

Southwest

Southwest Police Station

Volume 03, Issue 7

Happy 4th of July!

JULY 2011

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE

Summer has arrived, with sizzling temperatures, 4th of July celebrations, picnics at the beach or by the pool, and long sunny days to enjoy.

Many students are out of school on summer break, enjoying recreational activities and free time. This means traffic concerns increase as children are afoot throughout the day. Please drive with extra caution.

Children enjoying water activities, trying to stay cool enhances the need for parents to closely monitor their activities near the pool, the beach, the water park, or while playing with toys, like water slides, water guns or sprinklers.

One of the greatest hazards we face each year is due to use of illegal fireworks. Do not support the sale of illegal fireworks. Emergency room visits increase each summer as people are severely injured, especially children. There are many safe and approved locations for fireworks shows throughout the community, listed on the news and online.

Have a safe and sane 4th of July, and a fun-filled summer!!

Melissa A. Zak, Captain
Commanding Officer
Southwest Community Police Station

SOUTHWEST

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VITO N. PALAZZOLO, CAPTAIN I

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NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

SPANISH

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EMERGENCY DISPATCH

911

SOUTHWEST DIVISION CRIME TIP

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SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICE

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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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 residents and business owners of the Southwest Area.

3SLO1-ADAMS BOULEVARD NEIGHBORHOOD

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Sanchez is happy to announce that there has been a considerably low amount of reported crimes in the Adams Boulevard Neighborhood. Kudos to the Southwest Officers that patrol this area and the community members that play an active part in making this a safe neighborhood.

Crime Tips-July 4th Gunfire Reduction Program

In an effort to reduce injuries, death, and property damage associated with indiscriminate gunfire and the increased incidents involving intoxicated drivers, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is promoting the safe celebration of our Country's Independence Day. Along with activating sobriety checkpoints, the LAPD will seek out and arrest any person firing a gun during celebrations.

Indiscriminate gunfire will not be tolerated in the City/County of Los Angeles. Discharging a firearm into the air is a felony, punishable by one year in state prison. Anyone arrested for discharging a firearm will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Should a stray bullet kill someone, the shooter will be arrested and charged with murder.

On July 4, 1999, Brian Perez was celebrating the holiday with family and friends, when a bullet fired aimlessly into the sky and struck him in the head. The following day Brian died from his injuries. He was only nine years old.

The senseless death of Brian Perez and the potential for others being injured compels the men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department to once again ask the community to celebrate the holidays safely and responsibly. Don't fire guns into the air! If you see someone committing such acts, please call the

police. Remember, what goes up, will come down, and when a bullet falls back to earth, it travels at a fatal velocity.

Many times individuals involved in celebrating holidays such as Independence Day with gunfire do not realize the dangers posed in their actions.

Research has found that a bullet fired into the sky can climb up to two miles and remain in flight for more than a minute. As it falls, the bullet reaches a velocity of 300 to 700 feet per second. A velocity of only 200 feet per second is sufficient to penetrate the human skull.



The Los Angeles Police Department has made great strides in reducing the amount of indiscriminate gunfire that occurs during the Independence Day holiday. Comprehensive public education and awareness campaigns have dramatically reduced the threat to the community.

Lastly, please remember that fireworks of any kind (including the 'Safe and Sane' kind) are prohibited in the City of Los Angeles. We encourage our community to enjoy a professionally organized pyrotechnics fireworks show and to celebrate the 4th of July safely and responsibly.

3SLO19-NORTH UNIVERSITY PARK

Crime Trends

Officer Thomsen would like to encourage the North University Park community to contact the police should you become a victim of crime. Please continue to be on neighborhood watch, and if you see anything suspicious, contact police.

Officer Thomsen would also like the community to get involved in volunteer activities during the summer. If you are interested in volunteering your time at Southwest Police Station, please call (213)847-5800.



Volunteer Services

Crime Tips-Pool Safety

Learn how simple safety steps save lives in and around pools and spas. Parents and families can build on their current safety systems at pools and spas by adopting additional water safety steps. Adding as many proven water safety steps as possible is the best way to assure a safe and fun experience, because you can never know which one might save a child's life—until it does. Stay close, be alert and watch children in and around the pool.



Never leave a child unattended in a pool or spa and always watch your child when he or she is in or near water.

Teach children basic water safety tips.

Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments.

Have a telephone close by when you or your family is using a pool or spa.

If a child is missing, look for him or her in the pool or spa first.

Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors.

Learn and practicing water safety skills with your children.



Learn how to swim and teach your child how to swim.

Learn to perform CPR on children and adults, and update those skills regularly.

