

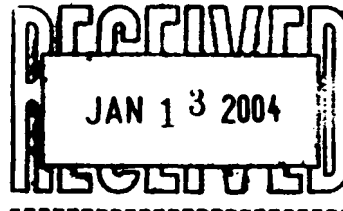


Police Department

January 7, 2004

King F. Davis, Jr.
Chief of Police

Mitchell Netburn, Executive Director
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
548 South Spring Street, Suite 400
Los Angeles, CA 90013



Dear Mr. Netburn:

We have complied with your request by responding to the seven questions on your letter dated December 19, 2003.

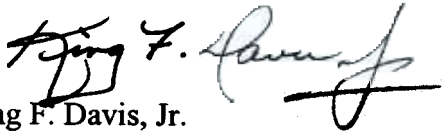
Responses are as follow:

- 1 The number of homeless people we encounter during the course and scope of our work in the field is not captured in a statistical database. However, based on our experience, the homeless population in the City of Azusa typically ranges from 10 to 12 people. To apply a percentage to the number of homeless people the police department encounters on an annual basis is a difficult number to arrive at since we do not capture such data, but is probably less than 5%.
- 2 In response to calls for service in the field, interviews and observations.
3. Again, we do not capture statistics on the number of homeless people encountered by police officers. Therefore, it is not possible to provide an estimate based on factual data. Nonetheless, estimating the number of personnel time spent on calls for service involving homeless people, \$10,000.00 annually (officer and civilians) would be a fair estimate.
- 4 The Police Department does not have a specific policy regarding homeless people, but our philosophy and practice when dealing with anyone in the community is to abide by Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving principles.
5. I do not believe that Police Departments are the appropriate government entity to reduce the number of homeless people living in a given community. Homelessness is a much larger societal issue that must be addressed on a broader government scale (e.g. county, state and federal organizations).

6. It would be difficult to identify specific changes in resources, policies and practices that could be adopted by any organization to reduce the number of homeless people in most communities. However, in our experience the homeless people living on the streets of Azusa could benefit by having free shelters available to them that are conveniently located and are operated by either government or non-profit organizations.
7. Typically, our department receives complaints regarding homeless individuals is when they erect makeshift camps in the community (e.g. under freeway overpasses), are loitering around business and panhandling. Obviously, the latter two issues would probably still exist if free convenient shelters were available. However, homeless encampments would probably subside.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Captain Sam Gonzalez at (626) 812-3250.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "King F. Davis, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

King F. Davis, Jr.
Chief of Police