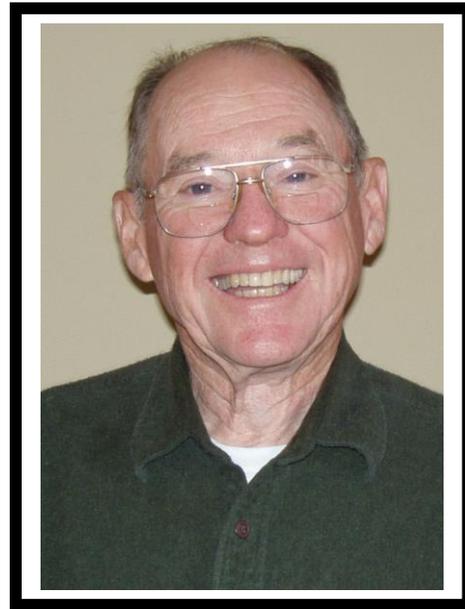
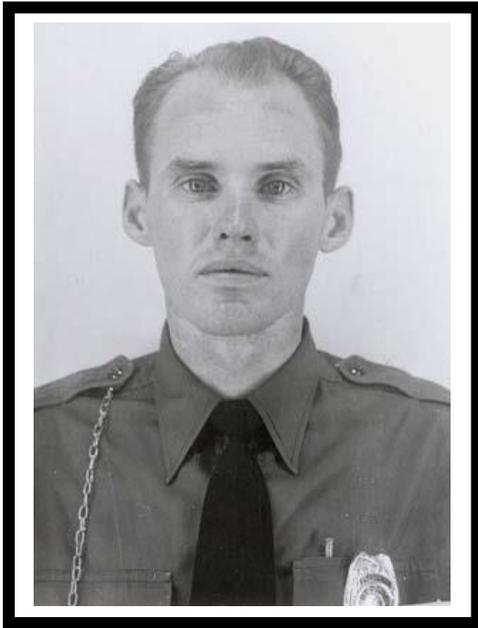


Transcription of Saint Paul Police Oral History Interview with

**Captain
Laurence Francis McDonald**



Saint Paul Police Officer
July 11, 1955 to March 31, 1995

Interviewed
December 14, 2005, December 28, 2005, January 5, 2006

By
Oral Historian Kate Cavett
at
HAND in HAND Productions' office in Saint Paul, Minnesota

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All photographs are from Commander McDonald's personal photo collection or from the Saint Paul Police Department's personnel files.

 **Saint Paul Police Department**
and
HAND in HAND Productions
2006

ORAL HISTORY

Oral History is the spoken word in print.

Oral histories are personal memories shared from the perspective of the narrator. By means of recorded interviews oral history documents collect spoken memories and personal commentaries of historical significance. These interviews are transcribed verbatim and minimally edited for accessibility. Greatest appreciation is gained when one can read an oral history aloud.

Oral histories do not follow the standard language usage of the written word. Transcribed interviews are not edited to meet traditional writing standards; they are edited only for clarity and understanding. The hope of oral history is to capture the flavor of the narrator's speech and convey the narrator's feelings through the tenor and tempo of speech patterns.

An oral history is more than a family tree with names of ancestors and their birth and death dates. Oral history is recorded personal memory, and that is its value. What it offers complements other forms of historical text, and does not always require historical collaboration. Oral history recognizes that memories often become polished as they sift through time, taking on new meanings and potentially reshaping the events they relate.

Memories shared in an oral histories create a picture of the narrator's life – the culture, food, eccentricities, opinions, thoughts, idiosyncrasies, joys, sorrows, passions - the rich substance that gives color and texture to this individual life.

Kate Cavett
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Laurence Francis McDonald was appointed patrolman
for the Saint Paul Police Department
July 11, 1955

Promoted:

Sergeant February 26, 1966

Lieutenant January 14, 1971

Captain July 5, 1989

Lieutenant January 12, 1991

Captain August 31, 1991

Retired:

March 31, 1995

Awarded the Medal of Merit Class B on August 26, 1993.

KC: Kate Cavett

LM: Larry McDonald

KC: It is Wednesday, December 15, 2005, We are in HAND in HAND's Office
doing an oral history interview for the Saint Paul Police Department.

Could you introduce yourself with your name, age and the rank that you
retired from the Saint Paul P.D.

LM: My name is Larry McDonald¹ and I'm seventy-four years old. I retired in
April of 1995 as a commander.

KC: What year did you come on to the Saint Paul Police Department?

LM: I came on in 1955, April.

¹Laurence Francis McDonald (March 16, 1931) was appointed patrolman July 11, 1955; promoted to sergeant February 26, 1966; lieutenant January 14, 1971; captain July 5, 1989; lieutenant January 12, 1991; captain August 31, 1991; and retired March 31, 1995. Awarded the Medal of Merit Class B on August 26, 1993.



*Class of 1955 -2
 Row 1: Off. R. Page, Off. J. Voita, Off. R. Plaster, Off. D. Schmidt, Off. D. Bronson.
 Row 2: OOC, Off. G. Tateasian, Off. R. Drassel, Off. G. Kaiser, Off. L. McDonald, Off. G. Gordon, OOC. Row 3: Dr. Dalton, Lt. D. Wallace, Capt. B. Pond*

Academy Class 1955-2

Larry McDonald second row, forth from left

KC: You had been in the military?

LM: Yes, I spent two years in the Army, 1952-1954.

KC: Can you tell me the story about what attracted you to Saint Paul Police.

LM: Well, I had an uncle that was a Ramsey County deputy, his name was Pat McDonald. We used to go over to his house quite often, and those were the days where he brought the squad home, the Ramsey County squad home, and parked it alongside his house. And, then in the middle of the night or whenever there was a call they'd have to get dressed, run out, answer the call in the county. The county was pretty rural at that time. My uncle always had the time and the patience to take my older brother and younger brother and me, take us and sit in the police car and show us the few things that they had at that time. I was always fascinated by him because he was a big, tall, good looking, easygoing gentleman that had a lot of patience for kids like myself. When I was in school, I was a police

boy² at Garfield School, and then I went to Saint Michael's Catholic School, I was their sergeant.

KC: School patrol?

LM: School patrol. When I got to high school, I was on the student council. I liked, sort of, being involved with structuring people into more orderly things. I became the cafeteria monitor, where they used to clown around and throw food around, and I had the best luck because I used to know the troublemakers and so I would go and talk to everybody beforehand and tell them that that wasn't going to be tolerated, and I had good results just talking to people and letting them know that it bothered me and that I was going to do something about it if it did get out of hand. So, it's always been a desire to go and, I suppose in my early days, help people. I thought they [people] were all good until I got on the police department and found out there were a few bad ones out there. But they didn't even bother me, I just went out there and did my best and figured I was contributing to a better world.

KC: You went into the military, and when you came out what were you doing?

LM: I started at the railroad when I was sixteen years old, summers, and when I graduated in 1949, I went back to the Northern Pacific Railroad, that

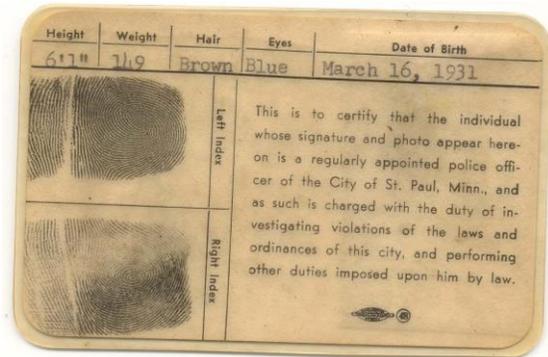
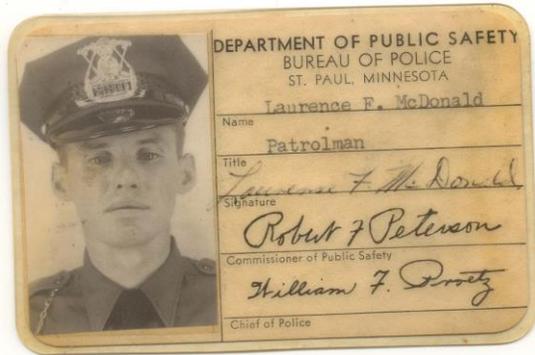
² Saint Paul School Police Patrol was formed through a city ordinance in February 1921, after Sister M. Carmella, the principal of Cathedral School and a strong advocate for the proposal, organized the first unit. This is believed to be the first School Patrol in the world. Sergeant Frank J. Hetznecker was assigned to direct the school patrol December 22, 1922. In March 1937 Lieutenant Hetznecker was promoted to the superintendent of the school patrol, retiring in December 1958.

doesn't exist today, and I was an office boy. I was the slave of the office. I used to run out and buy cigarettes and snuff and everything else because everybody smoked in the office and spit in the garboons. Then they became mechanized, where we came into the keypunch operating era with Remington Rand and then I worked on a sorter and then a tab. Then they came out with a thing called a computer, which was a great big two-section unit, it was part electronic and part mechanical. I can relate to that today, because the older guys didn't want anything to do with it, so they said, "Larry, you're the youngest guy, go over there and run that thing." So, I had a lot of fun, and there was a Remington Rand mechanic that was there everyday of the week because it wasn't perfected and then the work, the cards in those big trays, the Remington Rand cards, would pile up and I'd have to work evenings or Saturdays/Sundays to keep the machine running and keep the work coming out. Then I went to the Army and when I came back, of course, they retained my rights at the railroad, so I worked there. Then I took the police exam and I wanted to be outside in the fresh air and to work more with people. The computer was fine, but I could see it was not satisfying me.

KC: Let's talk about how many were at the police exam.

LM: Well, the police examination at that time consisted of an exam where you could go into the Park Police Department, which was a separate entity, and we patrolled, at that time, mostly the parks and the playgrounds and the parkways and some of the public buildings. Then there was the regular city police that actually were assigned to anywhere in the city, whatever calls they got. Many of us went to the park police and then the

first opportunity we had, you could transfer into the city police department. That was the route that I followed. Got on the park police, was there from April until about July then transferred to the city police.



KC: What training did you have to go into the police department?

LM: The park police had no training at all, which really surprised me. My brother and I were always interested in firearms, so I had been trained in firearms at Como Park pavilion, the lower level was an NRA course. So, I felt comfortable with the weapon that I purchased. Then when I came on the regular city police department, we went to school for a one month training session and that was in the old, which is now the old headquarters at 101 East Tenth Street,³ it was up on the third floor. It was

³ Public Safety Building at 101 E. 10th Street was occupied 1930. All administration was centralized in the new building that also housed the Fire and the Health Departments. The health department moved out in 1958 to 555 Cedar Street. In 1985 the building was gutted for a new interior configuration. The main entrance was moved to the opposite side of the building with a new address of 100 East Eleventh Street. The headquarters operations moved to 367 Grove Street in 2004. The new building was named The James S. Griffin Building for the deceased deputy chief, who was the first Black to achieve high rank.

during the summertime, it was very warm, no air-conditioning, just raise the window.



Our chief instructor was a Lieutenant Don Wallace⁴, he was a great guy, great talker and there was an assistant chief by the name of Frank Schmidt⁵, he came off the west side where I lived, and he used to come in every now and then in the hot afternoons and say, “Don, don’t you think these boys – it’s too warm in here – don’t you think you should give them the afternoon off?” It was just like that, we were gone and school was over. It was very informal. We did have some firearms training. We had a little bit about the geography of the city.

⁴ Donald T. Wallace was appointed patrolman April 1, 1937; promoted to sergeant September 21, 1948; lieutenant April 1, 1955; and retired October 16, 1963.

⁵ Frank A. Schmidt was appointed patrolman April 30, 1919; promoted to sergeant August 1, 1927; lieutenant August 1, 1931; inspector April 23, 1936; lieutenant June 2, 1936; captain March 16, 1937; assistant chief—Uniform Division February 9, 1945; and retired September 17, 1963.

We had, of course, first aid, because we were the first responders at that time. We did not have any paramedics, although, the police department did have a doctor on duty twenty-four hours a day when they could get one, with an ambulance and a driver that came out of headquarters. They serviced the calls that we couldn't handle as police officers. We had, of course, some law, very limited. It wasn't really what it is today, at all.

KC: What sense of the culture of the Department did you have after the police academy?

LM: There was a very different culture there. There was a big separation in the investigative people that were called detectives at that time. Who were really well liked. All the focus seemed to be on the investigative people. The civil service structure at that time was that once you joined the police department you went up one or the other ladder. If you went up the sergeant ladder, you stayed in uniform to uniformed lieutenant, to a uniformed captain or maybe a assistant chief. On the detective rank, it was always plainclothes, you would go to detective rank, detective lieutenant, and then perhaps to a detective assistant chief. There were two ladders to climb. There was a division between those two and a lot of lack of cross-training, cross-understanding and not a lot of cooperation between the two divisions.

KC: Do you know why that was?

LM: I think that was the old structure at that time and I think the street people, the patrol officers, were kind of looked upon as the lesser of the elite. I could never figure out why that was because you have to compare the street officer almost to a military infantry unit – the land is not yours

unless you have the foot soldier on the property. They are the contact with the people with the greatest input into what's happening on the street. Where the investigator does not have that as a rule. He's there after the crime is committed, but we are there extracting the information from the public as to who might have committed the crime. Who are the troublemakers in the neighborhood. The potential trouble spots that are going to appear. We had a greater base of information about the public.

KC: When did this two-tiered system begin?

LM: I don't know how far it goes back, but I suspect it was a long time. It was well ingrained in the police department at that time.

KC: When did it change?

LM: It changed some years later. I think it changed—I don't know the exact year. The Department started to make some tremendous progress and we stayed in what I call a stable state until about 1968. There's a reason why it changed in 1968. That was the focus that occurred on the Democratic Convention in Chicago, Illinois, where the police abused the public. The police dogs were used at that time against the protesters and it turned the public's mind tremendously against the police department. At that time the government—we were beginning to suffer that lack of respect on the street. We had a difficult time recruiting young officers because of that incident. The people had a very strong dislike toward us.

And, of course, the Vietnam War was in progress, which again turned everybody against people in uniform, the whole thing turned against us. At that time we were very handicapped because of low budgets. And not

people that paid a lot of attention to the needs of the police and the way that we served the public. Not that we served the public, I think in a bad way, but if you just take what I just talked about where you would go to a medical call, here we were trained in first aid, and we would try to transport or stuff somebody into the back of a sedan and run like hell for Anchor Hospital⁶. I worked the Selby area and we had somebody dying if the train, which was the Milwaukee Railroad, blocked Seventh Street or some of the routes to Anchor Hospital, they would die in the back seat of your squad or they would be bleeding, they were serious injuries. Then we got smart and we got to some of the old international trucks and the old station wagons. We had stretchers that we would then throw in the back, but sometimes you were still handicapped in getting to the hospital on time to save some of these people. Of course, we were just plain first-aiders.

They would occasionally send the ambulance out if the ambulance wasn't on another call, and depending on how far you were from headquarters and what hour of the day it was, because the doctors were allowed to sleep because they all worked at hospitals or their business, they would sleep in a little bed in the headquarters and the police driver would have to wake them up. He would have to get dressed and get in the ambulance

⁶ Ancker Hospital opened in 1872 as the City and County Hospital. In 1923, it was renamed in honor of its late superintendent Arthur B. Ancker. Over the years it encompassed twelve buildings over several acres with a mailing address at 495 Jefferson. In 1965 it moved to 640 Jackson Street and was renamed Saint Paul Ramsey Hospital, renamed again in 1977 Saint Paul-Ramsey Medical Center, and in 1997, renamed Regions Hospital.

and by that time maybe a half-an-hour went by. So, sometimes we were better off to run with the victim of the accident.

KC: What was the communication system?

LM: We did have a radio system of course. It wasn't as sophisticated as today, but it was fairly good. There were dead spots in the city that we couldn't communicate, but I worked mostly in the Selby area, so we were in close proximity.

I've got to tell you a funny story. Some of the doctors that we had were foreigners that came over and, of course, they probably didn't have a lot of money, so they worked the police job for an extra salary. I remember the incident where a lady got struck by a car up on Grand Avenue. We had learned to splint people and we had splinted this lady up and we had called for the ambulance. The ambulance came up and we were so routinely trained to dispatch this person into the ambulance, we used to hit the door of the ambulance for the driver to take off and go to the hospital. So, we got her splinted and loaded, put her in the ambulance and hit the door and the driver took off. We looked around and here's the police doctor who hadn't done anything and his only statement to us, "He has gone without me." So I can remember him saying that, and I thought *what's the matter with him*. So, we had to throw him in the squad and chase the ambulance down to get him back into the ambulance to ride back home. Sometimes the doctor appeared there, but we had done most of what we had to do because of the time lapse.

Many times we had a DOA, a person that was dead, and the doctor would just look at him and say, "Well, he's dead, call the coroner." They weren't real sophisticated or really well trained compared to today with our modern paramedics, who, I think, do an excellent job. But we put up with that and we didn't know any different.

I remember once going to a call, I was by myself, and it was in the summertime, to a home where a father had a heart attack, at least I suspected that, he was down. I walked in there and the mother and the daughter were screaming at me. This teenage daughter came up to me and she said, "You've got to save him, you can save him, you can save him." She took my shirt and she tore my shirt completely open, just tore the buttons right off with that superhuman strength sometimes people have. There I am, what am I going to do, the ambulance was on the way, but the poor gentleman, he was long dead. It speaks of the emotions and the awkwardness of not being able to do anything for people and, yet, they have so much belief that we can change the course of what's happening.

KC: If they believe that you can save them and they die anyway then another reason to be upset with the police department.

LM: Yes.

KC: After 1968, how did Saint Paul respond to this negative attitude from the community? I was a young adult then, I remember police were called pigs.

LM: That's correct. It was very difficult. First of all, we lacked recruits to take place of the retirements. At that time, we were bound by civil service rules and they did all of the recruiting for us. That recruiting amounted to an advertisement in the paper, police people wanted. Police officers were only males at that time. Of course, those responses to that little newspaper did not come in and we were frustrated that we were not getting vacancies [filled]. So, we finally worked out a deal with civil service that we had to go out and do our own recruiting.

KC: Now, this was a Larry McDonald idea, wasn't it?

LM: Yes. I had hair those days and I had a smile on my face so they said, send him out. I remember the chief, who was Lester McAuliffe⁷, said to me, "I want you to go out and recruit police officers," he said, "we'll give you what you need, but you cannot recruit any officer from a police agency that you go to." He said, "You have to go and report in and say that you're there to recruit, but not their people, but you'll be in their jurisdiction." They gave me an eight and a-half by eleven stack of paper that I wrote down, police officers wanted, and I had it mimeographed, and a couple of rolls of scotch tape. That was my recruiting tools.

What I did is, I went around to different locations. I went to different cities, like Duluth and Cloquet, wherever they would let me in the door. I would go to barber shops, I'd go to restaurants, I'd go to bars, and just ask

⁷ Lester E. McAuliffe was appointed patrolman March 24, 1936; promoted to sergeant December 16, 1947; detective March 16, 1948; detective lieutenant December 1, 1949; assistant chief November 15, 1955; and chief May 23, 1961; and retired March 31, 1970.

people if anybody wanted to be a police officer. Of course, because we weren't very well liked, most of the time I got the cold shoulder, which I didn't mind. Then I set up a table at Har Mar [shopping mall in Roseville]. That was my first real experience, I set up a table and had a white sheet, I really looked like an amateur. People would go by and ask me what I was doing. I'd say I was recruiting for police officers. I was having some success, and I found out that the most successful way was to actually find a candidate or a young male that was interested and then we would ask him, would you like to come down and ride around with us. I had permission to take them out in the squad and we'd run them around, and we'd walk them through the building. I would introduce them to everybody, like this is a real friendly place, in hopes of enticing him to come on the job. Occasionally, we would take him out to lunch and, of course, there was no budget for that, but a lot of the places that we went to would always give a policeman a discount, so at least we didn't get ripped off totally from the city.

KC: But it still came out of your pocket?

LM: It still came out of our pockets, yes. So we started that and that really [worked]. What happened then was we got into the college trained people. We started the internship program, where we would take people in and then let them spend a month with us or three months and they would earn credit through their college programs. That worked out exceptionally well.

KC: That's another program you started?

LM: Yes.

KC: When did you start that program?

LM: That was kind of a slow transition into when we decided to go into licensing police officers. You've got to remember that I was taken off the street at a time with Chief McCutcheon⁸, he was slated for a planning and research assignment, and I was more programmed to be a training officer. McCutcheon they had sent to some schools on finance and research, and I went to Northwestern Traffic Institute for three weeks to become a trainer. What happened is, we saw that we needed to do something at the political level because, if you remember, also back in 1963 the criminal code had changed and some of us were not familiar with the change in the code and we were looking for some more legal advice, you know, what the law meant to us. There was a young city attorney at that time, by the name of Ted Collins, and he played a very significant role in the development of the police department. He at that time was working for a private law firm at Sixth and Saint Peter in the Garrick Building. I forget the law firm that he was with. We went down and saw Ted and said, "Ted will you teach about twenty of us or thirty of us the new statutes?" Ted Collins was probably one of the greatest teachers that there is, because he can take the complex and put it into the simplest form. We went down on our own and we paid him a small stipend, because he said, "I'll help you guys out." He taught us the criminal code. What we learned from that was

⁸ William Wallace McCutcheon was appointed patrolman January 4, 1954; promoted to sergeant August 22, 1960; lieutenant December 12, 1965; captain June 20, 1969; deputy chief February 4, 1972; chief January 1, 1980; and retired July 15, 1992.

that we had a tremendous resource to bring back into the police department to train the whole department and, so, he agreed to that.

At that time, the Federal government was having problems throughout the country because of the social unrest that was occurring in many of the public [housing] properties, the high rises that were publicly owned. We were beginning to see the same problems in our public housing, McDonough, Mount Airy, Dunedin Terrace and Roosevelt.

So, it began to come together that we had to do something. What we did was we began to fashion together what we called a more modern training unit. There's a fellow that I have to pay mention to, his name was Tony Tighe⁹, he was a detective. Tony Tighe was in the crime lab, and we did have a very good crime lab at that time with a man by the name of Doc Dalton ¹⁰. Tony Tighe also worked there, And when Lester McAuliffe¹¹ became the chief, he put Tony Tighe into this new research and development and training unit. Tony Tighe was probably one of the smartest people, I think, I've every worked with and worked for, because he knew how to mold people and extract the right people for the right jobs.

⁹ Anthony J. Tighe was appointed reserve patrolman March 10, 1941; patrolman full-time August 3, 1941; promoted to detective February 18, 1949; and retired July 30, 1979.

¹⁰ Dr. John P. Dalton was provisionally appointed expert criminologist October 25, 1935; received a permanent January 22, 1936. Deceased 1960.

¹¹ Lester E. McAuliffe was appointed patrolman March 24, 1936; promoted to sergeant December 16, 1947; detective March 16, 1948; detective lieutenant December 1, 1949; assistant chief November 15, 1955; and chief May 23, 1961; and retired March 31, 1970.

We started a whole training unit with this recruiting effort to see if we could develop a better officer on the street, a more informed officer. What came into play was Ted Collins with his new version of training people in the law, we also searched out an industrial psychologist by the name of Bob Hobart, he was out of Minneapolis. Bob was in the military and some of our people from the MP unit knew him. He was a big husky guy that really told you the truth, I mean, he was brutally honest. We brought him in so that we would screen our recruits, so that we were getting what we thought was a desirable candidate. You've got to remember that at that time the standards for a police officer had to be five foot ten or above, with so many of his own natural teeth and his eyesight had to be almost perfect. We were looking for good recruits and that sort of eliminated some people.

KC: And this was male, also?

LM: Male, only male. I gotta tell you a story. My cousin, Joe Corcoran¹², who later became quite well known at the police department because he ran homicide, he took the exam, but he was about a-half inch or three-quarter inch short [of the required height]. He wanted to be a police officer.

Joe Corcoran
1984



¹² Joseph Kane Corcoran was appointed patrolman March 2, 1964; promoted to sergeant October 3, 1970; lieutenant March 24, 1990; and retired March 27, 1998.

So Paul Paulos¹³, my partner that worked Selby, knew Doctor Stipstead, who was a chiropractor on Selby Avenue. We went up and saw Stipstead one day and we said, "How do we stretch somebody? Can you stretch somebody or do something with him?" He said, "Yeah, bring him up here," he said, "I'll take care of him." So, we took Joe Corcoran up there and through a process of stretching him, and I found out too, that as we stand we all lean to one side or the other, and he said, "I can straighten him up." He said, "We can stretch him and give you some pills to expand the cushions in your spine to give you some height." He said the day of test you've got to lay him flat. Get him out in the morning, lay him flat and take him down in the station wagon flat and let him run up there and get measured and, by god, if he didn't make it. And my god if he didn't make it. So he passed the five foot ten requirement and he was a great contribution to the police department. That's what we did, I don't know if it was borderline illegal or what, but that was our desperation to get good people.

I think that has paid off to this day that the people we recruited were excellent people. The other thing that Tony Tighe said that we can't judge a person by a short interview, we need to go out and conduct background investigations. That was something new. They sent us out and we'd actually go and visit the spouse, or the ex-spouse or the neighbors or the

¹³ Paul Richard Paulos was appointed patrolman January 4, 1954; promoted to sergeant December 12, 1966; and retired September 4, 1990.

kids in the neighborhood, the past employers, anybody that we could talk to that would give us some information about the character of this person. Then we would ship the information to Bob Hobart when they went in for their psychological exam. Some were eliminated. Some, we were told to watch during training and their probationary period, because if they fell into that category that we were told to be careful of, they would leave. I think we were very careful about who we recruited.

Then the recruiting became so desperate that a neighbor of mine, Stan Bergland, another guy that really needs to be given some credit, was in the advertising business and we were able to go out and rent a space at the hippodrome during the Minnesota State Fair. We didn't have any budget, but we bought a lot of crepe paper, why we didn't burn the place down . . . then we got out all old guns that weren't functioning and old knives and brass knuckles and we had this display, and that drew a lot of people in, all those farm guys come in, they couldn't believe us. We recruited that way.