Understand the basics of life-saving so that you can assist in a pool emergency.

(For additional information regarding pool safety, go to <http://www.poolsafely.gov/parents-families/resources-for-parents-families/>)

3A41-BALDWIN HILLS/VISTA; VILLAGE GREEN

Crime Trends

Officer Beard is happy to report that year-to-date, crime is down in Southwest Division and encourages all community stakeholders to remain diligent in being aware of their surroundings.

Remaining aware of activities that are taking place in your community is a good way for you to know if something is not correct or out of place. If something does not seem right in regards to possible criminal activity do not hesitate to call the police.

Also, with the summer months fast approaching please contact the police if you have loud parties that become a nuisance to the community. These parties often lead to other crimes and it is important that these parties get shut down before they get out of hand.



Please contact Officer Beard at (323)387-9621 if you have any complaints or information regarding crime in the Baldwin Hills/Vista and Village Green communities.

Crime Tips to Prevent and Stop Violence

1. *Set up a Neighborhood Watch or a community patrol, working with police.*
2. *Make sure your streets and homes are well-lighted.*
3. *Make sure that all the youth in the neighborhood have positive ways to spend their spare time, through organized recreation, tutoring programs, part-time work, and volunteer opportunities.*
4. *Build a partnership with the police, focus on solving problems instead of reacting to crises. Make it possible for neighbors to report suspicious activity or crimes without fear of retaliation.*
5. *Take advantage of "safety in numbers" to hold rallies, marches, and other group activities to show you're determined to drive out crime and drugs.*
6. *Clean up the neighborhood! Involve everyone - teens, children, senior citizens. Graffiti, litter, abandoned cars, and run-down buildings tell criminals that you don't care about where you live or each other. Call the local public works department and ask for help in cleaning up.*
7. *Ask local officials to use new ways to get criminals out of your building or neighborhood. These include enforcing anti-noise laws, housing codes, health and fire codes, anti-nuisance laws, and drug-free clauses in rental leases.*

3SLO55-JEFFERSON PARK/WESTERN CORRIDOR

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer(SLO) Olega reports that the Jefferson Park/Western Corridor community has experienced an increase in street robberies. Suspects are targeting victims walking from bus stops and

Automated Teller Machines (ATM). Items reportedly taken are gold jewelry and purses. Members of this community are advised to remain aware of your surroundings and contact the police if you observe any suspicious activity.

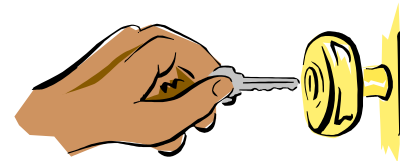
Crime Tips-Burglary Prevention Tips

Do not allow strangers into your home, even if they are hurt or say they need help. Keep the door locked and call the police for them.

Do not advertise that you live alone.

Don't be afraid to call the police to investigate suspicious circumstances, unusual people or strange noises. It is better to be safe than sorry.

When you move into a new home, change the locks.



Keep your curtains or shades closed at night.

Don't leave notes on your door announcing when you will be home.

Keep outdoor lights on at night.

Never give information to an unknown caller. Report nuisance calls to the police and the telephone company.

Keep your doors and windows locked. If it is warm and you leave your door open for circulation, keep the screen door locked.

If you arrive home and your door is open or things appear to be out of place - don't go in your home. Leave and call the police.

Write down license numbers of suspicious vehicles to give to the police, if necessary.

3SLO57-UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Salazar reports Robberies and Aggravated Assaults continue to be a problem at the intersection of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Vermont Avenue. This is due to the high volume of pedestrians at all four corners of the intersection. In response to this activity, Southwest Division has provided extra patrol in the aforementioned area and continues to receive support from Los Angeles Unified School Police before, during and after school hours.

Also, the area between Normandie Boulevard and Vermont Boulevard, along Budlong Avenue, continues to have sporadic incidents of Burglary From Motor Vehicles (BFMV) and Grand Theft Autos(GTA). As a result, Southwest Division will continue to monitor the area and provide extra patrol on all watches throughout the day.

Senior Lead Officer Salazar will be on vacation from July 16, 2011 through August 13, 2011. In case of an emergency, call 911. If you need assistance with non emergency issues, please contact Senior Lead Officer Nichol Garner at (323)387-9620.

