



Co-Chairs: Captain Craig Heredia & Alexa Iles Skarpelos
CPAB Secretary: Angela La Riva

Meeting Notes

March 14, 2024

I. Hollywood Station Command Update

Captain Craig Heredia

Email: 31900@lapd.online

The **Hollywood Community Police Academy** started on Tuesday, March 12th and the Captain invited people to come, even if they hadn't already signed up. They will meet every Tuesday evening and they will cover a variety of topics and feature special LAPD units.

Here is the Academy schedule:

<i>March 12:</i>	<i>Welcome & Overview</i>
<i>March 19:</i>	<i>Criminal Law, Miranda Rights, and Major Crimes</i>
<i>March 26:</i>	<i>Criminal Justice System, Mental Evaluation Unit, Traffic</i>
<i>April 2:</i>	<i>Internal Affairs, Gang & Narcotics Unit, and Counter Terrorism</i>
<i>April 9:</i>	<i>Field Trip to Communications Division</i>
<i>April 16:</i>	<i>Crime Scene, Homicide Investigations, Human Trafficking, Vice Operations</i>
<i>April 23:</i>	<i>Field Trip to Air Support</i>
<i>April 30:</i>	<i>SWAT, Metro Division, K-9 Unit, Dive Unit</i>
<i>May 7:</i>	<i>Use of Force Investigation, De-Escalation</i>
<i>May 14:</i>	<i>Recruitment & Employment, CPAB, and Crisis Response Team</i>
<i>May 21:</i>	<i>Graduation</i>

Contact Officer Gabe Ruiz if you are interested in attending.

Email: 39066@lapd.online

Phone: (213) 713-0794

Annual Academy Awards attracted protest activity on Sunday, March 10, 2024. The LAPD Major Crimes teams do monitor social media to anticipate groups protest actions. LAPD was aware of multiple protests and was able to declare a tactical alert early that morning and was prepared with additional officers. There were a total of six protests at different locations. There were a couple of minor skirmishes and a few arrests. The goal is to facilitate First Amendment activities while keeping everyone safe.

Hollywood Division Crime Stats

In Hollywood Division Overall Crime YTD is down -11.30%

- Total Violent Crime (Robbery, Aggravated Assaults, Homicide) is up slightly +1.6%
- Total Property Crime (Burglary, Burglary from Motor Vehicle, Theft) is down -15.67%
- However Grand Theft Auto is up +5.42%, and Arson is up +28.57%

They are positioning officers in the areas where they have seen clusters of activity as a proactive measure. They are able to have extra officers by having a couple of overtime sources to draw from (violent crime overtime fund, and organized retail overtime fund). These strategies are working. LAPD is still understaffed. Recruitment and retention are a top priority.

II. Government Officials Updates

The following representatives in attendance gave quick updates:

Anais Gonzalez, Field Representative for CD13 - Hollywood Area

Email: anais.gonzalez@lacity.org

Phone: (213) 886-4299

Kylie Jansen, Homelessness Deputy for CD13

Email: kylie.jansen@lacity.org

Phone: (213) 887-1304

CD13 Field Representatives provided their update.

Anais mentioned that the number of premiers / street closures on Hollywood Blvd. are back up to pre-pandemic levels.

Please report illegal dumping and loop Anais in. You can make a report using the MyLA311 app.

Someone commented that there are empty tents at locations in CD13 and the Sanitation Dept. won't clear them away despite making multiple requests.

Kylie Jansen introduced herself. She is the Homelessness Deputy for Hollywood, East Hollywood and mid Wilshire area of CD13. They are sending out teams to the larger encampments to do outreach. They are also scheduling sanitation to keep the area clean and safe. If we are seeing issues at encampments, reach out to her directly.

Mehrnoosh Naderi, Deputy City Attorney – Community Law Corps (LA City Attorney's Office)

Email: mehrnoosh.zahiri@lacity.org

Phone: (213) 978-2220

Mehrnoosh was previously part of the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program for 10 years and is now part of the new team: Community Law Corps. There are three attorneys in this unit plus three other staff. She is responsible for about a third of the City of LA, which includes about 5-6 LA City Council offices. There is no longer a Neighborhood Prosecutor assigned to each Police Station. This is a structural change implemented by the LA City Attorney's office.

Email: Att.communitylawcorps@lacity.org

Phone: (213) 978-7878

Bella Bolton, is the non-attorney staff member who works with Mehrnoosh.

From the Community Law Corps Site: <https://cityattorney.lacity.gov/clc>

"The Community Law Corps (CLC), a new division within the City Attorney's Municipal Law Branch, serves as the first point of contact for LA residents.