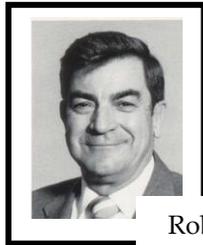
And, then finally it became more sophisticated as the law developed. We became so frustrated. We wanted to license our police officers to given them some status.

KC: When you say "we" is this Saint Paul or the state of Minnesota?

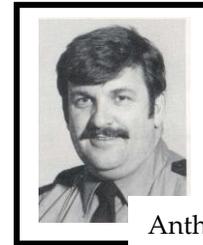
LM: Saint Paul. At that time we needed some political clout, so we decided to back three people. Bill McCutcheon, Bob Pavlak¹⁴ and Tony Bennett¹⁵ for posts at the State level, so we would have some influence. There was a law at that time that a police officer could not be a legislative person.



William
McCutcheon
1984



Robert
Palak
1984



Anthony
Bennett
1984

Well, we fought that battle and we won and then we all got on the campaign bandwagon and got them all three elected. So, we began to have clout. Then we sat down and said, how would we model the law for a police officer to license them? McCutcheon's wife was a nurse, Marlene. So, we looked and thought that was the most desirable one because there's not only education component to it, but there's also a practical component to it. That's how it got modeled, after that. Today we exist with two year programs, four year programs and doctorate programs and everything else, but that's how that got started.

KC: So, what I'm hearing you say is Saint Paul wanted to license their officers and you took it to the State, so Saint Paul initiated [the law.] Because to be

¹⁴ Robert L. Pavlak, Jr. was appointed patrolman July 25, 1949; promoted to sergeant September 16, 1955; lieutenant November 29, 1971; and retired July 31, 1981.

¹⁵ Tony Lee Bennett was appointed patrolman November 1964; retired August 6, 1990. He was appointed United States Marshall for the State of Minnesota 1990 to 1994 and elected Ramsey County Commissioner in 1997.

a police officer you have to be licensed and you have to have a two year college degree.

LM: Yes. That's correct.

KC: What year did that come in?

LM: It had to be in the early 1970s, I would think, because we went through the tribulations of '68, '70, '74, '75. I went and met with many of the educators, McCutcheon, myself and Tony Tighe, that were pushing this thing and it kind of caught on to the State.

I'll never forget meeting with a group from up north, Hermantown, outside of Duluth, and a nice older gentleman said, "We don't want that, we want to be able to pick our own officers that fit our neighborhood and our community. We do not want someone with all this training." They didn't want that, they said, "We will take care of his training and what he needs to please our community." Those are the people, the resistance that we met as we tried to do this. It was really funny to go around, mostly to the rural areas that were not very believing or didn't see the need for a whole criteria that an officer must meet, and the training needs to serve the State or for their community.

KC: How did Minneapolis, Duluth, Bloomington, Rochester, the larger cities respond?

LM: Most of them were agreeable. We were in contact, of course, with Minneapolis almost on a daily basis because of police work. Bloomington was progressive enough to know that the time had come and they were all having the same problems we were with recruiting and there was a

chance there that we could get involved in higher education and bring a more suitable candidate to the police department.

KC: What was the attitude nationally, was this happening in other states as well?

LM: Yes, it was happening. Some other states had some licensing procedures and we looked at those. It was the way to go we felt.

I've got to back up a little bit. Back in 1968 with the social unrest that we had, we began to see that the four housing projects that I just previously mentioned, were having problems with the police answering the calls. With the threats, some of these district officers would not enter the projects because of the reception that they got and the resistance they got from the citizens. That was troubling to McCutcheon and the chief [McAuliffe] at that time and they said we've got to do something.

This wasn't all a police approach, but it was from a lot of the social workers that worked in the projects, too. They were having the same resistance, lack of cooperation. The Parks Department had gymnasiums in some of the project areas and their coaches and workers were threatened. This was not just characteristic of Saint Paul. A city [Saint Paul] that wasn't as threatened as some of the major cities. Some cities actually tore down their public housing because they couldn't police them. We saw this coming, we had some people that could vision this and said we'd have to do something about it. So, we started working with

the social workers and the mayor [Charles P. McCarty] and a lot of the politicians who said if we don't do something about it, we'll lose them.

What happened was that they came up with a program called a HELP Program, **H**ousing **E**nvironmental **L**iaison and **P**olice Program. We worked on this, but we didn't know what quite to do with it. So, they wrote away for a federal grant and they got a three year federal grant to go into the four housing projects and see if we could make a difference. McCutcheon came to me and he said, "You're going to head up the program." And, I said, "Oh . . ."

KC: Now, McCutcheon was the captain at this time?

LM: Yes.

KC: What year might this have been?

LM: In 1970. I think he was still a lieutenant in planning and research, but he had a lot of clout. He and Tony were kind of the magnet and the generating unit that sort of kicked the ideas out and made things work. So, what happened is that we got together and said, "What are we going to do?"

We figured that the only success that we could have with this program would be to ask officers to volunteer for the assignment. I was the only one that was not a volunteer. My assistant officer was Dick Ekwall¹⁶, just

¹⁶ Richard Neil Ekwall was appointed patrolman August 27, 1965; promoted to sergeant December 12, 1969; lieutenant January 3, 1976; captain August 1, 1980; deputy chief August 16, 1992; reinstated commander January 4, 1997; and retired July 30, 1999.

a wonderful guy. They were kind of putting us together, I'm more the guy that's the salesperson and Dick was more the detail guy to follow the rules of the grant and to write the grant to keep the thing going. We had two opposite personalities, but a combination that made it work and we were put together [because of] that. Then what we did, we violated and threw out all the rules that we previously had, you know, where it was always mandatory, you went here and you went there. We put out a list for the [officer] volunteers and, by god, if we didn't get volunteers.

Now, what we did, was at the housing projects were somewhat structured into resident councils and what we did was, we allowed them permission to come in, one for each of the housing areas, and sit on a panel as these volunteers would come to them, and ask them questions and say, why are you volunteering for this, why do you want to work there, and what's your philosophy of how it should be done, and what are you going to do once you get there? Well, low and behold, we got enough people to make the thing work.

KC: So, the community people were interviewing the [police officer] volunteers to see if they could work this detail?

LM: Yes. They asked them all sorts of questions and it worked out far better than the police department ever figured. These guys were younger officers, obviously, that weren't tainted by past experiences there. We were given tremendous latitude and we went up and we met some of these people. We got with the resident councils and we got with the social workers and the park people.

And what we did is we went up there and they asked for our philosophy. I told them it was real simple, "We're going to be firm, but polite." I think they wanted more, but I told them that's all we're going to give you, we're going to be firm, but polite. We went into the projects and we started to work through the resident councils, we brought back the park people. We set up rules and regulations for the gym as to certain kids play at this hour and then the next group, and it's structured and we're going to be there to make sure that the park person is in charge and it follows their procedures. And, by god, after awhile, we began to police them in this firm, fair fashion and we won their hearts over.

I've got to tell you some stories. You've got to look at the composition at that time of the housing projects. Most of the heads of families were females with many children, they couldn't afford to live anywhere else, but they had to live there. There were very few [male] heads of families there, and there was a guy from Mount Airy Project by the name of George Stone that worked for the city. He was a tremendous supporter of ours, he was a truck driver, I believe, from public works.

KC: Very few male heads of families?

LM: Very few male heads.

KC: A lot of female heads. What was the ethnicity of many in the project?

LM: Mostly Black, at that time, predominantly Black. I gotta tell you that sometimes we would have truck drivers and other males that would come up there and impose themselves upon the females for sexual purposes,

and some of the females liked it and some didn't. So we even had a system that they would adjust their [window] shade whether they had a welcomed or an un-welcomed guest. If we saw the shade in the right position, we would go there and, of course, our uniform can send a signal to a lot of people, like we're dressed in poison ivy, they will get the hell out of there. So, we would come there and say we came for coffee, and pretty soon we'd see this guy pretty nervous, he'd leave. We had a good thing working, it was a great thing.

I gotta tell you another story. Franklin School, Mount Airy School, was the most broken in school in the city of Saint Paul. Their windows were completely smashed out all the time. The glazer that fixes the windows, he used to come there all the time, he was there permanently. One day I was sitting talking to the principal, I forget his name now, he's a great guy. And he was talking about the problems, because most of the time they had the windows with plywood over them. It was dark and gloomy, I thought, in there for a school. He and I were talking and somebody wanted him in the office and he pushed a button on his desk and he said what do you want, or I'll be right down there or something like that. I said, "What did you just do?" He said, "I can talk to any of the rooms from this monitoring device." I said, "Oh, that's great." I sat there and I thought he's got a burglar alarm here only it's an indirect one. So, what we did was we got an old lady that couldn't sleep in the Mount Airy High Rise, we recruited her. What we would do at the end of the day, we would turn on all the switches so all the monitoring of every room came

into his office, then we would call her and leave the phone off the hook and she could monitor, and she caught burglars. Kids couldn't figure out how we were catching them. This old lady stayed up at night and she heard all the noise. We even put in a private line for her, so she could call on another line to the police department to report the burglaries.

KC: [Chuckles] So most of the hard work was done by the community?

LM: That's right.

KC: You didn't call it community policing then?

LM: We called it this HELP Program [Housing Environment Alliance and Police Program].

So, we caught burglars and burglaries were reduced. Then the other thing was that I had gotten some information on a product called Lexon. It's commonly used today, you'll see it if you go and cash a check with that plastic that's bulletproof. It's layered now and laminated. I called this guy that was from Pittsburgh Plate Glass, I called the representative and I said do you have this Lexon and he said, yes. I said, "What does it cost to buy a sheet?" And, he said, "What are you going to use it for?" And, I said, "I want to put it in a school. Have the glazer put it in the window." and, I said, "Will it break? Will it let light through?" He said, "Oh, yes, same as glass." So, he gave us some and the school put it in and the kid would throw the rock at what they thought was glass and the rock would bounce off the Lexon plastic. So, the city started buying Lexon plastic and putting them in the schools to save the schools from putting glass in. It

was just like a new dimension to the school. It was unbelievable. Just crazy things like that.

And, that's how we won the support of the people. We were firm, but fair, and after awhile my officers used to say, this isn't any fun anymore. I said, "How come?" They said, "We don't have to chase anybody anymore, we can just talk to the people the next day and find out who did whatever crime there was committed." It worked out so well that what they wanted to do then after the second year, the city said that they weren't even going to take the money from the government the third year, they were going to fund it themselves. Now, this is an exceptional financial statement for any city to make.

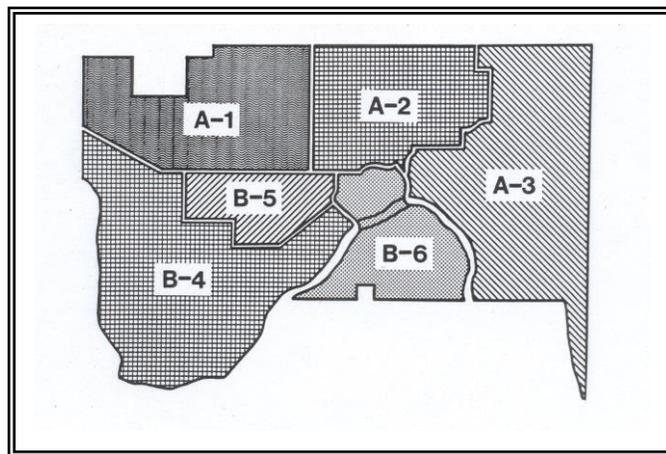
We looked at the success of this thing and said I wonder if it will work somewhere else. So, then we looked at the city and we took a look at the west side because it is isolated from the rest of the city. They had a housing project called Dunedin Terrace, and we had good luck over there. So, we thought if we took the west side, we'd try it over there. We got an office down at the airport, Saint Paul Downtown Airport, and Lieutenant Ed Fitzgerald¹⁷ was assigned to that and we set up team policing there. The thing is we had our roots already into the [Dunedin Terrace] housing area, [on the west side] so all we had to do was expand it. Again, we met with success in a new way of policing. Then they looked at it and said, I

¹⁷ Edward F. Fitzgerald was appointed patrolman January 4, 1954; promoted to sergeant October 1, 1964; lieutenant November 29, 1971; captain March 29, 1975; deceased February 19, 1984.

wonder what we could do if we went citywide. That's where we took a look at separating the city in half.

KC: Now what year was this about?

LM: Let's see 1974, '75, I suspect. What we did was we separated the city and then we had the A teams, where the north [half of the city] teams were A1, A2, A3. And I got A3, which is the eastern part of city. Then they took the southern half of the city and went B1, B2, B3. I had A3, and Lieutenant Ekwall, who was my assistant then because they wanted us put back in team poling, had gotten along Rice Street and the McDonough housing project, [A2], and Lieutenant Pavlak got the west section [which was A1].



KC: Can you define team policing?

LM: Team policing is so simple it's unbelievable. It's just treating people like you'd want to be treated. Be sincere, be honest with them and don't be superior to them. Because most of the people that can't solve their problems, [that is] why they call you, are simple people that you have to sit down and explain to them how they can correct their behavior or refer them to someone that can help them correct their behavior or their problem. It's so simple, it's unbelievable. Like I said, we're going to be

fair, but firm. People, I find, know when they're wrong, and they know that they want to be dealt with, that there are consequences to it. It's so simple, it's unbelievable, they got volumes written on it. I didn't view it as that complex. But that's me.

Then we went into the north/south division of team policing, again, we met with success. Of course, because of budgets we started to consolidate down where we had the west team and the east team. Now they've got a lot of little sub stations that deals personally with people in a business area and that. So, it's been an overwhelming success.

KC: So, if we go back, what I'm hearing you say is you saw nationally that there were serious problems?

LM: Oh, absolutely.

KC: The community did not like the police and the low income community liked the police even less.

LM: Yes.

KC: So, you developed a plan to win that support in Saint Paul.

LM: Yes.

KC: Were other cities doing similar things?

LM: They got into it because they knew that they had to change, too. Many of them were forced into change. We were kind of an experimental thing. In fact, we had to send all our reports to the government and there are some other things that people tapped into. We had visitors come and ask what are you doing, how are you doing it. But for us, we made the transition into this with so much ease it was unbelievable. I think because we had

recruited the right people, the base was there, the connections with the social workers and the Parks Department, we were a closely knit group and we all just contributed, I think, a hundred percent to make the thing work and you can find success anytime everybody pulls a load. It was a great experiment.

KC: Well, it sounds like some very, very creative Saint Paul officers who were willing to think outside the box.

LM: That's exactly what we had going. I've got to tell you another story. I went to the first Roosevelt [Public] Housing meeting. We were going to have monthly meetings or even whenever they would call them, if they had a problem. So, I sat in the room with a bunch of the residents and I said, "Would somebody like to take notes or be the secretary for me?" I looked at them all and they said, "No, no." I saw this lady, who was a little tiny lady, blonde hair, young, and I looked at her a couple times and she said, "I can't even type." I said, "I'll tell you what, why don't you take the job and we'll help you out." Let me tell you, this woman developed to the point that she became the assistant director of Roosevelt Housing Project for years. She had three or four kids, she blossomed like a plant that had never been watered. It was unbelievable to see people that we allowed to grow or to just pay some recognition to that blossomed.

KC: How did you know to look at her? Is this an intuitive piece that you have?

LM: Yeah. Her name is Donna Rose. Yeah.

KC: What other things contributed to this change in culture and this community relationship?

LM: I think we see the same thing happening in Iraq. The fact that we are all looking for security, we're all looking for structure and we're looking for someone that when that gets out of balance that we can go to that will look at it honestly and correct it. I think that was the same chaotic conditions that I see in Iraq, the same disorder. If you can bring people in that have a heart and a mind, to say we'll get in there and with good intentions of correcting it they will come along with that and realize that they will be happier with you. I think it is so simple, it's unbelievable.

KC: Was there resistance in the Department?

LM: Yes, there was. And there was some jealousy, because after we got in there --- here's another thing I have to tell you. The Department at that time was very structured into rotating shifts and hours and things like that. McCutcheon was kind of the guy that I reported to. He said, "Larry, do whatever you want to," he said, "If it's within reason." So we found out that we had to have flexibility. Because there were times of the day or an event that we had to pull our troops in there, and before we were kind of rigid and we weren't flexible. We were the ones that adopted the ten hour day, which caused chaos in the Department. We wanted to be there after the bars closed, but we still wanted to be there when the kids got home from school and the gym programs or the Parks Department had their programs, so we wanted to get them all to bed before we had all the domestics and all the boyfriends coming. So, we went to a ten hour day. I could call people in if we thought we were going to have a problem at 10:00 in the morning or whatever. Now, this is a volunteer unit, they

don't care about the union or other previous agreements, they will come when you ask them.

KC: Now, they're volunteering for the assignment, so they're getting paid, its not volunteer work?

LM: That's right. They would change shifts. I never had a lot of trouble with them even on overtime. They were so good it was unbelievable.

KC: How many were in the unit?

LM: Twelve. And most of them were successful afterwards.

KC: Who were some of the people?

LM: There was Jim Campbell¹⁸, Denny Wilkes¹⁹, Joe Renteria²⁰, Timmy Erickson²¹, Larry Winger,²² [Al Singer,²³ Harold Breyer,²⁴ Bernie Daninger,²⁵ Dick Ekwall, Matt Lynch,²⁶ Mark Klinge,²⁷ Melvin Lindberg,²⁸

¹⁸ James Scott Campbell was appointed patrolman June 26, 1968; retired May 31, 2000.

¹⁹ Dennis Paul Wilkes was appointed patrolman June 26, 1968; promoted to sergeant 7-22-79, retired June 26, 1998.

²⁰ Joseph Robert Renteria, Jr. was appointed patrolman September 3, 1968; promoted to sergeant March 10, 1977 for the K-9 division; and retired June 27, 1997.

²¹ Timothy Eugene Erickson was appointed patrolman May 5, 1969; promoted to sergeant October 10, 1973; and retired July 6, 1989.

²² Larry James Winger was appointed patrolman April 1, 1968; promoted to sergeant May 11, 1972, lieutenant October 10, 1979, captain August 5, 1984, and retired July 30, 1999.

²³ Albert Joseph Singer was appointed patrolman March 2, 1964; promoted to sergeant October 14, 1972; lieutenant December 15, 1976; captain August 5, 1984; deputy chief January 20, 1996; and retired April 30, 1999.

²⁴ Harold Charles Breyer was appointed patrolman March 2, 1964, and retired November 30, 1994.

²⁵ Bernard Nicholas Daninger was appointed patrolman March 2, 1964; and retired April 21, 1992.

²⁶ Matthew Lynch was appointed to patrolman September 3, 1968; promoted to sergeant February 17, 1973; and resigned May 14, 1978.

²⁷ Mark John Klinge was appointed patrolman January 16, 1967; and retired January 16, 1987.

²⁸ Melvin James Lindberg was appointed patrolman June 26, 1968; promoted to sergeant July 15, 1980; and retired July 30, 1999.

and Mike Markuson].²⁹ It was an unbelievable group. We still get together and talk about it and laugh about it, because there were a lot of stories there.

KC: How long did the unit exist?

LM: I was there for the two years and then I got moved out to go to the west side with Fitzgerald, who set that up. Then it got blended into the north/south teams where Ekwall was still running it from his team. I had the east side with Roosevelt and then Fitzgerald had the Dunedin Terrace. There were always kind of core people that were still left remnants to make it work. We made that transition pretty well, it went really well. I can't believe how nicely that went.

One time the kids started to riot down in Mount Airy Housing Project one night. We always got criticized for the action that we took. So, I saw this happening and I got on the phone or had the guys run over and get George Stone from the Public Works Department, he was a Black guy, and some of the other residents I got up that were on the council with us, and I said, "Come on out here and you can see what they're doing and what we should do. What WE should do." That put a new light on the whole situation. I said, "Now, we can do what we're trained to do, but do you have any suggestions before we do it?" I put the monkey on their back. And, let me tell you, that was the greatest thing I ever did, because they endorsed what we were about to do. Set down a curfew, we locked some

²⁹ Michael Davies Markuson was appointed to patrolman April 7, 1969; promoted to sergeant September 6, 1975; and died while working at headquarters on March 9, 1989.

of them up, of course, took them down as juveniles and some of them were older. They supported me one hundred percent. Now, if I would have initiated that, I would have got criticized, but they saw what was happening and I told them what I could do and I asked, "What would you like to do?" They came back and they said, "I think it's more your work than our work."

KC: How long did it take to gather these people, consult with them and act?

LM: Not very long because they all lived in the community and they were all aware that the kids were doing something. It didn't take me too long to rally them and say here's the situation.

I'd pulled that before, I started at Miller Hospital and then I went to St. Luke's Hospital, then Children's Hospital to be a police [supervisor] those with thirty-some officer off-duty. And then when I got on the east side, we would have trouble with the mental patients in the hospital. When we would go up there and initiate something, they would criticize – *Well, you shouldn't have held a person this way or you used too much force putting the person down into the bed while we tied them down.* So, I said to the administrator, "Your people are trained to handle people that are mental people." I said, "If they can't handle them and you call us then you lose jurisdiction and we gain the jurisdiction. We will do it our way, but you're inviting us to solve your problem." It was amazing how that worked. I did it at Mounds Park [Hospital]. He told his nurses up there, because they had a big psych ward up there, "When you can't handle it and you call them, you have no complaints about them because they're in charge."

And it was the same that we had with this other situation, don't criticize me if you're calling me there if you can't control it. Once you set up the ground rules and tell people this is how it's going to work, they can't come back at you.

KC: It's clear communication.

LM: That's some of it, just clear communication.

KC: Now, you referred to the DFL convention in Chicago. The only Saint Paul riot happened also in 1968, Labor Day weekend in '68. Any reactions on that and how that might have been an influence for Saint Paul to do some changing.

LM: That's true that it was a big influence. I remember I told you the influence that we had at Rollins Bar along Rondo. I think that was even prior to that, but we saw the unrest coming. I think that we knew that we had to do something. That's where Finney³⁰ actually walked the beat up here after Ed Steenberg³¹ [and Roy Thomas³²] for community relations.

KC: Butch Benner³³ [and Sam Ballard³⁴ were on the beat with Finney].

³⁰William "Corky" Kelso Finney appointed January 4, 1971; promoted to sergeant April 1 1978; the first Black male promoted to lieutenant March 8, 1982; captain February 23, 1987; and Saint Paul's first Black chief July 17, 1992; and retired June 30, 2004.

³¹ Edward James Steenberg was appointed patrolman November 2, 1964; promoted to sergeant July 19, 1971; lieutenant November 22, 1976; captain April 11, 1983; deputy chief August 16, 1992; reinstated commander 1995; and retired July 2, 1999.

³² Mahlon H. "Roy" Thomas was appointed patrolman July 25, 1949; died of cancer 1974. Thomas was denied the opportunity to play in the Police Band because he was Black. For years he walked a downtown beat. After his death, Saint Paul Dispatch newspaper columnist Oliver Towne collected funds and had a bronze plaque erected honoring Thomas on a building at Ninth and St. Peter Streets in downtown Saint Paul.

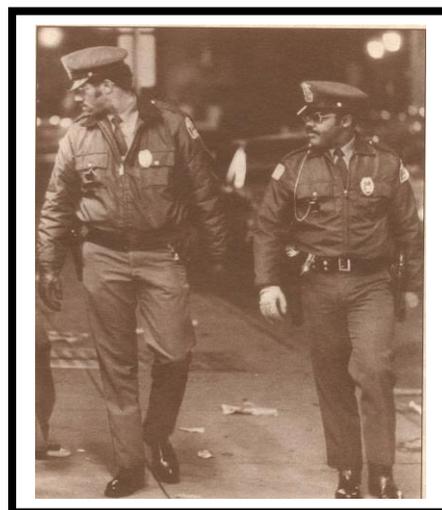
³³Cornelius "Butch" Benner III was appointed SPPD as stenographer December 8, 1969; patrolman January 4, 1971; promoted to sergeant August 15, 1982; and retired August 11, 1995.

³⁴ Samuel Clifford Ballard was appointed patrolman May 22, 1972.

LM: The Selby beat. So, I think at that time, we saw the signs coming and we were trying to deal with the Black community. It's amazing that the Black community used to be, in the early part of my police career, people that were born and raised here that knew us and we knew them.



Ed Steenberg and
Roy Thomas
walk the Selby beat



Corky Finney
and Butch Benner
walk the Selby beat

I'll give you an example. Do you remember Dick Martin and his brother Don Martin, their father and mother had a grocery store in the Black area. They knew the Black people like you wouldn't believe. And then there was Bill Skally³⁵ that worked with Al Pariana³⁶, he worked the Black area.

³⁵ William F. Skally was appointed reserve patrolman March 10, 1941; patrolman full-time August 16, 1941; and retired June 4, 1973.

³⁶ Albert Nicholas Pariana was appointed patrolman November 1, 1949; promoted to acting sergeant August 22, 1980; reinstated police officer January 2, 1981; acting sergeant December 1, 1985; reinstated police officer March 9, 1986; and retired November 23, 1988.

He used to go around with four or five warrants for the day and he'd just go over and find the guy in the bar and say, "Come on, get in the back of the squad." Then he'd go over and pick up another guy and he'd have a whole squad full of people that were wanted on warrants. Take them down and he never had any problems at all. You know why? They knew him and he knew them, and if it wasn't today it was going to be tomorrow, and this is just my job because you did something wrong. It was so simply understood. But it got out of whack with the imports that we had that came in that didn't know us, we didn't know them.

I remember the day that they sent me to the Saint Paul airport. And they had a guy, remember [Senator Carey] Kefauver that was in Washington, D.C. that was looking into organized crimes and the gangs. There was a guy that they sent us, what was probably called today the U.S. protection group that the marshals administer. They put him on an airplane and sent him up here. Myself, and I don't remember who my partner was. But he was a member of the Black Panthers that was going to live in the city of Saint Paul. I think he seeded some of the dissension that he brought from his past to here. We took him off the airplane.

KC: They were sending him here to live here?

LM: Yes, and he did live here for awhile.

KC: Who was it?

