

Pacific Area Basic Car Newsletter for December 2023

Captain's Message

Hello Pacific Area Residents! Here we are. We made to the end of 2023. I hope that you are having opportunities to spend some time with family and friends during these holidays. Pacific Area crime has stabilized but some crime-categories continue to have an increase over 2022. We are committed to working hard to address crime and quality of life problems in the area. Some problems require a collaborative approach to solve. We consistently communicate and work with our City, County, and State government partners to tackle issues in the area. We appreciate the on-going communication with community members in solving crimes, problem-solving quality of life issues, and participating in special community events.

Throughout this holiday season, please keep situational awareness for your self and family while out. Keep a watchful eye for any potential criminal moving through your neighborhood. As always, if you see something, say something. Partner with your neighbors to “harden the target” for your neighborhood. Together we can continue to decrease crime and other community problems in our area.

Stay Safe and may you have a blessed holiday season!

Captain Michael Applegate
Commanding Officer
Pacific Area Community Police Station

911 for Emergencies, 1-877-ASK-LAPD for Non-Emergency service calls.

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.

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.
- Expansion of Reserve, Volunteer, Block Captains, and Youth programs in the area.
- Employee wellness

Basic Car Crime Trends and Information

Basic Car 14A11

Senior Lead Officer Monique Contreras

Cell Phone: 424-489-8968

Email Address: 38228@lapd.online

The Venice Holiday Sign Lighting on December 2nd was a success! Thank you to George Francisco and the Venice Chamber of Commerce for producing such a great holiday event for the Venice community.

Theft of bicycles continues to plague the Venice area. Please ensure that your bicycle is registered in bikeindex.org and if possible refrain from storing your bicycle in underground garages or outside. Please get into a routine to ensure that your vehicle doors are locked, and your house is secure. In addition, always make sure that your garage door is closed and secured properly.

Basic Car 14A13

Senior Lead Officer Sam Gil

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Email Address: 41153@lapd.online

Happy Holidays! The Holiday Season calls for gatherings of both families and co-workers. These celebrations are truly special times and often involve the consumption of alcoholic beverages. As a friendly and professional reminder, I'm asking that if you should consume any alcoholic beverages to please not drive your car or motorcycle. Please use a ride share service, taxi or rely on a friend or family member. Simply put the life you save could very well be your own. Cheers to you and your family this holiday season and have the happiest of New Years!

Basic Car 14A25

Senior Lead Officer Karwon Villery

Cell Phone: 310-622-3973

Email Address: 38717@lapd.online

I hope this message finds you all in good health as we enter this holiday season. I ask that you continue to remain proactive and report suspicious activity to the police immediately. I also ask that you please refrain from leaving valuable items inside of your vehicles. Due to the continued catalytic converter thefts City-wide, report any suspicious individuals either casing vehicles or underneath vehicles.

Happy Holidays!

Basic Car 14A27

Senior Lead Officer Adrian Acosta

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Creating a city service request has never been easier. The 311 Call Center provides several options to connect to several non-emergency City Services. You can request City services by calling 311 or (213) 473-3231, visiting myla311.lacity.org or by submitting via the MyLA311 mobile app. Use the MyLA311 app to easily request City services such as graffiti removal, pothole repair, trash pick-up, abandoned vehicle reporting and much more.

Basic Car 14A45

Senior Lead Officer Javier Ramirez
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Email Address: 39174@lapd.online

Hello A45! Violent crime continues to decline because all of you have made a difference. As we finish out the year, I am asking that you continue to remain vigilant as you have all year. I truly appreciate all of you who help make our A45 community a better place. I have been working diligently to address some of the quality of life issues that you have reported. Some of the issues reported require coordination from multiple entities including LA Sanitation or County and State government partners. I will continue to work these outside resources and advocate on your behalf for services.

Have a happy and safe holiday season!

Basic Car 14A49

Senior Lead Officer Hector Aceves
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During the Holidays, I ask that you remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to the police immediately. Only together will we reduce the fear and incidents of crime. Community engagement is crucial in our efforts to keep crime down and to build a stronger relationship with the Police. If you would like to become an A49 Block Captain, please reach out to me.

Happy Holidays!

Basic Car 14A67

Senior Lead Officer Luis Pinell
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Crime levels in Basic Car A67, especially along the Century Blvd corridor have stayed steady over recent weeks due to the on-going occurrences of property crime. I have coordinated task forces in response to the crime in the area which resulted in arrests. I continue to collaborate

with the Century Blvd Security Directors for hotels and high-end retail establishments. Due to the occurrences of Grand Theft Auto crimes, please see the below reminders to help safeguard your property! I will continue to work with retail managers and other resources to address crime and other issues in the area. Please stay engaged and help protect your neighborhoods. I appreciate all of your efforts this year.

Happy holidays and stay safe!

Basic Car 14A73

Senior Lead Officer Sophia Castaneda

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As we enter the holiday months and with the increase in online shopping we recommend the following.

- Have packages delivered to work.
- Schedule deliveries for times you will be home.
- Buddy up with a trusted neighbor.
- Require a signature to obtain the package.
- Consider using a smart locker, or lock box.
- Monitor your front porch. Security cameras or video doorbells can be used to keep an eye on your packages, deterring thieves from grabbing them off of your property.

We are asking our communities to keep up the good work in taking a proactive approach to keeping our area safe!

Commendable Crime Investigation

Pacific Area Officers responded to a radio call of an “Assault With a Deadly Weapon Suspect There Now” at Venice Beach. The suspect was said to be armed with a knife. The officers arrived at location and met with the victim and a witness. The victim and witness reported that the suspect attempted to stab the victim with a knife and then run into one of the area restrooms. The officers observed a person matching the description of the suspect exit the restroom from where the suspect was last seen running into. Officers gave verbal commands to the suspect which the suspect ignored. The suspect began to walk away and then ran to evade capture. A brief foot pursuit ensued with the officers catching up to the suspect. Officers had to push the suspect to the ground to stop him. Once on the ground, officers used additional physical force and firm grips to control the suspect for handcuffing. A pat-down of the suspect yielded a knife in his possession.

During the field show-up, the victim and witness positively identified the suspect as the male with the knife who attempted to stab the victim. The suspect was subsequently arrested.

Neighborhood Events in Pacific Area

Pacific Area Senior Lead Officers and Cadets participated in the Muscle Beach Toy Drive on December 3rd. A special thank you to Mr. Joe Wheatley for producing such a great event. There were more toys donated than ever before! Senior Lead and Community Relations Officers will continue to deliver donated toys to various community groups such as but not limited to; Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs, Mar Vista Community Housing, HUD Housing, etc.

Our Officers will be out with Santa and the LAPD Pacific Santa Sleigh throughout December before Santa has to head back to the North Pole. Check our Socials for days, times, and routes.

Crime Tips or Requests for the Community

We still have high occurrences of Bicycle Thefts, Burglary/Theft from Vehicles, Catalytic Converters thefts and Grand Theft Auto'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 in 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 ***.**