



## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS**

Volume 9, Issue 8

West Valley Senior Lead Office (818) 374-7630

August 2006

Sergeant Pete Foster

**Log Onto [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org) today! You can see the crime in your neighborhood, get the monthly newsletter and sign up for e-policing, a real-time way to get information from LAPD to you!**

**Please join us for the following**

**West Valley Area Events:**

**CPAB Meetings:** August 9 & September 13, 2006 7:00 PM, West Valley Station, Community Room

**Reseda 10A27 & 10A47 Senior Lead Officers Jodie McGee & Janet Zumstein  
[31677@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:31677@lapd.lacity.org) / (818) 374-7635 / [24571@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:24571@lapd.lacity.org) / (818) 374-7634**

Graffiti is still a problem in Reseda. If you see it, please report it right away by calling 227-9722 (West Valley Alliance). The sooner we get the area cleaned up, the better off the community will be.

In recent meetings, the question has arisen regarding legitimate Police organizations, which can solicitant for donations. The follow 12 organizations are registered and hold Police Commission permits to solicit and pick up funds in the City of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Police Department does not endorse any of these organizations. Several of these organizations are telemarketers who actually give quite a small percentage of the donations to any police charitable organization.

1. California Reserve Peace Police Officer Association.
2. California Organization of Police and Sheriffs.
3. California Peace Officers Associations.
4. California Police Activities League.
6. International Union of Police Associations.
5. Fraternal Order of Police.
7. L.A. County Marshals.
8. Los Angeles Unified School District.
9. Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California.
10. National Association of Police Organizations.
11. Peace Officers Research Association of California.
12. San Fernando Police Officers Association.

Due to National Night Out, our meeting for this month was cancelled. Our next meeting is September 14, 2006, at 7:00 PM, in the Community Room of West Valley Police Station.

**West Hills, 10A51, Senior Lead Officer Kip Jackson  
31733@lapd.lacity.org / (818) 374-7638**

Hello West Hills,

This is my first official article for West Hills and I look forward to many more. I received a very warm welcome from all of you, and I will do my best to help each and every one of you. I would like to get the bad news out of the way first. We had 30 Burglaries/Thefts from Vehicles in the month of June, 4 Stolen Vehicles, 15 Burglaries, and 5 Robberies. These numbers seem high for such a quiet area. Are we not reporting suspicious behavior, are we leaving property in our vehicles, are we not using clubs, alarms, car covers, etc.? I will expand more this in my "E-Police blast" (You should have received it by now if you're signed up on [www.lapdepolicing.org](http://www.lapdepolicing.org))

We will address these issues and more at our next Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

The good news is that we have the biggest area in West Valley, and yet we still don't have nearly the amount of problems as other neighboring communities. We can certainly improve, but we need to educate more of our neighbors on what's going on in the area.

See you at the next meeting, Pomelo School (7633 March Ave) September 11, 2006 7:00 pm.

**Winnetka, 10A33 Senior Lead Officer Rachel Raigoza  
33626 @lapd.lacity.org (818) 374-7631 or (818) 731-2568**

**Crime:**

Numerous reports are written daily of items being taken from vehicles. Have you ever thought about what you have in your car? What types of information are you supplying to thieves? Well here are some exemplars:

Mail - contains your name, address, checking and credit card account numbers.

Old paycheck stubs – social security numbers and place of employment.

Car repair invoices – name, address and phone number.

Garage door opener – If stolen, provides easy access to your home.

Backup set of keys for your house.

As a reminder, once a thief gets your personal information such as your social security number and name they have it made. Please take a moment and make sure important information is not left in your vehicle.

**West Winnetka & Canoga Park, 10A57 Senior Lead Officer Jericho Velasquez  
374-7630**

*Officer Velasquez is serving our communities in his other capacity, as an Army Officer. He will be away from our area for an unknown period of time. We ask that you call the office for your concerns, problems or to get involved. We will continue to provide the same high standards of service that you are used to receiving from Officer Velasquez in his absence.*

### ***West Winnetka Continued***

If you use a cellular phone to dial 911, your call will be directed to the California Highway Patrol dispatch. Once you tell the dispatch operator the reason for the call, assuming it is for LAPD services, they will then transfer you to our LAPD Communications center.

