

Book Recommendation by Lana Reichick: COMING OUT FROM BEHIND THE BADGE, SECOND EDITION

When I arrived at work after the Christmas holiday in 2015, I saw this book on the work table at King Florist, with Greg Miraglia's name on the cover. I asked owner Arlene Kohn, longtime OML advertiser, "Is that your son's book?" Affirmative. His third book.

It is a personal, local story, and a big-picture historical account of the life and rights of the LGBT community.

As a Moraga youth, author Greg Miraglia attended Joaquin Moraga School; that is important in his story. From a very young age, Greg was driven in his pursuit of a career in law enforcement, beginning as a 15-year-old explorer scout with a local agency. He served in several East Bay law enforcement units, his responsibilities steadily progressing. He always knew his career was at risk if his secret, closeted, true self were discovered.

It was the hate-crime murder of Wyoming college student Matthew Shepherd that led Greg to find the courage to "come out" from behind his own badge in 2004. At that time, he had a 25-year career in law enforcement and was Dean of the Criminal Justice Training Center and Police Academy at Napa Valley College.

This book includes valuable documentation of the key events and evolution of the gay rights movement and courageous personal stories. I was very moved by Greg's journey and the anecdotal ac-

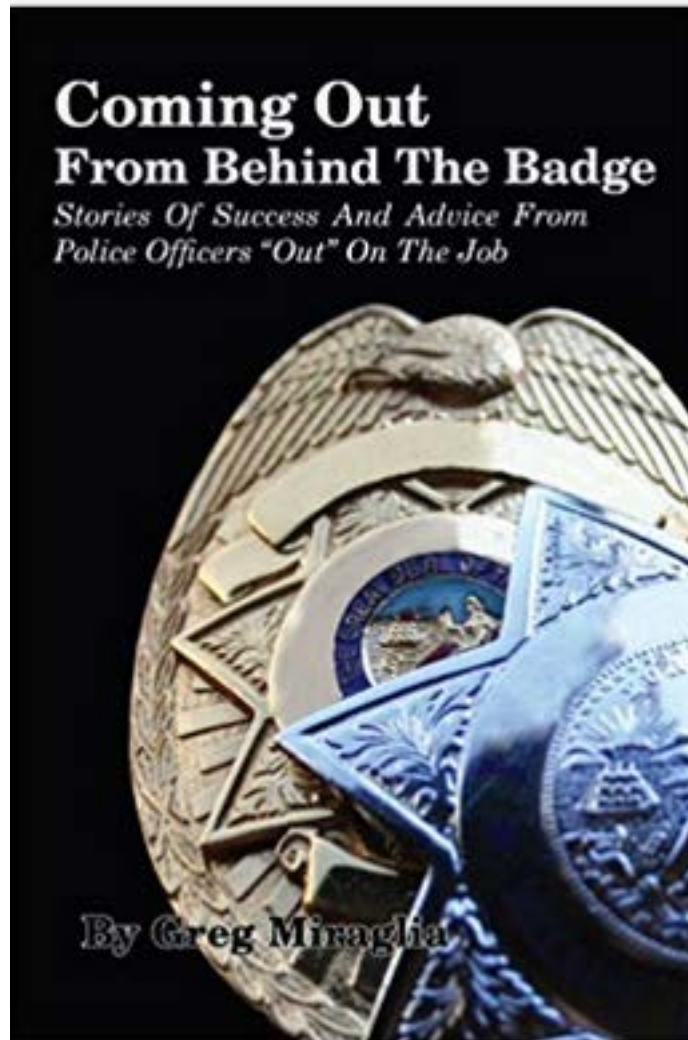
counts of other officers—male and female—who risked their lives and their careers every day, who found their way to come out.

Both the original publication, written a decade ago, and the updated 2nd edition reflecting the dramatic changes in gay rights, support a charitable foundation that helps LGBT law enforcement professionals in their career struggles.

book was an education. I encourage everyone to read it.

Notes From AMAZON, About the Author:

Greg Miraglia is the dean of criminal justice training at Napa Valley College. Since 1986, he has been teaching a variety of law enforcement courses including cultural diversity, human relations, work place harassment and discrimination prevention, community policing, and one of the only state certified hate crimes investigations courses in the State of California. In 2011, he authored curriculum for an accredited LGBT Studies Program now offered by Napa Valley College. This was the second program of its type in the State of California. He is active as a member of the Matthew Shepard Foundation Advisory Board, a faculty member of the "Stop The Hate" program, and as a mentor for Positive Images of Santa Rosa, California. Mr. Miraglia has a Masters Degree in Education Administration, a Bachelor's Degree in Business, and is a graduate of the California P. O. S. T. Master Instructor Development Program.



Having worked much of my career in the fashion industry, I thought I knew a lot about the gay community. I just didn't know what I didn't know. This

COMING OUT FROM BEHIND THE BADGE,
2nd Edition: Available on Amazon.com in hard cover, paperback, and Kindle editions. (Paperback, \$19.05; Kindle, \$9.99)