

VALLEY TRAFFIC DIVISION

**7870 Nollan Place
Panorama City, California 91402
(818) 644-8000**

Valley Traffic Division (VTD) is responsible for traffic enforcement and conducting collision investigations in the San Fernando Valley excluding the incorporated cities of San Fernando and Burbank. VTD's jurisdiction consists of 221.8 square miles or 2,823 street miles of the San Fernando Valley.

Traffic Enforcement

Oh c'mon Officer... Isn't there anything better you can do than run around writing tickets all day? I mean, after all, with all the guns and drugs and gangs in LA, why are you wasting your time with me?"

Traffic Enforcement officers hear this all the time. A residential street, 35-mph zone, parked cars, driveways, children playing or walking on the sidewalks, and someone drives by at 50 mph and asks why we're "wasting our time."

The fact is the average community member is more likely to die in a traffic collision than by criminal or gang activity. During 2010, 65 people were killed in 61 traffic collisions in the San Fernando Valley. This doesn't include the freeways and incorporated cities within the Valley. In an effort to reduce the number of fatalities, VTD officers average about 85,000 traffic citations issued each year.

Collision Investigation (CI)

VTD's Collision Investigation (CI) officers respond to collisions that occur throughout the San Fernando Valley. VTD does not investigate collisions where only property is damaged (PDO) unless a crime occurs, city property is involved, or there is potential city liability. There are approximately 100 police officers currently assigned as CI officers at VTD.

For information on how to obtain a copy of a traffic report, please call (213) 486-8130.

Valley Traffic Division Detectives

(818) 644-8020

Valley Traffic Detectives handle follow-up investigations involving hit and runs, fatalities, and felony Driving Under the Influence (DUI) traffic collision cases in the San Fernando Valley. The unit consists of ten officers and seven detectives who average 15 years of service.

During 2010, there were 13,902 traffic collisions reported. Of those traffic collisions, 6341 were hit and runs, 61 were fatal collisions and 919 were driving under the influence related traffic collisions.

TIPS:

If you are a witness to a hit and run or the victim of one, become a good witness and write down the license plate number of the vehicle involved. When possible write down the description of the vehicle driver.

If you are involved in a hit and run collision, the detective assigned to your case will need the following information:

1. Can you identify the driver of the hit and run vehicle from a photograph?
2. An estimate of the damage to your vehicle or property from body shop or insurance company.

Community Traffic Services Unit (CTSU)

Sergeant Arturo Gomez

Officer-In-Charge

E-Mail: 26300@lapd.lacity.org

(818) 644-8146

VTD's CTSU is a specialized unit of motor officers and traffic collision officers dedicated to addressing traffic concerns throughout the Los Angeles Police Department's Operations-Valley Bureau (Van Nuys Area, West Valley Area, North Hollywood Area, Foothill Area, Devonshire Area, Mission Area and Topanga Area).

The unit is divided into seven sections:

- Traffic Services Officer
- Traffic Safety and Education
 - Child Safety Seat Program
 - Safety Valet Program
 - Sober Graduation Program
- COMPSTAT Enforcement
- Off-Road Enforcement
- Commercial Truck Enforcement
- RADAR/LASER Coordinator
- Reserve Officer Coordinator

Traffic Services Officers

The Traffic Services Officers (TSO) section is comprised of seven motor officers who are responsible for solving traffic problems. One officer is assigned to each of the seven Valley Bureau Areas.

Their duties involve resolving traffic concerns and/or complaints utilizing the approach of education, engineering and/or enforcement. Each TSO works closely with the Community, Council District Offices, Department of Transportation, Patrol Areas, and other Southern California Law Enforcement agencies to resolve traffic concerns when possible. In addition, the officers provide specialized traffic training to the Area patrol officers and are available to speak at community meetings on traffic related matters. One will often find the TSOs providing selective enforcement at an identified traffic problem location(s).

The name and telephone number of assigned TSOs are as follows:

Van Nuys Area	Officer Terry Turner	(818) 644-8023
West Valley Area	Officer Tim Gallick	(818) 644-8145
North Hollywood Area	Officer James York	(818) 644-8147
Foothill Area	Officer Steve Carbajal	(818) 644-8142
Devonshire Area	Officer Mark Cronin	(818) 644-8141
Mission Area	Officer James Panek	(818) 644-8017
Topanga Area	Officer Brian Thompson	(818) 644-8066

Traffic Safety and Education

The Traffic Safety and Education section consists of four motor officers and one CI officer. The officers conduct traffic safety and education classes in both English and Spanish for all school grades (Pre-school to High School). The traffic safety and education classes are also available to the business community. The officers work in conjunction with representatives from the Mayor's Office, Southern California-Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Los Angeles Unified School District, Safety Belt Safe USA, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), and numerous area educators to actively maintain the highest level of service relating to traffic concerns in and around the schools during school hours. This collective group of service providers' mission is to improve traffic safety and to maintain a realistic and informative educational and traffic prevention program for students, parents and educators who are the stake holders in our communities.

