

77th STREET AREA BASIC CAR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

May 2015

Whenever I think of summer, I think of Memorial Day weekend, the kick-off holiday event of the summer months that happens every May. I feel a twinge of nostalgia thinking of past Mother's Day celebrations and graduations as well as excitement for those celebrations to come. I contemplate the gratitude I feel for those in our military who serve and sacrifice for our freedom. This year, in addition to all those musings, I am hopeful. I am encouraged that these challenging times hold the promise of great social change for our diverse communities all over the nation. Being in law enforcement is perhaps more difficult now than it's ever been. But I know our police officers in 77th are supported by our community and in turn, we support you. I am privileged to be the Commanding Officer of 77th Street Area and the officers and I humbly embrace our positions in this community. We are honored to make a positive difference in your lives and it is a role we do not take for granted.

Recently I had the opportunity to view the 77th 15-year crime comparison chart and I was astonished. In 2002, we had 11,786 reported crimes, the highest number of crimes reported in any year in 77th. Twelve years later in 2014, we had 7,136 reported crimes, our lowest number. To put that in perspective, that is a 39.5% decrease in reported crime, a remarkable improvement. Regarding crime rates in 77th compared to this same time period last year, we are comparatively higher with a 23% increase in violent crime, a 12% increase in property crime, and a 15% increase in part I crime.

In community news, please join us on Saturday, May 2 for our Safe Summer Tip Off, LAPD vs. LAFD at the USC Galen Center located at 3400 S. Figueroa Street from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. Our very own LAPD officers will face off with LAFD firefighters in a fierce match-up on the basketball court. Later, there will be a basketball skills clinic, prize giveaways, a social media scavenger hunt, entertainment, a free BBQ lunch, and lots of family fun. You won't want to miss it! Later in May, we will be congratulating some very hard-working cadets at the cadet graduation where over 550 cadets from throughout the City will be honored. We expect a crowd of over eight thousand friends and family who will be celebrating at the Galen Center with their cadets. Great work cadets!

As the summer celebrations get underway, please remember to celebrate safely and responsibly. Always designate a sober driver. From all of us in 77th, happy Mother's Day! And to all of our military personnel, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

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 (213) 485-4285.

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 (213) 847-2817