



Sergeant (retired) Lisa Banayat / Associate Board Member

Lisa was born in San Francisco and raised in Daly City and the peninsula. School was a long road for her, but she finally graduated from USF with a degree in Public Administration/Law Enforcement Leadership in 2009. Lisa started as a volunteer cadet for the San Mateo Police Department and did stints as a records clerk and a dispatcher before becoming an officer with the Burlingame Police Department in 1988.

In 1990, Lisa did a lateral transfer to the Santa Rosa Police Department where she worked for 25 years. She became Santa Rosa's first female Sergeant in 2002, and worked a variety of assignments, including as a Homicide and Robbery Detective, as a Press Information Officer, and as a School Resource Sergeant, although she says that her favorite assignment was always patrol. She also spent 22 years working as a Hostage Negotiator.

Lisa said that she wanted to be a member of the BALEAF Board because one of her officers had been critically injured after being hit by a car during a foot pursuit a few years ago, and she had reached out to BALEAF for help. BALEAF responded and was absolutely awesome! That same officer lost her home in the recent Santa Rosa fires, and once again, BALEAF helped her, and a number of other law enforcement officers from the Department, who had lost their homes to the fires. Once she retired, Lisa wanted to help keep that spirit going for others who need it.

Lisa stays busy working part-time doing private investigator work, raising her twin teenage boys and taking care of her pets. She enjoys cooking, taking cooking classes, hiking, and traveling.