LM: I can't remember his name, but he was mentioned in the Kefauver [Gang] Hearings in Washington, D.C. [May 1950 – August 1951] on gangs and [organized crime and interstate commerce]. I think that's an example of

people that came here. We had some of the gangs that came out of Chicago that came up here that trying to organize, they were expanding. I think that was a lot of our problems, was outsiders that came that were trying to organize our Blacks into something that they really weren't about. And created some of our unrest. Because, actually, I thought we got along well with all of our Black community.

KC: Having just done the Rondo Oral History Project, I mean, Scally is infamous in his relationship with the community and relationship with people and how the kids, those in their 1950s and 60s now, all have Scally stories.

LM: Sure. When I was on with John Mercado³⁷, John, as hard a guy as he was, said, "We've got to go over to the Ober Boys Club." It still exists, I think. And could you believe that we were teaching, Ed Buehlman³⁸ and I were the instructors in a BB gun course, and we had cardboard cartons that we would set up and mark up for the kids, the Black kids, of course, to shoot at. We had good rapport with the kids at the Ober Boys Club. That was just part of our afternoon assignment, we used to work 6:00 to 2:00, 7:00 to 3:00. We'd go over there and we'd have all kinds of fun with them. They liked us, we liked them.

KC: What year was this?

³⁷ Jesus John Mercado was appointed patrolman July 6, 1948; promoted sergeant June 26, 1957; lieutenant July 19, 1971; and retired August 24, 1983.

³⁸ Edward J. Buehlman was appointed patrolman March 4, 1957; retired April 16, 1977.

LM: Well, I joined John's group, it had to be about 1960. I spent about two years on the west side and then I joined his unit. I was with it for about ten years.

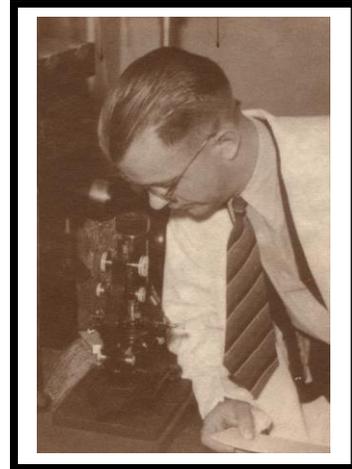
KC: Lets quite for today and come back and talk more including about the canine unit.

December 28, 2005

KC: It is Wednesday, December 28, 2005. We are doing a second interview with Commander Larry McDonald. Larry, before we turned the tape on, you were starting to tell me about the formation of the training unit.

What year was this and who had the inspiration for doing this?

LM: The inspiration, I believe, came from Detective Tony Tighe and Doctor Dalton who wanted to improve the evidence that they were receiving in the crime lab as a result of us going to the crime scenes and bringing evidence back to them. I think Tony would be probably the chief person. Then when Chief McAuliffe became chief, like I said, he and Tony were good friends, they really admired one another. Tony said that he wanted to start a training unit. So there were some selections off the street of who might be training material. And Tony was also looking for someone to start the Planning and Research Unit. Bill McCutcheon was selected to come in off of squad 3-0-2, which was the Highland area. I was selected to come off from the 3-0-7 squad and I was also working with Mercado at the time on the Tactical Unit. We would come in on a part-time basis, depending upon when the classes would begin. Tony took us in to prepare us so that we could have lesson plans prepared in case we ever went to court we'd know who and what we taught.



Doctor John Dalton
First crime lab c.1935

At that time the third floor of the headquarters at 101 East Tenth, half of it consisted of [offices and the jail]. The north half of it was the male section of the jail and the far most north-west section was the female prisoners' area. At that time the county took over the female prisoners and sent them over to their jail on Saint Peter Street, so that left the [female] cell blocks open. Tony wanted to put his unit together. So the only space available was in the women's cell block area. Each of us were assigned a cell as our office. To get in and get out of that cell block area you had to go through two locked doors and bother the jailers every time you wanted to get in or get out to go about your business.

We had at that time one, kind of like a police manual, that was from the L.A. Police Department that was our only reference document and at that time there was no material in any [police] library. There were no schools like we know of today for police work. We sat down there and fashioned our own lesson plans based on our experiences and how it should be done. Once we would develop a lesson plan, we would get together and say, "Does this look like it's reasonable, prudent procedures to teach?" Sometimes we viewed policing differently at that time, but we put together lesson plans and that's how it began.

We were there for quite a number of months or maybe even years, off and on, in that location before Tony was able to get an office right outside of Chief McAuliffe's office, adjacent to that, which was a thrilling place to be.

Because when people would get called in for bad behavior, Chief McAuliffe didn't believe in suspending anybody, we could hear him through the walls lecturing or giving them hell, we could see the people leaving the office with their head hung low. We never wanted ever to face McAuliffe. He never suspended anybody, he corrected everything right on the spot. It was an interesting spot were we would come in and out. The key, I think, to our active training, was we would return to the street and then come back in, bringing, again, new ideas, new suggestions as to how we'd do it. Then we would see the people that we trained, how well they reacted to the training, and we were always in search of, *was it the right method.*

KC: What year would this be?

LM: It would have to be probably in the early 1960s, we started that. That went on for some time, where we were in and out. McCutcheon stayed then full-time in the Planning and Research Unit. We would help him with his chores the training, because we were trying to tie in a lot of things, like the old reports. They had categories for the daytime place and then the narrative and that. We were looking to put those things eventually onto computers, so they were devised by us. The complaint numbers that we have today, started during that era so that we would have a registry of our reports as they developed. A lot of things changed there. Some tremendous changes occurred during McCutcheon's era in the Planning and Research Department.

I was fortunate enough to have been sent to Northwestern Traffic Institute for the three week training officer school because of my involvement with John Mercado's Tactical Unit, where we were probably the first search team, SWAT team, where we were able to get into the gun vault with the tear gas and the 351 Springfield weapons and the machine guns, the 45s that they had confiscated from Dillinger.

We were the first really SWAT team, so they sent me to a tear gas school in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania. It was conducted by the Federal Laboratories, which still manufacture tear gas. The instructor there was a person that they recovered from Germany with a very deep accent that apparently was their chemical expert in Germany, and he was hired by Federal Laboratories. So, we went to school out there and Dave Weida³⁹ was sent with me to that school. I came back and little did I know that it was going to be so useful, because when the civil disturbance times began, I was the foremost teacher for the State of Minnesota for tear gas training. I don't know how many times I've trained National Guard people because the military tear gas was color coded in different than the color coding of the civilian tear gas. They had to know what we were throwing and we had to know what they were throwing, depending upon the circumstances. So, I did a tremendous amount of training in the tear gas field.

³⁹ David William Weida was appointed patrolman April 2, 1956; promoted to sergeant March 6, 1962; lieutenant January 14, 1971; and retired January 31, 1991.



KC: Who all was in this training unit?

LM: There was a number of people. There was, of course, Bill McCutcheon was in there, John Mercado was a part of it because he was a good street supervisor, in and out now. Ted Fahey⁴⁰ was in there, [Paul Paulos, Will Jyrkas,⁴¹] John Gelao⁴² was in and out. There were a number of us. That probably was the core group that I can think of right now.

⁴⁰ Theodore C. Fahey was appointed patrolman October 13, 1947; promoted to sergeant September 16, 1955; lieutenant December 18, 1965; captain December 9, 1972; and retired April 20, 1981.

⁴¹ Wilfred O. Jyrkas was appointed patrolman July 29, 1949; promoted to sergeant August 11, 1960; lieutenant December 14, 1965; captain November 29, 1971; and retired August 28, 1986.

⁴² John Joseph Gelao was appointed patrolman January 4, 1954; promoted to sergeant March 22, 1969; acting lieutenant August 22, 1980; reinstated sergeant October 25, 1981; acting lieutenant April 2, 1984; reinstated sergeant May 13, 1984; and retired April 6, 1990.

KC: Do you remember a specific class that you taught?

LM: I taught many of them. I still teach today for the volunteers at the Sheriff's office. I love teaching, I like to change people and have them conform to a prescribed method of doing something that is productive. I remember once teaching a tear gas class out at Arden Hills for the military.

At that time we had these phosphorous flares that you could shoot up in the sky and then a parachute would open and the phosphorus portion of the grenade would actually float down and light up an area for a nighttime training. Well, we shot one up and, of course, we had all these cars, these people that participated in the event, the parachute failed and I saw this parachute coming down faster in an area that it shouldn't have, right on the hood of some guy's car, and this is a phosphorus burning projectile. I know somebody else picked up the cost of his hood, because it burned right through the hood of the car.

One time we were training out in Fort Snelling along, which was then Highway 55, and we had one tear gas round that went in a location it shouldn't and it crossed 55 and it was streaming tear gas. All we could hear was the screeching of brakes on 55. I never heard any reports of any crashes down there, but I tell you, my heart was in my throat. A couple of those occasions we could have caused some serious problems.

KC: Now when you're training for the Saint Paul Police Department, you're wanting to give the new officers and the street officers more skills.

LM: Yes.

KC: So, this was really the start of an academy that was more than just the two weeks that you had?

LM: Yes. We had one month when I started. We wanted to extend it because we wanted to make sure that officers were properly trained. If you remember, back in those days, we had difficulty, remember I think in my previous interview that I became the recruiter for the police department. We wanted to weld together, not only the officer, the male that we were getting, but we wanted to take in his family, whether it would be his girlfriend or his fiancée or his wife or his grandmother. We had what we called a demonstration school that we would bring all of these people in and explain how much the person was going to earn, what the health benefits were like, what the death benefits were and they got a tour of the police department, and they felt like they came as a family and they were part of us. I think that's what welded the early years of us together that we were so successful. It's not being done now, but I think it has tremendous possibilities of doing that again. It costs money, but it is well worth it.

KC: How long was this family demonstration?

LM: As I remember, it was two weeks. They would come down and we would explain the police department, we would explain the hours that they would work, and at that time we were changing shifts every two weeks from days to midnights to afternoons. That was a negative for most people that were not used to that lifestyle. We explained how long it would take before they could take a promotion exam, which was then I believe five years. We laid it all out to the families and the individuals.

And, at that time we would have courses in writing to see how well they wrote, how well they looked like they would appear on the stand in court. We were looking for, what you might call flaws that we could correct.

KC: So this was before you hired people, this demonstration school?

LM: Yes, and to see if they were still going to be part of us.

KC: How long did the families actually come down, for like a day or two?

LM: They were mostly conducted in the evening and they were invited, as I remember, a couple evenings during these sessions. The first week probably and then the second week as they went home and talked about it and they heard a little more from the cadet as the second week went, and they decided whether they wanted to come with us or not. It was very productive, I thought.

KC: Saint Paul has a reputation for having people within their family of origins, fathers and sons, and now daughters, husbands and wives. Was that something that was promoted during that time to bring in loved ones into the department?

LM: It was because of the crisis that we had in the recruiting, because we felt that the officers themselves if they recommended their son, it was just son at that time that would join, was an excellent opportunity to say, you know, the father's happy, the kid's going to be happy. We recruited a lot through our own people when this crisis was on of not getting people, to contact other relatives or friends or neighbors to come in with that endorsement. That's how we did get a lot of them, because some neighbor down the street that was a policeman endorsed to some neighbor kid, "hey this is a great job, you'll love it" That's how we began.

It was far-reaching, the methods that we used to get those recruits in, and we got some excellent ones in.

KC: What did you do to transfer the culture? My interpretation is that you were creating a new culture?

LM: That's right.

KC: In the Saint Paul Department. How did you instill that into the new recruits?

LM: You've got to remember that, and I went back previously to the 1968 demonstrations in Chicago that really gave the police a bad eye, a bad view. We wanted to correct that as much as we could, we looked at some of the pitfalls that happened there and said we have to create a new culture and a new type of officer. Not that the officers were that bad, but we thought that there was a lot of room for improvement. So, we sat down and said this is how we start it. We always felt that training was the key to that success and that's why train diligently and lengthened the training. The selection process was a big thing to get people that were very responsible that wanted to be there, had the backing of their families and went through some psychological testing. We even instituted the background investigations. We would go out and investigate. I spent, on individuals, maybe a week checking someone to make sure that they were the person that we were looking for. I think that helped change that whole culture of getting the best.

KC: Were other departments doing this? Was this something that you were modeling from another city or other states? Or this something that Saint Paul came up with?

LM: Saint Paul came up with it. In fact, it was years later that Minneapolis was over asking us about background investigations. In fact, we taught background investigations to other agencies, years after we had done it. We had sort of mastered the technique with the psychologists and others that had input into it.

KC: Do you remember who your early psychologists were?

LM: That was Bob Hobart.

KC: Bob Hobart.

LM: Yes. He was excellent for us at that time. He was followed by one of his partners, Martin, I forget what is first name was. We were closely linked with them to evaluate. Civil service had opened up the door, they were very restrictive in the early stages of recruiting. But they opened up the door knowing that they had to come with us, make that change, so they were very cooperative in the process that we developed.

They were also tolerant of people that were in the military that we spent a great deal of time recruiting, and because of their assignments, like Bill Snyder⁴³, was a Navy guy who was out on a ship. He and I spent a lot of time talking back and forth with one another scheduling his examinations and even sending them to his commander on the ship, the test would be given to him under the supervision of someone else. Now, that's an example.

⁴³ William Arthur Snyder appointed police officer September 8, 1975; promoted to sergeant April 8, 1988; resigned January 8, 1999. Appointed Ramsey County deputy sheriff January 11, 1999; deputy sergeant July 2002.

We needed to change some things, too. We had an excellent candidate, Rick Tibesar,⁴⁴ officer. Rick came through the examination, he was a teacher, I think at Saint Agnes, but he was a slight bit colorblind. Now, the colorblind test for police officers at that time was extremely strict and Rick was an excellent candidate in every respect, but we said he can't pass the colorblind test. I went out to see the flight surgeon at Northwest Airlines and I said, "What's your qualifications for your pilots?" And, they said, "Well, we give them." And I'll never forget this, "The signal lantern test." He said, "If our pilots can pass that." He said, "That colorblindness, we'll accept them." Rick passed it and he was on the job. That was a whole new dimension that we changed somewhat to make it possible for an excellent to be part of us. Rick Tibesar is retired now, but he was an excellent officer. The signal lantern test.

KC: [Laughter] It doesn't sound like it was a formal team, who were the men that were creating all of this training? It was Tony Tighe and?

LM: McCutcheon.

KC: John Mercado.

LM: John Mecardo had a big play in it. John Gelao had some input into it, Ted Fahey, who is no longer here, passed away. There were a number of people. Doc Dalton from the crime lab, of course.

KC: Would you guys just sit down at choir practice and come up with these ideas?

⁴⁴ Richard James Tibesar was appointed patrolman May 22, 1972; promoted to sergeant June 1, 1988; and retired May 30, 2000.

LM: Yes. Just sit down. You can figure that we're locked in a jail, so sometimes you didn't make too many trips out to irritate the jailers, so you sat there and we would just collaborate as to what we were going to do and how we were going to do it. It's amazing what semi-isolation can do.

KC: Where did you do the training? Last week I was in this wonderful training facility in the new headquarters. Did they give you a room in headquarters someplace?

LM: Yes. We did have a room at headquarters for awhile and then we were so desperate to make it better, we wanted to remove the recruits and put them in an area where we could do calisthenics or some physical training. Ed Hoeller⁴⁵ was an officer in the National Guard and he had connections at the armory, which was at 600 Cedar Street, just across the freeway. We worked out a deal that we rented the armory for our training. That gave us a beautiful classroom, it was close to headquarters and it had the drill floor, you might call it, for calisthenics and exercising. It made a beautiful room for the morning inspection and it was a great place, we trained there for years. It was a beautiful facility, we had wonderful rapport with the military over there and, again, the linkage paid off because of the civil disturbance times. We were linked nicely with the National Guard and

⁴⁵ Edward D. Hoeller was appointed patrolman January 23, 1927; promoted to sergeant January 12, 1942; and retired June 29, 1979.

that was the Military Police Unit. Jerry Dolan⁴⁶ was involved, Ed Hoeller was. There's a raft of us that were involved over the period of time.

117.50

KC: There was the recruit process, but I know from interviewing Debbie Montgomery, there would be the written test and then there was the demonstration school, and then you did the background checks before you invited people on?

LM: Psychological.

KC: Psychological testing.

LM: Yes. The whole process.

KC: And then you get into the academy with more demonstration schools?

LM: Yes.

KC: Was this training unit involved in developing the shoot, don't shoot scenarios early on?

LM: Yes. That came a little bit later, but that was part of, remnants, of the same unit that was doing that. I don't know what prompted the shoot, don't shoot thing, I don't know if it was a shooting incident. I don't recall anything that did that, but that was kind of surfacing. We did have some people that were sent to the FBI Academy where that was first developed, I think the idea came back from those people for that.

KC: I know when I went through the Citizen's Academy that's a powerful experience. And, of course, much more sophisticated when it's on video. Any other stories that you remember about the training unit?

⁴⁶ Jerome Paul Dolan was appointed patrolman April 24, 1961; resigned June 26, 1961; appointed patrolman March 30, 1964; promoted to sergeant September 30, 1967; lieutenant November 29, 1971; deceased August 10, 1993.

LM: No I don't think so. A lot of rewarding experiences though.

We felt that the officers needed to be retuned or retrained periodically. We started the in-service training as a result of follow-up, where we would give them renewed law classes, renew them in their first aid certificates, any changes in the report writing system or any of the administrative type things. We got into dealing with the mentally ill people. That was part of that in-service training.

When we first started we trained, not only for Saint Paul, but we trained for other agencies. We trained West Saint Paul, we trained some Dakota County, South Saint Paul, White Bear Lake, which built tremendous relationships with our suburban officers, because they were trained under the same procedures that we were and we adapted nicely with some of the reporting systems and some of the thought process and they, in turn, turned that evidence over to Saint Paul's crime lab, so there was a nice flow around us.

KC: So they went through the same academy and then went out on the streets in their department?

LM: Yes, we kind of just did the training for them and then sent them back into their own jurisdictions. Which was a wonderful idea.

KC: Is that still done?

LM: No, it isn't anymore. And, I think why that isn't done, Kate, is because we're sending our young people through the two and four year [college] programs and they come back. Then they do go through a training

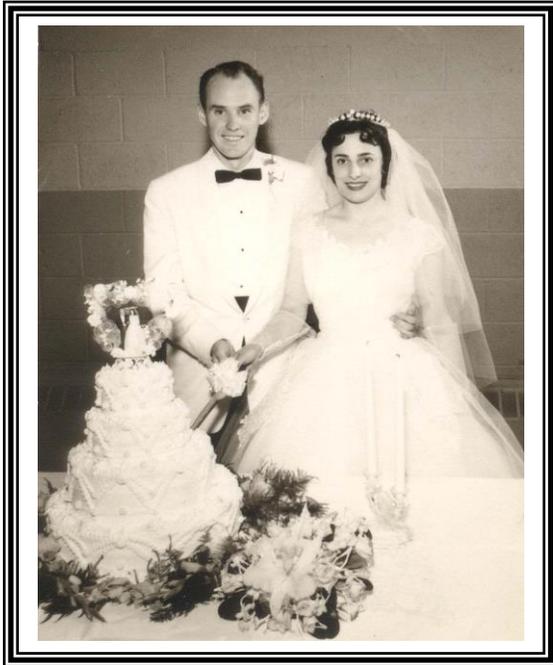
program, but a lot of it is done by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. We used to have good linkage with them also, to furnish us some courses like the breathalyzer examinations, and they would have some specialized courses in investigation that we would periodically send people to them. Most of that originated in Saint Paul where we extended ourselves to other people.

Even the canine unit, when we got into canine, we became kind of a regional training center for other departments that could send their officer and their dog and we would train them. That exists today, which I think is wonderful, the cooperation with other agencies, as a result of that.

KC: Let's talk about the canine unit. Let's go way back to the original idea of this could work.

LM: I was frustrated when I first went on the police department, especially, like, I was working on the west side where I first started, and we would get called to a window peeping call or somebody would steal an auto and they would be just maybe a few moments away from us when we arrive. We would search around with our flashlights if it was night with the old flashlights and, of course, a hundred to one the batteries were dead.

I often thought there had to be a better way and the reason I thought there had to be a better way, I had four bachelor uncles that lived down in Rosemount, Minnesota, and they were farmers and they had a lot of the tracking dogs, the black and tan and the red bones. I forget the other breed. We spent a lot of time as kids tracking rabbits and fox and



whatever we could track, and then we would track on another, my brothers. So, when I got on the police department I thought this is really dumb because you can get a dog that can track. I had written some letters down south where my uncle had bought dogs and asked them for information about tracking dogs. I thought I was going to do this kind of on my own. Just get a tracking dog because when we were kids we

lived on the west side and we had dogs and sheep and things like that. Finally I got wind that some of the dog people said the City of Baltimore was looking to accept police dogs in Baltimore, Maryland. I found out that it was timed when I was getting married on June 7th of 1958. I told my wife we'll go east on our honeymoon. We went up to Niagara Falls and ended up in Baltimore, Maryland.

We were very well received there and were in the process of deciding whether they wanted to go the British method where the dog would be more of the Labrador type, the big husky-looking dogs that would grab the person in England by the clothing and just knock them down, because England at that time, there were no weapons and they were pretty non-violent criminals. The Americans in Baltimore were looking at a different

criminal that had guns and knives and would go forcibly against the police, so they decided to get the dogs that would actually bite a person.

Of course, they researched some military people that had the training because they were training sentry dogs at that time. When we were out there they were talking about it and the sergeant said, "Where are you from?" And, I said, "Saint Paul." He said, "Gee, we were looking at a guy from, is West Saint Paul near you?" I said, "West Saint Paul . . .", I was living on the west side and I said, "That's about a mile and a-half from my house." So, they gave me the name of a guy by the name of Al Johnson who lived on Gorman Street in West Saint Paul. I couldn't wait until I got back home.

I was working for John Mercado, who was progressive, too. He knew Bill Proetz⁴⁷ at that time, pretty well. John was admired by a lot of people. I told him about the canine dogs and I said, "You know, we should talk to the chief, maybe we'll get a dog or two." So, Mercado went to Proetz.

KC: Proetz was the chief?

LM: Bill Proetz, yeah. Bill Proetz thought it was a good idea, he said, "Why don't you call this Al Johnson, we'll take him to lunch." So, we met for lunch one day. Al Johnson told the chief, he said, "You know, your officers will need more training than the dogs." I thought, *oh, boy, here we go*. He said, "If you select a couple officers, I'll pick the dogs, but we're

⁴⁷William F. Proetz was appointed patrolman March 1, 1937; promoted to sergeant March 16, 1968, detective September 20, 1948, lieutenant December 1949, and chief March 11, 1955; and retired June 12, 1963.

going to have donated dogs I suppose because we didn't have any money." We found three dogs that he approved of. I was one of the people, Ed Buehlman was the other, and Bill Swiger.⁴⁸ We were all from Mercado's tactical unit. We began training with Al Johnson and his partner Bob Gates, both of them were recognized obedience dog trainers here in the Twin Cities.

They volunteered their time and we went into training. In the training, Al Johnson and Bob Gates were 100% behind discipline because this dog that's told to attack people has to be highly disciplined. So, we went through all of the discipline procedures, we had our dogs behaving like you wouldn't believe. Then we started teaching the aggressive work and the building searches. It became wonderful training. At first, people didn't believe us. We got people to donate their parking lots or their buildings to let us train in, because everybody's afraid of these wild dogs that will bite everybody.

⁴⁸ William R. Swiger was appointed patrolman November 1, 1949; and retired June 30, 1976.



Larry
with Nate Bowbey
April 7, 1959

At that time we were having trouble with break-ins in schools, because at that time there were no alarms on schools. There was a superintendent of the school maintenance and he was located down on Sherman Street, right across from the old Saint Luke's Hospital⁴⁹ was. I went down and saw him, his name was Mr. Breedahl, and I said "You're having trouble with your schools, what do you think if you let us use the schools to train our dogs in for building searches?" and, he went like that for it. [snaps fingers] He said, "I'll give you a grand master key." And, he said "All you have to do is let me know what school and what time you're going to be in and I'll tell the custodian to get out." We started going to the different schools where we would run the dogs through the schools at night. And, let me tell you, the word spread that you never knew when a dog was going to be in the school, and that reduced our school burglaries.

I'll give you a picture of our first photograph of the police officers with our dogs. You'll notice, if you'll look carefully, that we are not wearing out gun belts. We are just there with the dogs on the leash with our uniform, but no gun belts. The reason for that was that with the gun belts, the Chief thought we'd look too awesome, too threatening to the public. So you'll notice that we don't have our guns. The guns and a dog would be too much.

⁴⁹ Saint Luke's Hospital was located at 333 North Smith Street. In 1972 Saint Luke's, Miller and Children's Hospitals merged to become United Hospital at the same location.

Chief Proetz at that time was, I think, pretty skillful in saying we got to educate the public about these dogs, not to be fearful and if they get bitten, that the dogs are disciplined, and somebody got bit because they deserved it. So, what we started was a campaign of going to the schools. We went to, I believe, every school probably in Saint Paul, and started to indoctrinate the children as to how to react around this dog if they were in an area where we were searching for someone or in a building. We went to school after school after school.

My first experience I'll tell you about. It was with Lieutenant Winterhalter,⁵⁰ he was in charge of the school police. I went up to Linwood School the first day of this program. Lieutenant Winterhalter always trained the school police kids. Hank Winterhalter got up there and introduced himself and talked about safety and the signs that they held up and he said, "By the way, I brought Larry McDonald along with his dog Pal."⁵¹ He said, "He will give you an explanation of what the dog is about and what he's about and what they're doing." Here I am in the back room, he never told me this, that he was going to put me on the stage. He said, "Larry, come up here." I saw Lieutenant Winterhalter walk, I watched him for five minutes, in silence, walk off the stage and turn it over to me. It was unbelievable, I didn't know what to say, I didn't know what to do. That was the start of my public speaking career. [Chuckles]

⁵⁰ Henry J. Winterhalter was appointed patrolman November 21, 1938; promoted to sergeant October 1, 1949; lieutenant April 1, 1955; and retired June 30, 1980.

⁵¹ Pal came into service in 1959; Larry McDonald was his handler

After that we explained the age of the dog, the sex of the dog and how disciplined it was and we put on some tricks, you know, how the dog would respond and how if you became aggressive how it would bark. I went over like you wouldn't believe. We started with that and then we went to the Kiwanis and Lion's Clubs and PTA meetings. We laid a tremendous solid base for the acceptance of the police dogs. It was unbelievable.

