

Pacific Area Monthly Basic Car Newsletter for August 2021

Captain's Monthly Message

Hello Pacific Area residents and businesses! This busy summer has flown by. Throughout the year we have had substantial increases in our crime in the area, but the last couple months have seen a flattening of our crime. Along with our crime increase this year we have also seen an increase in the productivity of your Pacific Area officers. Our officers and detectives have been hard at work to reduce our incidents of crime. One aspect that has greatly assisted Pacific personnel has been the consistent communication from the community on occurrences of crime and quality of life issues. We appreciate all of the collaboration and assistance from the Pacific Area community.

A special thank you to Mr. George Francisco and Mrs. Chie Lunn, the Venice Chamber of Commerce, the Pacific Area CPAB members, the Pacific Area Boosters Association, and the East Venice Residents for producing a fabulous Nation Night Out Event on Tuesday, August 4, 2021. It was a pleasure to see so many members of the Pacific Area community come out to the event.

We have Labor Day Weekend approaching. This holiday weekend is the unofficial last big weekend for the year. We will have an increased deployment of officers to work over the weekend. Please do not hesitate to engage with the officers working out in the community, we appreciate the face-to-face conversation.

With the end of summer also comes the beginning of the academic school year. Our children will be heading back to school into the classrooms this year. Please be mindful of the kids out walking to school. Slow down and stay aware when driving in and around our schools.

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.

Thank you all and stay safe!

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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Basic Car 14A11 continues to work in collaboration with City and County partners to address Ocean Front Walk. I will continue to work on the various issues that affect the boardwalk, such as vending, motorized scooters and the addition of signs on the boardwalk. Community partners have been beneficial in voicing concerns and issues and working with City and County parts to look for solutions to address. Basic Car 14A11 will work with Council District 11 and Animal Control to address dogs off leash and with Recreation and Parks to add signage in the park. I encourage our Neighborhood Block Captains to remain active and informative. A weekly text and email are encouraged to ensure information sharing and accurate reporting of crimes. Basic Car 14A11 has seen an increase in Burglaries. The community is reminded through various meetings to keep doors and garages locked. Cameras are always encouraged. I will continue foot beats and case conferencing with Department of Mental Health and St Joseph to address those in need of services.

Basic Car 14A13

Senior Lead Officer Adrian Acosta

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Good day to all of you! We have come to a time where our schools are welcoming back students to their campuses. With this return we will also be seeing increased pedestrian traffic in our neighborhoods. Please be aware of this traffic, especially at intersections with crosswalks. We encourage all pedestrians to cross at intersections that are controlled with crosswalks. Also of note are the busy pedestrian intersections along Lincoln Bl - most notably Victoria, Palms, California and Sunset. Please be aware!!

Basic Car 14A25

Senior Lead Officer Karwon Villery

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I hope this message finds you all in good health during this trying time. A bit of good news!!! As of August 17, 2021, Basic Car 14A25 is down 8.3% in Violent Crimes. Additionally, Year-To-Date we are down 0.4 % in Property Crimes and are also down 1.3% in total Part I Crimes. We are up 8.5% in GTA's but we are trending downward compared to the beginning of the year. These statistics are from August 8, 2021 to August 14, 2021. Although these numbers are not as high as they were during this time last year, there's always room for improvement. To keep these numbers down, especially in the upcoming summer months, I ask that you remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to the police immediately. I also ask that you please refrain from leaving valuable items inside of your vehicles, and due to the increased catalytic converter thefts report any suspicious individuals either casing vehicles or underneath vehicles. Thank you to all

who were involved in this year's National Night Out event. It was a great time at Penmar Recreational Center in A25's Area!

Basic Car 14A27

Senior Lead Officer Juan Ceja

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As of August 17, 2021, Basic Car 14A27 is down 10.8% in Violent Crimes. I ask that you lock and secure your vehicles and refrain from leaving keys in the ignition or inside of your vehicle and utilize a steering wheel locking device. Please park vehicles in well lighted areas or in driveways, these tips will help decrease our GTA and Burglary From Motor Vehicle Crimes. Thank you all for your continued vigilance and communication.

Basic Car 14A45

Senior Lead Officer Javier Ramirez

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We are still having crime issues of Grand Theft Auto and Thefts of catalytic converters. These are the most problematic crimes within Basic Car A45. As a reminder, 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 anti-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. Please watch out for children and families around schools. It is expected to have increased traffic from a year ago around schools. Please slow down and leave extra time to get to your destination.

Basic Car 14A49

Senior Lead Officer Hector Aceves

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Overall crime in A49 is down nearly 4%. Please continue to be aware and active in communicating with me and other area officers. Community collaboration is crucial in our efforts to keep crime down. If you would like to gather and have a community meeting, let me know. We can have in person meetings up to 15 people due to COVID restrictions. We can also meet virtually. Stay safe in A49!

Basic Car 14A67

Senior Lead Officer Luis Pinell

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Our crime consistently occurs in and around the LAX area, partially due to the re-population of LAX. I am in consistent contact with residents and business within the area to address crime and quality of life issues. If you have a concern, please reach out to me directly. Property crime continues to be problematic, specifically thefts in the area. Please see the below crime reduction tips to avoid being victimized.

Basic Car 14A73

Senior Lead Officer Sophia Castaneda

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As of August 17, 2021, Violent Crimes in and around Westchester Park continue to occur. We are asking our communities to continue taking a proactive approach to keeping our area safe. New extra patrols were recently added on Sundays in Westchester Park to help deter violent crime and street racing in the area. 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

None for August.

Neighborhood Events in Pacific Area

Labor Day Holiday Weekend, September 4-6.

Pacific Area Boosters Association Carnival. This event will be held in front of Pacific Station on September 10th thru the 12th. Please come out and support the Pacific Area Boosters Association.

Crime Tips or Requests for the Community

We still have high occurrences of 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 ***.**