



## ***NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS***

### **COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE**

As a newly appointed Patrol Commanding Officer at Southwest Division, I have had an opportunity over the past few months to meet with many of the business owners, Community activists, gang interventionists, and residents in Southwest Division. I understand just how important our partnership is in addressing crime, and quality of life issues in our community and I applaud our combined efforts for the following reason: we ended the first quarter of 2009, with a 7 percent reduction in violent crime (Homicide, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assaults) and an 11 percent reduction in Part I crimes (Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assaults, Burglary, Grand Theft Auto, Burglary Theft From Vehicle and Personal Thefts). This speaks volumes for your involvement as stakeholders because we cannot be successful without your support.

The summer months are fast approaching. This is traditionally our most challenging time of the year for addressing crime problems. My goal is to ensure the safety of our officers and you, the community, so that our shared vision of consistent crime reduction will continue to be realized as we move forward. I encourage your feedback and hope to hear from you.

TIA MORRIS, Captain  
Commanding Officer  
Southwest Patrol Division  
22737@lapd.lacity.org

#### **SOUTHWEST**

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LOS ANGELES, CA 90062  
(213)485-2584**

#### **AREA COMMANDING OFFICER**

***STEVEN K. ZIPPERMAN, CAPTAIN III***

#### **PATROL COMMANDING OFFICER**

***TIA M. MORRIS, CAPTAIN I***

#### **NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH**

**(213) 928-8223**

#### **NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH**

#### **SPANISH**

**(213)928-8222**

#### **EMERGENCY DISPATCH**

**911**

#### **SOUTHWEST DIVISION CRIME TIP**

**(213)485-7492**

# SENIOR LEAD OFFICER DIRECTORY

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## CRIME PREVENTION

Community awareness is the key to crime prevention. If you are interested in establishing a Block Club in your area, please contact your Senior Lead Officer for assistance.

## **CRIME AND ARREST INFORMATION**

Officers in Southwest Division have been working extremely hard to reduce crime, provide a safe environment and a better quality of life for the community of Southwest Division.

### **3SLO1-ADAMS BOULEVARD NEIGHBORHOOD**

Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sanchez reports that with the exception of Burglary From Motor Vehicle (BFMV), crime was considerably low in the Adams Boulevard Neighborhood. Please remember to park and lock your car in a well lit area and remove all valuables from plain sight.

Also, just a reminder that if you reside his area and are going to be away from home for an extended period, please notify SLO Sanchez so that he might be able to arrange for extra patrol while you are away.

### **3SLO19-NORTH UNIVERSITY PARK**

This month Senior Lead Officer Salazar reports that while the North University Park area continues to see an overall decrease in the total number of violent crimes, there is a slight trend of Robbery, Grand Theft Auto (GTA), and Burglary From Motor Vehicle (BFMV) activity. These crimes are occurring in the areas between Dalton/Budlong and Normandie/Vermont. The combined efforts of Southwest and Metropolitan Divisions are aggressively working to combat these trends and decrease crime in this community.

### **3SLO31-JEFFERSON PARK**

In Jefferson Park, Senior Lead Officer Biondo advised that during the last week of the statistical reporting period, there has been an increase in both GTA, as well as Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicles, (B/TMV). The majority of GTA's occur on Sundays from 12:00 am to 6:00 am and from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The vehicles

stolen range from older model Hondas and Toyotas to late model SUV type vehicles. Most B/TFMV's occurred on Thursday through Sunday, from 3:00 pm to 10:30 pm. The suspects typically smash one of the vehicle's windows and remove any easily accessible property.

Previously Senior Lead Officer Biondo made you aware of numerous business robberies along the Crenshaw Corridor. The suspects, all male blacks, (5'09-5'11 approximately 175 lbs), typically wear ski masks and/or hooded sweatshirts, enter businesses armed with handguns. The suspects then demand access to the safe or to high dollar items. To date, no patrons or employees have been injured in any of these crimes and the suspects are still outstanding. If you have any additional information on the suspects for these crimes, you are urged to contact Detective Stanley Evans, Southwest Area Robbery Detectives at (213) 485-2561.

