

## CHIEF SHELLY VANDER VEEN



**Chief Shelly Vander Veen** is a 25-year veteran of the Claremont Police Department, having started her career as a Reserve Officer in 1993. In her many years with the Department, she has proven a dedication to the Claremont community and a commitment to ensuring the safety of all Claremont residents, students, businesses, and visitors. She embodies the spirit of community-based policing and promotes a culture of inclusion and respect.

Shelly Vander Veen grew up locally in Chino, where her family was active in the dairy industry. Following high school, Shelly received her Associate's Degree in Psychology and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Sienna Heights University in Michigan.

While attending Sienna Heights University, Shelly Vander Veen was honored as an All-American Soccer Player and an Academic All-American in both soccer and softball. For her athletic achievements, she was inducted into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Her natural athleticism and desire to make a difference in her community made law enforcement a perfect fit for Shelly. In 1993, she began her career with the Claremont Police Department as a Reserve Police Officer. Her hard work and potential was quickly recognized, and she was hired as a full-time Officer shortly after.

Shelly Vander Veen was an Officer for seven years and assigned to Patrol where she got to know the community and became an integral part of the Department. She was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the Detective Bureau for three years. She was promoted to Sergeant and assigned for three years as a Field Supervisor and one year in the Administrative Services Bureau.

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She served as Lieutenant for seven years with five years supervising the Detective Bureau and two years as a Watch Commander in Patrol. She was promoted to Captain in 2014 where she managed and lead the Operations Division along with holding the responsibilities of budget, program, and policy management. She was then promoted to Chief of Police in 2016.

Throughout her career in law enforcement, Chief Vander Veen has continued to pursue higher education and law enforcement certifications. She completed the eight-month POST Supervisory Leadership Institute, the 18 month-long POST Command College, and the POST Executive Development programs.

Chief Vander Veen is a well-respected leader and brings a quiet confidence to her role as Chief. During her career at Claremont Police Department, she was selected by her peers as the Officer of the Year two times, was selected four times as the Police Department's Supervisor of the Year and received the City Employee of the Year award for 2013.

Chief Vander Veen was the first female Police Officer to be promoted past the rank of Corporal within the Claremont Police Department.

In 2017, Chief Vander Veen took a lead role in bringing the Women Leaders in Law Enforcement (WLLE) group to the San Gabriel Valley and it quickly expanded to include Los Angeles County.

Away from work, Shelly is an advocate in physical fitness and has received gold medals in soccer, softball, and boxing at the Western Police and Fire Games and International Police and Fire Games.