



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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CAPT. PETERS ADDRESSES LOCAL REPUBLICANS

Captain Timothy Peters, commander of the Los Angeles Sherriff's Department station that covers La Canada Flintridge was the keynote speaker this past week at the monthly dinner meeting of the La Canada Flintridge Republican Club at Beckham Grill. The leader of the station serves as a defacto police chief for the city as public safety functions are contracted with the LA Sheriff. Peters, speaking to 40 members of the club noted that 9/11 was a significant event that changed everything. He pointed out that one of the key issues is that Americans were not attacked by a nation but by an ideology.

He noted that "Historically, we collected a lot of data on the security issues, but it was not very useful, because people were holding on to it, had no effective way to share it and coordinate efforts in an emergency." Additionally Peters mentioned that this fact was emphasized in the 9/11 report. Capt. Peters strongly suggested that we read a 35 page summary, which can be downloaded from the web. A very interested group of local residents attending the meeting learned that after 9/11 the situation changed very quickly at federal, state and local levels.

Peters' presentation emphasized that major changes at the local community in response to the threat of terrorism have been met at the level with methods and programs that will allow ability to act by Improving intelligence communications and coordinating the emergency response. He noted six key things being done to protect the public from the ongoing threat from terrorists bent on destroying the U.S. These include the following current community efforts :local authorities formed Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) which converts data from multiple sources into the intelligence information and quickly disseminates it. JRIC coordinates: training information; threat information; military intelligence Federal, State, Local and Private Sector information; special training on how to deal with weapons of mass destruction; capability of various agencies to communicate with each other. As a result, according to Peters, Information is easier and faster to get; sharing resources leading to faster response; a spirit of cooperation among the agencies has been developed.

Wrapping up his talk, Captain Peters shared local success stories and told about how the combined efforts of local state and federal agencies, including the Sherriff's department had thwarted a potential threat by terrorists on the Los

Angeles Chevron refinery and told how local authorities apprehended a criminal wanted in Arkansas working cooperatively with police in that state using enhanced communication methods developed since 9/11.

The La Canada Flintridge Republican Club, 125 members strong, meets monthly on the fourth Monday of each month. For further information about meetings or joining the organization, the club asks that you call (818) 952-1969.