In the last newsletter SLO Biondo also reported that there had been an increase in residential burglaries in the areas bounded by Crenshaw Bl to Farmdale Av and from Coliseum St to-Exposition Bl. SLO Biondo is pleased to report that due to the hard work of Area Patrol Officers and you the citizens, there have been no reported residential burglaries in that area, during this current reporting period. However, SLO Biondo encourages the community to remain vigilant. Continue to report suspicious activity, persons, and vehicles promptly to the police department.

### **3SLO41-BALWIN HILLS/VISTA AND VILLAGE GREEN**

The Baldwin Hills/Baldwin Vista/Village Green communities have not had any recent incidents of *residential* burglaries which can be attributed

to residents taking the time to lock their homes and looking out for each other's homes when their neighbors are away. However, Senior Lead Officer Beard has noticed a trend of residents leaving their garage doors open during all hours of the day. This is an open invitation for people to enter the garage and take items. Please take the extra few minutes to lock and secure your garage and property to insure that you do not become a victim of a crime.



SLO Beard also reports that the communities of Baldwin Hills and Village Green have had recent incidents of BFMV. The common thread of all these *vehicle* burglaries is that all of the vehicles were left unlocked and exposed valuables left in plain view. Please take the time to lock and secure your vehicle and remove any valuables items from sight.

Additionally, Officer Beard has been working with the Department of Transportation to address some of the parking issues that are taking place in Baldwin Hills. The Department of Transportation has recently installed red curbs and no parking signs to help reduce the number of people who come into the hills to enjoy the view, but leave their trash and debris upon departure. If you have any areas that you feel need attention, feel free to contact Officer Beard.

### **3SLO55-WESTERN CORRIDOR AND JEFFERSON PARK**

Senior Lead Officer(SLO) Olega reported the Western Corridor and Jefferson Park areas experienced an increase in gang related shootings. Community members are encouraged to report gang activity and gang locations in their neighborhoods to the Southwest Gang Enforcement Unit (323) 290-2384. Additionally, if community members observe gang members involved in illegal activity or gathering in large groups they should call the Dispatch Center.

SLO Olega is also encouraging you, the residents and business owners of this area to come and join the Community Village Project. Be the change in your neighborhood. Create a safe park for our children to play. Clean up and take pride in the areas in which we live. Make our community healthier and safer by helping to shut down harmful and irresponsible businesses. For more information call Karume at (323)750-9087 x263.

SLO Olega also wants this community to know that LAPD in conjunction with the Department of Health are continuing their efforts to help eliminate and control illegal street vending.

Great News! Southwest Division is pleased to announce that the Bethune Regional Library is now open. Go and see the new facility at 3900 Western Ave.

Finally, calling all up and coming junior athletes. Join the new University Little League at Martin Luther King Park. Sign-Up Now! Contact Raul Claros (310) 844-5591.

### **3SLO57-UNIVERSITY VILLAGE**

Senior Lead Officer Munson reports that during the month of March, University Village initially experienced an increase in burglary/theft from motor vehicles (BFMV), on Vermont Av, on 28<sup>th</sup> St, (The Row), and on 30<sup>th</sup> St between Vermont and Hoover. After several significant arrests during the month of March, Southwest Division observed a sharp decline in these reported crimes.

Attention USC students: Stay aware of your surroundings and always lock your apartment or house, especially when living with multiple roommates. Make sure you have a policy of always securing your residence during the day and at night. Many thieves around USC are opportunists and are looking for unlocked doors to walk in and take property.

### **3SLO63-BALDWIN VILLAGE**

Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Thomsen would like to thank The Los Angeles Clean and Green Corp Conservation Group, who have assisted in picking up the litter in Baldwin Village.

Additionally, SLO Thomsen is also working with the Community Service Clean Up Task Force, who are comprised of a team of Dorsey High School students. These students have also picked up litter in Baldwin Village as they serve to complete detention hours prior to graduating. This program will continue monthly. For further information, please contact SLO Thomsen at 323/387-9614.

