



# Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

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## News Release

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### **Sheriff's Mounted Enforcement Unit to Appear in Rose Parade**

**Santa Barbara** — The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Mounted Enforcement Unit is preparing to saddle up and ride in the 128th annual Rose Parade on January 2, 2017 in Pasadena. The unit is made up of a team of horses and 13 deputy riders, including Sheriff Bill Brown. The team was one of only three law enforcement equestrian groups chosen to be in the historic parade after a competitive selection process. "Echoes of Success" is the theme for this year's Rose Parade.

Lt. Erik Raney who oversees the unit and submitted the Rose Parade application says the team is counting down the days to the big day. He said, "We are very excited to be riding in the 2017 Rose Parade. It is an honor to be able to represent the men and women of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office. Our unit enjoys great support from the community and from within, and sharing those stories of success is what this year's parade theme is all about."

The Sheriff's Mounted Enforcement Unit is holding routine endurance training at its new home, the Hilf-Douglas Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Mounted Unit Stable, located at the Santa Ynez Valley Equestrian Center. The group is working to condition the horses for the 5 ½ mile parade route down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena. The group will also participate and show off some of its training at Equestfest on December 30, 2016 at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center.

The Sheriff's Mounted Enforcement Unit has been in existence for the past 27 years and has been an integral part of the Sheriff's Office. The unit specializes in crowd control, search and rescue and rural law enforcement. The Sheriff's Mounted Enforcement Unit also represents the Sheriff's Office at special events including the El Desfile Historico Parade for Old Spanish Days which is one of the largest equestrian parades in the nation.

The Rose Parade begins at 8:00 a.m. on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be televised nationally.

