

Southwest



Volume 03, Issue 4

APRIL 2011

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE

As we move into the second quarter of 2011, the spring season arrives, signaling a time of change and growth. Southwest Area embraces this time of change, with great expectancy. Since my appointment to Southwest, there have been promotions of staff, departures of friends, arrivals of babies and myriad adjustments that are inevitable with change but our partnerships are thriving, and as spring produces new life, so too are we at Southwest channeling positive new energy.

Crime trends are still historically low and our goal of continued reduction is a top priority for 2011. To strengthen our law enforcement efforts, we are utilizing force multipliers; various community partners, who hold valuable interests in the success of Southwest Area. They are eyes and ears that multiply our span of control. We are reaching out to our Community-Police Advisory Board members, our Neighborhood Councils and Watches, our Clergy Council and our Boosters to further extend the exchange of information. We have also initiated outreach for the dissemination of real-time updates through Twitter and Nixle, so that critical information can reach those most directly affected by it at an accelerated pace. Additional group functions have been added to the calendar to reach more stakeholders at magnified levels of interaction. The exchange of ideologies, concepts and suggestions has been impressive.

In short, we are off to a great start, and look forward to nurturing the efforts we have started, moving toward a high yield of productivity through our partnered projects this year.

Melissa A. Zak, Captain
Commanding Officer
Southwest Community Police Station

SOUTHWEST

**1546 W. MARTIN LUTHER KING BL.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90062
(213) 485-2584**

AREA COMMANDING OFFICER

MELISSA A. ZAK, CAPTAIN III

PATROL COMMANDING OFFICER

VITO N. PALAZZOLO, CAPTAIN I

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

(213) 928-8223

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

SPANISH

(213) 928-8222

EMERGENCY DISPATCH

911

SOUTHWEST DIVISION CRIME TIP

(213) 485-7492

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY

RELATIONS OFFICE

(213) 847-5800

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER DIRECTORY

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
SERGEANT II MICHAEL GOOSBY
213/847-5800

3A1-ADAMS BOULEVARD NEIGHBORHOOD

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER SERGIO SANCHEZ

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9615

EMAIL: 25832@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A15-WEST ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER TRACY HAUTER

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9617

EMAIL: 35896@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A19-NORTH UNIVERSITY PARK

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER GERALDINE THOMSEN

CELL PHONE: 213/924-5231

EMAIL: 37098@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A31-JEFFERSON PARK

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER JOHN BIONDO

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9622

EMAIL: 36576@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A41-BALWIN HILLS/VISTA; VILLAGE GREEN

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER KEVAN BEARD

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9621

EMAIL: 35841@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A55-WESTERN CORRIDOR; JEFFERSON PARK

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER PIERRE OLEGA

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9619

EMAIL: 35919@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A57-UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER SAM SALAZAR

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9616

EMAIL: 31256@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A63-BALDWIN VILLAGE

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER JOSE SALDANA

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9614

EMAIL: 36870@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A73-LEIMERT PARK; CRENSHAW CORRIDOR

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER SUNNY SASAJIMA

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9618

EMAIL: 37508@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

3A99-VERMONT SQUARE

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER SEAN ANDERSON

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9623

EMAIL: 35839@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

CRENSHAW PLAZA

POLICE OFFICER III THOMAS ROGERS

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9624

EMAIL: 23236@LAPD.LACITY.ORG

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SENIOR LEAD OFFICER NICHOL GARNER

CELL PHONE: 323/387-9620

EMAIL: 32272@LAPD.LACITY.ORG



Community awareness is the key to crime prevention. If you are interested in establishing a Block Club in your area, please contact your Senior Lead Officer for assistance.

CRIME AND ARREST INFORMATION

Officers in Southwest Division have been working extremely hard to reduce crime, provide a safe environment and a better quality of life for the residents and business owners of the Southwest Area.

