

## **Pacific Area Monthly Basic Car Newsletter for July 2021**

### **Captain's Monthly Message**

I hope you all are enjoying your summer. I wanted to take a moment and thank the LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce and the Playa/ Venice Sunrise Rotary for the outstanding 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade event they put on for the community. We truly appreciated being a part of the parade and are grateful of the community's support shown that day. Pacific Area supervisors and officers have been hard at work responding to calls for service, reporting and investigating crimes, and engaging with our community. Our crime trends have flattened from previous increases earlier in the year. Community reporting and collaboration have been a big reason why we are seeing our crime numbers within the area improve. We will continue to work hard in reducing crime and we hope the community continues to take an active role in crime reduction as well.

Coming up August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 is National Night Out. This event is being Co-Hosted by the Pacific Area Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) and the East Venice Neighbors Association. This year's NNO event will be held at Penmar Park, 1341 Lake Street in Venice from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. We look forward to seeing community members from all over Pacific Area attend this event. Come out and meet the police officers who work in your area.

You may contact Pacific Station at (310) 482-6334 for any police related questions. If you have a question or concern regarding the community or youth programs, please contact the Pacific Area Community Relations Office at (310) 482-6397. You may also contact your Senior Lead Officers with any specific questions for them at (310) 482-6407.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at National Night Out!

### **Pacific Area Annual Goals**

- Reduce the fear and incidents of crime, specifically violent crime.
- Reduce response times to calls for service.
- Expand in-person community engagement as pandemic protocols are loosened.
- Expansion of Reserve, Volunteer, and Youth programs in the area.
- Employee wellness

### **Basic Car Crime Trends and Information**

#### **Basic Car 14A11**

Senior Lead Officer Monique Contreras

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Within Basic A-Car 14A11 our violent crime statistics have flattened. We thank the community for their continued efforts in collaboration and reporting. Right now, home and commercial burglaries have been occurring more frequently becoming an issue in the area. The home burglaries that are occurring involve the suspects in these crimes entering residences through

unlocked doors or open windows. Please lock your doors and windows whenever you leave your residence and even when you are home if possible. If you own a business, please do not leave money in a cash register after you have closed for the day. Bike theft continues to be a problem in the area. Bring your bicycles inside a locked house, apartment, or area. Register your bicycle on [bikeindex.org](http://bikeindex.org) to assist in identification if stolen.

### **Basic Car 14A13**

Senior Lead Officer Adrian Acosta

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The focus for SLO13 remains to be the reduction in violent crime - most notably aggravated assaults. However, during the month of July the Oakwood Area saw a rather dramatic increase in residential burglaries. Residents are reminded of the basics: **LOCK AND SECURE YOUR HOMES!** Even a short trip away from an unsecured home leaves an opportunity for a burglary to occur. Also, be a good neighbor. Know who and who does not belong in your immediate neighborhood. Please call 877.ASK.LAPD when you see suspicious activity or 911 in the event of an emergency

### **Basic Car 14A25**

Senior Lead Officer Karwon Villery

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Basic Car 14A25 is down 1.7% in total Part 1 Crimes. This is great news and shows the impact of an involved and vigilant community. Please continue the collaboration with us on community policing and keeping your neighborhood safe. Stay vigilant and aware of your surroundings. Do not leave keys in your vehicles making it easier for thieves to steal your car. Reach out to me if you are interested in holding a neighborhood watch meeting. National Night Out is approaching and it will be held in A25's area at Penmar Park. Special thank you to our East Venice Neighbors who have stepped up to co-host this event. I am looking forward to some time with all of you at NNO!

### **Basic Car 14A27**

Senior Lead Officer Juan Ceja

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Crime in Basic Car 14A27 has trended down in July. Our big issues are still Grand Theft Auto and Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicle. Please do not leave your keys in your car, especially when tandem parking. Be mindful of thieves coming into underground parking garages after you have entered or exited and while the gate is open or in the process of closing. Maybe I will see you at the weekend Palms Farmer's Market. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

**Basic Car 14A45**

Senior Lead Officer Javier Ramirez

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14A45's crime statistics are improving! Thank you to all of you who continue to assist us in combating crime in the area. We still have crime issues of Grand Theft Auto and Thefts of catalytic converters. Again, 50% of Pacific Division catalytic converter thefts are from Toyota Prius'. If you own a Toyota Prius, consider purchasing and installing some sort of catalytic converter ant-theft device. Also, to better your chances of not becoming a victim of catalytic converter theft, park in a garage, secured parking and/or well-lit areas. If you witness a catalytic converter theft in progress, act fast and call the police as soon as possible. A possible example would be if you observe a vehicle late at night double parked next to another vehicle and a person is under or around the other parked vehicle. Take care and stay safe.

**Basic Car 14A49**

Senior Lead Officer Hector Aceves

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As of July 17, 2021, the crime in Basic Car 14A49 is up 4% in total Part I Crimes year to date beginning on January 1, 2021. To assist with keeping these numbers down, especially finishing the summer months where crime usually increases, I ask that you remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to the police immediately. Prior to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Detectives and Officers followed up on a Crime Stoppers report of an area neighbor accumulating mass amounts of fireworks for sale and use. The investigation led to the arrest of the suspect and confiscation of the fireworks. Community partnership is crucial in our efforts to keep crime down and to build a stronger relationship with your police officers.

