

AIRPORTS

Ceremony for Chief Gannon

Public event introduces new Airport Police Chief.

Information courtesy Sgt. Karla Ortiz, Airport Police; Photo by Madeleine Flanagan, Airport Police, Club Member

On May 9, Patrick Gannon was sworn in as the new Chief of the Airport Police Dept. Senior officials from federal, state and local law enforcement, military, and airports witnessed U.S. Congresswoman Janice Hahn administer the oath of office to Chief Gannon. The appointment and swearing in of Chief Gannon were celebrated at the Flight Path Learning Center and Museum at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

Airports Deputy Executive Director of Law Enforcement and Homeland Security Services Arif Alikhan officially swore in Chief Gannon on Nov. 26, shortly after his appointment to the post.

The Airport Police Honor Guard began the May 9 ceremony by posting the colors, and the Transportation Security Administration-LAX (TSA) Choir performed the National Anthem. Airport police Chaplain Timothy Cheatwood offered a prayer.

Deputy Executive Director Alikhan said, "On behalf of the over 1,100 civilian personnel and sworn officers of the LAWA Police Division, we are very fortunate to have Pat Gannon join the LAWA team and rejoin the City of Los Angeles family after 34 years of distinguished service."

Congresswoman Hahn, Club Member and former City Councilwoman, presented Chief Gannon a Certificate of Special Recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives to

commemorate the event and to recognize Chief Gannon for his service to the public.

Congresswoman Hahn told Chief Gannon, "The men and women in this department, that you are about to lead, are some of the finest. We have charged them with an incredible



At the introduction ceremony for Chief Patrick Gannon were, from left: Assistant Chief Brian Walker, Club Member; LAPD Chief Charlie Beck; U.S. Congresswoman Janice Hahn, Club Member, Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon; Assistant Chiefs Michael Hyams and Ethel McGuire, Club Member; and Airports Deputy Executive Director for Law Enforcement and Homeland Security Arif Alikhan.

mission to keep LAWA's three airports, the traveling public, and air cargo safe. They are truly lucky to have such a fine leader leading them." She continued, "I congratulate you and you know you have my support."

Congresswoman Hahn also welcomed the Scott family and said, "I am wearing the pin that commemorates Tommy Scott and the life he lived, and the bravery he showed, which is evident in all of our Airport Police."

LAPD Chief Charlie Beck recounted his experience with Chief Gannon as a partner throughout both their careers with LAPD. He described Chief Gannon as "the most compassionate, honest, straightforward, intelligent, and well-thought individual I have ever worked

and secure." He added, "Our responsibility as Airport Police is that we are going to be, if we are not already, the best aviation law-enforcement agency in America." He said he believes "Los Angeles Airport Police Division has greatness and can achieve enormous things if everyone pulls together and sees challenges as opportunities and not as obstacles to success."

He also thanked Airport Police Assistant Chiefs Ethel McGuire, Michael Hyams and Brian Walker; police and fire captains; division administrative staff; and officers in the rank-and-file who have embraced his mission and pushed it forward.

Chief Gannon also expressed gratitude to the family of Officer Tommy Scott, who served four years with Airport Police before losing his life in the line of duty in 2005. Chief Gannon said, "The sacrifice the Scott family has made for the good of the City of Los Angeles and the good of this region in losing their precious son makes it a privilege to work with the family. They are such positive people that it makes us much more positive."

with." LAPD Assistant Chief Earl Paysinger said of Chief Gannon, "Congratulations to all of you at LAWA. You have gotten yourself a gem. Not too long, you will reap the benefits of his leadership."

In his remarks, Chief Gannon thanked all of Airport Police in helping to make his transition easier and described Airport Police employees as "a tremendous group of professionals who work to keep our airports safe

Since that time, the chief has accomplished several goals, including the establishment of "vertical staff meetings" with both civilian and sworn employees. In May on his 100th day in office, the chief outlined additional goals, including: assigning specific missions and strategies; community policing; managing large incidents; and Airport Police Division becoming a leader in aviation law enforcement.



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vs. Colorado Rockies	SOLD OUT Fri, July 12th	7:10 pm
vs. Cincinnati Reds	SOLD OUT Sun, July 28th	1:10 pm
vs. Tampa Bay Rays	Sun, Aug 11th	TBD
vs. San Diego Padres	SOLD OUT Sun, Aug 31st	6:10 pm
vs. San Francisco Gia	SOLD OUT Sat, Sept 14th	6:10 pm
vs. Colorado Rockies	Sun, Sept 29th	1:10 pm

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vs. Los Angeles Dod	SOLD OUT Thurs, May 30th	7:05 pm
vs. New York Yankee	SOLD OUT Sun, June 16th	TBD
vs. St. Louis Cardinals	Thurs, July 4th	6:05 pm
vs. Oakland A's	SOLD OUT Sun, July 21st	12:35 pm
vs. Tampa Bay Rays*	Mon, Sept 2nd	6:05 pm
vs. Seattle Mariners*	Sun, Sept 22nd	12:35 pm

* Food Included

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