



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



Message from the Commanding Officer, Devonshire Area

Here we are at the end of another year and I'm happy to tell you that violent crime for the year is down 17% over last year at this time. The biggest decrease occurred in Homicides. In 2009, Devonshire Area experienced nine Homicides, while this year-to-date we've recorded two Homicides. Rapes are down 9%, Robberies are down 11% and Aggravated Assaults are down 23%. That's the good news.

When it comes to Property Crimes, Devonshire Area is up 4%. The biggest increase comes from Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicle (B/TFMV) crimes. Last year we had 1,418 B/TFMV crimes. This year we've experienced 1,563 of those same crimes. Burglaries are down 2%, while Grand Theft Auto crimes increased by 8%. Personal theft crimes are up 1%.

Driving the Property Crime numbers down is dependent upon the partnership of you and the officers of the LAPD. With the New Year approaching, commit to attending your monthly Basic Car Meeting or starting a Neighborhood Watch program in your neighborhood. If you don't have time to attend the meetings, sign up for E-policing. You can contact any of our Senior Lead Officers (listed in this newsletter) to find out how to get involved in any of these activities. With your help, next year we can look forward to posting a decrease in crime across the board.



Please enjoy the Holidays and have a safe and Happy New Year!

Sean K. Kane, Captain
Commanding Officer
Devonshire Community Police Station

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BASIC CAR AREA HIGHLIGHTS
SLO SUPERVISOR, Sergeant Jose Torres
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Basic Car Area 17A23
Senior Lead Officer Dan Del Valle
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• **Crime Trends and Locations:** As always, for this time of year, the crime trend is Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicles (B/TFMV). The area of concern is **EVERYWHERE**. While Holiday shopping, many people leave valuable property inside their vehicles. **Remove your property from inside your vehicle, or at least out of sight.** Please call and report suspicious activity!

• **Crime Tips:** Take the time to mark all your valuables with your driver's license number. If your property is lost/stolen, officers can locate you through your address via DMV records.

• **Commendable Citizen Incidents:** Thank you to all those who participate and assist with our Neighborhood Councils, Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB), Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST), and California Emergency Mobile Patrol (CEMP). Members of these organizations devote time and effort to make an impact on our community - and they do.

• **Neighborhood Events:** We are having a Holiday Potluck Dinner on December 10, 2010 at 22350 Devonshire Street, from 6:00-9:00 PM. Please come and take part in our holiday gathering and bring a meal or appetizer to share. For more information, or to let us know how to participate please call or e-mail me.

Basic Car 17A23's Neighborhood Watch Meeting will not meet in December, but our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 27, 2011. Our meetings are held at 7:00PM every 4th Thursday of the month at Saint John Eudes Church, located at 9901 Mason Avenue, at 7:00PM. Let's start the year strong and vigilant!!!

Basic Car Area 17A35
Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core
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• **Crime Trends and Locations:** As the end of the year nears, I'm happy to report the Basic Car Area has done very well in 2010, with a significant reduction in violent crimes and a progressive decrease in residential burglaries. The type of crimes that have been driving the number up in Devonshire Area involve vehicles; both Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicles (B/TFMV's) and Grand Theft Auto (GTA's). In Basic Car 17A35, the current hot spots for B/TFMV are in the area of Granada Hills High School and in the vicinity of Devonshire Street and Reseda Boulevard. These crimes are occurring at all hours and property taken is valuables left in plain sight inside the vehicles.

• **Crime Tips: No matter how short the stop, DON'T LEAVE ANY VALUABLES IN YOUR VEHICLE.** Purses, wallets, money and lap tops continue to be among the most common items taken. And, if using valet services, lock your glove box and give the attendant the valet key only. Most cars come with special "valet" keys from the dealership. These keys do not open the glove box. Report all prowlers and suspicious activities to the LAPD direct dispatch (non-emergency) number at **1-877-275-5273.**

• **Neighborhood Events: Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:00PM at Saint Euphrasia Church, 11767 Shoshone Avenue in Granada Hills.**

Basic Car Area 17A49

Senior Lead Officer Janine Angeles

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• **Crime Trends and Locations:** From October 10 to November 06, 2010, there was an increase in Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicles (B/TFMV), going from 18 to 22. Residential burglaries have decreased from 12 to 10. Assault crimes decreased from two to one. Grand Theft Autos (GTA) decreased from 21 to 17. Many of the Grand Theft Auto crimes occur near Zelzah Avenue between Lassen Street and Chatsworth Avenue. There were also three GTA's that occurred near the area of Chatsworth Street and Balboa Boulevard.