The dogs did bite some people, afterwards. One morning I came to work and they sent me up to what was then the Saint Joe's Academy off of Western and Marshall. There was an escapee girl from Shakopee [women's prison], she was nineteen, twenty years old, and she had a short skirt on and she had escaped the police or outran them several times during the night. I came up there in the morning and they flushed her out for me and she come heading down Aurora Street at top speed and I yelled for her to stop and she didn't. I unsnapped the dog and boy he put her down in nothing flat. You can't outrun the dog, he bit her in the butt, knocking her down. I got a call a few hours later, I had to quarantine the dog. Take the dog home immediately, the dogs were kept at home, and quarantine. Because they found out when they checked her for the dog bite that she had syphilis. So the dog was quarantined.

I was told to keep my wife and my kids away from the dog in case we were bitten, that dog didn't bite anybody else or lick anybody else that day, that morning. The dog was quarantined and it wasn't until they

went to the University of Minnesota Veterinarian Clinic out there, the top people, that found out a day or two later that the dog bite can't retransfer the syphilis virus or germ to another person being bitten. So the dog and I got back in service.

Then, of course, the big proof-of-the-putting of the dogs was we had a burglar, a master burglar, by the name of Stanley McFarland. He had broken into the Albrecht Fur Company down off of Saint Peter Street. The building had been searched two or three times by regular officers. They knew he was in there because of the electronic alarm, there had been movement in there. Finally, in desperation they sent Swiger and they said, "Run your dog through there, he won't find anything either." Well, we did, Champ⁵² was the dog's name, found Stanley McFarland and gave him a good bite. At that time there was a program on television called Lassie. Lassie, of course, was a Collie dog, but they used to award an award every year for outstanding work for a dog and so Swiger and his dog won the National Lassie Award. So, we won the National Lassie Award.

There were other small arrests that we made. I arrested a guy by the name of Harlo Ridder up at a supermarket up on Selby and Fairview. Went down very effectively, searched the upper part of the grocery store, went down into the basement where Harlo was. I knew Harlo was there

⁵² Champ came into service in 1959; William Swiger was his handler.

because he was yelling. And, we've never heard of him since. He, I think, was so reformed by that I don't think he ever committed another burglary.

KC: Because he was so scared of the dog?

LM: Oh, yes. You know in the dark you hear all those clicky nails. They ignore the advice to come out. There were many arrests like that that improved the dogs. It was unfortunate that the dog program lasted about three or more years when Chief Proetz then went out under some ill feelings and some ill conduct that he got involved with. Lester McAuliffe took over, which those two never got along, and so he put aside all of Bill Proetz's ideas, so the dogs went back home with us and lived with us as house pets until it was reorganized again some time later [in 1970].

KC: What year was it originally organized?

LM: In 1958.

KC: So you were there '58 to '61?

LM: Yes.

KC: And then?

LM: McAuliffe took over and discontinued the dog program and then it regained again.

We were the second city in the United States to have dogs. Minneapolis heard about our dog program and got caught short and went to, I think it was General Mills, and they purchased two dogs from Germany and had them shipped over there. The dogs didn't understand English, obviously, so the officers had to learn some German to put them into use. They got

bitten by the dogs and their program I don't believe was as successful as ours and I don't think it lasted as long as ours.

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KC: Were you involved when the dog program, the K-9 unit came back into effect?

LM: No, I was on a different assignment of that time.

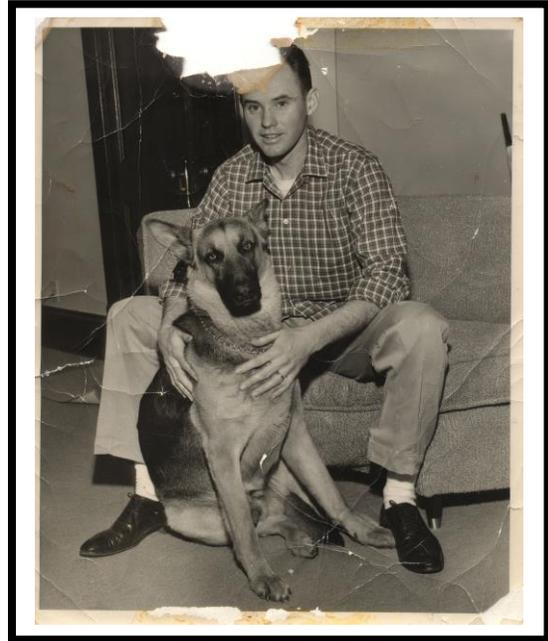
KC: What was the name of your dog again?

LM Pal.

KC: How long was Pal a house pet of yours?

LM: He lived to be a ripe old age. I

had two dogs at that time, my own German Shepard, he got turned down because he wasn't aggressive enough, and then I picked up the new dog. Pal lived with me successfully for about fifteen years. He was a nice old dog.



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Jeff's Pal <small>NAME</small>	No. W-726179
German Shepherd Dog <small>BREED</small>	Male <small>SEX</small>
Black & cream. <small>COLOR</small>	July 8, 1956 <small>DATE OF BIRTH</small>
Zabo of La Salle W-684688 (Oct. 1956) <small>SIRE</small>	
Queen of Castle Hill W-614324 (Oct. 1956) <small>DAM</small>	
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle L. Olson. <small>BREEDER</small>	Dec. 2, 1957 <small>CERTIFICATE ISSUED</small>
Charles Harris Lakeland, Minn. <small>OWNER</small>	

TR


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KC: Did Pal miss being able to go to work?

LM: Oh, tremendous, tremendous loss.

KC: Did you ever unofficially take Pal out when you had a difficult situation?

LM: Well, see, what I used to do is, I always have been a walker my whole life and so when I would come off duty to relax, if it was 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning, I would go for a walk. He and I would always go for a walk, that would taper him off a little bit that he was not still [working]. Our walks would go for a mile or two sometimes.

I'll never forget one night I came home and I had three guys on my back porch. What they had done is they had robbed the bar up on Stryker and Stevens called Curly's Bar, and they had fled the police and unfortunately they were staked out on my back porch, it was an open porch.

KC: Did they know whose back porch?

LM: No, they had no idea whose porch it was, just bad timing, bad decision. I used my dog that time. We chased them into, what was at that time the quarry, which is now the Wilder Foundation, the rest home down there. Where they were caught. That was a big thrill for him. I had a wonderful time with that dog and he got along so well with my neighbors and my family. He was just a highly disciplined, structured dog.

KC: Who were the other officers that started the original canine unit?

LM: Ed Buehlman, and he had a dog by the name of Barron,⁵³ and then Bill Swiger had Champ. We could all tell you stories. Remember the story of the kid on the roof.

The dogs are useful because when you would have those cranky repeat calls, you would search visually as a human and not know what happened. One time I went up on a call with a window peeper, a prowler kind of call, and as I searched the property with my dog, why, of course, the dog was looking up all the time and I couldn't figure out why he was looking up. And, low and behold, this young teenage boy had crawled the rain gutter of this expensive home and he got up on the roof, second story, and then he would look into the female bedroom because she only had half drapes. I would never have discovered that. I think that's what happened to the other officers that serviced the call, they never looked up.

One of my things when I teach observation is I always tell people that we never look above our line of sight, but the dog has taught me to look above the line of sight.

Jim Griffin⁵⁴ one time sent me up to the Catholic Guild where the single girls that came to town, and they were having trouble with a window

⁵³ Barron came into service in 1959; Edward J. Buehlman was his handler.

⁵⁴James Stafford Griffin (July 6, 1917 – November 23, 2002) was appointed reserve patrolman August 6, 1941; patrolman full-time August 1942; the first Black male to be promoted to sergeant September 16, 1955; and captain March 2, 1970; and deputy chief October 6, 1972; and retired August 31, 1983.

peeper. The squads had been there repeatedly with no results. So Jim said we've got to do something about that. I went up there one night on the call with the dog and sure enough the guy was hidden in a clump of lilacs that the other officers and myself would have walked by and the denseness of it probably would never have discovered him. But the dog's sense of smell, the dog's acute hearing will help you so much it's unbelievable, and their ability to see better at night. Those are some of the small incidences that we had that proved the dogs were extremely valuable to us. I think they're being proven every day today.

KC: When this was just an experiment, did you have to volunteer your time for the training with the dog?

LM: Yes. It was all volunteer. We transported our dog to and from our homes to work in our personal car.

At that time we had no extra clothing allowance because the dog, you know if it was a day like today where it's wet and muddy, your uniform would look terrible and smell terrible because of the oil on a dog. Finally, we got a clothing allowance and then the city started to purchase dog food for us. They did provide a couple of kennels outdoor at the dog pound on Beulah Lane [at Jessamine] where we could put our dogs.

But most of us were so fascinated by our dogs being at home. I think it was good for the dog to have a part of a family life, so that they were with a normal home setting where they have kids and neighbors and other dogs around, they could relax and be themselves. We started out with

doing a lot of running our own costs on that, but it was a wonderful experience.

Later, I came back into being charge of the dogs at the new kennel which is on the Water Department property.

KC: What year was this?



LM: Maybe 1975. I was there for several years. It was very enjoyable, because now we had some professional trainers. There, again, for this department is training crazy, or has been. We developed our own training personnel.

Jim Long⁵⁵ was the head trainer. Jim knows dogs from top to bottom. He is very well respected. We've won National Trials.

KC: He's a department employee?

LM: He was an officer. He's retired now. Again, the training. It's all in training, how you condition people and even animals to conform to an acceptable standards.

KC: How did you feel when McAuliffe came in?

LM: We were devastated because we knew the value and to have dismissed the organization on just some personal feelings for the previous administrator. There were other things, I don't remember all that went out the window that were Proetz ideas. Proetz came out of the juvenile unit and he was very much for juveniles. His heart was in the right place.

McAuliffe, remember I said in the earlier interview that our department was more a detective investigative. He came out of the mold of being an investigator and he was in charge of homicide for years. So, he didn't, I don't think, fully understand the significance of how important patrol was. It was maybe secondary. That's another example of not knowing how valuable a tool can be to aid that patrol person. They are the key to every police department.

KC: Was there a point where your gun belt was put back on the uniform when you had the dogs?

⁵⁵ James Brooks Long was appointed patrolman January 23, 1971; and retired August 14, 1998.

LM: Yes, finally. [Laughs] It was crazy. But we sold the public so well because of the procedures that we talked about, that today our officers, I don't know if they do that, but the dogs are accepted by the citizens. I don't know about nationwide, but in Saint Paul rarely do they get complaints. Even on a dog bite, people say we know about the dogs, they're trained and if you got bit you deserved it.

KC: If a dog bit, it bit because someone was fleeing?

LM: Either fleeing or attacking you or something like that. Or was in a building illegally where you made the announcement to come out, you always give them a choice and if they don't come out you tell them you're going to send the dog in.

KC: And then the dog has authority to bite?

LM: That's right. I remember that we used to get a call, it used to be the Farwell Osman & Kirk Building [160 East Blvd.], where the welfare office is now, across from the old Post Office on Kellogg. When an alarm came in there, on any other large building, we used to have to go down and diagonally cover the building so you could see [anyone exiting the building]. Then we would send officers in there and make an intensive search of the building, very, very time consuming. When you left you weren't real sure because of the nature of some of these buildings, were so difficult to search and be sure, that when you left you weren't sure whether the burglar was still in there. Sometimes we knew because after the alarms were reset, the alarm went off because the burglar got out. So we knew that we weren't totally successful. You can search a building like that today with a dog in such a short time frame or you get the

cooperation of the burglar to come out when you tell him that you're going to send the dog in, that that's the time saver, why make more work out of it when you can reduce the work.

KC: Did you start using the dogs in buildings like that?

LM: We started them in the schools. We would hide in the school building and make the search, Mr. Breedahl thought it was the best thing that ever happened. We had a master key for every school in the city of Saint Paul.

KC: Did you ever find any burglars in the schools?

LM: No, but we found them in, you know the old Miller Hospital, we used to train in there, too. One night we were going to search, and we were searching and all of a sudden, we didn't think there was anybody in the building first of all, because I ran the security there for awhile and we had it all boarded up. But they loosened the board and put it back. The dogs went crazy on one end, he was running down, I think it was the fifth floor, and we heard all this barking and some guy yelling down there. It was some street guy that got in there. We didn't know it, but the dog knew it. It was unbelievable.

We would rustle, most of the time, out some street person that would want to just be there sleeping. We had occasions like that, but it did a wonderful job of preventing the burglaries because people knew that that dog might be there.

There was a restaurant on Snelling Avenue and I don't remember the name of it, but it was up near Scheffer, and this guy had some repeated

burglaries. John Mercado said "Larry, why don't you go up there and plant the place." That meant that you'd go in there with your dog and with a sawed off shotgun and with the old radios that they had, you had to carry them in a suitcase. I said, "Now, the owners not coming back?" John said, "It's all set." What happened, I'm sitting in this restaurant, the dog and I. And about 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning I hear someone at the back door and finally I heard the door open and somebody saying "Are you in there? Are you in there?" And, who is it, the owner, he catered a wedding somewhere and was bringing in the food that was leftover. Let me tell you, if he's alive today, he can tell you that his heart almost stopped when he confronted myself and that dog. Fortunately, the dog didn't bite him, but he must remember that to this day, if he's alive. He should never have come back, and he was told not to come back, but he thought he'd put the food in there.

KC: So when you heard this you responded?

LM: Well, yes, I waited because I thought this could be a burglar, because some of them have keys, you know, an employee will come in and steal the place blind, so we just waited until he got in. When that dog lunged at him, I tell you, he sat down. I bet he spent fifteen minutes, he couldn't move. He was paralyzed he was so frightened. I thought I was going to have a heart attack on my hands, he was going to have a heart attack. He'll never come into a building again without [authorization]. He'll listen to instructions the next time. Those are some of the stories that you have.

KC: When you came out of the Academy you were assigned on the west side?

LM: That's correct.

KC: Can you talk about those first couple of years on the west side.

LM: Yeah. They were good years and they were bad years, and I'll tell you why. This is a personal experience that I had, I lived on the West Side, at that time I was living with my mother and dad because I wasn't married, but I was dating. There was a family down the street by the name of Griffin, his name was Jim Griffin. For some reason I knew their boys because they came up and played on the playground, because my mother and dad's house was next to Emanuel Lutheran Church and next door was a school, but there was a playground, so the kids congregated. So I knew the kids. I didn't know this, but Mr. Griffin who ran an income tax place and an auto recovery place and a dry cleaning place on South Robert Street lived there. I never met the man, never knew his wife. But what happened is that he called the police department. And I was unaware of this. And, [he] said that I was dating his wife to be. So, I didn't know this, but he believed this, and one night the police were called because he was outside, and this house was a block from mine, they were down there and they searched the house, and his wife was mortified, that I was in the house with his wife. I was working at that time for a captain by the name of Captain Burt Pond,⁵⁶ a great guy and he got the report from the investigative people saying that I was running around with this guy's wife. He said, "Larry, what's happening here, you've got to tell me because you're going to be in trouble." I said, "I don't even know the

⁵⁶ Burton E. Pond was appointed reserve patrolman April 29, 1941; patrolman full-time April 16, 1942; promoted to sergeant September 20, 1948; lieutenant October 1, 1954; captain September 1, 1957; and retired July 16, 1969.

lady. I know the kids only because they play in the playground, but I have no knowledge of him and her." He believed me. He said "I'll tell you what, I hate to take you off the West Side, but just don't hang around with her." I said, "I'm not hanging around with her, I'm dating my wife."

What happened was, one day on the afternoon shift Fred Franz⁵⁷ and I were working the West Side, we got a call to this Griffin income tax/dry cleaning place. A customer went in there and Mr. Griffin was choking his wife on the bottom of the basement stairs, stuffing towels or something into her throat. And we get the call. When I went in there and Fred went in there, this guy went completely berserk when he saw me. What had happened is, this guy, we arrested him. We fought him all the way up the stairs because he was completely mental. We put him in the squad and there was no screen at that time. We got him handcuffed, Fred was a big burly guy, we had plenty of strength there. But his guy almost did us in. We put him in the back of the squad and going over the Robert Street Bridge he crawled over into the front and was fighting with us in the squad. My brother had a friend that was going over the Robert Street Bridge and told my brother, a little while after that he met him, and he said, "God, there was a squad and there was some guy, the three of them were going around in the squad like they were nuts." That was us.

⁵⁷ Fred C. Franz was appointed reserve patrolman April 29, 1941; patrolman full time April 16, 1942; military leave August 19, 1942 to November 1, 1945; reinstated patrolman June 1, 1963; and retired June 16, 1969.

We took him at that time up to the hospital. We found out later that this man had been committed thirteen previous times as a mental. He was extremely brilliant guy and he had accused his wife's doctor of having relations with his wife, her psychiatrist, and she needed one too, after living with him. He had been committed thirteen times previous to that. Can you believe that? They finally committed him on the basis [of these events and my experience with him]. We had to go through a commitment trial. That kind of turned me off a little bit from the West Side.

KC: He had just seen you as a community member?

LM: Yes. As a threat. Just somebody he targeted as involved with his wife. Of course, the man was not well to begin with. After that his wife and his kids moved and I've never seen or heard from them since. And I've never heard from him. I don't know if he's still locked up somewhere or where he's at, but he had been committed thirteen previous times.

KC: You're a young recruit, you've been raised on the West Side, they send you back to the West Side. How did that work, all of a sudden being in uniform?

LM: It worked to some extent because you knew some of the people. I had an older brother and a younger brother, my mom and dad were pretty well known, although they were just common folk. A lot of people were looking for the break, they could have committed murder and said, "Hey, Larry, I know your brother, don't you think – can we work this out?" That was the difficult part. For the most part it worked pretty well,

because I had worked with Fred Franz and Roy Heuer.⁵⁸ In the Hoyer family there were two other brother, Charlie⁵⁹ and Wally,⁶⁰ they were from the West Side, so we had linkage there with a tremendous number [of people]. Roy Thomas worked the West Side, who was well known. [Jim] Griffin worked the West Side and was well known. Roy Labelle,⁶¹ oh, god, Roy Labelle. So all of us were sort of a team over there. Odean Jackson⁶² worked the West Side, too, with us.

We were pretty well known over there, so we could wheel and deal pretty well with the people. Now, you've got to remember that we had some Indian population, we had a big Mexican population, we had the Jewish population, we had the Syrian population, that were quite distinct because of their churches.

And, really, it was really a poor part of town. We had the big State Street dump at that time. We had a lot of drinking, a lot of bars down there. One night I almost got killed, I almost got thrown out of a second story window. It was near Christmastime and there was a family of Indians called the Bongas, Melvin Bonga, Irvin Bonga, and they were drinkers. Their mother was a drinker and they were drinkers. I got a call, they were living on State Street right off of Fairfield. I had a big heavy green

⁵⁸ Roy G. Heuer was appointed patrolman July 25, 1949; and retired October 18, 1974.

⁵⁹ Charles Heuer was appointed patrolman January 4, 1954; and retired May 13, 1976.

⁶⁰ Wally Heuer was appointed patrolman November 1, 1937; leave of absence March 6, 1952 to December 1, 1952; and retired June 27, 1969.

⁶¹ Roy C. Labelle was appointed patrolman March 28, 1955; and retired January 13, 1970.

⁶² Odean Jackson was appointed to patrolman November 21, 1938; and retired May 8, 1968.

overcoat with the big collar and, of course, I was working the West Side by myself that night. It was near Christmas, that's why we weren't teamed up. I went up there and the Bongas saw me and they went crazy. They tried to stuff me out the second story window over State Street. The only thing why they couldn't get me through the window was the overcoat and the bulkiness of all the clothes I had on, otherwise I probably would have landed headfirst onto State Street.

The only thing that saved me was, my lieutenant, my lieutenant that night was Lieutenant Vern Neihart.⁶³ And he was from the West Side, also, and he happened to be prowling around and heard the call and ran in on the call. He was able to get me before I would have been eventually pushed out the window had they been able to tuck all of me together, out the window. I had dealings with the Bongas for years after that and I hate to say this, but there's never been a good Bonga.

KC: When you went home that night, how did that feel realizing that if the lieutenant hadn't have shown up?

LM: I would have went out the window.

KC: You would have been dead.

LM: Yes.

⁶³ Vernon B. Neihart was appointed reserve patrolman August 6, 1941; patrolman fulltime January 1, 1943; promoted to sergeant April 16, 1949; lieutenant April 1, 1955; and retired May 31, 1973.

KC: The next day when you were going to go back on patrol, do you think about, I'm putting my life in danger?

LM: Oh, yes. I did after that, yeah. Yeah.

KC: What's that like?

LM: There's a certain amount of apprehension about going back the next day. The thing is I kind of made up my mind to condition myself to this mentally and I did this every day. I haven't admitted this to a lot of people, but everyday before I went to work, I said, *today I might be killed, today I might have to kill somebody, and that's what I have to live with.*

[Emotional pause]

KC: For human beings that's a difficult decision to make.

LM: Yes.

KC: In making that decision and saying that everyday as you're going out and you're putting the badge on, do you share that with your family?

LM: Yes, I did, because I think they knew that you have to kind of prepare yourself. Ya know, and that's one way of doing it. If you set yourself up for no surprises you're more prepared for it. So, if you say that I'm a great person, if I condition you, and this is where I go back to training, if I can condition you to react, you'll be much more prepared and you won't be caught by surprise on something. So, I think, in that way I mentally prepared myself for the day.

KC: Were there ever any days that you couldn't prepare yourself?

LM: No, I made sure that I was.

KC: Was there a process, did you start getting ready to put the uniform on earlier or something so that you could really move into that mode?

LM: I think that when I prepared, you know, in the morning you get up and you shave or in the evening, you kind of say, *Today I'm going to go out there and I'm going to give it my best. And I'm going to do the best I can. but I'm always faced with the fact that I might have to kill somebody today or they may want to kill me. And with the help of the Lord I'll be back.*

KC: What is the role of spirituality or religion for you as a police officer?

LM: To me it's extremely important. I'm an Irish guy and Catholic and, so, it was always a part of us as a family to seek help and ask for protection, and if you believe in that you can make it.

KC: You were on the force thirty –

LM: Forty.

KC: Forty years. Were there times at the end of a shift you said thank you?

LM: Oh, yeah. Because, you know you have to say thank you. So it was good years.

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KC: Were there ever any days where you talked about maybe I'm going to retire because I don't know if I'm prepared to die or to kill?

LM: No. I left almost disappointed that I had to leave because I enjoyed the job that much. Today, I think I'd be ruled as a nut. Because you talk to the younger guys, I just talked to one the other night, he said, "God, when I get my twenty-five years on and the pension, I'm out of here." I thought, that was unheard of in the past. Probably because the pension wasn't like it is today. Maybe it's because of circumstances or maybe they haven't found the secret to stay longer and be comfortable or have something going there that will keep them. I see this in a lot of our younger people,

and I hate to be critical of our younger people because they do a great job. But I think they wear out more, they don't have that rejuvenating quality to come back the next day and accept it and take it for what it's worth and give it hell.

KC: How did you develop that rejuvenating quality?

LM: Because I'm not one of those guys that would go—and this is one of my secrets. A lot of police people have the habit of going to the bar afterwards and they relive what they just experienced in the previous eight or ten hours, or what happened last week or last month. And they can't let go of what's happened to them or happened to their partner. What they should have done or what they did right or wrong. They can't live with that. I'm one of those guys when I was done, and I'm still this way today, I go home to my wife and family and I would go for my walk at night or day, whatever. I find that very relaxing and a good way to escape. I grow flowers, I plant trees. I make a complete escape. So, when I come back the next day, I'm fired up, I'm ready to roll. I think that you have to form new friends that are not always police people that have a different viewpoint, different dimension of life, where they're headed, what their problems are. They're the same as yours, maybe not as threatening, but you get a whole different perspective if you kind of move beyond your work boundaries and your co-workers. That was my key.

KC: Being trained as a counselor that review and letting go, when you would go on your walk would you review your day and let it go in that way, instead of needing to go to the bar and keep hanging onto it?

LM: Oh, absolutely, yes. It's amazing what you can accomplish in a walk, at any hour of the day, any weather. I still do that every day. I walk every day and I walk every night before I go to bed. I don't care what the weather is or what the temperature is.

But those are some of the things I found that sustained me for the forty years. Even today, I can adjust and sort of put things aside and put it in perspective and keep on going.

KC: Did you pass this on to any young officers?

LM: I mentioned it, but sometimes, maybe people aren't listening and some don't have, I think, maybe a more deeper belief that someone is looking after you. That you can do good out there if you just try. That you are capable of making mistakes, but you should also be capable of asking forgiveness. There's a lot there.

KC: Larry, do police officers have to be macho or do you talk about the vulnerability that you have to have in the relationship that you have to have with a higher power?

LM: I think that a lot of people go into the job being macho because you have to go through some testing process and you're sort of a unique person and people have either respect or contempt for you. You do have status in your neighborhood and your social life. They don't sometimes refer to you as just the guy that drives a locomotive, "he's a cop," you know. They still say that among my own circle of friends and people. They always want to ask you about the police department. So, you do stand out as a super human being, kind of. Someone that they either totally respect,

especially your good friends, or people have contempt for you. If you let that take hold of you, you, I think gain that belief that you're more than what you are, because it's being reinforced all the time. I think that you have to take a look at yourself, that you're just a simple human being here for a short time frame and you're here to do a job or complete a task. You have to do that as well as you can, and as pleasantly as you can. I think we lose track of that. Today, I think, there's a lot of people that maybe don't reach down and figure that there is some spiritual person that is out there looking after you, that sometimes we don't look to for strength or help or guidance, that they could call upon to reinforce whatever you need at that time.