**Basic Car 14A67**

Senior Lead Officer Luis Pinell

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As of July 17, 2021, Basic Car 14A67 is up 20.7% in total Part I Crimes. Much of our crime has been committed more recently along the Century Blvd corridor due to the re-population of the LAX area, opening up after the pandemic. We will continue to work with the residents and businesses in the area to drive down and deter crime in the area. To assist with our crime reduction efforts, especially to finish out the summer, I ask that you remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to the police immediately.

**Basic Car 14A73**

Senior Lead Officer Sophia Castaneda

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As of July 17, 2021, Basic Car 14A73 is up 21.8% in overall Part I Crimes, Year-To-Date. These statistics are year to date vs 2020 as of 7/17/21. We are asking our communities to keep up the good work in taking a proactive approach to keeping our area safe! Residential burglaries happen even during the day! Remember within the summer months let's be vigilant in securing our residences. Even when we take that quick trip to the grocery store, please remember to lock and secure your residence. Don't be a victim of burglary or theft from motor vehicle! Please don't leave valuables in your vehicles. That includes change, phone chargers, empty/full backpacks and laptops. HIDE IT! LOCK IT! KEEP IT!

Amazon lockers!! Don't entice porch pirates! A73's nearest amazon lockers are located at 9045 Lincoln Blvd (Otis College) and 12746 W Jefferson Blvd (Whole Foods).

### **Commendable Officer or Citizen Incidents by Basic Car**

Officers working Venice Beach responded to a mother's request for help when her when she was separated from her young son who has a cognitive disability and a speech impairment. The responding officers calmed the upset mother and went to work to locate her missing son. A short time later additional officers located the boy and reunited him with his mother. The mother commended the officers for being respectfully, nice, and encouraging. Working diligently as a team contributed to a happy ending for this call.

### **Neighborhood Events in Pacific Area**

National Night Out 2021 is coming up on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year's NNO event will be held at Penmar Park, 1341 Lake Street in Venice from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

### **Crime Tips or Requests for the Community**

We have recently seen an increase in Burglary/Theft from Vehicles, Catalytic Converters thefts and GTA's. Please see the below reminders to help safeguard your property!

- **DON'T LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR VEHICLES.** Whether you are tandem parked, parked in a garage, or just going inside for a moment (i.e. gas station, your home, etc.), do not leave valuable items in your vehicles or in plain sight. Due to increased catalytic converter thefts, please try and park your vehicle in driveways and if possible invest in catalytic converter locks. Do not leave your vehicle running with the keys inside while running into your home, store or to pick up your kids. Criminals only need a split second to seize an opportunity to take your vehicle. Utilize a locking mechanism on your steering wheel to make it tougher to steal your vehicle.

- **HARDENING THE TARGET.** The most common items left inside of vehicles are, laptops, wallets, purses, jackets, change, and cellphones/tablets. If it's valuable to you, the assailant also finds it valuable as well and if these items are in plain view, they will seize every opportunity to remove these items from your vehicle. Do not make it easy for these individuals, bring valuable items in the home with you or place them in the trunk area as an alternative.

Consider purchasing a catalytic converter security device and secure your property before being victimized by a thief.

• **LOCK YOUR CAR AND PARK IT IN A GARAGE OR WELL-LIT AREA.** Make it difficult to get into your vehicle. If it is outside, make your vehicle as visible as possible. Do not leave your vehicle doors unlocked and always double check your vehicle doors to ensure that the doors are locked. Do not leave your keys your vehicle, especially when tandem parking. Many of our car thefts or break-ins are a result of thieves acquiring keys to an adjacent vehicle.

### **Why Participate in A Neighborhood Watch Program?**

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with local law enforcement to reduce crime in their neighborhoods. It involves Neighbors getting to know each other, taking the time to care about each other, and working together in a program of mutual assistance. Residents are trained to recognize and report suspicious activities in their neighborhoods. They will also learn crime prevention strategies, such as home security and suspicious activity identification.

There cannot be a law enforcement officer on every corner. Resident involvement is essential to combat crime. You and your neighbors are the ones who know what is going on in your neighborhood, by cooperating with each other and with local law enforcement, people can help fight crime in their community the most effective way—by stopping it before it begins. Neighbors place signs in their windows and post signs on streets to warn criminals that they are in an active crime prevention neighborhood and that “neighbors are watching out for each other.” If you would like to start a Neighborhood Watch or Business Watch in Pacific Area, please contact the Pacific Area Senior Lead Office at (310) 482-6407.

Please remember to utilize The City of Los Angeles **MyLA311** non-emergency services. Their mission is to connect people to City Services and Information, quickly and easily, via a communication channel of their choice. Connect with the MyLA311 mobile app, MyLA311 website, by calling or emailing the MyLA311

Our SLO’s City cell phone/email is not for crime reporting or for generating radio calls.

**For non-emergencies call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273), and for emergencies dial 911.** Please refrain from calling the front desk if you need police response. The front desk officers are here to take telephonic reports and answer questions, **not dispatch calls.**

Front desk can be reached at **310-482-6334** or online reporting (CORS) at **lapdonline.org**  
**Twitter** @LAPDPacific, **Instagram** at lapdpacificdivision, and **Facebook** at LAPD Pacific Division

**\*\*\*Please note that the Pacific Area Front Desk is open for in-person reporting, 24hrs a day, 7 days a week \*\*\*.**