tactical Planning Division (TPD). The TPD's main focus is mitigation and management of natural or manmade disasters in the Port. Being the nation's largest port, it is imperative to continue operations even when disaster strikes.

The TPD works closely with agencies such as Homeland Security, the U.S. Coast Guard, local police agencies and the private sector to assemble plans for Port facilities to prepare for any and all types of incidents.

Creating plans for an incident starts with evaluations. With the use of military threat vulnerability assessments and participation in multi-agency exercises, TPD uncovers the weaknesses of each vulnerability and creates ways to strengthen preventative measures. Additionally, information is gathered regarding evacuation



From left: Port Police Officers Wang, Grieger, Garcia and Huang, all Club Members.

routes, possible chemical dangers, and other facts pertinent to life safety. This information is put into an Internet database, where it can be viewed by assisting agencies during emergencies or catastrophic incidents.

Once a facility has been assessed, a written action plan is created. These action plans provide any first responder with all the necessary knowledge of the location, and how to handle possible catastrophes that may occur. This ensures that all agencies can cooperate and accomplish the goal of life safety and continuing the business of the port. Action plans are continually being reviewed and updated for the most up-to-date information. That way, if a catastrophe can't be avoided, it can be planned for.

Being "America's Port" means we have to keep our gears turning, no matter what may occur. With the threat of earthquake, tsunami or even terrorist attacks, TPD is taking a prompt

approach at strengthening the facilities of our great port. This proactive action is just another way that the Port Police is making waves to make the Port of Los Angeles the safest port in the world.



From left: Port Police Officer Grieger, Club Member, and Security Officer Walker at the Threat Detection Center.



From left: Port Police Officer Grieger, Club Member, and Port Police Officer Garcia, Club Member, use Adashi software to assist them in managing, communicating and reporting critical incidents.



Critical Site Surveying on Berth 93 by Port Police Officer Wang, Club Member.



Site surveying conducted by Port Police Officer Wang, Club Member, and Port Police Officer Garcia, Club Member.

It's Party Pix Time

Be a part of a Club Holiday tradition:
Have party pix from your City office's holiday party published in Alive! We want to print pictures from your holiday office party!

Is your office having a holiday party? Here are two ways to get your holiday office party pictures into the January Alive!

1. Take the photos yourself, and send them in as soon as you can. Digital photos are always best. And make sure you give us a description of the party: when it was, where it was, and if something significant happened, let us know that, too.

If there are just a few photos, then email them to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com. But if there are a lot, then it's best to burn them onto a CD and deliver (or mail) the CD to the Club. The address is on the inside front cover. Make sure the photos are as high resolution as you can make them.

2. Let us know when your holiday party is, and we'll try to send a photographer. Please note: There are more City holiday parties than we can cover, but we will try. That's why it's best to send in your own photos. If you want us to cover your party, talk to your Counselor (Arlene Herrero or Angel Gomez) or write to Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications, at rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com. We'll do our best to get to as many parties as we can, but we can't guarantee it. But let us know.