Helpful Phone Numbers at a Glance

Graffiti Removal:

(311)

Abandoned Vehicles:

(800/222-6366)

Bulky Item Trash Pick Up (Illegally Dumped Trash):

(800/773-2489)

Department of Health:

(213/351-5110)

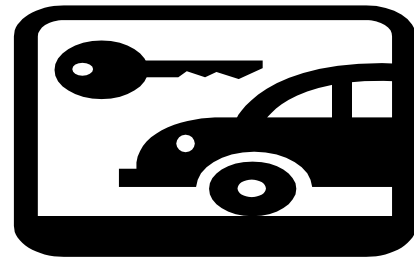
Citywide information:

(311)

3SLO59-UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA(USC)

Crime Trends

Last month, USC experienced a reduction in crime, however the campus continues to be suffering from problems concerning burglary and theft from vehicles(BFMV/TFMV). Police reports indicate that students and community members are failing to lock and secure their vehicles and are also leaving personal property in plain view. This is an open invitation for a potential suspect.



Please take a proactive stance and lock your vehicles. Also, take steps to remove all personal property from immediate visibility within your car.

Crime Tips-Getting Together to Fight Crime:

Something may be wrong in your neighborhood. There's too much violence, or there's an ever-present threat. Perhaps a child you know was robbed. Maybe you've seen signs of drug dealing. Maybe a string of break-ins has you wondering what's coming next. You're uneasy—even frightened—for yourself and your family. Perhaps nothing violent has happened, but you see warning signs—such as graffiti, vandalism, abandoned cars, loitering, litter—that crime and violence may be reaching your neighborhood soon.

You can change things by getting together with neighbors who share your worries. There are two things you need to do:

Look out for yourself and your family.

Get involved in your community.

People just like you have cleared drug dealing out of their neighborhoods, made parks safe for children and sidewalks secure for play, curbed assaults, reduced muggings, eliminated rapes and murders, wiped out graffiti and vandalism, started programs for teens.

Start Something!

First, find out what's already going on. Groups that are already working against crime and drugs will welcome and help

you. Ask the local police, especially the crime prevention staff; check with community associations and civic groups as well and clubs.

Is there an existing group that ought to be involved in preventing crime? A home-school organization like PTA; a tenants' group; a fraternity or sorority; a community service club such as Lions, Rotary, or JayCees; a social club; a church; a mental health association; a taxpayers' or homeowners' association—these are just some kinds of groups that can be a base for action.

No group ready to adopt crime prevention? Start a group in your neighborhood—even if it's just on your block. You don't have to be the leader, but you could organize the first meeting.

3SLO73-LEIMERT PARK/CRENSHAW CORRIDOR

Crime Trends

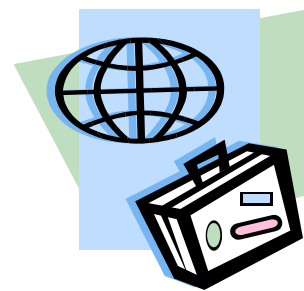
According to Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sasajima, the first two weeks of June were marred with 9 residential burglaries in the area of Leimert Park, bordered by Exposition Boulevard, Crenshaw Boulevard, Vernon Avenue, and Arlington Avenue. As has been the trend with these residential burglaries, the recent incidents have all occurred between the hours of 7am-3pm. Patrol and Bicycle

Units from Southwest Area have been advised to provide extra patrol in the afflicted neighborhoods. Additionally, SLO Sasajima had met with block clubs in the area, in response to concerns and to provide information to residents in an effort to collectively resolve this issue. On June 10, 2011, Southwest Patrol officers arrested three juveniles during an attempted burglary on the 1600 block of 39th Place. While it is unknown if these juveniles were involved in the other burglaries, the collective efforts appear to have helped, as no incidents have been reported in the second half of the month.

Cruisers/Street Racers have been sighted as the evenings get warmer. SLO Sasajima has taken note of the fresh tire marks left by these groups and has requested resources from Southwest and South Traffic Division to assist with providing enforcement. Residents are asked to call and report these groups when they are observed congregating through neighborhoods adjacent to the Crenshaw Corridor.

Crime Tips-Vacation Crime Tips

Summer is a time of year that many families go on vacation. Being on vacation can lead to crime victimization if appropriate crime prevention measures are not followed. Most families do not think about being victimized while on vacation



because of all the excitement of going on vacation. The following crime prevention tips are designed to allow the vacationer to enjoy a safe and secure trip and to return to a secure residence.

Before Leaving...Secure Your Residence.

Make sure all the locks on the doors and windows function properly and use them.

Make sure your residence looks lived in and not empty.

Leave the shades and blinds on doors and windows in a position that you would normally have them.

Ask trusted neighbors to keep an eye on your residence while you are away. Leave your vacation address and telephone number with the neighbor so you can be reached in an emergency.