This month SLO Thomsen held the first Spanish Language Community Group meeting at Jim Gilliam Park. *Gracias* to the eighty-five members of the Hispanic community who came out and participated in this event. It was a success! In the near future, SLO Thomsen will

be working with the Mayor's office to establish an English language course for Spanish speakers.

SLO Thomsen's "Tip of the Month": Motorized mini bikes can be dangerous if not operated properly and should not be used on public property. Violators will be cited and may have their property impounded.

All Baldwin Village community members are encouraged to contact SLO Thomsen to report ongoing crime, including illegal vendors, loitering gangs and narcotic activity.

### **3SLO73-LEIMERT PARK AND THE CRENSHAW CORRIDOR**

Over the past several weeks Senior Lead Hautoer noticed several areas in Leimert Park cluttered with trash and debris in front and alley rear of residential areas within the Leimert Park the and Crenshaw Corridor communities. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, SLO Hautoer responded to the area of 43<sup>rd</sup> St. and Van Ness Avenue with the Department of Sanitation. Together, they filled over eight dumpsters with loads of trash and debris. Great Job!

Costs to clean up illegal dumping in the City of Los Angeles exceeded \$11,000,000.00 last year. Money spent on cleaning up trash can be better utilized for education and community programs. So if you know of anyone dumping trash, scrap metal, or any other type of debris in your neighborhood *PLEASE* report it. It is very important that we work together to keep this community clean! The City of Los Angeles is offering a \$1,000.00 reward for citizens that provide authorities with information that lead to the arrest and prosecution of this illegal activity. For further information, please visit [www.LAPDonline.org](http://www.LAPDonline.org) and enter Illegal Dumping &

Graffiti Reward in the search engine. One last tip; if you see graffiti or bulky items discarded, especially in alleys, contact 3-1-1 for removal. You will be given a reference number. Keep this number handy and if the request is not completed in a timely manner, you can forward the location and reference number to your Area Senior Lead Officer and they will follow-up with the appropriate city department.

SLO Hauter also reports that during the month of March, LAPD, Sheriffs, and California Highway Patrol (CHP) continued to run a joint task force along the Crenshaw Corridor to address the cruising and street racing problems along Crenshaw Boulevard. This community will continue to see a high volume of traffic enforcement in the area thanks to an extremely successful partnership with the Sheriff's Department and CHP.

### **3SLO99-VERMONT SQUARE**

Senior Lead Officer Anderson in conjunction with Southwest Patrol units has been working tirelessly to reduce crime in the Vermont Square Park area to make it a safe environment for everyone. While overall crime is down in this area, there was a slight increase of vehicle thefts and Robberies. Early model Hondas and Toyotas seem to be the car of choice. Also, SLO Anderson is urging all community members to remain cautious when walking to and from bus stops, especially at night. If possible, try to walk in groups and try not to expose any items of value such as cell phones, jewelry, or cash.

## **RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY AWARENESS**

To reduce the chance of your property being burglarized, consider these preventative measures:



- ? Keep shrubs and trees trimmed. Foliage that provides privacy for your home also allows criminals to attack your property unnoticed and undisturbed.
- ? Each day take the time to double check that all doors and windows are locked/secured before leaving.
- ? Consider an alarm, especially one that is linked with a monitoring service. If you opt to place an alarm in your home, be sure you obtain an alarm permit from the city.
- ? Consider installing more lighting around your property. Purchasing lighting with timers and/or motion sensors will negate the necessity of remembering to turn on/off lighting.
- ? Remember to make arrangements to have mail picked up and newspaper service suspended. Uncollected mail/newspapers can be a sign to would-be burglars that a residence is unoccupied.
- ? Network with neighbors. Consider having someone you trust keep an eye on your residence when you are away. Ask them to immediately report any suspicious activity or persons to the police.
- ? Become involved. Start a Block Club.

