Background:
Throughout the year San Diego has a large number of special events at which the San Diego Police Department is asked to maintain law and order. Many of these events are large outside events including San Diego Chargers games where there can be 50,000 attendees at the game. Other events include outside concerts, special celebrations and street parades.

Problem:
Due to the larger number of attendees and the nature of the events i.e. concerts, functioning in high noise is a major factor for the San Diego Police Department. Not only are these high noise situations dangerous from a hearing conservation perspective, they make communication very difficult.

Currently police officers are using two way radios and cell phones to communicate with their fellow officers at special events. When there is an urgent requirement to communicate and there is high noise, these devices don’t perform well. In many instances this is dangerous, particularly if they require immediate backup or must react urgently to a situation.

The SDPD were looking for a high noise communication solution with the following requirements:

1. The police officer must be able to maintain situational awareness of the immediate environment.
2. The device must be able to connect to two way radios and cell phones and still allow the police officer to hear speech around them.
3. The device must enable the police officer to toggle between these three forms of communication seamlessly
4. The device must be safe and comfortable for the police officer to wear over long periods of time (up to 10 hours)

Solution:
Sensear SM1x Ear Muff devices were used at the San Diego Chargers game to deliver a total communication solution for the senior police officers in charge. The devices were connected to their Motorola two way radios and synced to their Bluetooth cell phones and were worn throughout the game as an integral component of the police officers communication equipment.

Result:
The police officers were able to communicate face to face, via their two way radio and their bluetooth cell phones in typical situations where the noise levels reached 100dB.
The police officers considered that the Sensear device provided as close to a normal situation as one could expect in high noise situations with the added benefit of situational awareness that ensured their safety and their ability to do their job and communicate more effectively.