



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



Devonshire Area Neighborhood Watch Newsletter ♦ October 2012

Message from the Commanding Officer, Devonshire Area

Greetings all,

On August 18, 2012, Devonshire Senior Lead Officers coordinated the Annual Open House at Devonshire Community Police Station. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Devonshire Community for contributing to the success of our Open House. We all had a wonderful time and look forward to next year's event. On August 23, 2012, Devonshire Area Senior Lead Officers held a Divisional Basic Car Meeting. We had approximately 300 attendees! The topic was "Identity Theft" education. We enjoyed catching up with many of you and were grateful for the opportunity to meet so many new community members and share information/ideas with you. The feedback from everyone was positive and we thank all that attended. A special thank you to St. John Eudes Church for hosting the event.

In keeping with the message of identity theft prevention, I would like to remind you that **Shred-It and the Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers** are teaming up to help the community by hosting a free **Community Shred-It Event**.

It will be on October 6, 2012 from 9AM to 2PM at Target located at 11133 Balboa Blvd. Devonshire Senior Lead Officers will be in attendance.



Kris E. Pitcher, Captain
Commanding Officer
Devonshire Community Police Station

Basic Car Area 17A23

Senior Lead Officer Dan Del Valle

Cell Phone: (818) 634-0362 - 27677@lapd.lacity.org

CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

Basic Car 17A23, this past month, is doing well overall. Although Grand Theft Auto (GTA) activity has lessened significantly, Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle (B/TFMV) clusters have appeared in the areas of Chatsworth Park South and the strip malls in the area of Topanga Canyon and Lassen Street. A majority of these crimes are occurring during early and late morning hours of the day. **Please remember to HIDE your valuables in your trunk or take them with you, AND most importantly, LOCK your vehicles. The suspects try to commit crimes when they feel the area is clear of witnesses. Please let others know of the crime activity that is occurring in the area and report suspicious activity.**

CRIME TIPS

Please mark your property with your California operator license number for identification purposes. If property is stolen, law enforcement is able to refer to the Department of

Motor Vehicles database and locate the owner. In addition to marking your property, **photograph and/or take a video recording of your valuables.** Have a safe and fun Halloween.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND EVENTS

The next Basic Car 17A23 Neighborhood Watch Meeting is Thursday, October 25, 2012, at 7PM. Our meetings are held @ 7PM every 4th Thursday of the month at Saint John Eudes Church, 9901 Mason Avenue, Chatsworth.

Basic Car Area 17A35

Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core

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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

The Basic Car area is looking good with no concentration of crimes in any particular Reporting District (RD). The advice I wish to pass on is for the public to remain mindful of three particular locations that keep having re-occurring incidents of Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle (B/TFMV). These locations are: O'Melveny Park in RD 1705; the L.A. Fitness parking lot at Devonshire Street and Reseda Avenue in RD 1743, and the residential area in the vicinity of Petit Park in RD 1737. **The most common item being taken are unattended purses being left in plain sight inside of parked vehicles.** Please be vigilant and continue to report suspicious activity to our **Dispatch Center at 1-877-275-5273.**

CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION

The most frequently stolen vehicles have been the late 1980's and early 1990's model Toyota Camry, Honda Civic and Honda Accord. Owners of these vehicles should take precautions to prevent their vehicles from being stolen. Applying a device which locks the steering wheel or brakes is a good tool to use in preventing auto theft.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND EVENTS

Our next meeting will be at 7PM on Thursday, October 20, 2012, at Saint Euphrasia Church, 11767 Shoshone Avenue in Granada Hills.

Basic Car Area 17A49

Senior Lead Officer Janine Angeles

Cell (818) 325-7749 - E-mail: 30392@lapd.lacity.org

CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

School is back in session! Please remind your kids not to leave valuables inside of their vehicles! Thieves are breaking into vehicles and taking purses, wallets, GPS's and back-packs. These crimes are occurring all over our Basic Car area. Also, when your kids are walking to and from school, remind them to keep their phones and I-Pods' hidden. Do not keep valuables in their backpacks either. **These few safety tips can keep your kids from becoming the victim of a crime!**

CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION

If you see a crime in progress, call 911. If possible, and

without endangering yourself, continue to monitor any activity you can observe. A police dispatcher will answer 911 and will ask a series of questions relating to the activity you're witnessing. Being able to quickly articulate your location will assist the officers in their response. During this stressful time it's important for you to remain calm so you can clearly answer the dispatcher's questions. Listen to the police dispatcher for direction and guidance. Some of the questions may not seem pertinent to you, but dispatchers are trained to know exactly what information the officers need to respond quickly and safely.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND EVENTS

Our next Basic Car Meeting will be at 7PM on Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at Emeritus of Northridge located at 17650 Devonshire Street.