Child Safety Seat Check-up/Inspection. The Traffic Safety and Education section conduct a weekly child safety seat check-up/inspection service, free of charge for community members. During the Child Safety Check-up, parents or caregivers can drive up to the check-up/inspection station with their children in the car seats. The check-up is conducted by a certified child safety seat technician for proper fit of the child in the seat, the proper installation of the seat in the vehicle, and a check of the seat for safety and recalls. VTD is a registered Child Safety Seat Check-up/Inspection Station under the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). For more

information and to make an appointment, please contact the Child Safety Seat Coordinator by calling (818) 644-8143.

Child safety seat inspections and installations are conducted on Thursday between 7:30 AM and 11:30 AM.

Buckle your child in a safety seat every trip, no matter how short the trip.

Remember: All children under the age of 16 must ride properly buckled up.

Children **MUST** be secured in an appropriate child passenger restraint (safety seat or booster seat) **IN THE BACK SEAT OF A VEHICLE** until they are at least 6 years old or weigh at least 60 pounds.

Safety Valet Program. The implementation of the Safety Valet Program at various schools at the various schools in the San Fernando Valley has transformed morning congestion and grid-lock to an orderly, traffic control system staffed by school volunteers. The program has focused on school entrance or the designated main vehicle drop off point. Safety Valet Program volunteers performing Safety Valet functions will open car doors, direct traffic and encourage the continuous flow of traffic in and around the valet area. For more information, please contact the Safety Valet Coordinator at (818) 644-8144.

Sober Graduation Program. This program was established by the CHP in 1985 as an effective anti-DUI program targeting high school seniors and raising their awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving. As spring activities and celebrations mark the end of the school year with graduation celebrations and proms, VTD officers visit more than 20 Valley high schools in an attempt to re-enforce driver and peer responsibility.

The officer's presentations are supported by numerous attention catching static displays: A demolished vehicle that has been associated in a traffic collision involving a drunk driver; an impressive static display depicting a photographic gallery that depicts the consequences and dangers as a result of drinking and driving; and, not only does the crushed car grab the student attention, but it gives them an opportunity to talk to a uniformed officer.

The officer's presentations and displays are an attempt to reduce the number of traffic collisions among young adults caused by drinking and driving and to re-enforce their responsibility to their communities and society as the potential for traffic collisions increase. For more information, please contact the Sober Graduation Coordinator at (818) 644-8144.

The name and telephone number of VTD Traffic Safety Officer(s) are:

Officer Norm Kellems	(818) 644-8143
Officer Chad Dellinger	(818) 644-8143
Officer Kevin Vanklavern	(818) 644-8143
Officer David Hovey	(818) 644-8144
Officer Arturo Ornelas	(818) 644-8144

Off-Road Enforcement

The Off-Road Enforcement section is comprised of motor officers currently assigned to the Community Traffic Services Unit (2-supervisors and 8 officers). The Off-road Enforcement detail provides directed patrol and enforcement in rural area(s) not accessible by motor vehicles and in areas where increasing complaints of illegal off-road motorcycle activity have been reported. Working in conjunction with the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) the Off-road detail deploys its resources on random basis, primarily on weekends, holidays and during the heightened fire season. During the identified fire season, the officers patrol the hillsides and trails and remind residents of their responsibility to keep roads clear for emergency vehicle access especially when a red-flag day is announced. The off-road operations are conducted throughout the 221.8 miles of the San Fernando Valley.

For additional information and to report off-road related complaints, you can contact Officer Steve Carbajal at (818) 644-8142 or via e-mail at 32928@lapd.lacity.org.

Commercial Enforcement

The Commercial Enforcement section consists of two motor officers certified to conduct traffic enforcement of commercial vehicles. The officers respond to community generated complaints regarding commercial truck traffic in the San Fernando Valley and in part to educate truck drivers of posted truck routes, ensure that all drivers are properly licensed and to ensure that all trucks are properly loaded and equipped.

RADAR/LASER Coordinator

The RADAR/LASER coordinator is a motor officer who is responsible for the RADAR and LASER devices used to measure the speed of vehicles. The coordinator works closely with the Department of Transportation and the City Attorney's Office in regards to speed limits. For additional information, please contact Officer Troy Williams at (818) 644-8016.

Additionally, requests for calibration records should be made through Risk Management Division at (213) 978-2100. Requests for speed zone survey copies should be made through the Department of Transportation - Survey Section at (213) 972-5060.

Reserve Officer Coordinator

The reserve officer coordinator consists of one motor officer whose duty is to coordinate VTD's reserve officer cadre. Reserve officers assigned to VTD assist and supplement sworn personnel in a variety of assignments that range from administrative to enforcement.

The Department has modified the Reserve Corps to comply with the California Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) guidelines and has classified all Sworn Reserve Officers as Level III, Level II or Level I. The level designation is indicative of the duties that the Reserve Officer is authorized to perform.

For additional information on how to become a reserve officer, please contact Officer Randy Bowman at (818) 644-8147.