3SLO15-WEST ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD

Crime Trends

The month of March has been rather quiet for the West Adams area. Due to the arrest and clean up of Hobart Alley, vehicle crimes have dropped dramatically. Senior Lead Officer Hauter has also teamed up with Probation and Southwest Auto Detectives to conduct a series of Probation searches in the Adams and Normandie area. They will be targeting individuals who are on Formal Probation for auto crimes in the area.

Overall, violent crime and gang crime is down for the month. Southwest Officers made an arrest of a Rollin' 20's gang member who was a named suspect in a Domestic Violence incident. When the officers took the individual into custody, they recovered a handgun and narcotics. The individual was placed under arrest.

If anyone has information please contact Senior Lead Officer Tracy Hauter (323) 387-9617.

3SLO19-NORTH UNIVERSITY PARK

Crime Trends

Citywide crime is down 9.3%. Violent crime is down 16.8%. Property crime is down 7.4%. Officer Thomsen has received complaints regarding people conducting illegal vending in city limits near Vermont and Norwood Elementary Schools. Also, Officer Thomsen will be conducting traffic enforcement if people are parked in areas near schools where parking is not allowed. Please do not double park if you are dropping or picking up your

child near school campus. It is important the community understands in case of an emergency, police or the fire department will need the area clear where parking is only allowed for emergency personnel.



Earthquake Safety Tips

Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently and without warning, as seen recently around the globe. Identifying potential hazards ahead of time and advance planning can reduce the dangers of serious injury or loss of life from an earthquake. Here are a few tips; for more information, log onto:

<http://www.lapdonline.org>

Before an Earthquake

- Fasten shelves securely to walls.
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Hang heavy items such as pictures and mirrors away from beds and couches.
- Secure water heaters by strapping them to wall studs and bolting them to the floor.

Identify safe places in each room

- Under sturdy furniture such as a heavy desk or table.
- Against an inside wall.
- Away from where glass could shatter around windows, mirrors, pictures
- Away from where heavy bookcases or other heavy furniture could fall over.

Locate safe places outdoors

- Away from buildings, trees, telephone and electrical lines, or elevated expressways.

- Make sure all family members know how to respond after an earthquake.

Develop an emergency plan that includes:

- Family meeting place
- Evacuation sites
- Out-of-state contact
- Plan to pick up children from school
- Alternative transportation routes

Assemble an emergency kit that includes:

- Drinking water
- Nonperishable food
- Flashlight
- Portable radio
- Extra batteries
- Extra clothing
- Prescription drugs
- Prescription glasses
- Dentures

Prepare an evacuation kit that includes:

- Blankets
- Pillows
- Medical supplies
- Hygiene supplies

Identify shut-off valves for:

- Electricity
- Gas
- Water

During an Earthquake

- Take cover under a piece of heavy furniture or against an inside wall and hold on.
- Stay inside.
- If outdoors: Move into the open, away from buildings, street lights, and utility wires, and stay there until the shaking stops.
- If in a moving vehicle: Stop quickly in a clear area away from buildings, trees, overpasses, or utility wires, and stay in the vehicle.

After an Earthquake

- Be prepared for aftershocks.
- Although smaller than the main shock, aftershocks cause additional damage and may bring weakened structures down.
- Help injured or trapped persons.
- Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for the latest emergency information.
- Stay out of damaged buildings. Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.

Senior Lead Officer Thomsen would like to encourage the community to get involved in their neighborhood watch. If you need information, please contact SLO Thomsen at (213) 847-5800.

3SLO31-JEFFERSON PARK

Crime Trends

Recently there have been a number of burglaries targeting apartment building laundry rooms. Suspects pry open the laundry room doors, enter the location, break the coin receptacles on the machines and remove the monies. Property owners and apartment residents are urged to lock these rooms after their use and especially in the late evening hours, when most of the crimes have occurred. Owners should consider an alarm system as well as reinforced doors and enhanced lighting. Residents should immediately report any unusual activities or persons loitering in and/or around the property to LAPD for response and investigative follow-up.