I've been with people that even after a tremendous feat they think that they did it. We've been in car chases where you're going 60, 70 miles an hour in a city street where there's an intersection every three hundred feet that means either death or tremendous accident for you or the person that you're chasing. Yet, if you were to be at the roll call the next day everybody's saying, "Geez, you did a hell of a job driving 80 miles an hour for two and half miles chasing that guy." Sometimes I've said, even when I've been the driver or my partner, I said "Hell, he wasn't driving, I wasn't driving The Lord was driving." Because how could you have done that without killing somebody or killing yourself and getting it through successfully. Sometimes we don't pay tribute to the person who guided us in that maneuver and accomplished it without a disastrous event. I

don't think men think of that as often and they should think of that, that that is a factor.

KC: At what point in your career did you really get in touch with your spirituality?

LM: I was born and raised Catholic and I'm Irish and so I think it's ingrained in us to get up every day and say, *I hope to enjoy this day and if you give me some help, I'll get through it okay*. And, at the end of the night you say, *I got through things*. I think that was built into me as a small child. I don't think I'll ever probably lose that. I'm not afraid to ask, I'm not afraid to say thank you.

KC: Were there ever any experiences that stand out where in the middle of it you said, "Help me Lord"?

LM: Yes. I was on the C.I.R.T. team for thirteen years as its leader. I had a wonderful group of guys and we would go out on these callouts. At the start of that team we would get calls mostly for mental patients or somebody threatening his wife with a gun or something. Later, we did a lot of search warrants where there were people with narcotics and we were going to break into their house. So, I always said when we got these callouts to seek some protection for the guys. The team is broken down, you have the sniper team and you have the entry team, you've got a gas guy or two, which are the hardest to find, and then you've got the negotiating people. The group of guys that I always worried about the most was the entry guys, because these are the real macho guys that are going to kick down the door. They don't know what's on the other side of the door and they're going to make the initial entry. They're always a

worry to you, because they're the most likely to get injured or killed. So, I always said a prayer before those missions that we would go out on, that they would use common sense, use good judgment, and that we would all come back together. Well, for thirteen years we never fired a shot, never killed anybody, never injured anybody.



C.I.R.T. (SWAT) Members May 21, 1979
Lieutenant McDonald back row far right

Then there was this fella up on Arkwright Street right off of Wheelock that we went into a session with for about sixteen or eighteen hours. There was an officer that went to his house because he was acting kind of strange and then he was going to shoot the officer and that's what called the CIRT team up there. We negotiated with him endlessly, off and on. To see the patience of your negotiators, you know, this guys a jerk. But the

thing was that we didn't know until after he came out that he had killed his mother, father and sister beforehand, but he was leading us to believe that they were still alive. That's a terrible thing to know whether you're going to enter and maybe take him and maybe you'll kill his mother, father and sister, or what was going to happen, but at that time you need some guidance to think this out. I did ask for that guidance that we were doing the right thing, so we sustained this negotiation process until early the next morning when he lit fire to the house. He went through the whole ritual of someone that was going to kill himself. Finally, he started the house on fire and we thought, even at the last minute when the house was totally on fire, that he wasn't going to come out, but he finally did and we caught him without killing him, which was a major accomplishment.

We were all kind of holding our breath to see whether we could have saved those three people had we entered instead of waiting until he set the fire. Well, we found out from the autopsies from the medical examiner that they had been long killed, because you could tell that there was no smoke in their lungs and all of that. We were relieved to the point that we had waited and out endured him. I think that's the time that you have to because you've got three lives in balance, that we did wait. It was my feeling because you can only talk so long, you've got to do something and the pressure is on you to say and tell them that we're going to enter or if the sniper gets the chance to kill him.

KC: And you were the commander of this unit?

LM: Yes. That's one time it really paid off.

KC: Do you have that conversation with other officers or is this a prayer that's just between you and your Lord?

LM: Mmm.

KC: It's private, it's not with other officers?

LM: No.

KC: It's not, *I need to prayer on this.*

LM: No. It was just something that's done.

[Emotionally shares] I've got to admire Chief McCutcheon because he came out there and he said, "How's it going?" And, I said "It's going good." He said, "What do you think?" I said, "We're going to wait him out." He said, "You sure?" I said, "Yeah." So, he said, "Why don't you and I go out and get a sandwich." But he was testing me out. [

KC: You knew, you had your message, you knew what you needed to do.

[Pause]

Was there ever a time when you had to draw your weapon?

LM: Yup.

KC: What was that like?

LM: It was justified because we had a robbery up on Selby Avenue, Selby and Snelling. There was a guy, James Edward Schneider, the squads had chased him down the street and I happened to be down in the lower part of town at that time. This was before I-94 was developed, but it was being developed and they had torn out behind the Cathedral, it was all bulldozed on some areas and a lot of weeds. James Edward Schneider

come baling down around the Cathedral and he saw me and I had kind of a road block and he baled out of the car, he was in a stolen car, too. So he took off and he started running west through the weeds and there were valleys there were they were digging sewers and high spots. At that time you could legally shoot and kill somebody in a felony event. Well, we had the robbery and then we had the stolen vehicle, I had all the justification to shoot. So, I was chasing Schneider through the tall weeds and he got up on top of one of the mounds looking for me and I, of course, was down in more of the valley, I hadn't gained that top ground. I saw him turn around and I thought for sure he was going to shoot me because he had a gun. So, I shot him and down he went. What happened was I shot him in the foot.

KC: You were aiming for the foot?

LM: No, I wasn't. Everybody said, why didn't you shoot him in the arm or the hand or the foot. But it just depends, you're out of breath and you've been running him for about a block and a-half, maybe, or two blocks, through the tall weeds. And down James Edward Schneider went. I thought I killed him and here all I did was just scuff the side of his shoe and his foot. Of course, we got him and arrested him and he went to jail, of course. His sister from New York found out that he had been shot by a police officer, so she came, flew in from New York, and supposedly had a shotgun, according to the people on Selby Street. That's how you picked up information. She was out to kill the policeman that shot her brother. They reassigned me for a short spell, to get off Selby, and then finally she must have either got tired or discouraged, or probably, Mercado said, "I'll take

care you if you don't leave town." And she left town, and that was the end of it.

KC: At that moment when he went down and you thought you had killed him, what's that like?

LM: Oh, boy, you can't hardly describe it, because you're so petrified. You figure, oh my god, you know, even the reports that you have to write and going to court and the grand jury for justification. There's a whole litany of things that would happen to you, you turn in your gun.

I never told you this. When we came on the job we had to buy our own guns. I bought the Smith and Wesson .38, I then took it to my family priest and had it blessed. And, so, I had great confidence in the gun.

KC: I like that. He blessed it that it would be used to keep you safe? And for the purpose that it was intended?

LM: Yup.

KC: Did you ever carry an extra gun?

LM: Then, no, Kate, I didn't. There's some pros and cons of that and some coppers should never carry if they drink, because I think you do stupid things when you're intoxicated. But I never had the inclination to carry it or the threat of carrying it. And I'm not a big bar guy, so I never went to a lot of places where the likelihood would be that [I would need it] But you'd go to the other places where there could be a robbery, at a movie theatre, or some place where you're eating out. I never felt that I needed it. I don't know why.

KC: So when you were out of uniform, you didn't have your gun?

LM: No.

KC: You were raising children?

LM: Yes.

KC: Where did you keep your gun and how did you raise children and bringing a loaded gun home every night?

LM: My wife worried about it because she came from a family where guns were unknown. They knew what they were for, but they never had one, her dad never had one. So that was a whole new experience for her. Even the dog was, because they never had any dogs before and now we've got this big dog, two dogs. She moved in with two dogs. My kids were always really good. I had three daughters first and then my son at the end. My daughters could care less about a gun. I just put it up in a cabinet above the refrigerator, it was the most difficult spot to probably reach. I never had a gun problem. Even with my son who now has all my guns, and when I say all my guns, I have a number of guns that I have accumulated over the years. I kind of like guns and I like to target practice and I have two grandsons that drive me nuts because they always want to go out shooting. I do go out shooting with them, but mostly rifle shooting. My son was the only one that later in life developed a liking for them, and he's got them.

KC: Would you unload the gun or it just went into the case?

LM: No, I'd unload and then just reload it every day and go.

KC: So the bullets and the gun were on top of the refrigerator?

LM: Yes, never had a problem.

KC: Were you involved in beginning the CIRT team? Was the CIRT team and Mercado's tactical team the same thing?

LM: It came from that, because Tony Tighe had projected that our future as police people were going to change, our role, our weapons, our tactics, everything was going to change. We listened to him, but we thought I don't know if I believe this. But he said then that we needed a unit that was a specialized unit with people conditioned to the fact that they would have to go out and negotiate with people, or if we had to take their life, it had to be under certain circumstances. That's why we had the tear gas training and we got out the old .351 rifles and we had shot them. We had those old machine guns with .45 calibers.

Tony Tighe said the day is going to come when you look more like military people than you will police. Look at today, today on the CIRT team, we had a .223 rifle that because of the lamination of glass and plastic, several times over that you can't penetrate, we had to buy the more high powered weapons. Today we have semi-automatic weapons that I didn't think we'd ever have, Glock. Today we have the Taser, we have all kinds of chemical sprays that we're carrying. We almost look more military. We have now armor and isn't it amazing how we have progressed from the point that we were in the 1960s when we went under Mercado's crew that the prediction of what he said is being fulfilled. It's unbelievable how that man projected himself out and I don't think we've reached the limit. The CIRT team now has both semi and automatic weapons. Do you remember the big squabble we had some years back

where the Chief of Police, I think it was McAuliffe, wanted to buy some M-1 rifles or something, understanding this threat. Milford Q. Sibley, he was a professor, they protested the city and wanted us to sell all the weapons. I think we won out on that one, but the resistance at that time that we shouldn't be armed like that. Today, do you hear anybody say that we shouldn't have them?

KC: No.

LM: Because they know the dangers out there. So, you can see how far we've gone towards the military.

KC: Now after the first couple years on the West Side then Tighe and Mercado start this unit and it's called a Tactical Unit?

LM: It was called Mercado's Marauders. It was a tactical unit and we were special assignments and that's how I got attached to homicide. Or we'd get attached to a burglary problem. We got Harlo Ridder because the squads were all eating lunch at the same time. We work the special details or Griffin sent us up to the Catholic Girls Club where there was a habitual problem and the squads weren't solving it.

KC: So the dog was attached to the Marauders.

LM: Yes.

KC: Tell me the story again about when you discovered the squads were all eating at the same time.

LM: Well, again, there was a burglary problem. The investigator said we got a burglary problem. And John [Mercado] had good rapport with the investigators, he had good rapport with a lot of people. They would come to John and say can you help us out. So what happened was we actually

took and monitored the [district] squads because we were out there with them, but sort of doing our own thing and they would always gather and eat at a certain time and a certain location. It's just human nature, they do it today. They want to kibitz, okay. So what we did was when we'd see them going down to eat, we would go out and flush the area and watch for the potential targets, which were the supermarkets with safes. And, of course, that's how we caught Harlo Ridder. They were eating and Harlo was in the safe. It was just plain common sense. But if you plot people or think about it, you understand how that works.

KC: Talk more about the Tactical Unit.

LM: We did a lot of good things. We had a lieutenant by the name of Lieutenant Stattman.⁶⁴ He lived up on Edmond Street west of Victoria and he had a habitual problem that the neighbors were complaining that people were throwing rocks at people's houses and into their gardens and raising a ruckus. Because he was a police lieutenant, the neighbors used to come over and harangue Lieutenant Stattman and he'd say, "Well, I'll have the squads come up there." And, of course the squads did go up there, drive around, but nothing ever happened. This went on and went on and went on, and it was driving Stattman crazy.

Finally, he told Mercado, he said, "I can't find out what's going on." So, John said, "Okay, we'll take the assignment." So John went up there and looked at the place and he said, "Larry, I want you and Ed Buehlman to

⁶⁴ Arthur W. Stattman was appointed to chauffer February 9, 1921; promoted to sergeant September 21, 1948; lieutenant April 1, 1955; and retired April 11, 1960.

go on up there and I want you to plant yourself . . ." that was a term 'plant' and, he said, "Put yourself in those yards and gardens up there and see what you see that's going on at night." What happened is that when Lieutenant Stattman. made a request for the squads they told Stattman.. Stattman. told his neighbors, "now listen, the squads are going to be up there." And nothing would happen. John said we're not going to tell anybody, including Lieutenant Stattman.. So, guess who was doing the haranguing, his neighbors, just to aggravate him. We sat there in the tomato patches and watched the people throwing rocks from their houses at one another and they were driving him nuts.

The day he retired he came back and asked John, he said, "John, are you sure that Larry and Ed, they saw my neighbors doing this to me?" The man was possessed by the fact that he could hardly believe that his neighbors were terrorizing him. There we sat, we sat for night after night and watched the antics of the neighborhood throwing rocks at one another and making a complaint, had him so goofed up that it was unbelievable and he could not believe that his neighbors were torturing him that way.

KC: Are there people in the general public that step aside, that step back from you, that weren't interested in getting to know you? A neighbor that wasn't interested in getting to know because of what you did professionally?

LM: I can say that. There's been some neighbors that have been suspicious of me. And because of my habits, and the walking habit, a lot of people feel

secure in their neighborhood, even now in my neighborhood where I live in Arden Hills. I walk every night with my neighbor lady, with two dogs. I've always walked dogs. They say, "My god, that's a strange man, he'll walk in all kinds of weather." I don't know whether some people might think I'm checking on them, but some of them welcome the fact that I'm out there. I have keys for other people's homes. in fact, my neighbor just called my wife last night and said I'm going back to California, will you check us out, so I've got a key to his house, so I go down there, see that the heat's on. Many times I get calls to perform those security functions even though I'm not connected with the police department, although, I'm connected with the [Ramsey County] sheriff. But they think that that's just the neighborly thing that I should do, and they have faith in that. It's amazing the faith that some people have in you.

KC: Stattman.'s neighbors, did you confront them?

LM: He did. And, of course, they were in denial, that's why it always caused his apprehension, did Larry and Ed really see what went on.

KC: What were other things that Mercado's unit did? This was a unit started in the 1960s. How did he pull that unit together?

LM: John is a helluva leader. The thing is that he went at it from a training point of view. There was an old gym down in the basement of 100 East Tenth Street where there used to be boxing lessons for the kids, years back. What he did was he started the gym program and we had a fella on the team by the name of Fred Leske,⁶⁵ and Fred was an old marine, like

⁶⁵ Fred M. Leske was appointed patrolman March 4, 1957; and retired December 15, 1983.

John, tough as nails, didn't say a lot, but whatever he said he meant. He was well versed in judo and physical activities.

We would go down to the gym and we'd learn how to judo holds and come-along holds, and that was the start of pulling the team together. Then John knew that he had problems, at that time we were beginning to see problems in the Black area, that's why Ed Buehlman and I taught the kids to shoot BB guns at the Ober Boys Club.⁶⁶ We sort of got connected with the neighborhood and our basic area of trouble was right here on Selby. And, as we got to know the people here, that's how we knew the girl was coming from New York, because the word got out. We established the rapport and John was around always talking to people, he had a lot of connections. That's how we formed the team. We trained together and then we worked together.

KC: How many people were on this team?

LM: There were six of us. Me, Fred Leske, Ed Buehlman and Bill Swiger and Ted Petersen⁶⁷ and Tommy Kisch.⁶⁸ That should be six.

KC: How many years were you together?

LM: Oh, god, we were together five, six years or more. And, then John had the flexibility, he would work us like from 6:00 at night until 2:00 in the

⁶⁶ Ober Boys Club, at 375 St. Anthony, at Western was founded during World War II by the Union Gospel Mission. It was named for Edger Ober of 3M, and provided recreational activities and taught Christian values. Sometime after 1960, the club became part of The Boys and Girls Clubs of America, but the building is still owned by Union Gospel Mission.

⁶⁷ Theodore A. Petersen was appointed reserve patrolman November 1, 1949; and retired February 28, 1975.

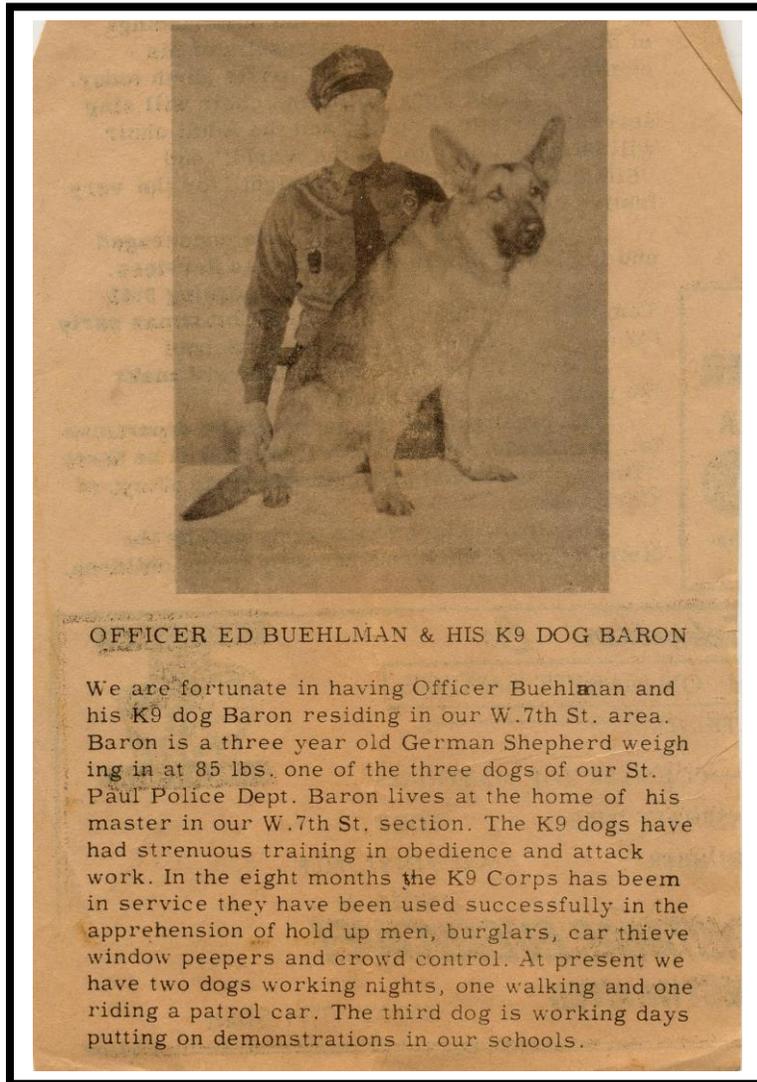
⁶⁸ Thomas B. Kisch was appointed patrolman March 4, 1957; and retired November 22, 1985.

morning or from 7:00 until 3:00, and if there was a problem he would hold us over. We pretty much had Sunday and Monday off, which was pretty stable for our family lives. He was an excellent leader. He had the ear of the Chief, both Proetz at that time, and McAuliffe. And then [Jim] Griffin took over toward the end when John got reassigned, then we had Griffin as our boss. Griffin was equally as good, because he was interested in the Black community and the crime that was occurring up there. He would send us up with the dogs to visit. Remember I told you about the incident that happened when McAuliffe got hit in the head with the rock.

KC: Tell me that one again.

LM: We used to work with the dogs, Ed Buehlman and I got sent out because of purse snatches in and around Rondo, Dale, Kent, Mackubin area. We went up there, must have been a July or August night, it was a terrible night with heat and humidity, Ed and I were standing on the corner of Kent

and Rondo and there was a bar on the corner, I think it was Russell's Bar, and then there was Jim Williams down a block, and I said to Ed, "Ed, we'll just stand here. We'll just stand here and prevent any problems because everybody comes out of the bar." It was at 1:00. Well, two of our brightest detectives came into the bar to arrest some Black guys on warrants with two White girls in Russell's Bar. It was just at closing time, maximum amount of booze in the people. And, when they were scuffling out the door to put them in the car, all hell broke loose. The gangs gathered from both bars, surrounded the investigators.



We went over there with the dogs and that's probably one of the first times that we really felt threatened that we were going to get injured. If it had not been for the dogs to hold off this crowd of people, we probably would have. That was one of the first bites that my dog made. There was some Black lady that came out, and I don't think she had any underpants on because it was hot, but she had a lot of rear-end. She came out to strike me. And as she turned he got a hold of her with such a bite, his jaws had

to be at maximum because he couldn't unlatch the jaws from her rear-end. Let me tell you, she was screaming and the dog was hanging onto her and that told a lot of people that these dogs are not pets that they are there to bite. Of course, the dogs were barking, the people were yelling, so we were calling for help. The investigators were too. It was a near riot situation. What they did, they summoned the fire department crew from Saint Albans and University, and this was the first and last time you'll ever see the fire department at a riot scene.

KC: What year as this?

LM: Probably 1960, '61. The fire department came down there and Chief McAuliffe happened to be on the street, he was Assistant Chief, he used to prowl at night with us. He came down there. He was a big man, a big husky guy, they were ready to kill him, too. They were pelting rocks at us and sticks and whatever they could get and he got hit in the head. He ordered the fire department, he said, "Hook up the fire hoses, I want these people out of here." They hooked up the fire hoses, we were soaking wet. I can see people even yet today. Have you ever been hit by a fire hose? There was people going in every direction. The fire department hosed everybody down, we called in more squads to get it more calmed down. It was a helluva scene. But there again, we were lucky that we got out of that alive. They were mad and very angry. If it hadn't been for the dogs, I think the two investigators probably would have been either seriously injured or got killed that night. That was the start of, I think, some of the racial problems.

KC: What was the community's reaction to the fire department being called out?

LM: They didn't like that at all. The fire department has always been viewed as a favorable bunch in blue, but that kind of turned their head, they didn't like that at all. The fire department made a ruling after that. "Your Fire Department Will Not Be Involved In Another Incident Like That."

KC: Was anybody hurt with the power of the hoses?

LM: Not that I know of. I think our biggest injury was the woman that got bit in the rear end. Later she went to the hospital and I think they charged her after that, or they were going to charge her with disorderly conduct. There was a lot of hurt feelings and a lot of people that got wet that sobered up real quick after they got hit with the fire hose. It was nip and tuck, I would say, for about fifteen, twenty minutes, until we got additional help in there.

Then Mercado's crew, we were the ones that because we were more likely to get into combat. Now this was before we had the dog. We got the twenty-seven inch night clubs—sticks that were unique. Nobody else had them. Most of the officers had a small billy club. We had the longer sticks, so everybody knew we belonged to Mercado's crew because we carried that long stick. That was a symbol that, "They Belonged to Mercado, Be Careful."

KC: These are the tough guys?

LM: Yes. We weren't really tough, we were just firm, but polite. We would only tolerate so much. I think they saw us as an organized group because there were seven of us, with John, so that we could move in and move together as a team. That was the key, a tight-knit team that had flexibility. After our [Mercado's crew] life expectancy ended, the department came into other organized larger group of people that were worked on special assignments. We did a lot of extra things or worked the more difficult details.

KC: So you were just with Mercado, it wasn't like with training where you were kind of in and out?

LM: Back and forth, in and out, depending upon when we had a class. They would bring us in because they wanted that fresh approach to what's happening on the streets, what you've learned and what they can extract from you and put it back into play. I've been in and out of training so many times to help out and then move back.

KC: But the Mercado Marauders, they helped with training, but you always were on special assignments?

LM: Yes.

KC: What were some of the other special assignments that you did?

LM: The Turtle Club was another bone in our throat, the Turtle Club on Rondo.

KC: Wasn't it an after hours place?

LM: Yes. What happened is after the regular drinking hours, people used to go down to the Turtle Club and drink. There would be hoards of people that would appear there. It was a good place if you didn't have a shooting

or a stabbing or some unrest. The city didn't like it, so we used to patrol that heavily. We used to take a lot of license numbers of cars in case there was an incident, we would know who was there. We did a lot of that. We went on plants. I was over on the West Side to the Saint Paul Lead Company where we had a burglary we were on a plant. I worked for the Grosskreutz case. The girl that was hit over the head at age fifteen, sixteen.

KC: Tell me the story.

LM: There was a girl by the name of Frances Grosskreutz that was assaulted severely. She was hit over the head with, we eventually found the piece of angle iron, and she was a nanny or a babysitter for a wealthy family, I think it was on Scheffer Avenue just west of Snelling Avenue. At that time, that was a big thing. I got assigned to the case because where I lived in my old neighborhood I lived next to the Emanuel Lutheran Church and school, and Mr. Grosskreutz was the custodian. And Frances was one of his daughters, he had about ten, eleven kids. And because of my personal knowledge of her and her dad, they assigned me from Mercado's unit to do all of the interviews. I was at this for about three or four months, probably from Hamline to Fairview and probably from Randolph over to Montreal. I made every house and every apartment house, interviewing day and night, depending upon when I could get people home. As a result of that we did find the angle iron up where the fellow threw it up onto of the roof [of a grocery store], sometime later. We wish we could have found it earlier. Frances Grosskreutz did not die, but where she is today I don't know, but she was mentally impaired forever.

KC: You stopped at every house, you interviewed everyone? How did you finally figure out who had done it?

LM: What I did is I befriended about five or six kids that hung at the drugstore there at Snelling and Randolph. At first they were not very friendly with me, but I had repeated visit with them, and I always said, "Hello, how are ya?" That's part of me. I always say, "How the hell are ya?" The police people laugh at that. I worked up a rapport with them and they saw the fellow that—Frances was a girl that was having sex, we think, with some of the boys in the neighborhood. I think this older person knew that and followed her from when she got off the bus, up Snelling Avenue, and they witnessed him following her. They did not witness the attack, but it took us a month or two before we found this out from them. When we found it out, of course, we were going to arrest this person, we were going to trail, when one of the boys lost it, became mentally [ill]. And we never went to trail on that individual to prove that case, which was sad, because I think we would have had enough circumstantial evidence probably to do something with it. We put a tremendous amount of effort into it.

KC: How did you get permission from your superiors to put the effort in? And, three months of interviews, where did you find the inspiration to do that?

LM: First of all, it was a personal thing, because I knew Frances Grosskreutz a little bit, because it was one of Herman's kids. The thing was that I liked to talk to people and I'm real good at that. I still enjoy interviewing people and I think that when you interview people there's an art to it. Sometimes you won't get all the information the first time, but if you

establish some sort of a rapport or benchmark with them, if you go back and re-cultivate them, you'll learn more. The whole thing is that you have to establish the fact that they like you. And that's what I tell people. I hate the term when they say that they have a 'snitch' it's a negative term to me. When people tell me information, I consider them a friend and I never use the word 'snitch', I never downgrade them. You know what I am saying? I want to make them feel good about themselves so that they come to me with the information. That's my philosophy.

