

*In Memoriam*

POLICE OFFICER III+I  
ROBERT J. COTTLE



*February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1965 to March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010*

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

*"We will never forget..."*



**Sgt. K.D. Smith**

**From:** "Los Angeles Police Protective League" <pressrelease@lappl.org>  
**To:** <114@sprintmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2010 4:55 PM  
**Subject:** LAPPL responds to death of LAPD SWAT officer in Afghanistan



For Immediate Release

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### **LAPPL responds to death of LAPD SWAT officer in Afghanistan**

**LOS ANGELES - March 26, 2010** -- On behalf of all of the members of the Los Angeles Police League, President Paul M. Weber responded to the tragic news that Robert J. Cottle, an LAPD officer and Sergeant Major with United States Marine Corps Reserve battalion, was killed in the line of duty while serving in Afghanistan. Officer Cottle is the first Los Angeles police officer to be killed in Iraq/Afghanistan wars.

"All of law enforcement grieves today over the heartbreaking news that we have lost a member of our family, Robert J. Cottle, as he served our country overseas. We offer our deepest sympathies to Officer Cottle's wife, who is serving in the Navy, his family and friends.



"R.J., as he was known to his friends, was a remarkable human being who died defending the freedom that he so cherished. He was a phenomenal police officer and a loyal American who believed strongly in the cause for which he volunteered and fought valiantly. R.J. fervently believed in defending those who couldn't protect themselves and it showed in his commitment to his community and his country. He was a true patriot.

"As a SWAT officer, R.J. was a tactical genius. His military service gave him unique skills that he generously shared with fellow officers. He displayed absolute enthusiasm and focus in every task. His ultimate sacrifice is an immeasurable loss for the LAPD and his friends and family."

In addition to his parents and wife, Cottle leaves behind a young daughter.