In 2008, the LAPD partnered with IBM to equip 300 black and white police vehicles in South Bureau with “Digital In-Car Video Systems.”

On September 12, 2008, at 1622 hours, a Union Pacific freight train and a Metrolink commuter train carrying 225 people collided head-on in Chatsworth, killing 25 people, including one LAPD officer on her way home from work, and leaving more than 135 injured.

In 2008, the LAPD partnered with Metrolink Train Collision

Terry Hara was the first Asian Pacific Islander American to achieve the rank of Deputy Chief in 2008.

In 2009, Terry Lerma Carter was the first Asian Pacific Islander American promoted to Police Administrator.

Launched in 2009, the Police Orientation and Preparation Program (POPP) is a one-of-a-kind exploratory educational experience that places career-bound, law enforcement students in an established LAPD training environment. POPP is a two-year Associate’s Degree program supported by the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles Community College District that puts high school seniors and college freshman through a simulated LAPD recruit experience.

Officer Jennifer Grasso became LAPD’s first female SWAT officer in June 2008.

In July 2009, the new Hollenbeck Area Community Police Station opened.

In 2009, the new Rampart Police Station opened.

In 2009, Olympic Station opened its Doors and became the Department’s 21st police station.

In 2009, the new Harbor Area Community Police Station opened.

In 2009, the new facility for Department Operations Center (DOC) opened. The facility was designed to withstand a magnitude 8.0 earthquake and features blast-resistant exterior surfaces.

In 2009, Topanga Area opened and became the Department’s 20th police station.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa launched the Gun Buyback program in 2009. The Gun Buyback program rewards the voluntary surrender of firearms with pre-paid Ralphs grocery cards while engaging the community towards a common goal of reducing gun violence. The LAPD Gun Unit determines the type and classification of the firearm surrendered to determine the amount of each card.

In 2009, the LAPD’s Polygraph Unit was the first state and local law enforcement agency in California to have successfully completed the accreditation process through Polygraph Law Enforcement Accreditation.

With Michael Jackson sudden passing on June 25, 2009, LAPD was the primary agency responsible for the investigation of his death. In addition, for just under two weeks after Michael Jackson’s death, the eyes of the world were on Los Angeles, and on the LAPD. People from around the globe descended on the City looking to pay their respects to the pop music icon. Department personnel were providing security and crowd control at various locations. Michael Jackson’s Memorial Ceremony was held on July 7, 2009, at Staples Center. Prior to the public service, a private memorial was held at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in the Hollywood Hills.

In 2009, the LAPD implemented a brand-new anonymous crime tip reporting system allowing tipsters to submit their tips anonymously via cell phone text message or through the Department’s website.

Opening Ceremony of Operations-Valley Bureau (OVB) and Valley Traffic Division (VTD) took place on June 28, 2008.

In 2008, the LAPD partnered with Metrolink Train Collision

1,696 Weapons taken in during the 2009 Gun Buyback Program, including 40 assault-style weapons and a rifle with a grenade launcher.

1,696 Weapons taken in during the 2009 Gun Buyback Program, including 40 assault-style weapons and a rifle with a grenade launcher.

Officer Jennifer Grasso became LAPD’s first female SWAT officer in June 2008.