So, by going back and repeatedly talking to these kids and not shooing them away or telling them to get the hell out of here, you're a pain in the ass, I cultivated them until they finally believed in me and liked me enough to tell me what I wanted to know. Interviewing is a wonderful thing.

KC: Did you take training in interviewing?

LM: No. I think it comes naturally to me.

KC: Did you train people in interviewing?

LM: Yes. I taught many, many classes on interviewing.

KC: Is that something that can be taught?

LM: Yes, it can. If they listen and try it. Most people are afraid of it. Like, everyday when I got out, I say hello to everybody. My wife, if I shop with her, she say, "Did you know that person?" I say, "No." And, she says, "You just said hello to them and how are you." Eventually, people will recognize you and they will respond back to you.

I'll tell you a story. I used to park down in the market area and then I'd walk up to headquarters. And, as you walk along Tenth Street there was an unemployment place there, and there happened to be a Black guy standing in the window every morning when I went by. I used to go by and I'd give him the hi-sign, and I'm in uniform. Give him the hi-sign and say "Hi, how are you?" Now, I know he can't hear me through the glass because he's in there and I got that constipated look, I knew he didn't like me. We were taught during the civil disturbance time that people don't like you, they just don't like your uniform, there's linkage here. That if they got to know you personally, they would probably like you or you could have some rapport with them. It's just that they don't like your uniform. So, I based it on this premise and every morning I'd go by and he's there and I'd give him the smile and the, "How are you." After this went on for, I bet, a month or more, finally one day he comes out and he says, "I don't know you" he said, "But every morning you come by here with a smile on your face and you're talking to me. I don't know what you're saying, but I know you're happy." And, he said, "It makes me happy." After that every day he came out and he said good morning to me. I won him over because I was persistent and I didn't let up on him. That proves that he began to know me as a person rather than as the uniform as a policeman. You've got to overcome that. You have to have patience and you've got to be a little bit persistent, in a nice way. There is a way that you can motivate people to talk to you or do what you want. I'm gifted with that, I think.

KC: Does intuition play a part in that?

LM: Yes, it does. I think a strong part.

KC: How did you develop your intuition in your police work?

LM: My uncle was a big impressive guy and he always had time and patience. He would always explain things so that you were in the field with him. Some people, I think, ignore the little people in this world and even ignore the kids or neighbors and you don't get to know them. They all have a personality that may be different than yours, but you've got to unlock them and find out who they are and what they are. I'm determined to unlock you and find out who you really are. My mother was a great talker and she just had a way about her. I think I have some of that in me that has that ability and, maybe, the determination to find out who you are. It's paid off for me.

KC: You had referred to the trainings that you had for the civil unrest. Who did those trainings? What were they about?

LM: Some of them are psychological training. Hobart would tell us when people would call you a mother fucker or something. He said they're not talking to you, he said, "They're talking to your tie tac." What we were taught to do was to reflect that personal insult to you and let it just reflect off of you. Much like you would be having an umbrella or wearing a raincoat. If you think about that for awhile, it works, because then you won't be shocked by it, you won't be upset by it, you won't be resentful about it, they're not talking about you, they're talking about your name tag or your tie tac. So, we became sort of insulated by that thought process and when we were out on the line with the peace marches that came right down Summit Avenue to the Capitol. We had a deputy chief

by the name of Freischels,⁶⁹ he was a nice guy, but he was also a detective. Remember what I said about detectives, he said we've got to have somebody to be the front guy. So sometimes I would be the front guy to go and talk to these kids and tell them the rules and regulations and pick up the farm campus kids, which were pleasant kids compared to the main campus, sociology kids and we would march down to the State Capitol.

I got sent to Macalester to talk to the class and they said don't wear your uniform. I wore my uniform, I defied them. I said, *I'm not going there [out of uniform]—because this is who I am.* Sometimes, people can have contempt for you, but they still have an inner pride in the fact that you wear the uniform. I'm always worried about a policeman that does not wear his or her uniform, because that tells the world who you are and what you are. I'm a firm believer in that. I always liked my uniform, I think it's a wonderful uniform, compared to the old green one. I think that you have to tell people who you are and what you are.

KC: So, you were taught to deflect the opinions? What else were you taught to deal with the marches, the racial marches, the racial marches, the peace marches?

LM: We were taught that these people have, constitutionally, they have a right to protest, parade, along as it's within bounds. When we would talk to them, looking for their behavior, most of them if you explain that we understand that you're upset or you're disgruntled or whatever the word

⁶⁹ Robert J. Freischel was appointed patrolman October 13, 1947; military leave March 15, 1951; promoted to detective October 1, 1954; deputy chief April 17, 1964; and retired May 8, 1972.

is, but you can do this because it is legally allowed, but let's do it in good faith and work with us, that's the key.

We would block the traffic while those kids would walk down Summit Avenue to the Capitol and stand there. Some would get up and give a wild speech about this and a wild speech about the Vietnam War. We were tolerant, but rather than beat them up, we understood who they were, what they were and that they had a cause and it was legitimate. The same as a strike. Some people get real upset over a strike. If you go there and tell them, "I'm here for a reason, to make sure that you're protected and the company is protected. I'm here to serve both of you and we can get along together under these circumstances." I've had it on strikes where the picketing becomes unreasonable in numbers or their conduct. Guess who's the first one to go to court, the company says we want an injunction or restriction on the number of picketers, it only hurts you. If you explain that to them and if they've got some sense, they understand that this guy knows what he's talking about. And they will listen to you. I have been to court where the courts have limited [the number of picketers], and their conduct. I think a lot of it is explaining to them why you're there and that you're for both of them, both sides. Sometimes they don't understand that.

KC: Were you ever assigned to go over to the University when there was the riots? All of the departments had to send people over to help the University police?

LM: Yes. One day I came to work, and I don't know why I came down, maybe to pick up my check, but there was a bus parked in front of Headquarters. I thought we must have one helluva big tour to have a bus, because normally you don't have that many. I went in the door and they said, "Oh, my god, Larry, get as many officers as you can and get them on that bus." That was the day that they mined Haiphong Harbor. The University of Minnesota kids went crazy. And Minneapolis [Police Department] went in with their units and were be punished with rocks and stones and whatever they had. So, we were going to go over there and reinforce them.

KC: This was about 1972?

LM: It had to be. We collected everybody I could get, even some of the lame officers that were assigned to other duties because they were injured. I got them on the bus, I didn't have a sergeant with me, I promoted, a field promotion, the only field promotion I think we ever had in the police department. I field promoted Mike Perzichilli.⁷⁰ He said, "What the hell are you doing, Larry?" I said, "Mike, you're the only guy I know here that knows what the hell he's doing." He had some experience, he was a good officer, great officer. A guy with a tremendous personality. I said, "Mike, you're my sergeant, I don't have anybody else." So, we pulled over to the Kohler's garage near the University and we went off and got into formation.

⁷⁰ Michael Roy Perzichilli was appointed to patrolman November 13, 1967; and retired March 17, 1995.

The Minneapolis police they were upset, they didn't know what to do with us. They put us in a formation and fortunately, I kept my people with my people, because sometimes I don't have the best faith in some of our neighboring police agencies, I want to keep my people accountable to me and not to somebody else.

KC: Different departments have different training and different expectations.

LM: Right. So, we went over there, our officers went over there and made a big showing with them. We got up on Washington Street where the walk over bridge was. We got up there and that's where the masses of the kids were.

And I had a [guy who later became a] sergeant by the name of Clarence Lauth.⁷¹ A guy with guts, he was one of the entry people [in the special unit]. I told him the kids were waiting for us to drop stuff from the bridge onto us. I stopped my group and I said we're not going underneath that bridge because they're waiting for us. Clarence Lauth got in an argument with some kid that kept backing up and Clarence followed him until they got him under the bridge and they dropped a wastepaper basket on Clarence's head. Now, fortunately, we had a helmet, and Clarence has a neck that's only about two inches long, it sits almost on his shoulders like a football player. That's the only thing I think that saved him from either a broken neck or a fractured skull.

⁷¹ Clarence F. Lauth, Jr. was appointed patrolman April 24, 1961; promoted to sergeant November 21, 1970; and retired December 2, 1983.

I knew what they were going to do, we had stopped the troops there and we had some conflicts with the kids there, with batons and that. And Minneapolis was right after us.

That was one of the longest days I ever spent on the police department, we were completely worn out that day. They filed suit against the Saint Paul Police and the Minneapolis Police, the kids over there, or some organization. It went to Federal Court, and the only thing that they complained about us was, it was a seasonal time of year where he had our jackets and we took our shirts off, we weren't wearing our name tags so they could tell us by name, that's the only criticism we got. Minneapolis got lambasted with all of the abuse.

KC: So, you just kept your unit in line and just kept moving them back?

LM: Well, we held that area because we knew that we couldn't push in, they were waiting for us to push underneath that bridge, and Clarence, he found out when they dropped the wastepaper basket. Why it never broke his neck, I don't know.

KC: Did you have to go up and rescue him and bring him back?

LM: Yup. We went up and pulled him out of there. He was dazed by it. The thing is, we went over there, we did what we were supposed to do, just hold the fort there and kept them calmed down and let them wear themselves down, that's part of the game. Because after awhile, you know, you've been chanting and yelling and hollering and running around, after awhile they get tired, too. Sometimes you've got to tire people out.

KC: How many officers did you take over?

LM: Forty-five, fifty of them, whatever we could put on the bus.

KC: So you were just calling people in from off-duty?

LM: Yes, whatever they could put in the bus.

KC: Had you been issued special equipment for these situations?

LM: No. We had special equipment. We had the long sticks. Remember Mercado we had what they called riot-sticks. They had those in the what they called duffle bags, we threw those on board. I don't even think we had tear gas. Because Minneapolis was looking for help over there as fast as you can, so we didn't even take that along. All we had was the long riot sticks, the forty inch riot sticks.

KC: Your officers had weapons?

LM: Oh, yes.

KC: Were they given any special instructions about the weapons?

LM: We instructed them that we were going to go over there and we were going to do the best we can, but we were going to act in a civil manner and if you're attacked you have the chance to retaliate if you have to or arrest somebody. We went over there and I think the kids even actually respected us because I think they had good dealings with us during the marches. Where Minneapolis was always in conflict, of course, that was in their jurisdiction, too. We came out of that thing smelling like a rose.

KC: Were they given any special instructions of not having a bullet in the first chamber?

LM: No, I never took that away from them. When they went over there they were loaded-to-bear. But I said, I got faith in you, I said, we're going to

operate like a team. And I said Mike's the sergeant, even though he isn't, he is today. And that we're going to do this and we're going to do it within bounds. I got up on the bus and told them that's the way it was, and that's the way it happened.

KC: Did you take shotguns with or anything?

LM: No. Just the forty inch nigh clubs and a sidearm. But it was successful. And Minneapolis, I think, appreciated it, but they got the hell beat out of them over there. So did some of the kids.

KC: How many times did Saint Paul go over to the U to help?

LM: That was the one time that I was directly involved and I think we went over there a couple other times, but I was not involved with it, but that was the big event the mining of the Haiphong Harbor, if I remember the term.

KC: Any other stories about Mercado's Marauders? It sounds like that was really a different type of unit, so it was breaking edge.

LM: Ya, it was. He had a lot of flexibility, like we did in the HELP Program, [Housing Environmental Alliance and Police Program]. We started to break the mold of the structure of three shifts.

The other assignment that I got broken away from is to work with homicide which was a tremendous advantage. Remember when Carol Roanan, I think her name, on Grand Avenue was killed by Hugh Brian Morris, on Grand Avenue near Dale. She was a social worker didn't show up for work and some of her co-workers called and finally the apartment manager went into the apartment and found her dead, she was raped and

dead. She lived on the east side of the building, just up off the first floor. Hugh Brian Morris had been a killer internationally and then found a small shaft from a washing machine, crawled up on and into her window, raped her and murdered her and escaped the same way.

Then there was a young nurse that worked at Miller Hospital and she lived up on Ashland, as I remember, she was on the midnight shift and she would walk to Miller Hospital at 11:00 at night for the midnight shift. And a guy that lived in her apartment house said, "You know, you shouldn't be walking down there, it's not safe for you." He used to walk her down to the hospital. She was engaged to some guy and she got married and went to Washington, D.C. and when they were in D.C. they went to the FBI Headquarters and, of course, they had the pictures of the 10 Most Wanted. So at the end of the tour they said, here's the ten most people, anybody know anybody here? She said, "I think I know this guy here." And, they said, "Who's that?" "Hugh Brian Morris." They said, "How do you know him?" She said, "Well, I'm a nurse . . ." and she gave them the story.

They came back here like gangbusters and they went up there and arrested Hugh Brian Morris, he was wanted all around the country. I had the privilege of going around with him clearing the burglaries, because he was a burglar, rapist combination. He would burglarize a home for his living expenses and if there was a female by herself or something he

would rape her and, in some cases, murder her. He was wanted all over the country.

I remember working in homicide because I was the guy who was doing a lot of the footwork, and we spent a lot of time in that apartment house talking. There was two police investigators that came up from Georgia, because he had killed a flight attendant in Atlanta, Georgia. She was sleeping in one of those little screened-in-porches and he took her engagement ring, raped her and murdered her. And then he got on the bus and went up to Augusta, Georgia or one of those other cities, where he went to a pawn shop. They found out where the ring had been pawned. And then he floated around. When those two investigators came up, I never seen two more bloodthirsty guys than those two. They come up with the big felt hats, tall thin guys with suits that look like about twenty years old and they hadn't been cleaned but once or twice since they bought them. And, I think it was Art Lauer⁷² or George Barkley,⁷³ I worked for both of them, said, "Larry, don't take your eyes off of these two, because they'll either kill him or they'll take him out of here and run him back to Georgia where they have the death penalty." So, I put up

⁷² Art R. Lauer was appointed reserve patrolman March 17, 1941; patrolman full-time April 1, 1942; military leave June 19, 1942 to December 11, 1945; promoted to detective September 20, 1948; detective lieutenant May 1, 1956; captain February 1, 1965; and retired July 17, 1973.

⁷³ George G. Barkley was appointed patrolman November 21, 1938; military leave March 13, 1942 to November 1, 1945; promoted to detective November 18, 1947; detective lieutenant May 1, 1956; promoted to captain; and retired January 14, 1971.

- with them and then I drove Hugh Brian Morris around clearing the burglaries that he committed.
- KC: So these guys that were up from Georgia were interviewing him at headquarters?
- LM: Yes, at our place. People came in from different parts of the country because he fit who they were looking for. He was wanted around the country.
- KC: He was willing to admit to all of these crimes, once he was finally caught?
- LM: Yes. They had the goods on him, like these two investigators from Georgia, I mean, they would have walked out with him. I think they would have killed him before they got him to the railroad station or the airport. They looked like KGB guys.
- KC: Did they have guns? Did you worry about them interviewing him with their guns on?
- LM: Oh, yes, they had guns. I think it was either Barkley or Lauer ran homicide, they said, "Larry, don't take your eyes off these two anytime he's with Hugh Brian Morris." And, of course, Hugh Brian Morris, I think, was sentenced here, and I don't know if he's still alive if he's at Stillwater or maybe he's at the new prison in Oak Park. And, all of the jurisdictions put holds on him, so I'm sure he'll never walk free. It's kind of a neat story to have worked with him.
- KC: So, he's arrested and then you put him in a squad and you drive him around the city?
- LM: To clear the burglaries, because he had committed a lot of burglaries around, but he was the only one that we knew that had killed her. He was

living off the burglaries. So we were looking to clear—the clearance rate for the burglaries.

KC: Just you in the squad with him?

LM: Ya. He was handcuffed anyway, so he wasn't going to go anywhere. They told me if he even looks twice like he's going to leave, shoot him. They didn't care.

KC: Handcuffed, leg-irons?

LM: No, just handcuffs, I never put anybody in leg-irons. In my forty years of experience, I don't think anybody did.

KC: He's in the back of the squad or the front?

LM: He's in the back, yes.

KC: Do you have screens?

LM: No, that was before the screens. I was driving him around, I mean, they said if he even thinks about it, just shoot him.

KC: Handcuffed behind his back?

LM: Yes.

KC: So how many burglaries did you clear that day?

LM: I don't remember. But he could remember pretty well where he got in, the window or an open door and we went down, I suppose we cleared maybe twenty-five, thirty burglaries. He was pretty good at burglary cause he had lived [in the area]. See, his mistake was that he stayed too long in an area that he liked. And I think this girl was an attraction, and I suppose he was tired of moving all the time, because he used to move and move and move. That's why they never got him. But he stayed too long in the City of Saint Paul.

KC: How old of a guy was he?

LM: He was only about twenty-four, twenty-five years old, just a young guy.

KC: Oh, wow.

LM: It was in the paper, he was a big catch, and the story was printed about him walking her to the Miller Hospital. Hugh Brian Morris was his name, he was an unusual person. Again, if he liked you a little bit he'd talk. You get to know him and he's just another human being that's all screwed up, totally screwed up.

KC: And he liked you a lot.

LM: Ya. He knew the orders that if I thought he was going to escape, shoot him.

One other experience I had. This was not with Mercado's crew. but I was with Park Police at that time. The company Brown & Bigelow used to hire a lot of ex-cons and work for the company, they gave everybody a break. They were on a promotion to help, I think, the Como Zoo, get some money. They would print a lot of calendars and they had a lot of girls that were models. They brought in a German trainer with a cheetah and the cheetah had a big collar with a bunch of studs on it, he was a beautiful big animal.

I was carefully selected to drive the German trainer and the damn cheetah in the back of the police car. Now this was before screens again. What I did for about three days is I would drive them because we had him on a tour for the publicity. I had him out at KSTP studio, and that was the first

time I saw him get angry because they put him up on the stage and they had all the warm lights and they had the cameras, they were going to take a picture of him, he used to do a few stunts. Well, he got in the warm lights and he wanted to take a nap and, of course, they were all in a hustle they only had so much time to photograph him and do a TV stint with him. Boy, he lashed out a couple times and the old German trainer said, "No, stop, let him take a rest now." The cat, he laid down just like a regular kitten. He took a nap and he looked around, sprawled out, they're all legs.

I drove for three days with the squad car door not totally closed because you could feel him walk back and forth like dogs do and you could feel his whiskers on the back of your shirt and he would lean out the window. You'd pull up to a stop sign and have people look over, people would say, "Oh, my god" and here's this cat hanging out the window. I thought he was going to escape. I never closed the door, latched it, because I figured if he started to act up, I was just going to roll out and keep the car going with the handler and the cat. It was the funniest assignment I ever had.

KC: [Laughter] What year did they put screens in squads?

101.21

LM: That was during the start of the riot problems. McAuliffe was in charge because when Lieutenant Don Smith's⁷⁴ squad car got shot up going up Selby Avenue. At that time Lester McAuliffe was Chief. I told you about

⁷⁴ Donald R. Smith appointed patrolman January 2, 1957; promoted to detective March 1, 1962; lieutenant December 18, 1965; captain July 17, 1969; retired June 29, 1979.

Lexon plastic that we put into the schools, I had an in with the Lexon Plastics [people]. So McAuliffe met with the Chamber of Commerce. They were upset about this shooting, too. [The Chamber] said, "How can we protect your officers?" So, they then heard about Lexon plastic, and we put in rails and the slid these Lexon plastic pieces in so that if you shot through the window the Lexon plastic would protect you. I went to the meeting with Lester McAuliffe and we showed them the Lexon plastic and how it was in the schools. They ordered a whole bunch of it, it was very expensive, and they put them into the squads at that time, in the [Summit University] area.

KC: Because of the racial tension?

LM: Yes.

KC: Were there any incidents where prisoners were in the backseat and tried something that really inspired the expense?

LM: There had been. Even if you go back in time when I was working the West Side or shortly after I left the West Side, there was an officer, Roy Labelle, was driving a prisoner. And Roy had a necktie on. [The prisoner] pulled it over Roy's rope necktie, pulling on the officer's neck and he actually lost control [of the squad], and pulled him into the backseat of the car. That was one of the things that said we've got to do something [about rope type ties and the screens in the squads].

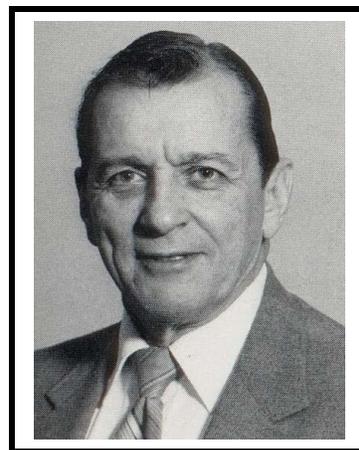
Years ago we didn't handcuff people like we do now. Now, it's the standard procedure. It was an optional item years ago, depending upon how cooperative the person was. Not to say they couldn't go crazy later.

But now it's mandatory and you can get criticized on why you are handcuffing some 40 year old lady. Years ago we used to take that gamble. But that's one of the things that started it.

KC: Officers could kill anybody, but you didn't have to handcuff them.

[Chuckles]

LM: Yes. Then one time, I remember that I was riding with my partner Paul Paulos and we put a guy in the back. A mental, he came right over the front seat with us and Paulus had one of those short billy clubs and he went to hit the guy's hand. He hit me. It followed the bone of my hand where your hand's a little bit more protruded. You never made a J.D. Report, an



Sgt. Paul Paulos
1984

injured on duty report, because that was not the macho thing to do. I could hardly close my hand because of the blow that I received with the short billy club.

KC: This is your left hand?

LM: Yes.

KC: Which is your gun hand?

LM: My right, thank God. I would have had to be J.D. Because I would not have been able to fire my gun had it been my right hand. You never made a J.D. Report.

KC: Never.

LM: No.

KC: Not in your full forty years?

- LM: No. Because that was not acceptable. I mean, it wasn't that it wasn't acceptable, unless if it was something serious. If you were in an automobile accident or you really got hurt, you'd have to, but some of these minor things you'd never report that. Bit your lip and kept on going.
- KC: Has the culture changed in the department where it isn't just about being macho?
- LM: I think it as changed, at least, going back ten years and remembering. I think people are more sensitive to and they're quicker to seek some benefit from the City, where before we were glad to have the job. We didn't say much and we just kind of followed the procedure rather than to buck it. I see people more, "ah, go to the Federation with this." They're more restless and more sensitive about their assignments and complainers. I think I've seen that surface. Years ago you were happy to have the job and you were happy to keep you mouth shut and keep on going.
- KC: Were you ever given an assignment, because in police work you can request assignments, but mostly you're just assigned them –
- LM: Yes, that's right.
- KC: Were you ever given an assignment that didn't fit your skills well and you didn't like?
- LM: Oh, yeah. Only once and that was at that end of my career I [was assigned to the] personnel unit. That was after they closed down the Southwest Team. Ya know, that's not me.
- KC: What were you?

LM: The personnel job was that you were in charge of all the personnel records and the history. I had two wonderful ladies that did all the paperwork. Occasionally, you'd have to go over and meet with [City] Civil Service over some little [personnel] disagreement that you'd try to work out so it wouldn't go any farther. I never belonged there.

KC: It was more about paper than it was about people?

LM: Yes.

KC: So that inspired your retirement after forty years?

LM: I probably would have stayed if they kept me on the street [or near the street cops]. I still think I could have contributed.

KC: How old were you when you retired?

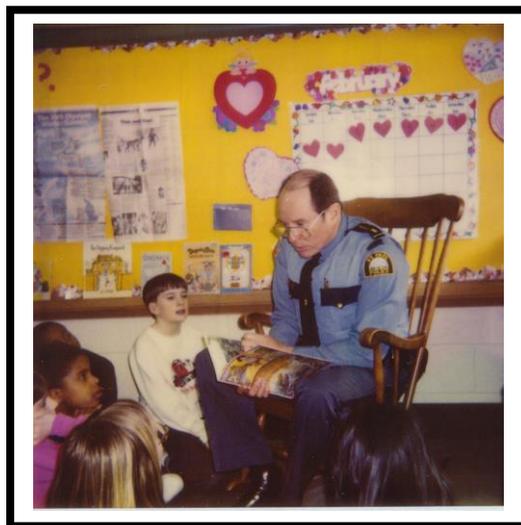
LM: Sixty-five. Even today I'm contributing as a volunteer. I volunteer at Bethel College, I grow my orchids and their plants. I hadn't reached that stage where I want to sit down and watch some television. I think that I could have contributed yet.

I can't imagine why the police department, they say they're overworked and sometimes understaffed, that you have talent that walks out of that building that has tremendous history, tremendous contacts, tremendous ability to do things that you have been trained for your whole life and you let them go without saying, "Would you like to come back as a volunteer?" And have somebody run sort of a volunteer program, maybe for the homicide unit or for the patrol unit. Maybe you can't carry the gun and maybe you won't be out in the uniform or whatever, but there's a

volunteer group there that can help whatever you want because they have the talent.

Now the sheriff seems to be more wise to that, because when I retired he asked me to come out [to his department]. He wanted me to carry the gun. He's restructuring the sheriff's department, to be honest with you. He's done a wonderful job so far. He's got a lot of work yet. He's looking for that talent. He's extracting that [Saint Paul Police] talent. Other officers to come his way, whether he pays them or he doesn't, or he puts them on a part-time position, because he feels that there's some value there. Now, I think that we're missing the boat, my personal opinion. I know sometimes volunteers and the has-beens can be a pain in the butt, but I think there are some of us that are still alive, still well, still capable that could help out and, yet, all that talent and training is gone.

KC: That's one of the reason we're doing this project is to, at least, preserve the stories, preserve the perspective, and preserve the knowledge..



