



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Girl Scout Troop 253 Visits Police Department

Riverside, CA -- Seven year old Alexa Martinez said her favorite thing about visiting the Riverside Police Department was the Dispatch Communications Center. Seven year old Alyssa Kriehn disagreed. She thought it was meeting the Chief of Police Russ Leach because, "he was nice to us and he is important." After the station tour, six year old Lizzie Lopez said she liked sitting in the police car and learning how it works. She added, "Now I know girls and boys can have important jobs like dispatcher and police officer. I can be anything I want to be."

On February 12, 2009, members of Girl Scout troop 253, lead by Troup Leader Sharyl Kriehn and other parents, visited the Riverside Police Department as part of a Girl Scouts of America program element to learn about government. Formed in November 2008, Girl Scout Troop 253 is one of the newest troops in Riverside. Most of these girl scouts live in the Mission Grove area of the City and attend Taft Elementary School.

Sergeant Valmont Graham showed the troop how to operate a police car. He said, "During station tours we like to teach young people about the consequences of disobeying the law and the different jobs offered at the Police Department. Of course, it's never too early to identify potential future dispatchers and police officers. Tours like these can plant the seed to future career choices."



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