9 fired after sheriff's review
Panel reports discipline of 221 other employees.
By Troy Anderson

Monday, January 31, 2005 - Nine Sheriff's Department employees were fired in the third quarter of 2004, including a deputy who mishandled a domestic violence call by a woman who later died of stab wounds, a report released Monday says.

The Los Angeles County Office of Independent Review also reported that 221 other employees were disciplined from July through September, including a deputy who resigned for having sex with an exotic dancer and for facilitating a sex act between the dancer and a "ride-along" guest of the Sheriff's Department.

County sheriff's deputies patrol Artesia, Bellflower, Carson, Compton, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, Norwalk and other area cities. Long Beach is served by its own police force.

Officials from the 7,000-member Association of Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs could not be reached for comment.

Among cases in the report:

*A deputy was fired for "careless mishandling" of a domestic violence call from a woman who was fatally stabbed during the 911 call. The deputy has appealed his dismissal to the Civil Service Commission.

*Two deputies were fired and a third suspended after two young intoxicated men the deputies contacted were fatally struck by a vehicle.

*A deputy was fired for threatening a stripper and her boyfriend when she tried to break off a relationship with the deputy.

*A sheriff's employee was fired after allegedly filing a fraudulent workers' compensation claim.

*Three deputies were fired because of an off-duty incident at a restaurant in which they beat a customer who had picked a fight with one of the officers.

*A sergeant resigned and two deputies were suspended after the sergeant joined a pursuit by another police agency although they had been ordered to stay out.

*Two deputies were suspended after illegally entering a residence. One deputy located narcotics and then allegedly coerced the suspect into signing a consent to search form by choking him with his baton.
The OIR is continuing to investigate three jail doctors who allegedly ignored an inmate's complaints of head discomfort and breathing problems. The inmate died in 2004.

In another 2004 case, a county doctor was suspended for seven days for failing to provide adequate medical attention to an inmate with extremely elevated blood pressure who later died.

In another jail death last year under investigation, a doctor allegedly failed to provide timely medical treatment to an inmate who died of a heart attack.