



LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO CHANGE

# AREA 35 UPDATE

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# JANUARY 2026 Update

by SLO Deon Joseph



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



Well.. We survived 2025. Big thank you to the LAPD RESET Unit for their hard working in Skid Row. Thankful to the community for your support and participation in many of our programs. From Faith in Blue to National Night Out to the Citizen's Academy. I'd say 2025 was a successful year in bridging gaps and restoring connections. 2026 is poised to be a year of expanding resources to

victims of sexual assault in Skid Row, and crime reduction. It will be a challenge, but we are up for it. I believe this!!!

## VACATION TIME!!!



Starting January 11<sup>th</sup>, I will be on vacation for several weeks. Of course, you will still be in good hands with the RESET team, but if you have any concerns, my partner Officer Marilyn Gutierrez will be standing in for me. Contact her at [40635@lapd.online](mailto:40635@lapd.online) until my return.

**CRIME UPDATES**

There are no notable crime trends. In the Historic Core (Spring, Main and LA Streets), please continue to lock and secure vehicles. Remove your valuables to reduce the chance of vehicle break ins. Never step out of your vehicle with the keys in it and car running. That is a recipe for disaster.



In the Skid Row Area – Aggravated assaults are an issue, also robberies. Sexual assaults are also problematic, and many victims who seek shelter from the cold, could unfortunately end up in a tent or hotel with a very dangerous person. Please call 211 and utilize the Winter Shelter program that is ongoing until March. You can also go to 442 Crocker, or the Midnight Mission after 6pm. Please don't choose the streets if you don't have to.



**THANK YOU**



To the LAPD Central SLOS AND Community Relations Office for helping to spread Christmas joy to children at the Union Rescue Mission during our 11<sup>th</sup> annual One Cop One Kid Toy giveaway. Thank you URM for allowing us to share our hearts with you.

**CLERGY COUNCIL REBOOT**



2026 we are going to rebuild our Central Area Clergy Council. Anyone faith leader with interest in being a part of this, we welcome you. Shoot me an email or text if you are interested.

**HAPPY MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**



**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE**

“We may encounter many defeats. Doesn't mean you are defeated.”

Whew! I needed this one y'all. Keep pressing toward success fam.

**JOKES OF THE MONTH**

Why don't people truly listen to each other on New Year's Eve?

Because their words go in one year then out the other.



I heard baby New Year will be sentenced to prison in 2026.

He got 365 days.



Why should Baby New Year stand on his left foot during the New Year's Eve Countdown?

So, he can start the year on the right foot!



## TO SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS IN SKID ROW

**WE ARE NOT HERE  
TO JUDGE. WE ARE  
HERE TO SERVE**



There have been reported and non-reported incidents of sexual assaults in the Skid Row area. Some of these incidents are happening within the tents. We have had some women get grabbed and taken into a tent as they walk past them.

Others voluntarily enter a tent then get sexually assaulted. Some buy narcotics, and end up unconscious possibly from being slipped something, and then assaulted in a tent. Others were in a hotel room or allowed someone to enter their room and were assaulted.

I pray that this never happens to you, but if it does, I want you to know these important things.

- IT IS NEVER YOUR FAULT
- WE WILL NOT JUDGE YOU IF YOU WERE BUYING DRUGS OR ENGAGED IN SEX

- WORK WHEN YOU WERE ASSAULTED
- WE DO NOT CARE IF YOU ARE ON PROBATION OR PAROLE
- WE WILL NOT DEPORT YOU IF YOU ARE UNDOCUMENTED
- WE WILL NOT ARREST YOU FOR PETTY WARRANTS FOR REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT
- ALL WE CARE ABOUT IS GETTING YOU JUSTICE

## **Some important things you should do if you are assaulted SEXUALLY**

- CALL 911 AND REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY – IT IS THE ONLY WAY WE GET CAN GET YOU JUSTICE.
- THE LONGER YOU WAIT, TO REPORT IT, THE HARDER IT IS TO GET A FILING.
- DO NOT THROW AWAY CLOTHING OR SHOWER YOU MAY DESTROY EVIDENCE WE NEED TO GET YOU JUSTICE
- COOPERATE WITH THE OFFICERS

- ALLOW THE OFFICERS TO TAKE YOU TO GET EXAMINED BY A DOCTOR FOR YOUR HEALTH AND EVIDENCE COLLECTION
- GIVE DETECTIVES A LOCATION AND A CONTACT NUMBER WHERE THEY CAN REACH YOU IF YOU ARE HOMELESS
- AWESOME ADVOCATES AT OUR STATION FROM PEACE OVER VIOLENCE, WHO ARE AVAILABLE DURING THE WEEK. YOU CAN WALK IN ANYTIME TO SPEAK WITH THEM. THEY ARE NOT POLICE OFFICERS; THEY ARE COUNSELORS AND ADVOCATES WHO ARE HERE FOR YOU.
- FROM YOUR SENIOR LEAD OFFICER DEON JOSEPH

**WE KNOW IT'S ROUGH OUT THERE, BUT WE WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU ARE NOT ALONE. IF YOU NEED TO SPEAK WITH A COUNSELOR BEFORE TALKING TO US, WE HAVE PEACE OVER VIOLENCE COUNSELORS AT OUR STATION. REMEMBER: YOU DID NOT DESERVE IT, AND IT IS NEVER YOUR FAULT!!!**