Officer Biondo is interested in establishing new block clubs. If you are interested in starting a new block club or have a block club that has been on hiatus and wants to start up again, please contact Officer Biondo at (213) 847-5800

If you have information on crime that is occurring in your neighborhood, you can contact the Southwest Division Crime Tip Line at (213) 485-7492

Crime Tip

On July 8, 2010, 57-year-old [Lonnie David Franklin Jr.](#) was arrested for a series of murders, ten women and one man, dating back to 1985. In the hours and days that followed, detectives and evidence technicians recovered thousands of items of evidence. Many of the items seized were photographs and videotapes.

LAPD investigators have assembled a group of images from the photographs and videotapes. The Department cares about the welfare of these women and is hoping both the public and other law enforcement agencies will be able to provide information on their identities and whereabouts.

The images depict the likeness of women or a unique feature. It is believed that some of the images are duplicate photos of some of the women. Investigators also believe that many, if not all of the women, had some form of contact with Lonnie David Franklin Jr., the suspected serial murderer, known in the media as the ["Grim Sleeper."](#)

Detectives have been able to remove 29 photos from the group of images that were posted online and in the news. Out of the 29 photos; eight were duplicates, one was a known victim whose family was unable to attend the identification meeting held by the department. A majority of the women depicted in the photos are alive and well; a few have died from natural causes and a few have been identified as missing persons.

If you have any information on the individuals pictured please immediately contact the LAPD by one of the methods listed below. It is our fervent hope that with the public's assistance, and the tireless efforts of our detectives, the women depicted in these images will be positively identified.

The photographs can be viewed at the Los Angeles Police Department's official website: www.LAPDonline.org. Anyone with information about this crime is urged to call 1-877-LAPD-24-7 (1-877-527-3247). Anyone wishing to remain anonymous should call Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (1-800-222-8477). Tipsters may also contact Crimestoppers by texting to phone number 274637 (C-R-I-M-E-S on most keypads) with a cell phone. All text messages should begin with the letters

"LAPD." Tipsters may also go to www.LAPDOnline.org, click on "webtips" and follow the prompts.

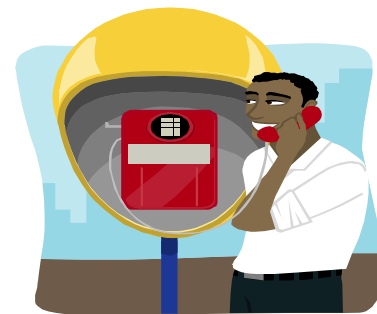


3SLO55-JEFFERSON PARK/WESTERN CORRIDOR

Basic car area 3A55 has seen an increase criminals breaking into vehicles. Please remember to keep all your electronics and values out of sight when your vehicle is parked. Please maintain good relationships with neighbors and surrounding residents and report any suspicious activity to 911.

Crime Tips

- Wherever you are - on the street, in an office building or shopping mall, driving, waiting for a bus or subway - stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings.
- Send the message that you're calm, confident, and know where you're going.
- Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave.
- Know the neighborhoods where you live and work. Check out the locations of police and fire stations, public telephones, hospitals, and restaurants, or stores that are open late.





3SLO57-UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

Crime Trends

Grand theft Auto and Burglary from motor Vehicles remain to be a problem in RD357. This area goes from Jefferson Blvd on the north to Exposition Blvd to the south and from Normandie Ave on the west to Vermont Ave on the east. We will continue to have our USC Q car units provide high visibility patrol in the area. USC DPS will also assist us with extra patrol. Southwest started up a new 18 person unit call the University Park Task Force. This unit will cover specific crime trends in and around the University of California campus area. With this, we should see a decrease in property crime in and around the campus community.

Crime Tips

Robbery Prevention for small businesses:

Robbery doesn't occur as often as other crimes against businesses, but the potential for loss can be much greater from a single incident. Also, robbery involves force or threat of force and can result in serious injury or death.