Although you should never hesitate to dial 911 during an emergency there are several numbers that you could program into your cellular phone for non-emergency situations:

- LAPD Communications: 877-ASK- LAPD / 877-275-5273
- West Valley Community Police Station: 818-374-7611
- City of Los Angeles: 311 (not valid from cell phone)

### **Canoga Park, 10A3, Senior Lead Officer Royal Barber 33970 @lapd.lacity.org (818) 374-7629**

Although it is Summer time and kids are out of school, Curfew laws are still in effect. Curfew laws aim to establish a safer community and to better protect kids from becoming victims of crime or becoming involved in delinquent behaviors. The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) 45.03 states:

It is unlawful for any minor under the age of eighteen (18) to be present in or upon any public street, highway, road, curb area, alley, park, playground, or other public ground, public place, or public building, place of amusement or eating place, vacant lot or unsupervised place between the hours of 10 p.m. and sunrise.

Violations are punishable by a fine of \$250.00 totaling up to \$675.00 with penalty assessments, community service, and/or may affect whether you can obtain or keep a driver's license.

With acts of vandalism on the rise (mainly graffiti), please use LAPD's non-emergency phone number, (877) 275-5373, to report suspected juveniles out past Curfew. For more information on how you can help safeguard your neighborhood join us at our next Neighborhood Watch meeting for Canoga Park on September at 7:00 PM at the Canoga Park Community Center located at 7248 Owensmouth St, Canoga Park.

### **Woodland Hills, 10A73/75, Senior Lead Officer Tony Valadez 31197@lapd.lacity.org/ (818) 374-7636**

Thieves have moved from designer sneakers to iPods and they aren't playing around. Here are tips on safeguarding yourself and your iPod or any small hand held electronic device. Make Wise Choices. Some people choose to wear their mp3 players, cell phones and PDAs clipped to their belts for all the world to see. DON'T DO IT. Hide it from public view.

- Change out the popular white iPod headphones for a pair of old dingy unidentifiable ones. Using the white headphones while out in the public is advertising that somewhere on your person you are

## Woodland Hills (cont'd)

- carrying an item worth over \$300 and has the capability of holding over 10,000 songs -- certainly a temptation for any thief.
- Avoid carrying your iPod to and from school. Thieves who want to steal an iPod are going to head for the 'pond with the biggest fish' which is almost any high school campus throughout the country.

Consider purchasing something along the line of [iPod Mini Armbands](#). It will free your hands and help you secure the iPod to your body instead of displaying it with a clip on your belt.

## **Encino, 10A87, Senior Lead Officer Rob Trulik 32325 @lapd.lacity.org (818) 374-7637**

Hello Encino and Sherman Oaks

As the summer is heating up and more citizens are walking the streets in the early daytime hours we are experiencing an increase in Purse Snatch Thefts. The crimes are occurring between the hours of 6:30 A.M. and 9:00 A.M. in and around Ventura Blvd. The Suspects are selecting a Victim (usually walking by themselves) and then pulling their vehicle along side the Victim. The Suspect remains inside their vehicle and takes the purse while the vehicle is in motion. In a couple of instances the Suspect exits the vehicle and approaches the Victim. I would like to remind my active Citizens to remain aware while walking the streets of our neighborhoods. Always walk with a friend. Be mindful of your surroundings and if possible leave your purses at home. Travel as light as possible, limiting your possessions to an ID, cell phone and house keys. Following these simple steps could help prevent future crimes.

## **Tarzana, 10A67, Senior Lead Officer Alex Padron 32977@lapd.lacity.org (818) 374-7632**

Greetings Tarzana / Encino Residents

I want to take a moment and introduce myself as the new SLO for Tarzana / Encino, the basic car area for 10A67. Having been with the LAPD now for over 10 years has not changed my attitudes towards my career. I still enjoy what I do tremendously, and genuinely feel that I can make an impact in increasing the safety and security of the residents of Los Angeles.

In the next articles I have crime information updates and prevention tips on various topic as I review the crime trends that impact the Tarzana / Encino area. For now I would like everyone to please buckle up, and always drive defensively because the West Valley area shows a large number of traffic collisions were individuals are injured from the accidents, especially at major intersections. Be safe, and I look forward to reducing crime in our area with your continued help and vigilance.