

77th STREET AREA BASIC CAR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

July 2015

We are well into summer which means the observance of Independence Day, a national holiday marked by patriotic celebrations all over the country. As you know, the holiday on July 4th is a commemoration of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and custom dictates celebrations in the form of barbecues with family and friends and organized, professional fireworks displays. While celebrating Independence Day is a wonderful way to connect with loved ones, friends, and neighbors, it is important to be mindful of the law and the dangers associated with the use of fireworks. In the City of Los Angeles, all fireworks are illegal as mandated in section 57.55.01(A) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC). Fireworks are prohibited because of the inherent danger involved in using explosive devices/substances. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the risk of fireworks injury is highest for the 0-4 age group followed by children 10 to 14 years of age. Even seemingly innocent sparklers account for 79% of injuries resulting in emergency room visits for children under age 5. Please keep your children safe and healthy by celebrating the holiday responsibly.

Regarding our crime statistics compared to the same time period last year, we have seen an increase Department-wide in violent, part-I, and property crime. Specifically, 77th has experienced a 15.4% increase in violent crime, an 8.4% increase in part-I crime, and a 5% increase in property crime. It should be noted, however, that 77th ranks among the top 9 geographical divisions with the lowest crime rates in all three crime areas. That said, ultimately our strategies to control crime are having an impact but the task of crime prevention cannot be accomplished by the police alone. Crime reduction requires the willing cooperation of both the police and the community working together toward a common goal, simply building relationships. Sir Robert Peel once said, "The police are the public and the public are the police." Through relationship-based policing, we develop an interdependent, collaborative alliance based on trust and transparency through which we can positively impact the quality of life in our community. The true test of the effectiveness of our relationship-based policing is the absence of crime in our neighborhoods. The result of a successful partnership is a peaceful place to live, work, and raise families.

In community news, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, Operation Ceasefire meets at the Bethel AME church located at 7900 S. Western Avenue. All are welcome at the meetings. Come join us for a unique opportunity to listen to inspired members of the community along with LAPD officers from 77th and other divisions. In the meetings we discuss community concerns and share ideas on enhancing public safety. We'd love to see you there!

From all of us in 77th, happy Independence Day! Please celebrate safely and responsibly and designate a sober driver.

To stay updated on 77th Street Area community events or crime information for your neighborhood, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/lapd77thstreet or follow us on Twitter @LAPD2014 and @LAPD77thSt. You can also follow 77th Patrol Commanding officer, Captain Marc Reina on Twitter @LAPDMarcReina.

CORY PALKA, Captain
Commanding Officer
77th Street Community Police Station

2015 Annual Work Plan Goals

77th Street Area is strengthening the Community-Police Partnership by increasing the number of youth in the Area Juvenile Programs, increasing the number of volunteer opportunities, and promoting community participation in Block Club activities.

77th Street Area is working on maintaining and strengthening the Area Safe Park Programs by bringing recreational activities back to neighborhood parks. The 77th Street Area Police Activities League is promoting leadership and team work through an “all kids shall play” sports and mentoring league. Contact 77th Street Area Community Relations for more information (323) 786-5012.

Community Partnership Meetings

Community Police Advisory Board	Every 2 nd Thursday, 7:00 pm
Hispanic Outreach Meetings	Every 4 th Friday, 7:00 pm (<i>Except October</i>)
Clergy Council Meetings	Every 4 th Wednesday, 7:00 pm (<i>Except October</i>)
Cadet Meeting	Every Thursday, 6:30 pm

Crime Tips



LOCK IT! HIDE IT! KEEP IT!

Don't be victimized!

***LOCK IT!** – Always lock your vehicle.*

***HIDE IT!** – Hide your valuable from plain sight.*

***KEEP IT!** – Personal responsibility & prevention can safeguard your valuables from theft.*

SAFETY TIPS

DO

- Always lock your car!
- Keep your windows rolled up.
- Lock items in the trunk.
- Park in well lit area.

DON'T

- Leave items in plain view.
- Leave engine running when you are away from the car.

Contact 77th Street Area Senior Lead Office for more information (323) 786-5040