Basic Car Area 17A67

Senior Lead Officer Ignacio Murillo

Cell (818) 634-0495 - E-mail: 34879@lapd.lacity.org

CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

We have experienced an increase of miscellaneous crimes along the Reseda Corridor between Lassen Street and Roscoe Blvd. Most of these crimes are taking place during late night or early morning hours. **We need your help! Please be vigilant in this area. If you see anything "suspicious", call the police.**

CRIME AND SAFETY INFORMATION

October is full of parties, costumes, and miscellaneous treats. Halloween is an exciting time of the year for all, especially kids. However, it's important that you remember to be alert to prevent hazards. When picking costumes, consider light colors. If the costume is made of dark material, attach reflector tape to increase nighttime visibility. **There are many good crime and safety tips on the internet. But most important; "Don't allow your small children to go out alone. Stay near them at all times to prevent any unnecessary hazards!"**

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

Our next Basic Car Meeting will be Wednesday, October 24, 2012, at 7PM at Calahan Elementary School, 18722 Knapp Street, Northridge. - NOT THE LAST WEDNESDAY

Basic Car Area 17A81

Senior Lead Interim Officer John Parker

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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

There were five Residential Burglaries within Basic Car 17A81 during the period of August 12 through September 8, 2012. Those five burglaries occurred in Reporting Districts; 1762, 1764, 1781, and two in 1792.

Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle (B/TFMV) showed we are still getting hit hard in RD 1764 with most of the B/TFMV's occurring between the hours 6AM-6PM. RD 1764 had seven; RD 1792 had five; RD 1772 had four; RD's 1782 & 1791 each had three, and RD's 1771 & 1781 each had one. **I am pleased to announce that after our "Hide it, Lock it, Keep it" campaign launched from August 28-30, B/TFMV's decreased the following week with only three occurrences. Since the majority of the B/TFMV's are occurring around the Northridge Mall, please remember to lock your vehicles and keep valuables out of eyesight when you are shopping!** Basic Car 17A81 also had four Grand Theft Auto (GTA) occurrences; RD's 1764 and 1791 each had two.

CRIME TIPS

Please mark your valuables inside of your residence with an engraver or at bare minimum with a permanent marker. If you ever become a victim of a Residential Burglary, the chances of getting your property back increases dramatically. **We recommend you use your driver's license number when you mark your valuables. Another good idea would be to photograph your jewelry or other items that you do not want to mark up or that are too small to engrave.** Also, suspects who break into vehicles are often desperate for cash; therefore, oftentimes a GPS, handbag, or cell phone is enough for them to break a window. Remove valuables from plain sight by taking them with you or by placing them into your trunk (before you reach your destination - (suspects have been known to watch victims as they leave their vehicles).

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

Join us on Friday, October 19, 2012 from 5PM-7:30PM for SOLID's 17th Annual **"ALL YOU CAN EAT PASTA DINNER"**. The location is St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 17037 Plummer Street. The cost is \$8 per person.

The October Basic Car meeting will be on Thursday October 18, 2012 at 7:00PM. The location will be at 21001 Plummer Street (Sunburst Mobile Home Park), inside the clubhouse.

**S.O.L.I.D.'s 17th Annual
All You Can Eat Pasta Dinner
Friday, October 19, 2012
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
\$8.00 per person
St. Nicholas Church
Plummer & Balboa**



Basic Car Area 17A95

Senior Lead Officer Kate Luna

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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

We have seen a rise in stolen vehicles and vehicle break-ins over the last month. There was also a robbery at a fast food restaurant in the area of Balboa Boulevard and Nordhoff Street. The robbery occurred during evening hours.

CRIME TIPS: Lock it, Hide it, Keep it!

Always lock your vehicle and close your windows. **DO NOT** leave your laptop or any other valuables in plain sight inside your vehicle. Always use your vehicle's alarm system. If possible, park your vehicle in a garage or as close to a streetlight as possible. **DO NOT leave your garage remote in your vehicle.** Use a steering column-locking or brake-locking device and check your vehicle and your neighbor's vehicles periodically. **If you see any suspicious activity near a vehicle, call the police.**

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

The next Basic Car meeting will be on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 7PM, at The Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 17037 Plummer Street. Please join us for SOLID's 17th Annual Pasta Dinner, Friday, October 19, 2012 at 5PM at Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 17037 Plummer Street.