• **Commendable Officer Incidents:** This year has been challenging with the number of property crimes, especially B/TFMV. Our Basic Car is currently experiencing a decrease in these crimes. I would like to congratulate you for all of your hard work! I receive numerous valuable tips on crimes that are occurring throughout our Basic Car, as well as Devonshire Division. Thank you!

• **Crime Tips:** The holidays are here. When you're driving, ensure you are not being followed. If you notice someone following you, do not go home! Drive to the nearest police station. If possible, without placing yourself in danger, get a license plate or a vehicle description. If you have a cell phone, call 911. **Also, do not leave anything in your vehicle for criminals to take.** Please log on to www.lapdonline.org for more safety tips.

• **Neighborhood Events:** There will not be a December meeting due to the Holidays.

Basic Car Area 17A67

Senior Lead Officer Kathy Bennett

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• **Crime Trends and Locations:** In our Basic Car, we're seeing a glut of B/TFMV crimes along the Reseda corridor between Lassen and Nordhoff Street. Most of these crimes are "crimes of opportunity" with the suspect/s smashing a window and removing property. Some of the properties taken are computers, GPS devices, purses, wallets and credit cards. **Please don't leave any items in your car – and that includes holiday packages!**

• **Commendable Officer Incidents:** Officers Loizzi and Harris observed a male on a bicycle in an alley looking into trash dumpsters. The officers observed an equipment violation on the bike and stopped to advise the man of the violation. One officer recognized the man as a known narcotics user the officer had arrested a few months prior. Further investigation revealed the man had an outstanding warrant, and subsequent to his arrest, narcotics were found on his person. This was an outstanding arrest and a fine example of proactive police work.

• **Crime Tips:** If you're leaving home for the holidays, be sure to tell a trusted neighbor to watch your house for any unusual activity. Consider timers for indoor and outdoor lights. Be sure your door and window locks are in working order, and if you have an alarm – use it!

• **Neighborhood Events:** Our next Basic Car Meeting will be Wednesday, January 26, 2011, at 7:00PM. at Calahan Elementary School, 18722 Knapp Street, Northridge. Our guest speaker will be Officer John Hardin who's in charge of the 'at risk' youth program at Devonshire Station.

Basic Car Area 17A81

Senior Lead Officer Sue Herold

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• **Crime Trends and Locations:** Previous patterns have not resurfaced; however, we now have a Residential Burglary problem north and south of Plummer Street between Winnetka Avenue and Mason Avenue. There also have been three Robberies north and south of Nordhoff Street. There is a Grand Theft Auto trend south of Nordhoff Street to Roscoe between Tampa Avenue to Winnetka Avenue.

• **Crime Tip:** Please remember the Holiday Season can be joyful for many of us. However, it is quite the opposite for those whose extreme views would choose to try to make their point clear. Please remember to remain vigilant and be aware of your surroundings. Unattended packages, unusual photography of high profile/heavily populated venues and infrastructure, and taking measurements and/or pacing at these venues can be indicative of terrorist activity. Please report this type of activity to www.iwatchla.org and/or 1-877-A-THREAT.

• **Neighborhood Events:** Our next meeting will be held at Gianelli Square located on the north/east corner of Londelius Street and Shirley Avenue at 7:00PM on Thursday, January 20, 2010. There will be no December meeting due to the holidays. Henceforth the Basic Car meetings for 17A81 will be held at 7:00PM on the third Thursday of the month at Gianelli Square located on the north east corner of Londelius Street and Shirley Avenue.

Basic Car Area 17A95

Senior Lead Officer Ken Cioffi

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• **Crime Trends and Locations:** Residential Burglaries within Basic Car 17A95 during the period of October 3 and October 30, 2010, showed 15 Residential Burglaries. Reporting District (RD) 1795 had five, 1797 had two, 1798 had two, 1779 had two and RD's 1788, 1768, 1776 and 1778 all had one. Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle (BTFMV) showed we had a total of 17. RD 1795 had four, 1797 had three, 1796 had three, 1775 had two, 1777 had two, 1776 had one, 1799 had one and 1768 had one.

• **Commendable Officer Incidents:** This month's Commendable Citizen Award goes to all of my Neighborhood Watch and Basic Car members who participate and attend the Basic Car Meetings. You all play a big part in keeping crime down within our Basic Car Area.

• **Crime Tips:** Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicles (B/TFMV) and Residential Burglaries always seem to increase during the Holiday Season. **Please do not leave anything inside your vehicle.** Continue to look out for your neighbors and please report any suspicious activity. Let's try and keep crime down to a minimum this season.

• **Neighborhood Events:** There will be no December Basic Car Meeting. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Holiday Season. Our next Basic car meeting will be on Thursday, January 13, 2011 at 7:00PM at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 17037 Plummer Street in Northridge.