

May 9-15 is National Police Week



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Focus On Vision Correction

Be On The Lookout

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Submitted to the Notebook by Steve Johnson

POA Secretary

The last thing you should have to think about when you and your partner are called in to investigate a domestic dispute — or when you are pursuing a DUI suspect at top speed — are your glasses or contact lenses. With public safety in your hands, you simply cannot afford to have your glasses bumped or your contact lenses slip out of place. Blurred vision is just not an option.

Imagine, instead, taking off your glasses or removing your contacts for the last time. And seeing clearly.

Clear, natural vision is not a dream. It's a choice that's growing in popularity among police officers, sheriffs, firefighters, and the military — active duty personnel nationwide who rely on their vision to perform their duties safely and effectively.

Among those on active duty who are already benefiting from vision correction procedures are the U.S. Navy Seals. In a study reported in *Ophthalmology*, 100% of the Navy Seals saw with 20/20 vision or better without glasses or contact lenses after undergoing the vision correction procedure. At the Naval Medical Center in San Diego alone, more than 1200 laser vision correction procedures have been performed to date.

THE FACTS

Today's vision correction procedures use advanced technolo-

gies such as excimer lasers to correct nearsightedness, farsightedness, or astigmatism. With LASIK, for example, the FDA-approved, cool-temperature laser reshapes the cornea with precision accuracy, allowing light rays to focus precisely on the retina and giving people clear vision without the aid of glasses or contact lenses. The procedure can be done within minutes, and the healing process is usually complete within hours.

ATTENTION ALL UNITS

Vision correction surgery is a medical procedure and should be taken seriously. Because not all surgeons have had the same amount of training, and because numerous procedures exist, you need to make sure the surgeon to whom you are entrusting your eyesight has the experience and expertise to ensure a successful outcome.

For the best results, look for a surgeon who can perform a variety of vision correction procedures. With at least one year of subspecialized training in refractive and corneal surgery, he or she can offer the procedure that suits you best, rather than try to fit you with the only procedure he or she knows how to do. This surgeon should provide an immaculate facility, with sterile operating suites, modern technology and a knowledgeable staff who can answer all of your questions.

Demand the best. Your vision is worth it.

Ella G. Faktorovich, M.D. is the Director of the Pacific Vision Institute and is one of only a few surgeons in the U.S. to specialize exclusively in laser and surgical vision correction.