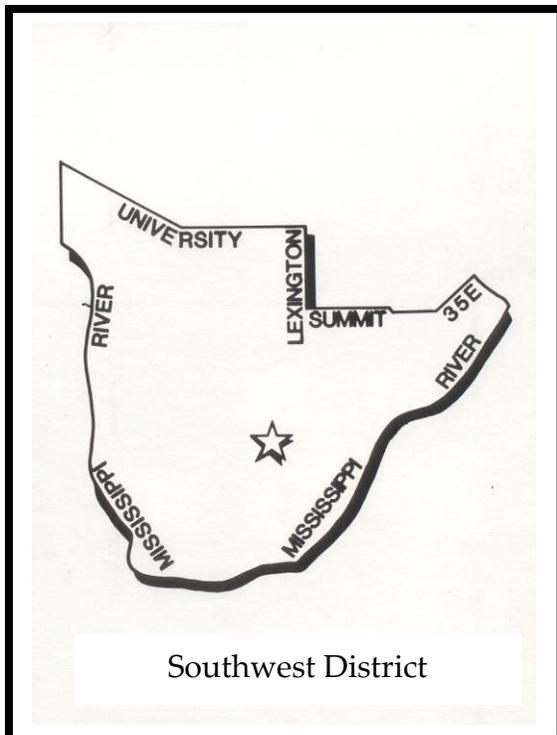
Commander McDonald reading at a school

January 5, 2006

Tape 2 -1.10

KC: It is Thursday, January 5, 2005. We are in HAND in HAND's office with Commander Larry McDonald.

Larry, let's talk about when you were the Commander of the Southwest District in the 1990s, this would have been early 90s.



There was a lot of civil disobedience going on in other parts of the country around the abortion issue. In your district on Ford Parkway was the Planned Parenthood Clinic. What was your approach to the possibility of a summer where you had heard that we were a targeted city?

LM: The Planned Parenthood Clinic was a problem for everybody that had had that team previously because of the

demonstrations, most of which were peaceful. And even today we have people that are peacefully picketing in front of the clinic because of their objection to abortions. When I took charge of it, I knew that it was going to be a problem. Well, [because of] what was happening around the country, were large, sometimes violent protests against these clinics and even the doctors. Some doctors had been killed, clinics had been burned

and they were having very militant groups of people that were against this issue and they were going down and affecting the operation of these women's clinics. This was happening around the country.

They had been named, I forget what some of the previous names were, but 'Operation Rescue' was the name of the group that was going to invade different cities and make their mark. Saint Paul was one of those cities. Being the Commander of that area, it was of some concern, obviously, to the gentleman that ran the clinic, as well as, to the rest of the resident council people and the business people. Because as you know, Ford Parkway and Cleveland Avenue is a very viable and expensive neighborhood, and they wanted to keep the disruption down to a minimum. So when I looked around, I thought that past experiences that other cities had would predict the future that I might have to be faced with if they came to Saint Paul.

I investigated several cities. One was Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I took my wife down there. And before doing this it was talked about at some staff meetings that this was a coming problem, I approached it. It was my sincere belief, to this day, that it was mentioned that if we kept talking about it nothing was going to happen that somebody had to do something. So, I told the administration that I was going to go and do something about it and investigate it. Now, apparently that wasn't sufficient enough, because it didn't end well. But, anyway, what I did is, my wife and I flew down [to Baton Rouge, Louisiana], my son worked for

Northwest Airlines like he does now, so he flew me and my wife down free of charge. The police people down there got us a half rate hotel. They treated us in a great fashion, southern hospitality. They were able to show me the news tapes and the tapes that they had captured as to the leaders of the organization and the volume of people turned out, the number of problems they had arresting people, transporting people. People going to court was a tremendous burden on the whole law enforcement, criminal justice system. That was unnecessary. Most of it they blamed on themselves because they had not preplanned it and not taken steps to actually barricade the clinics to prevent the people from entering the clinics, destroying it, and causing chaotic conditions. What I saw was police agencies that put up cones, snow fencing, barricades, typical wooden barricades to hold people back. But these people were defeating this and causing the disturbance.

KC: So, the protestors were barreling through the barricade?

LM: Yes. They overwhelmed the police and the police lines were overwhelmed because they had insufficient troops, not properly trained. They would actually invade the whole area and cause chaotic conditions. Where the arrests occurred, injuries occurred, most of these people that were protestors, of course, weren't cooperative, so they were carrying them to buses to transport because they wouldn't walk. Some of them accused the police of being abused, which caused litigation after the event. It was terribly frustrating for the police and the whole criminal justice system. So, I learned a tremendous lesson there. Then what I did, is I

went to Wichita, Kansas, in which there was a clinic that was targeted for years because there was a doctor down there by the name of Doctor Tiller.

KC: He did late term abortions.

LM: He did late term abortions and they had termed him Doctor Killer. He was a real villain and a real target. I went down there and looked at the same mistakes. The police made no preparations for it at all and just had the same mass confusion with thousands of people arrested and the court system plugged. And, I thought, *boy this can't happen*, but it did. Police were extremely honest with me as to what the mistakes were. Then I found out that Milwaukee, Wisconsin was another city that had the same kinds of problems. So, I flew down, my son flew me down. I stayed at my old Army buddy's house, because I didn't want to spend a lot of money because the City said we don't have budget money.

KC: So, your out-of-town is basically your expense, the City isn't covering it?

LM: Yes. They did cover me for some things, but not much. I went down to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and spent two or three days with them.

Before my departure to do this, I had an excellent executive officer, by the name



of Lieutenant Dick Dugan,⁷⁵ who was extremely capable of handling the team operation, the Southwest Team, and if I had been sick or on vacation, he would have been in charge. So, I didn't feel as though I was deserting the team. I put him in charge during my travels. I also visited Fargo, North Dakota. We also had some clinics at Methodist Hospital in Minneapolis or Saint Louis Park and North Memorial Hospital in Robinsdale.

I went over there and studied, every Saturday they had protestors that were kind of violent and unruly. So, when I came back, I had a tremendous amount of information and a lot of audio and TV coverage of these people, the demonstrators. So, I came back and showed the Department. They were kind of excited about it and they took me over to show it to the Mayor and I talked to Mayor about what I had done. Then the legal people from the City Attorney's office and the County Attorney were involved and pretty soon the Minneapolis City Attorneys and the police came over, and pretty soon we had people as far as Fargo, North Dakota, because they have a clinic there.

KC: So, are you doing individual trainings with each of these groups that want to come in?

LM: We had, even mass trainings, where they would come in for these lectures and to see the videotapes and the audios that we had collected, and what had failed with the police departments, admitted what they did that made

⁷⁵ Richard Francis Dugan was appointed patrolman January 16, 1967; promoted sergeant October 3, 1970; lieutenant April 22, 1983; retired October 22, 1999.

the whole thing chaotic and the expenses. So, it overwhelmed a lot of people that we were going to have to do something in preparation for this. Then, I again, met with the neighbors and the community in Highland and told them that I think the only thing that would hold them back would be a fence. I'm talking about an eight foot chain link fence. Well, that offended some people and they said how are you going to put a fence up? So, what I did is, I had a friend who was a surveyor and I said, "Let's go out there." And, he told me that, he said, "There's kind of a little strip of no-man's land where the property line separated the clinic from the Burger King that was there and then the car wash." He said, "If you put a fence down there [on the property line], you can stay neutral." I ordered up from the Able Fence Company an eight foot fence that totally enclosed the clinic.

On the sidewalk I had two gates from the east and west side, so they could be open to allow females that wanted to come to clinic, in and out. But we could deny the pro-choice or the pro-life people from access. We also provided room on the street where they could peaceably picket back and forth, which is their legal right. We were there for at least six or eight weeks. What we did was actually secure the facility twenty-four hours a day, and I was given a brand new recruit class that manned it during the day and the afternoon shifts, and then our police reserve and NAOs covered it at night to secure it.

It worked out extremely well, because 'Operation Rescue' found out the process that we went through to prevent them from interfering. We had very few of them that come and we arrested no one during that time frame. Now, we did go to court. There was one individual that came up one day with his television camera and about two or three witnesses and asked me what I was doing and why he couldn't protest. I said, "You have a space that you can legally protest, but I'm not allowing you on the sidewalk during the time of the event." I handled them so well, I went back to my old *polite but firm rule* that I always was governed by. And he has, I bet you, fifteen minutes of the nicest conversation with me that you can believe. Years later, I went down and to give days of testimony as to all of what I did and the fence that we put up and where it was put on neutral property. They played the TV tape and went to court and the whole thing was thrown out and the City was free from any responsibility.

KC: Who tried to sue the City?

LM: The guy that was part of the gang that who wanted [to protest the clinics operations]– that was one of the tactics.

KC: The pro-life people?

LM: Yes. He wanted to sue the City with our deep pockets, and get money. He did not get one cent because of our action. And, it was viewed as a preventative thing. Police work should always be viewed as, if you can prevent it from occurring, you're always farther ahead. I think one of the things you have to remember is that if you see something coming, ask or contact people that has had previous experience and find out what they

did right and what they had done wrong. That's the key to it. But it was a wonderful experience and I'd do it again.

KC: I hear that innovation, again. I remember that.

LM: I remember that lady that was married to Carlson, the governor, what's her name?

KC: Barbara Carlson.

LM: Barbara Carlson looked for me because she had a booth set up, talking to all of the people. Then she had a young man that was her runner or whatever he was, her assistant, she looked for me for three or four days and she never found me to be interviewed, can you believe that.

KC: You just weren't available.

LM: She said, "I want to find the guy that put this fence up." She never found me.

KC: I clearly remember that the fence looked intrusive and when I went down to be there, because there were the two groups, the pro-choice and the pro-life group, that it was effective.

LM: Yes, it was.

KC: It was very structured and it was very effective. I didn't go down very much, because it was kind of like *there's no point to this*.

LM: That's right.

KC: This is, *nothing's happening here*.

LM: 'Operation Rescue' viewed it the same way.

KC: They didn't come to town then with their masses?

LM: No, a few of them did, but not to any great number. They couldn't rally the support here because the defense was set up. They viewed it, we

know they viewed it, because we had the out-of-town cars that came and looked it over before they sent the mass troops up.

KC: Saint Paul is effective again. [And I want to note that you were awarded the Medal of Merit Class B on August 26, 1993 "For his dedication to duty and outstanding performance in handling the departments response to the Operation Rescue during the summer."]

LM: Yeah.

KC: Larry, at another time when we were talking, you talked about, again, protestors, about, I think it was in the 60s, being asked to go to Macalester College to talk to a class.

LM: Yes.

KC: Can you recall that story?

LM: The Vietnam War, of course, was a major event where we had a lot of disturbances and a lot of peace marches, mostly from the University of Minnesota. The other colleges would join and then they would march down Summit Avenue to the Capitol where they would hold a rally and talk against the war. There was a deputy chief by the name of Bob Freischel, and he asked me if I would go out and communicate with some of these kids and organize the marches and see if we could keep them in order. That went pretty well, you took a lot of verbal abuse from them, but for the most part they were manageable. And, then at that time it was very popular, because the police were viewed as bad people. But the Department did received an invitation for a speaker to go to Macalester College and talk to a large group of kids in the auditorium over there. So, I was selected, [asked] if I would go over there. I said, "I'll go over there."

The person that sent the invitation suggested in the letter of invitation that the person not appear in their uniform. Well, when I read that I thought *the hell with them, I'm going in my uniform because I am who I am and I'm not going to be frightened by a bunch of college kids up there.* I had worked that district and I worked with the college with all of their little problems and I thought *I'm going to go in there in my uniform.* I was told that was not wise, so they even assigned a couple of squads on Snelling Avenue in case I got in trouble to come in and rescue me.

I went up there and I was just myself, telling them my role and the role that we have within the law that I'm bound to adhere to, and that they have rights, but we also have rules and we have to appreciate one another. Let me tell you, I must have been there for forty-five minutes or an hour and before I left there, those kids, I think I had not completely in the palm of my hand, but they were not at all disrespectful to me and many of them thanked for coming. I think sometimes you have to go in there and let them know who you are and what you are and what your story is and how we're all going to behave and work together to accomplish something. It was a great experience for me to face them and get out alive.

KC: [Chuckles] And you didn't feel like your life was threatened?

LM: No. They were just noisy, just like kids are. I dealt with Macalester kids before. I've got to say that they were a pain in the butt, with the party raids, they would block Grand Avenue, you know, the buses and the cars. We'd be up there dealing with the kids and the campus itself, so I had

long experience with them. I viewed them mostly as just a bunch of spoiled kids that hadn't grown up enough to realize that the police department and the laws are part of society.

KC: Larry, let's talk about when you were with Investigative Unit.

LM: I was promoted to sergeant [in 1966]. I got sent to what was called Sex Homicide at that time, now it's called Crimes Against Persons, in which we handled the murders and all the assaults and the sexual crimes, and the kidnappings, which were very few. They were the crimes that really warranted the best leadership of that unit and some of the best people that we could put in there. When I went in there, it was dominated by some older gentlemen that were there because they also had not been through this new recruit training and indoctrination that we were producing, but they were solid old guys, and some of them weren't real old, but they had a very strict sense of what was right and wrong. They, for the most part, were extremely dedicated investigators.

One particular [investigator] that I was assigned to was a guy by the name of Herb Olson⁷⁶. Herb was not a particularly big guy, but he had big shoulders and he had a farm somewhere up north. Farming and police work was his thing in life. I worked with Herb and if you gave Herb a sexual complaint, he followed it to the nth end. I remember one time, I was brand new at that time, there was a football player that played for the Vikings by the name Lance Rentzel and, of course, we had complaints

⁷⁶ Herb A. Olson was appointed to patrolman January 20, 1931; promoted to detective April 17, 1936; and retired December 27, 1968.

about him exposing himself to some of the police boys and girls that were on corners and at different schools. Herb got this report and he worked the living hell out of it.

Finally, we got a warrant for Lance Rentzel, and, of course, it was during football time. I forget who the boss was at that time, whether it was Art Lauer or George Barkley, but he told me, "You go with Herb with that warrant when you go to arrest Lance Rentzel." Because he said, "Herb is so wound up over this guy that he's going to physically take him on." I said, "Well, Herb's going to be the loser, I think." He said, "Don't be too sure, when Herb gets that angry and he's that dedicated, he's going to bring that guy in and he's probably going to be bruised up a little bit." So, Herb and I went out and got Lance Rentzel who then left the Vikings, he went to court and he got sentenced. I forget what the sentence was, but it was something minor, but then he got transferred to a Texas team, I believe, where he had the same problem. He had a beautiful wife, but he had a problem.

KC: Exhibitionism is a disease.

LM: Yes. But that shows some of the dedication that some of those guys had.

There were others like Gerry Bodin⁷⁷, Ernie Williams,⁷⁸ Earl Miels,⁷⁹ that I

⁷⁷ Gerald L. Bodin was appointed reserve patrolman March 10 1941; patrolman full-time August 3, 1941; military leave February 16, 1943 to December 8, 1945; promoted to detective September 20, 1948; and retired March 11, 1977.

⁷⁸ Ernest H. Williams was appointed patrolman November 1, 1949; promoted to detective October 1, 1954; detective lieutenant July 1, 1964; captain February 1, 1965; and retired August 25, 1975.

⁷⁹ Earl E. Miels was appointed reserve patrolman November 1, 1949; promoted to detective March 1, 1962; and retired February 5, 1982.

worked with that were outstanding guys to work with. There were others, too, that into my second tour to the Sex Homicide, I had another group of wonderful people.

KC: When you were in Sex Homicide, what years was this?

LM: It had to be in the probably the late 1960s.

And, again, we were training [recruits and in-serve personnel] always. Some times we were taken out to train homicide investigation, interviewing. We could swing back and forth, in and out of training a lot. I got sent to a training school and, so, it seemed like if I gained the experience in something, you'd go back and teach it.

KC: What was the attitude in Sex Homicide? I know that there has been a lot of new approaches than there used to be. It used to be that women were afraid to report rapes, because some male officer's approach was, "Well, they must have asked for it." When you were first in Sex Homicide, how was Saint Paul approaching sexual assaults?

LM: We had a kind of a different approach to it. One thing that helped us, Carolen Bailey,⁸⁰ who was a female, was assigned to Sex Homicide. She was a plus, but it was in my experience that if you had a female subject of a rape or some sexual assault that they would be as cooperative, I think, as they



Lt. Carolen Bailey
1985

⁸⁰ Carolen Fay Bailey was appointed policewoman July 17, 1961; promoted to Sergeant December 225, 1971; resigned December 3, 1963. Returned to the department September 16, 1964, and retired January 31, 1991.

would be with a female if you showed some sincere interest in their case and were genuinely there to help them. I had no problems with that communication. Most would tell me exactly what happened to them, which is very unpleasant for a female. But if you had their faith that you were going to do something or, at least, were going to listen to them, my belief was that they would tell you. I had wonderful luck with them.

Sometimes, I remember, I got fooled. I had a girl one time that was raped with her girlfriend at a hotel at Prior and University. The short and long of the story was that I was getting kind of funny feeling that this did not happen, although I was being pressured by her mother. So, I went back and I traced and by a lot of luck and a lot of investigation, I found the guy that had sex with her, who lived in Chicago. I found him and when I talked to him over the phone he said, "I will fly up there and tell you what happened." And, what happened was that she came down with a venereal disease. Her boyfriend was overseas in the military and coming home, so she and her girlfriend hatched a story that they were going to have sex and blame this guy, who they knew was going to go back to Chicago that we would never probably discover. He flew up here and told and confronted her and her mother that he had sex with her, now he had a disease problem. And we broke the case. It was not a bona fide rape case. So, you can get fooled sometimes by these stories. Her mother could not believe what we uncovered. It was only a stroke of luck that we found out who the guy was and he flew up here to clear himself and tell the whole store.

KC: So, she was saying that the Chicago guy had raped her?

LM: That was the excuse that that's how she got the venereal disease to cover for her boyfriend coming back to get married from the military.

KC: So she had had sex with other people and actually had the disease before that?

LM: That's right. Sometimes you can get baited into these. Another time, I was new in the office. On a weekend, I was working in the office the desk officer called and says, "I got a lady down here that just said she was raped." I had come from the street and I know what it is to be a street officer and have somebody take the report and the investigator sets it out. I was down at the center and I took the report. So, I wrote up this big lengthy report about the whole circumstances. I came in on Monday or Tuesday, because I had worked the weekend and the whole office was waiting for me, the sex office. They said, "We want to congratulate you." And, I said, "What did I do?" They said, "It was a wonderful report you took of that lady that was raped that came to the desk and wanted to report it." I said, "That's fine." I said, "I should have probably gave it to the squads, but I didn't." They said, "When you have a little time, just go down and pull from records her name, would you?" So, I said, "Oh, oh." So, I went down to records, very humbly, and I pulled it and, of course, the records girl was looking at me says, "Here's our latest fool." Here she had a habit, about twice a year she'll come in and report a rape. I fell for it one hundred percent. It causes you to be a little bit leery, because that's two cases that I had. One that was phony to begin with and the other who

- liked to tell the story and probably capture our attention, and she probably needed our attention to get something out of her system.
- KC: How many sexual assault cases did you investigate over the years?
- LM: Oh, god, either from the patrolman level to the investigative level, probably a good seventy-five, eighty, maybe.
- KC: What was the hardest one that you investigated?
- LM: The most difficult one that I felt the most sorry for was a young girl that lived on Jefferson Avenue, she was about sixteen or seventeen years old. She was picked up by four or five guys in a van. To this day when I see one of those extended vans, it always comes back, because I looked for that extended van for years. [They] picked her up and everybody took advantage of her. I felt so sorry for that girl, we spent a ton of time looking for that van and who they were, to this day I don't know who the hell they were. But I could never bring that to a conclusion. It's sad, because such a nice young girl.
- KC: In the 1960s and '70s, how did the officers [make referrals] or what services were available to support the victims of these assaults?
- LM: There wasn't much at that time. Today it's much more improved. There is a sexual assault group that you can go and meet with and get counseling. Probably the only people that showed a lot of compassion for them, was when you would take them to the hospital for a pelvic exam, for the evidence that you needed. The nurses, if it wasn't busy in the ER, would have time to counsel them or encourage them to continue with the investigation. Maybe, even sometimes they worked up a personal relationship where the nurse said, "Why don't you call me back if you

have a problem.” It was pretty skinny at that time, there was not much available to the gals at that time.

KC: It was mostly men, except for Carolen Bailey?

LM: Yup, yup.

KC: Would Carolen do most of the interviews?

LM: No. It just depends, again, the time frame that the investigation would come in and who was handed it. You know, it’s like a sorting game, it’s like a card game. Those cases come in and they’re sorted out equally or as equally as you can among your work team. You got what you were dealt with and you went from there. Occasionally, we would crossover. Sometimes if you had a victim that you weren’t linking with, then we would ask somebody else, “Would you interview her?” You know that maybe had better skills or older or younger, or whatever fit. Sometimes a father image works better than some young guy that she resented. So, we would switch off if that was a problem.

KC: How do you think having a woman, because Carolen Bailey was brought in as a policewoman to work in sex crimes initially. How did having a woman [early on] in the Department add a flavor to the Department that may have been different than some other departments?

LM: I think she added a whole new dimension to it because Carolen is a very bright lady and had experience in the Juvenile Unit before she got into that unit. She does come from a whole different point of view as being a female and how sensitive and how difficult it is to relate a sexual experience with somebody. I think with her there, even in the office, or even welcoming the female victims to the office and saying, “This is Larry

or this is Herb," or whoever it was. Broke the ice a little bit that there was somebody around that was on her side. We were all on her side, but somebody that could maybe understand her problem better.

KC: Did all officers want to spend some time in Crimes Against Persons Unit?

LM: No. I think that Crimes Against Persons, you have to be an extremely understanding and a patient person because the things that happen to those people are very serious. It affects them, I am convinced, their whole life. Where somebody working in burglary, if you miss your television set, I could put some effort into it. But there's always about a thousand other televisions at Sears or Wards or wherever you want to go buy another one, and most of the time if you have insurance it will be bought for you or you get reimbursed for it. So, it's an entirely different ball game and you have to, in my opinion, pick people that are very sensitive to people and very caring about people and you have to pursue those ends, great ends. And spend a lot of time with them and have a lot of patience to extract the information from them to make the investigation work. And even as cooperative as they are, sometimes you'll never bring that person to justice. It's amazing the amount of work that you can [do] and effort [put in] and not be successful.

KC: Did you ever have someone who was assigned to the unit with you or when you were commanding it, that wasn't a good fit and they needed to be someplace else.

141.06

LM: No. I had the first assignment as an investigator and then I had the second assignment as the second in charge of the Sex Homicide Unit, so I

had two occasions to be there. Don Trooien⁸¹ was the leader or the Captain on the second visit. We got into what they called 'case management' where I would review the cases of the investigators to see if they were complete, where there were no more other leads and that we could put it aside, or that we would continue to follow them. I would give them permission to follow them more. I think there was a seven day time frame that you had to kick it in and do something with it. Either pend-it-out or do something with it. Pen-it-out, there's nowhere you could go, it's dead-ended. [So we would] pend-it-out, or you would still pursue it beyond the seven days.

I had that job, which put me in contact with the investigators and their reports. And, these reports keep coming in, so you can only hold them so long. A lot of it depends upon the cooperation that you get from the victim. Some of them take time to recover from this before they want to talk to you. Well, the clock is ticking and you've got other reports coming in, so you have to have a very well staffed, very coordinated staff to get these reports moving.

Now, the homicides, you might spend eighteen months on because there is always somebody working on it or still massaging it. That was my job, and to be honest with you, I liked my job because I liked the people that worked there. We had wonderful people that worked there. But you hate

⁸¹ Terry Thomas Trooien was appointed police officer September 8, 1975; promoted to sergeant March 1, 1987.

to be the person that was always pressuring them that *here's another one, here's another one*. I used to sort them out in the morning. It builds a tremendous load on these investigators to keep doing it as fast you can, because there's another coming and get them cleared. It is a frustrating job.

KC: I hear you talking about picking the right person for the job. How did your experiences in Saint Paul – were you ever picked for a job where you weren't the right person?

LM: Yes. Well, the end of my career I came out of the Southwest Team and, of course, I knew my days were numbered, okay.

KC: Because you were turning sixty-five?

LM: Ya, basically, sometimes you could tell by assignments, too. So, I was assigned as a personnel officer. I can tell you right flat out, I'm not a guy that likes a cubicle. I loved my two secretaries that ran the Personnel Unit, they were wonderful women, they knew that I was misfit and I knew I was a misfit. But I knew that my career, by that assignment that they were saying you should start looking for your hobbies and your other interests.

KC: How long were you in personnel?

LM: Not very long.

KC: A few months?

LM: Ya. I think that there's an end to every road. You have to kind of take a look at your age and, even today, I think that I would be useful, because I am at the Sheriff's office training volunteers and recruiting people. We have about 350 volunteers that I'm involved in. But there is a time that you've got to hang it up and turn it over to some younger people.

KC: You were in command staff for much of your career, much of the forty years, how did you pick the right person for the job? How did you know to assign some people in some jobs and not others?

LM: I had a tremendous advantage because many of the people that I worked with, in fact I talked to one of them over the phone last night. [They] are the people that not only had I had some recruiting contact with, or they came and did a little internship with the Department. But then I trained them both at the recruit level and many times going back, like I mentioned, into the in-service training, no matter where I was. Then I have thirty-some people on the CIRT Team that I supervised that were over and above. I had thirty-some people working off-duty at United Hospital. So, I had a vast number of people that I had viewed in these different assignments. I look at myself as being, have been, a very privileged officer to have had that many assignments and have had the privilege of bringing these people up through the years. I have had long experience with some of these people, long history. So, when I was asked who I would take or who I would want, there was no guess work. You know them and they know you and, so, it's easy. A lot of people were not afforded that vast viewing and contact with the officers.

KC: Let's talk about the Investigative Unit.

LM: When I first went on the job, I didn't understand the Investigative Unit. I thought they were over-rated and they thought they were more important than the rest of us. But, I couldn't believe when I was young on the Police Department that we would have a crime and there were many people that were witnesses to this crime. And we would call the wagon, the transport

wagon, and we would lock up, maybe, ten, fifteen people, or maybe five, as material witnesses, take them down and lock them up. I thought, now how are you going to take these people and arrest them for being a material witness and figure out how are they going to be friend and talk and tell you what you want to know. Now, maybe that worked in some cases, but I thought that doesn't make sense to me. Then, there was another turning point that we started to change, and this was because we were forced to change, we sometimes don't change very easy.

