**Walking Beat on 2nd Street (cont’d)**: This allows them more time to address some of the pedestrian concerns like bicycles and skateboards on the sidewalks, jaywalking, the homeless/panhandler issues (getting them into shelters and/or out of the neighborhoods via arrests when appropriate). They also make it a point to meet with the businesses that generally close earlier in the day in order to hear concerns first hand, provide safety tips and conduct investigations in the area. The Officers work at the discretion of the East Division Commander Elizabeth Griffin.

Officer Kent and Officer Garry are special detailed from regular patrol to this assignment with the understanding that their shifts will vary to cover events on 2nd Street. They currently flex their shifts to work on all major holidays such as St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo and Fourth of July. During the summer months, they are on duty during Stroll & Savor. The Officers always try to attend the BSBA, Bar Owner's meetings and any other event where they may have a professional insight, such as community watch meetings or presentations.

Officers Kent and Garry are both trained Drug Recognition Experts and have extensive DUI training. Their enforcement and investigations lead well-beyond stopping fights on 2nd Street at bar closing time. Their presence makes a difference to our Community so if you see them on the street, be sure to say hello.

-Shaleana Benson, Sergeant

Long Beach Police Department

East Division Watch I