

Pomona Police Department

H.E.A.R.T.



Homeless Encampment Action Response Team (HEART)

- ◆ The HEART program was developed in 2016 to guide City staff and resources in addressing the unhoused and encampments.
- ◆ Prior to 2016, encampments were handled exclusively by Pomona Code Enforcement and Public Works. The overall objective was simply to clear the encampments and dispose of items that made up these encampments. This is no longer the practice.

- ◆ Initially, the HEART team consisted of (1) one Pomona Police Officer and (2) two Public Works staff.
- ◆ The responsibility of storing personal property was left to Public Works, with Pomona PD assisting with resources.
- ◆ Written guidelines were established outlining the process for the inventory and storage of property. (5) Five storage containers were purchased and outfitted with shelving.



O.A.T.H. Initiative

- ◆ The Officers Assisting The Homeless Initiative was established in July 2018. The OATH grant provided \$4 million to the City and Pomona Police Department to develop programs aimed at dealing with issues related to the unhoused with an emphasis on mental health services. The initial funding ended on June 30, 2021.
- ◆ In October 2021, an additional \$4 million was awarded to the City to continue the program. Funding concluded in June 2024.

The Quality of Life Unit was formed in July 2018 as
a result of the OATH Initiative

H.E.A.R.T.

- ❖ Addition of personnel to expand the HEART program to 7 days per week
- ❖ Purchase of needed equipment and safety gear
- ❖ Funding of disposal fees
- ❖ Dedicated supervisor for the Unit

Current HEART Officers

Officer Castillo

Mon-Thu



Officer Mendoza

Fri-Mon



Property

- ◆ The HEART Team does not seize and dispose of property unless it is perishable, soiled, broken or obvious trash and unwanted.
- ◆ Property is inventoried and stored for a minimum of 90 days.
- ◆ We make every effort to keep personal items such as paperwork, medications, valuables with the person if possible.

Property

- ◆ Generally, a 72 hour notice is placed before property is stored. The exceptions include high fire areas or when the property is blocking public right of way or subject to theft in the event the owner is not available.
- ◆ Lockers are available to the unhoused free of charge at the Hope 4 Home campus, for storage of personal property.
- ◆ A receipt is either provided to the owner at time of storage, or posted at the location of removal.
- ◆ Public Works maintains all storage records related to stored property.



Storage Lockers are located in the
City lot at Seventh St & Thomas St
just south of City Hall



Property Release

- ◆ Property releases are handled by Pomona Code Enforcement during City Hall business hours. Special exceptions are made when appropriate (retrieval of stored medication, documents etc.)
- ◆ Photo ID is not required for release of property. A receipt or location of removal and detailed description of the property will suffice.

HEART Contact Info

The best way to contact the HEART Team is via email at:

QualityLife@pomonaca.gov

We can also be reached by phone at:

909-620-2328