KC: About when?

LM: Some of it occurred in 1968 with the Democratic Convention, the Vietnam War. The other piece was the Miranda Warning.⁸² Now the Miranda Warning tells you that you have to give people their rights. That was designated for people that were suspects that we had arrested or were about to arrests.

KC: When did the Miranda Warning come into effect?

LM: 1966. It goes back to, if you're old enough to remember, *Dragnet*⁸³ movie where Sergeant Friday and his partner would go in and they would ask

⁸² In 1966 the United States Supreme Court ruled that the statements made to the police could not be used as evidence, if persons had not been advised of his rights under the constitution. A minimal Miranda warning, as outlined in the *Miranda v Arizona* case is: *You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to be speak to an attorney, and to have an attorney present during any questioning. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be provided for you at government expense.* Note that one need not be Mirandized to be arrested, or asked to provide name, address, and Social Security number.

⁸³ *Dragnet* was the first successful television crime drama. It originally ran 1952—1959 with Sgt. Joe Friday played by Jack Webb, who also directed and produced the series and Ben Alexander who played Officer Frank Smith. The TV show was revived in January of 1967—1970. Friday's and his new side kick Bill Gannon, played by Harry Morgan continued to track down criminals in Los Angeles, California. Universal and NBC hired Webb to produce "World Premiere: *Dragnet*," a made for TV movie that aired January 1969.

the questions and the people would respond, because the people, the public, felt obligated to answer your question and that was very well displayed. [Sergeant Friday would say,] "Just give me the facts ma'am." And, that was it. We had that sort of style going where we just said, "You know, we're it and you're something else, just tell me what I want to know." Well, the Miranda Warning and all the anti-police era, told us that we had to communicate or interview people in a different fashion. The Miranda forced some of it.

But even our approach to people was much more of a friendly sales approach. I prefer to use the words 'sales approach'. In fact, I can remember recruiting Jim Sackett⁸⁴ off a Pepsi Cola truck. He was a route salesman, I guess, you'd call him. When we were giving [recruit] classes he would say, "Pepsi Cola even had some tapes or recordings of how you'd go in and meet the store owner. "And, how are you this morning, I have a few items for you today and where would you like me to display them?

Could I display them out in the front here where they are better seen?" He brought us tapes in and we even played them as to the sales approach to get what you want people for you to do. He was great. Later, he got killed, obviously, shot.

⁸⁴ James Thomas Sackett, Sr. was appointed patrolman September 3, 1968, and fatally injured by a sniper while responding to an emergency call May 22, 1970.

But the thing is that we changed to a more of a pleasing approach, a sales approach, and we started to share information with people to make them, or extend our investigative abilities, so that they became investigators to come back and tell us what they knew or what they could do for us. Now, there's a hook to this.

KC: So this is the interviewing style?

LM: Yes. And, even today, now we have problems in a park, if I go out to a park and I want to hook the neighbors into being [involved]– I'm recruiting them to be my eyes and ears while I'm not there, or the Sheriff. But I will tell them some part of what I'm looking for. I'll share part of the information that years ago, *I'm the police, I don't share anything with you*. I share now and I think police people do today to hook them into being eyes and ears for you. This has worked tremendously and that whole style of encouraging people. I teach them that when you drive by a house and you're going to interview somebody, if they're flying an American flag, I can appeal to their patriotic [side]. If I walk into a home and I see a crucifix or a Bible, I can appeal differently. You are wearing a symbol –

KC: I wear a Star of David.

LM: -- that I could capitalize on. So, it is observation and then using that to your advantage. If you have young kids running around the street and I'm looking for a guy that's driving crazy on the street, I use the safety issue, would you want your child or a neighbor's child hit by the car. So, I'm looking – observation – I will appeal to you in a sensitive area, so that you become an agent of mine.

KC: Joining, connecting, and taking with down the road together.

LM: Yup, yup. That's a whole different approach and it was new, and we've been teaching it for some years. I do that on all my interview classes, but it's coupled with observation.

KC: Sackett was killed in 1972, so this, again, must have been early '70s when you started bringing in that approach and teaching it.

LM: Yes. That's right. And, you have to have a smile on your face. It's amazing, today I work with adults, volunteers. And the hardest thing, you know, I can get them to do a lot of things, but it's very difficult for them to knock on the door of the home that they have no [contact with]— and say, you know, "I'm Larry McDonald," or give their name and say, "I'm a volunteer for the Sheriff's office and we've had a problem in your neighborhood with burglaries or theft from cars and this is what has happened." See, I share with them that we had a car broken into and we had the golf clubs taken or whatever was taken and that we're asking for your cooperation to watch for these events and then the time frame, but share with them, so that now they're important. That's how you recruit them. To this day, I can't understand why mature adults can't do that simply and sincerely with a smile on their face. It puzzles me, it frustrates me.

KC: So you're saying sometimes law enforcement officers have trouble doing it with a smile on their face?

LM: Yes. You have to be approachable. My name is a tremendous advantage to me, because I will reinforce my name, I will even tell them, "If you have some information, would you mind calling me." I say to them, "Remember my linkage that you won't forget is McDonald, just like the

hamburger stand.” I have linkage immediately with them. Kids I can do that with. See, I have linkage, where if I was Shikowski or something, they would say, “Who the hell, I’ll never remember that name.” So, I form a linkage with them so they know who I am.

KC: Any other innovations in interviewing that happened during your era?

LM: It’s just that it’s a whole new approach and people found out they didn’t have to talk to you. During that era that I spoke of, they said, “Go to hell, I don’t have to talk to you.” So, it’s won over a lot of people. It’s a little bit more time consuming because you have to massage them, spend time with them, but in the end it produces the results.

And, see, you can’t rush things. If I knock on the door, there’s a few seconds that you don’t know why I’m there, who you are and you have to kind of work up a rapport. You open it up with a smile and an introduction and from there they will invite you into their home. They don’t know anything more about you than your name and you’re a volunteer and you’ve got a strange looking uniform on, but they will invite you in. Once you get in the door, you’re all set. It’s just like the Fuller Brush people or anybody today.

KC: Now, in 2005 and 2006, the Department is continuing to be innovative. You may not know, but they’re doing a whole series of training on Culture of Poverty.⁸⁵ This research shows that depending on the economic

⁸⁵Payne, Ruby K. PhD, Framework in Understanding Poverty, aha! Process Inc, Texas 1996. Explores the cultures of *poverty class*, *middle class*, and *wealthy class* differences and how to understand and work across economic classes.

class the people are raised in, if you're raised in a middle class environment and those are your roots, you can come in and somebody can say, "Just the facts", please and you've been trained to have your mind thinking that way and you're going to give it. If you're raised in a poverty environment, you have lots of stories, but probably if the officer is willing to listen to this whole ring of stories there's more data there and, so, now all of the [Saint Paul Police] Department is being trained in this new approach. I had the privilege of attending one of the trainings and it's fantastic.

LM: I'm a firm believer that if we can just shut-up and listen to people, and I've said this time and time again, that you could put a uniform person, a dummy, in the lobby of headquarters, in full uniform and in a rocking chair, just a little bit of motion and maintain eye contact with people, they would come in and talk to this mocked up cop and just vent their feelings. They would walk out of the building and you'd never have to say a word to them, they would leave happy saying, "Somebody listened to me." I think we have to train our officers that you have to be a good listener. Because many times you can't solve their problem, but if you can just listen to them they feel so much better. They think you're the greatest guy in the world if you just listen. Have you ever had that happen?

KC: Absolutely.

LM: But we sometimes want to out-talk people.

KC: Are officers trained to go in and fix it and not to listen?

LM: There are some times when you can't talk, you have to act, and that's appropriate. Because you have to quell the situation whatever it is, or

take somebody into custody. But for most of the time you're talking to people that you do have time to talk to and spend a little time with. When that opportunity is there, then you should spend the time with them. My biggest worry is that sometimes I think we—I don't want to put the young officers down. But sometimes too much education, we know the answers to some peoples' problems – the simple people, the little people that call us, and we go away saying or we kind of radiate the feeling like *you dummy, what the hell, don't you know how to solve your own problem?* And, we turn them off, the little people, by not listening to them or trying to help them or direct them to the help, if you can't provide it.

We're too sophisticated or too anxious to get the hell out or there's another call coming. We turn the little people off. They're maybe not the brightest, they may be from another country that doesn't understand our system, and you have to have the patience to go through whatever their problem is and try to help them. But it isn't everybody that can be that patient and lower themselves to that level and communicate at that level and spend the time with them and have the resources that, "If I can't solve it, I'll put you in touch with somebody that can." Cops always think they can solve everything. That's a stupid mistake we assume. We cannot. There are other people far better than we are, but learn who they are, the resources that you have.

KC: Someone told me that cops' attitude is, is that it's their job to solve everything.

150.36

LM: No, you can't. There are books today with social workers and medical people and psychologists and psychiatrists that you can send them to that will help them. Just refer them. One of the big things we did in the housing areas, we had a lot of those resources there that were at our fingertips and they wanted to be used, and once you send them to them, people liked it, they liked it. We can't solve all those problems.

KC: Larry, your point about listening, I think, is very important. Because sometimes you can refer people to a lot of people and unless they want to solve their own problem, no one else can be a guide. And, sometimes just the listening makes someone figure out what their problem is and that they need help.

LM: Yes.

KC: You had talked about an East Side burglary where you had to trick a guy.

LM: Yeah, one day on the East Side in broad daylight there was a burglary. It happened to an older couple that had a nice home and they had left and went somewhere. In that few hours that they were gone they really cleaned out this gentleman's home. They took his TV and jewelry and they really raided the place. They must have had a truck to load that much stuff up. So, of course, the squad who got the call went up there and this guy was furious. This is the guy that was somebody in his life and he had never been abused like this, violated. The squad came back to the team office and said, "This guy is red hot." He said, "He's coming into see you, be ready because he's going to give you hell."

KC: What was your position at that time?

LM: I was in charge of the A-3 Team, the Team Leader. I said, "Just bring him in," I said, "did you process the scene real well and did you do all of it?" He said, "Yep, because he's hot, we did everything." I said, "Okay, don't worry about it." Pretty soon, who comes in but this elderly gentleman, and he was fuming. What I did is, I welcomed him in, sat down and I knew we were in for a long lecture. So, I got the lecture. After he calmed down –

KC: You listened?

LM: Oh, yes. He got it out of his system. Now, sometimes in the old days we would have thrown him out or said, "Get the hell out of here, if it happened, it happened" So, I listened to him and I could see that he was terribly frustrated and a guy his age shouldn't have this kind of anxiety in his life, so I said, *the only way I'm going to get this guy and bring him around is put him in action.* So, I said, "I want you to go home and every burglary we have there are always things that you think and you reported to the police as missing, but you always find things a couple days later. I want you to go home and make sure that that list is complete." I wanted to busy his mind and busy his body. So, he went home and he was back a few hours later and he added a few things to the list. I said, "Okay, now I'm going to make an investigator out of you. I'm going to have you do the same things as the officers did, just to keep you right on the track. You're one of us." I said, "I want you to go around to all the neighbors and all of the houses that view your house and talk to all the neighbors to see if you can find a witness." Now, my officers had already done that.

KC: But a neighbor might talk to the victim.

LM: That's right. So, he went around and he spent a day or two. He talked to the mail person that carried the mail that day, he talked to some grocery people that went by. He came back to me and he said, "I've done that." I said, "What did you find out?" He said, "It's really disappointing," he said, "Nobody saw anybody or any vehicle that matched."

What I did, is when the officer that fingerprinted his house, he turned the slides in, they're little glass slides, we had looked at those and what they were, was a glove prints, not fingerprints. I sent them down to the lab anyway. So, I called the lab and they sent them up and I said, "I said we processed your home, now, one of the bits or piece of evidence would be a fingerprint. I have the slides here, I want you to look at them and I'll put your finger or my finger on a slide and I'll show you what the difference is in a fingerprint and what is a that." I showed him the print and he said, "That looks like a cloth print." Which it was, I said, "Well, that leaves us nowhere doesn't it?" I said, "You can take this around to the different hardware stores and see if you can find a glove print that fits this thread pattern." He didn't think that was too good, so I said, "Okay, we'll have to set that aside, won't we?"

Then I said, "I'll tell you what, you've got a list of all your property, right?" I said, "I went through the phone book and I've got here about five or six pawn shops where this burglar would probably pawn it." So, I sent him on his way to the pawn shops. He came back two or three days later and I could see him wearing down. He came back and he said, "I

didn't have any luck." I said, "You didn't?" I said, "Did you make all these?" He said, "Yep, I went to every one, we went by the list, nothing happened."

KC: An officer had previously been to the pawn shops?

LM: Sure. We had it in the computer. So, I said, "Okay, there's about four or five bars that we know that some burglars are going to peddle [stolen property] at a bar." I said, "I want you to go down to the bar, just wear some old clothes, go in and have a beer and while you're standing there at the bar, kind of look and admire the television and say, 'Geez, you know, not a bad picture' whatever you want to use, but just happen to mention to the bartender that your television went out or it's not working too good. That you're in need of a television set and you're going to have to go looking for one." I said, "Somebody's going to approach you with a television, it's probably going to be stolen." He said, "Geez, can I do that?" I said, "Yeah, go in like a regular citizen." I said, "You might have to make a couple trips back to the bar and have a beer or two and spend a little time so they get to know you." So, by god, if he didn't do that. Pretty soon he came back and I said, "Well, what do you think? How did you do on that? He said, "I'm not getting any where on that."

I says, "What more would you like to do?" He says, "Is there anything else to do?" I said, "That's what we've done and we didn't come up with anything either, and now you've done it and what did you come up with?" And, you know, the poor old guy, I wound him down, and it's a shame to say this, I wound him down to nothing, but I kept him busy and

his mind busy and he did things that he never thought he would have done. But he didn't get anymore out of the investigation than we did. We never solved his burglary, [Chuckling] but he used to come back to see me occasionally.

KC: What I also hear, Larry, is that you respected his pain and you helped him heal. Because often in taking action and gathering education is how human beings heal and you gave him both of those.

LM: The other guys said, "*You're brutal to this guy.*" I said, "No, he came here and he's frustrated and he has to go through the same pain that we did, and end up with nothing." It was a great experience for him. I think he probably still talks about it, if he's still alive.

KC: And, it moved him out of his anger.

LM: Yes, it did.

KC: Anger will kill people.

LM: He was able to vent it and he felt like he had joined our team. And, see, that's why he came back a few times, because he felt comfortable coming and talking to the guys and now he had something in common. He said, "You know, that bar down there. I don't know who the hell hangs out. . ." but, he now had the pulse rate where stolen property was being exchanged. He went in to have a beer, his wife was worried about him going to the bar too often, I guess. Maybe it was a dirty trick to do, but it took care of the anger and the frustration and he met the same frustration that we met with.

KC: My training as a counselor hears that he was a victim. He was angry about being a victim, but you gave him actions to work through that anger. If he

had only internalized the angry, he could have become depressed and had other mental health issues. You allowed him to move beyond the anger and take power, instead of staying stuck as a victim.

Thanks, Larry.

Star Tribune

Thursday
March 3/1994
Please read and recycle

1B

Police official hailed for protest strategy

By Neal Gendler
Staff Writer

A St. Paul police official was honored Wednesday for developing plans to avoid arrests and huge bills for police overtime during last summer's abortion protests at the local Planned Parenthood clinic.

Cmdr. Larry McDonald, leader of the Southwest Team area, was given the Medal of Valor, the department's second-highest award, by Chief Bill Finney in appreciation for a strategy the chief said allowed protests but didn't disrupt business in the area around the clinic. Mayor Norm Coleman declared yesterday Larry McDonald Day in St. Paul.

In anticipation of demonstrations by Operation Rescue's Cities of Refuge campaign, McDonald, 62, traveled largely on his own time last spring and summer to Baton Rouge, La.; Wichita, Kan.; Fargo, N.D., and Milwaukee, where protests over abortion had caused major problems in 1990 and 1991.

A key element in his plan was a fence built around the clinic office at 1965 Ford Pkwy., a tactic that officials in Wichita had used successfully in 1991, after 1990 Operation Rescue protests had resulted in more than 2,000 arrests and cost the city more than \$1 million.

In St. Paul last summer, no one was arrested, and the city spent just \$20,000 for overtime police work at the protests. The city paid about \$1,500 toward the fence, McDonald said yesterday, sharing the cost with Planned Parenthood.

The fence also brought a lawsuit. In an action filed earlier this year in U.S. District Court in Minneapolis, Mark Fischer of St. Paul claimed that McDonald, another police officer, the city and the Police Department denied him his constitutional right to free speech by building a fence that kept demonstrators away from the focus of their protest.

"It seems a little unusual that someone would get an award for denying someone their free speech," said

Fischer's attorney, Vincent Fahnlander. He said Fischer was not part of Operation Rescue.

McDonald acknowledged that the fence brought complaints, but he called it "a tremendous deterrent."

He also noted that Operation Rescue divided its actions last summer

among seven metropolitan areas, diluting its strength.

But the key to avoiding trouble and expense, McDonald said, was planning and coordination. "We had everybody from the judges down to the street copper who knew how the program was going to run," he said.



Staff Photo by Joey McLeister

Police official lauded

St. Paul police Cmdr. Larry McDonald, right, was congratulated by officer Gerald Bahrke Wednesday after receiving the Medal of Merit. Story on Page 2B.

April 9, 1958

William F. Proetz
Chief of Police

Dear Chief:

On March 15, 1958, in the evening officers Laurence McDonald and Edward J. Buehlman stopped a car at Dale and Thomas which was in possession of Phillip Kelly, age 17, William Patterson, age 17, and Arle Rawlings, age 16. The officers observed a leather holster on the floor of the car. They searched the car and found a .32 cal. automatic hid under the arm rest.

The subsequent investigation established the gun was the one used in the armed robbery of the Kissinger Grocery, 1339 Hewitt where two shots were fired at the proprietor. Arle Rawlings admitted that he did the shooting, but refused to name his accomplice, and was later certified to District Court. William Patterson was returned to Red Wing after it was established he shot the gun in Rawling's basement the day before the robbery. Phillip Kelly was apparently not involved and was released to Military Police.

It was the determined effort to do good police work, keen observation, and intelligent handling of the evidence by Officers McDonald and Buehlman that led to the subsequent solution of this armed robbery.

I want to bring these facts to your attention so they may be commended and given merit for this excellent police work performed.

Respectfully submitted,

St. John H. Roberts

Juvenile Division

*honors
McDonald*

Capitol Area Association of Neighbors
Mt. Airy Resident Council
120 East Arch Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

120 East Arch Street

January 15, 1973

Richard Rowan, Chief of Police
St. Paul Police Department
101 East 10th Street
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Rowan:

On behalf of the residents of Mt. Airy we are requesting that Lt. L. McDonald be allowed to continue on as Coordinator for the HELP-P program. With his qualifications and expertise, he has been very effective in the implementation and continuation of the program.

We as residents feel that the success of the program has resulted from his excellent coordination, and can attest to the improved lines of communication with this division (H.E.L.P.) of the St. Paul Police Department.

We are confident that this request will be given your full consideration before any decision is made.

Sincerely,

Edna Williams

Edna Williams
President

EW:es

CC: Mayor Cohen
William McKutchen ✓

Petition signed by 200 residents in 1973

It states:

We the undersigned are requesting the reassignment of Lieutenant Larry McDonald as coordinator of the H.E.L.P Program.

WE THE UNDERSIGNED ARE REQUESTING THE REASSIGNMENT OF LIEUTENANT
LARRY McDONALD AS COORDINATOR OF THE H.E.L.P.-P. PROGRAM.

<u>SIGNATURE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. Helen Johnson	645 Linden St.
2. Gal Lopez	647 Linden
3. Carmen Lopez	1111
4. ^{Mrs} Patricia Grant	136 Mt Airy
5. Mrs N Keller	156 Mt Airy
6. Royal Roberts	188 Mt. Airy
7. John Johnson	190 Mt Airy
8. John Johnson	190 Mt Airy
9. Patricia Barber	200 Mt Airy
10. Joan Comas	202 Mt. Airy St.
11. Mrs. Bergeron	206 Mt Airy St
12. Joseph Jannette	217 East arch St.
13. Christine Jannette	217 East arch St
14. Raymond Thomas	217 East arch St
15. Charles Magee	208 Mt Airy
16. Russell J. Fraber	212 Mt Airy
17. Sylvia Fraber	212 Mt Airy
18. Jeanette Robinette	216 Mt Airy
19. Harold Robinette	216 Mt Airy
20. Floyd Travers	218 Mt Airy
21. Jerome Travers	218 Mt. Airy
22. Jo Anne Stout	148 B. Biglow Lane
23. Arlene Jaeger	146 E Arch
24. Helen Hunter	160 E Arch

LAURENCE F. MCDONALD

Office
1820 Edgcumbe Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55116
(612) 291-1111 ext. 549

Home
4125 James Circle
Arden Hills, MN 55112
(612) 633-4417

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

**United States Marshals Service - District of Minnesota
Intermittent Deputy United States Marshal, 1982 - present**

This appointment focuses on apprehending federal fugitives via criminal investigation.

**United and Children's Hospital - St. Paul, MN
Director of Security, 1968 - present**

This position requires management of and planning for security personnel and resources as well as directing criminal investigations and implementing crime prevention programs.

**City of St. Paul Police Department - St. Paul, MN
Captain Rank, 1989 - Jan. 1991, Aug. 1991 - present**

1991 - present Commander of the Southwest Team
1989 - 1991 Aide to Deputy Chief of Patrol and Support Services

**City of St. Paul Police Department - St. Paul, MN
Lieutenant Rank, 1970 - 1989, Jan. 1991 - Aug. 1991**

1991 - 1991 Commander of Volunteer Services
1985 - 1989 Commander of the Community Relations Unit
1977 - 1991 Commander of the Critical Incident Response Team
1983 - 1985 Commander of the K-9 Unit
1981 - 1983 Assistant Commander of Sex/Homicide Unit
1980 - 1981 Aide to Patrol Deputy Chief supervising three Team Commanders in the South Sector
1977 - 1980 Team Commander of A-3 Team Police Unit
1977 - 1977 Sector Commander of North Sector Patrol Units
1973 - 1977 Director of Police Training
1970 - 1973 Project Commander of H.E.L.P., an experimental program policing government subsidized housing developments

Sergeant Rank, 1966 - 1970

1966 - 1970 Dual assignment as Sex/Homicide Investigator and Director of Police Training

Officer Rank, 1955 - 1966

1965 - 1966 Patrol Officer assigned to emergency car duties

1962 - 1965 Instructor in the Police Academy teaching patrol procedures and investigation techniques

1959 - 1962 K-9 Handler assigned to the Tactical Unit

1956 - 1959 Tactical Officer assigned to special assignments

1955 - 1956 Squad Officer

**U.S. Army Armor Unit, 1952 - 1954
Communication Center Clerk**

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

College Coursework

University of Minnesota and Augsburg College, 1968 - 1972
Coursework in the Social Sciences

Certificate Training

National Conference on Special Events Security, 1988
Wilson Learning (Managing Change), 1988
St. Paul Police Department (Firearm Transitional Training), 1987
Federal Bureau of Investigation (Hostage Negotiation), 1986
Valencia Community College (Police Tactical Response/Terrorists, Snipers and Hostages), 1985
Nutshell Law Enforcement Training (Employee Motivation and Work Behavior), 1985
U.S. Department of Transportation (Crisis Hijack Management), 1984
Anacapa Sciences, Inc. (Analytical Investigation Methods), 1981
Minneapolis A.V.T.I. (Advanced Driver Training), 1980
Los Angeles Police Department (S.W.A.T. Training), 1978
Illinois State Police (Anti-Terrorism), 1977
St. Paul Public Schools (Instructor Training), 1976
Southern Association of Forensic Scientists (Questioned Documents), 1975
John E. Reid and Associates (Criminal Interrogation), 1975
Department of Treasury (Investigator School), 1974
St. Paul Public Schools (Security Guard), 1974
Minnesota Peace Officers Training School (Instructor Training), 1974
Minnesota Peace Officers Training School (Instructor Training), 1973
Advanced Emergency Aid Seminar (Trauma School), 1972
U.S. Civil Service Commission (Supervision and Management Training), 1971
College of St. Thomas (Advanced Supervisory Practices), 1970
Minnesota Peace Officers Training Board (Instructor Training), 1970
College of St. Thomas (Advanced Practices Training), 1969

Chicago Police Department (Homicide Investigation), 1969
Chicago Police Department (Interviews and Interrogations), 1969
Minnesota Peace Officers Training Board (Instructor Training), 1969
College of St. Thomas (Community Relations), 1968
St. Paul Police Department (Civil Disturbance), 1967
Northwestern Institute (Instructor Training), 1967
St. Paul Police Department (Emergency Car Training), 1965
Federal Laboratory (Tear Gas), 1964
St. Paul Schools (Supervisory Training), 1963
St. Paul Schools (Management Skills), 1962
Delehanty Correspondence School, 1961
Al Johnson (Canine Training), 1958
St. Paul Police Academy, 1955

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Member and Past Committee Chairman, St. Paul Police Explorer Post
Past Vice President, Law Enforcement Resource Center
Member, American Society for Industrial Security
Member, Minnesota Peace and Police Officers Association
Member, St. Paul Police Ranking Officers Association
Member, National Association of Police Officers
Member, International Association for Identification
Member, Institute for Community Leadership
Campaign Manager, State Senate campaign of William McCutcheon
Campaign Manager, State Legislature campaign of Robert Pavlak
Minnesota Certified Police Instructor
Instructor, Minneapolis Community College
Advisor, 916 Vocational Technical Institute

HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

U.S. Department of Justice Special Achievement Award, 1985
Spurgeon Award for Career Excellence and Community Service, 1985
Federal Law Enforcement Agencies Letters of Recognition (6)
Mayoral Letters of Recognition (2)
Departmental Letters of Recognition (17)
Departmental Commendations (10)
Civilian Letters of Recognition (38)
Professional Organization and Community Letters of Recognition (23)
Professional Organization and Community Awards (8)
Master Gardener

HOBBIES

Gardening, dog training, graphology, camping, hiking and pistol shooting