Make sure your smoke and burglar alarms are functioning properly and armed.

Arrange for a neighbor to pick up your deliveries: mail, newspaper, and any other packages.

Arrange for someone to maintain your yard so your home appears occupied.

Have someone place your garbage cans at the curb for normal pickup and put them away after the pickup has been made.

Make sure you have timers for lights, television, or radios so they turn on and off at the appropriate times.

Turn the ringer on the telephone down low or off. A possible intruder will not be alerted to your absence by a ringing telephone. If you can, forward your calls to your cellular phone or a trusted individual.

Leave a normal message on your answering machine; do not announce your absence on the answering machine.

Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway while you are gone. Seeing their car come and go will help make it appear that someone is home. If you leave your car at home, park as you normally would.

Consider taking valuables that you cannot live without to a safety deposit box.

Call your local police to advise them that you are on vacation. They can schedule a vacation house watch.

3SLO99-VERMONT SQUARE

Crime Trends

There has been an increase in Burglary From Motor Vehicles in the Vermont Square area. These crimes are occurring during night time hours when people are sleeping, however there has been some activity that also occurred during the day. The majority of these incidents have occurred after victims left items of value visibly exposed inside of their vehicles.

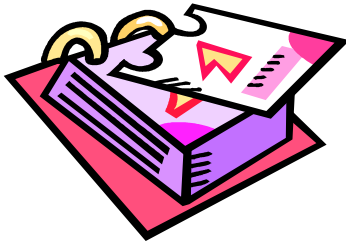
Please remember to try and park in a well lighted area. Lock your vehicle and roll all windows up. Do not leave items of value in sight. Call and report any suspicious activity to 1-877-ASK-LAPD. Be a good witness and give a good description to the operator.

Crime Tips-Reporting a Crime by Text

If you have a crime you would like to report anonymously, you can now text the letters LAPD plus your tip to #274637. You can also call 877-LAPD-24-7.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH EVENTS



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.

There will be a Townhall meeting for all Southwest Community stakeholders scheduled for July 11, 2011. The meeting will be held at Hoover Park Recreation Center, 1010 W. 25th Street, at 6:30 PM. For additional information, contact the Southwest Community Relations Office at (213) 847-5800.

The Southwest Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) usually meets the first Monday of every month at the Child Guidance Center, 3787 S. Vermont Avenue. If you are interested in attending, please contact Toni Rodgers @ (213) 847-5800.

The Voices of 90037 neighborhood council meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2011, 6:30 pm at Normandie Avenue Elementary School. Also, the Central Area Neighborhood Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 25, 2011, 6:30 pm at 6050 S. Western Avenue. For additional information, contact SLO Anderson at (323)387-9623.

The Crenshaw Plaza proudly welcomes the Crenshaw Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market will be held in the parking lot near Stocker and Santa Rosalia every Saturday from 10am to 3pm. The Crenshaw Farmers Market (formerly the Leimert Park Farmers Market) is one of seven markets sponsored by Sustainable Economic Enterprises of Los Angeles embodying the commitment to make healthy food available in a wide spectrum of the Los Angeles area.

Martin Luther King Recreation Center is now open. Come see the new gym and take classes at the new center. Here are a sample of some classes and programs:

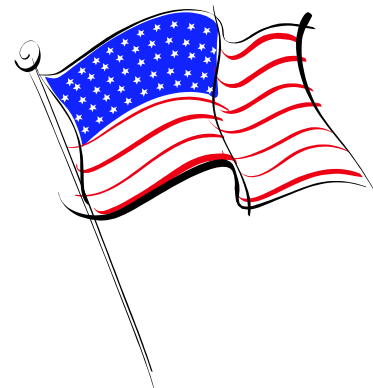
Summer Nite Lights Starts July 6th and ends Sept 3rd. 7pm-Midnite. Free food and youth programs will be available to interested community members.

LA Kid's Classes. FREE. July 5-26

Enroll in the Martin Luther King Park Summer Camp Mon-Fri 9am to 4pm. Field trips every Thursday at \$70 per week.

For additional information, contact SLO Olega at (323) 387-9819 or the Park Recreation Director, Cassandra Reyes at (213) 847-0878.

****Dates and times are subject to change. Please consult with your Senior Lead Officer prior to attending any listed event.***





The Los Angeles Police Department, Southwest Area invites you to follow us on twitter @LAPD_SOUTHWEST to get up-to-the minute information. We will be posting Public Service Announcements (PSA) from our Senior Lead Officers (SLOs), traffic information, upcoming community events, and messages from our divisional command staff.



@ LAPD_SOUTHWEST



Have a Safe Holiday