

## Swapping Badge for Bible, Roger Hosier Will Volunteer as Security Force Chaplain

By BILL HEARD, Editor  
(Oct. 17, 2001) He's giving up the badge for the Bible, but Sgt. Roger Hosier – who's leaving the MTA Security Department at the end of October – will continue to bring spiritual comfort to his former colleagues as the department's volunteer chaplain.



MTA Security Sgt. Roger Hosier, left, talks with Lt. Jim Cook and Officer Salvador Cortez. He'll soon take up his new role as Security Department chaplain.

Hosier, who joined the Security Department in 1997 and has been serving as acting lieutenant, has been involved with the ministry for almost 30 years. He will take up his new duties, Nov. 1, as assistant pastor of the First Baptist Church of Torrance.

As Security Department chaplain, Hosier expects to volunteer at the MTA at least one day a week, visiting officers assigned to different shifts. "My responsibility will be to bring encouragement to the officers and to be available for counseling if any should require that."

A 1969 graduate of Azusa Pacific University with a degree in psychology and a minor in Bible studies, Hosier has had a varied and interesting career that has taken him from seminary to radio evangelist to pastorates at two local churches to missionary work in India and Africa.

Beginning in the early 1970s, he directed an organization whose religious radio programming reached listeners in 26 countries. Later, he began a program that brought the ministry to people in rural areas of the American West.

In the early 1980s, Hosier's radio ministry led to missionary trips to India, where he visited rural villages and tribal lands. He also helped start an orphanage and provide medical and financial assistance. His first trip to Kenya, in East Africa, came in the summer of 1984. As in India, he worked among people in the rural areas.

### Pastor in a high-crime area

While pastor of the First Baptist Church in a high-crime area of Hawthorne in the early 1990s, Hosier thought he had something to offer teenagers who attended nearby Leuzinger High School. After a shooting on campus, he volunteered counseling assistance to students and their families.

Eventually, he was hired as a member of the school's security detail and was on the staff during three dangerous gang riots. The kids, however, gave him the nickname "Superman" and respected his presence at the school.

In January 1997, Hosier was hired by the MTA's Security Department and rose rapidly through the ranks. A popular member of the security force, he now hopes to offer guidance to fellow officers.

Hosier was asked how a chaplain of one faith can counsel a group of officers who may be members of many faiths – or none at all?

“There are common truths you can build on, no matter what the faith,” he says. “You try to counsel in a way that you don’t influence someone with your personal views. You want to lift people’s spirits beyond whatever may be troubling them.”

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**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Roger Hosier and his wife, Joyce, a collections manager for an ambulance company, live in Torrance. They have three adult children, a 17-year-old son and two grandchildren.

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