CSU Northridge
Department of Police Services

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Christina Villalobos
Public Information Officer (PIO)
Role and Responsibility

- 27 sworn State police officers who are vested with full law enforcement authority
- Meet or exceed training requirements of the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (66 staff underwent 7,195 hrs. of training in 2008)
- IACLEA Accredited, May 2008
- Provide 24-hour patrol of all university property and surrounding areas
- Utilize a multi-dimensional patrol effort
Points from Chief Glavin

- “We value our relationship with the Daily Sundial”
- “We see the importance of the Daily Sundial as a vehicle to disseminate information”
- “It is critically important to respect the position of our PIO as the primary spokesperson of the department and not ‘shop around’ for answers”
Role of the Public Information Officer (PIO)

- Designated position created in 2005

- **Benefits:**
  - Central source of information
  - Consistency in obtaining information

- **Responsibilities:**
  - Responds to all requests for information
  - Acts as a media liaison
  - Advertises the services, activities and accomplishments of the Department
  - Community Relations - raise the level of awareness as to the services, activities and accomplishments of the Department
“It’s important to understand where we come from as a law enforcement agency regarding the release of information:

– Whenever possible, we will give details of the situation
– We will be as transparent as possible, but..
– Sometimes there are legal/investigatory barriers that give reason to withhold some information”
University Police Media Policy

“Establishes procedures for the timely response of information to the community and/or media and delineate what information may be released.”

“It is the policy of the Department to cooperate fully and impartially with authorized news media representatives and assist in their efforts...as long as these activities do not unduly interfere with departmental operations, infringe upon individual rights or violate the law.”

- Outlines certain information which may be released under the law
  - Arrestee information
  - Basic incident information

*Exceptions:*
- If it is an active investigation
- Name of the victim(s)
- Endangers the safety of anyone involved
- If it compromises the investigation
- Juvenile is involved
Common Sources of Information

- Crime Alert Bulletins/Archives
- CSUN PD Website
- Daily Crime Log
  - All crimes reported to University Police
  - Available on-line or in person
- The Clery Report (Federal Law)
  - Includes campus crime statistics for last three years
  - Published every fall semester
- Police Reports
- Newsletter