## SUBSTATION-CRENSHAW MALL

Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Southern is deployed at the Crenshaw Mall (located at 3650 Martin L. King Blvd). The "Mall" provides twenty five uniformed security officers, who are employed by the **Investigative Protection Company/IPC**. IPC, provides constant parking lot patrol, foot beat patrol, and has a state of the art camera system. The LAPD Substation (located on the first floor of the mall, next to Sears) is staffed with six uniformed LAPD Officers, who work with IPC, mall management, and community members to provide a safe and enjoyable shopping experience. Should you have any question SLO Southern may be contacted at (213)847-1276.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH EVENTS

- ? 1st Annual University Little League Opening Day Ceremony was Saturday, March 14, 2009, at 10:00am. However, they are still accepting applications. For additional information, contact Senior Lead Officer Olega or Raul Claros at (310)844-5591.
  
- ? The newly formed USC Student Group, the West University Park Community Council, (WUPCC), will be holding its regularly scheduled meetings the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of

each month at the DPS office at 6:00 p.m.

For additional information contact Senior Lead Officer Munson.

- ? Attention all Audubon Middle School parents! Audubon's next boot camp orientation will be held on April 18, 2009. This boot camp is *free* of charge and runs for eight weeks, every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. This is a very successful program

for troubled youths that attend Audubon. For further information on this program, please contact Officer E. Rocha @ 213/485-2582.

- ? Are your kids struggling to complete their home work assignments? If so, then join St. Agatha's Catholic Church every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. They have a Life Skills Academy that will teach your children the skills they need to succeed in life. They will also provide tutors to help your children with their homework. For additional information, contact Senior Lead Officer Sanchez.
  
- ? The Southwest Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) meets the first Monday of every month at the Child Guidance Center, 3787 S. Vermont Avenue. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2009, at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact Cheryl Allen-Stallworth, CPAB coordinator @ 213/847-5800.
  
- ? Calling all shoppers! Shop at the Crenshaw Mall and help your child's school raise funds now through the month of May 2009. Help your child's school earn money towards after-school programs, computers, books, supplies, musical instruments and other items that help provide an even better education!  
  
Simply patronize the merchants of the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza. Take your receipts to Customer Service, where the school of your choice will be credited with one point for every dollar spent in the mall. During the month of June 2009, three schools with the highest number of accumulated points will receive cash donations totaling five thousand dollars. Contact Senior Lead Officer Southern for further information on this event.

The LAPD is also accepting anonymous tips via cell phone. You can text your information to CRIMES (274637) and begin your message with the letters, "LAPD".

**\*All dates and times are subject to change. Please call your Senior Lead Officer for verification prior to attending.**

## Additional Crime Tips:

### GTA/B/TFMV Awareness

- ? To reduce the chance of your vehicle being stolen or property taken, consider these preventative measures:
- ? Make sure your vehicle is parked and secured off the street. If this is not possible, make certain that the windows are up and the doors are locked and secured.
- ? Park only in well lit areas as close as possible to your residence.
- ? Consider an alarm, especially one that is audible and includes a glass sensor, (for window smashes), a "kill switch" mechanism which disables the vehicle, even if it is somehow started, or a vehicle locating system.

**\*\*Please keep in mind that incessant vehicle alarms are a nuisance. Owners of those vehicles can be cited for the noise.**

- ? Consider installing more lighting around your property. Lighting deters criminals and makes targets less appealing.
- ? Remove all valuables from your vehicle when you park it, including detachable faced radios. Criminals usually look into vehicles to see if there are any valuables just lying around

before they break in. One iPod on the front seat may mean that there are other things under the seats or in the glove compartment.

- ? Keep copies of all of your vehicle documents in a safe place. The information contained in them speeds up the reporting process/recovery process if your vehicle is stolen or broken into.
- ? Don't leave valuables in your vehicle. But if you must, mark and record all of the valuable removable property that you may carry in your vehicle, (radios, computers, GPS systems), with some sort of identification number. That identification information can speed up the recovery process
- ? Keep a watchful eye out for unfamiliar persons or vehicles. Report any such activity or persons to the police. Be sure to give a complete description of any person or vehicle.
- ? Become involved. If your block does not have one, start a Block Club. If it does, join.