Comprised of attorneys and legal professionals with years of experience in civil and criminal law, the CLC takes preventative measures to address a variety of issues that affect neighborhoods and establishes partnerships to resolve problems that enforcement alone cannot adequately address. Collaborating with community members, city departments, outside government agencies and law enforcement partners, the CLC identifies and resolves challenging legal issues faced by many city neighborhoods. Additionally, this division identifies emerging concerns and works with City Hall to address them."

There was a request for clarification about why this change was made and what it means. CPAB will send a letter to the City Attorney asking for details.

Mattias (Matt) Wikstrom, Battalion Chief – Los Angeles Fire Dept.
Phone: (213) 485-6275
Email: mattias.wikstrom@lacity.org

Chief Wikstrom joined us today to introduce himself, sit in and get up to speed.

Last month we discussed the encampment fires on Franklin Avenue - they are still under investigation.

Assistant Chief Joe Everett has just been officially promoted to Assistant Chief (Dean Zipperman retired in January).

III. First Amendment, Law Enforcement & Public Safety

Douglass Hall, LAPD Detective II, CAP
Email: 36854@lapd.online

Crimes Against Persons (CAP) Table handles a broad range of crimes, everything from threats of violence to murder.

Protected Speech – First Amendment

Detective Hall joined us to talk about **crimes of words**. No matter how horrible the words are, they the vast majority don't rise to criminal enforcement. Threatening to get someone fired, for example is not criminal (although it could be part of a civil case).

Words that are NOT protected speech are threats of violence.

First Amendment protesters or auditors are not new, but today there is a relatively new phenomenon of those who are focusing on harassing individual citizens on the street. Using social media and real-time streaming they take advantage of the line between criminal and civil law. Whenever you are out in public you can have no expectation of privacy. The “street auditor’s” objective is to provoke you to act in a way that will increase their online audience.

If this happens to you:

- Do not engage – be boring! Don't give them what they want which is content!
- Keep your cool (they may try to provoke you into acting, so YOU can be charged)
- **Use your own phone to record the incident** if you feel blocked from leaving the area and verbalize “I'm afraid and I want to get away”
- Protect your own identity (don't post photos that show your house number, your car license plate etc.)
- Understand what civil harassment order is.
- Any unwanted physical touch is considered battery, and can be a chargeable offense.

Private Persons Arrest. A private citizen, who is not sworn law enforcement official, may make an arrest, which is called a “Private Persons Arrest.” A private person may arrest another for:

- a) *A public offense committed or attempted in his or her presence.*
- b) *When the person arrested has committed a felony, although not in his or her presence.*
- c) *When a felony has been in fact committed, and he or she has reasonable cause for believing the person arrested has committed it.*

Keep in mind that often this can result in cross complaints (with both parties filing complaints against each other). This also means that you will have to testify in court.

Filming in areas where there is no expectation of privacy (even if it's private property like a parking lot) is not illegal.

"Doxing" is the action of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about an individual on the Internet, with malicious intent. It's very difficult to prosecute, because you have to be able to prove intent.

"Swatting" is the action or practice of making a prank / false call to emergency services in an attempt to bring about a dispatch of a large number of armed police officers (aka SWAT) to a particular address.

IV. CPAB Committee Updates

SLO Heather Mata, Special Events Committee Update

Senior Lead Officer Hollywood Area 6A15

Email: 40988@lapd.online

SLO Mata shared the preliminary plans for National Night Out 2024. This is one night every year to boost camaraderie between the police and the community. We have hosted a variety of events over the years. This year the plan is to host the event in a park in the Hollywood Area (location TBD). This year's event is going to be held on Tuesday, August 6th.

Anyone who is interested in assisting with the planning or supporting the event should reach out to the Special Events Committee:

Officer Heather Mata (Email: 40988@lapd.online)

Officer Annabelle Eubank (Email: 37352@lapd.online)

CPAB Co-Chair, Alexa Iles Skarpelos (Email: alexa@mediaart.com)

V. Upcoming Events & Announcements

Officer Cuitlahuac (Cuit) Dominguez

Will be covering SLO Ralph Sanchez's old area (6A31) Hollywood Hills West

Email: 30942@lapd.online

LAPD Hollywood Division - Citizens Academy

The Academy runs from March 12th – May 21st

Contact Officer Gabriel Ruiz

Email: 39066@lapd.online

LA Marathon is Sunday, March 17, 2024

The route comes through Hollywood

For information about these or any closures, visit this website:

<https://hollywoodpartnership.com/alerts>

Next CPAB Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2024 (5pm)

Hollywood Community Room

Special shout out and thank you to Smart & Final & Starbucks for providing refreshments for this meeting.