



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

## 2013

### A Loving Feeling: Valentine's Day Weddings at L.A. County



Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Chacon made their partnership official this Valentine's Day.

"After 15 years..." Mrs. Chacon said.

"15 years..." Mr. Chacon confirmed.

The Chacones were one of the more than 200 couples who tied the knot at the L.A. County Registrar Recorder County Clerk building in Norwalk.

"It means everything—I've been waiting for 15 years to get married and it's just the best Valentine's Day ever," Mrs. Chacon said.

Mr. Chacon was equally effusive. "I found her 15 years ago--I'll love her forever and her family."

The County built this 5th floor expanded chapel to account for all the Valentine's Day ceremonies. On a typical day, only 35 civil ceremonies are performed.

Public Information Officer Elizabeth Knox said of the ceremonies, "I think that there's a novelty about it, and I think that people really identify with love and they get excited about Valentine's Day."

Six county deputy commissioners are brought in on Valentine's Day to conduct the civil services. Deputy Commissioner John Pulice says there is no better day than Valentine's Day.

"I've been married 62 years, but when I go home my wife says okay, tell me about the weddings today. So we talk about what the ladies wore, and what they said, the funny ones, the sad ones."

And love was certainly in the air for Raymond and Angela Fernandez, who brought their little girl Savannah to see her Mommy and Daddy finally tie the knot.

"Today is love day, you know? It's like, it's all about love today," Angela Fernandez gleefully said.