- **Greet every person who enters the business in a friendly manner. Personal contact can discourage a would-be criminal.**
- **Keep windows clear of displays or signs and make sure your business is well-lighted. Check the layout of your store, eliminating any blind spots that may hide a robbery in progress.**
- **Provide information about your security systems to employees only on a "need-to-know" basis. Instruct your employees to report any suspicious activity or person immediately and write down the information for future reference.**

- **Place cash registers in the front section of the store. This increases the chances of someone spotting a robbery in progress and reporting it to the police.**
- **Keep small amounts of cash in the register to reduce losses. Use a drop safe into which large bills and excess cash are dropped by employees and cannot be retrieved by them. Post signs alerting would-be robbers of this procedure.**
- **Make bank deposits often and during business hours. Don't establish a pattern; take different routes at different times during the day. Ask a police officer to escort you to the bank whenever possible.**
- **Ask local law enforcement what to do in case you are robbed. Make sure your address is visible so emergency vehicles can easily find your business.**
- **If you or your employees are confronted by a robber, cooperate. Merchandise and cash can always be replaced—people can't!**

The Wisconsin Street Block Club meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm.

Please contact SLO Sam Salazar at 323-387-9616 if you would like to start up any new block clubs in your area.

South Traffic Division: **Please contact Motor Sergeant Jon Aufdemberg at 213-485-7336 for any traffic concerns.**

3SLO63-BALDWIN VILLAGE

Crime Trends

Southwest officers have been very busy in the Baldwin Village area during the last month. The CLEAR unit served three search warrants in the Baldwin Village area. The CLEAR officers recovered three guns and narcotics, which resulted in the arrest of four gang members. The Foot Beat Unit also made an outstanding arrest in the Crenshaw Mall area. They recovered two guns, which resulted in the arrest of two gang members.

If you see graffiti or bulky items discarded, especially in alleys, contact 3-1-1 for removal. You'll be given a reference number. Keep this number handy as if the request is not completed in a timely manner, you can forward the location and reference number to me and I can follow-up with the appropriate city department.

Officer Saldana is interested in establishing new block clubs. If you are interested in starting a new block club or have a block club that has not been meeting recently and wants to start up again, please contact Officer Saldana at (323) 387-9614.

[3SLO73-LEIMERT PARK/ CRENSHAW CORRIDOR](#)

Crime Trends

In Southwest Area, Property Crimes far outnumber Violent Crimes in their frequency. That continues to be the trend in the Leimert Park Community as, after a relatively quiet month of February, residential burglaries have noticeably increased this past month. As before, these burglaries are occurring, most frequently, during the weekdays between the hours of 8AM to 3PM. As we all know, these hours are when most residents are away from their homes, for work or school, and criminals have used that predictable schedule to target residents. Southwest Officers have been requested to provide extra patrol and residents are asked to report any suspicious activity, via 911 or 877-ASK-LAPD (877-275-5273), in a timely manner. Get to know your neighbors and utilize those who are home during the day to keep an eye out on the rest of the neighborhood in your absence.

Burglary from Motor Vehicles have been reported in RD 0393, the neighborhood around Leimert Park Village. These have been occurring during late night hours to vehicles parked on the street. Please be cautious about leaving any valuables in the vehicle, taking care not to leave anything in plain sight and ensuring that vehicles are locked and secured.

Illegal dumping in the alleys along the Crenshaw Corridor has become a problem as of late. If you notice any accumulation of rubbish, please report it by calling 3-1-1. If you have any information on suspected illegal dumpers, please contact Senior Lead Officer Sasajima at (213) 847-5800.

Crime Tips

Real estate schemes, scams, and fraud all constitute a form of theft which criminals use to steal your home or real property. Adhering to the principle that a person's home is their castle, this is possibly the most devastating form of victimization. The Los Angeles Police Department will investigate complaints of real estate fraud and the Los Angeles County District Attorney will prosecute these offenders to the fullest extent of the law. Con artists may use several methods to swindle you in a real estate fraud scheme. Foreclosure bailout, home equity fraud, home renovation scams, rental fraud, and deceptive timeshare scams, are just a few types of real estate fraud which may be performed.



Effects of Fraud

The crime of fraud is a personal violation. Although there is no serious physical injury, many victims of con artists suffer emotional harm by losing the following:

1. Financial security
2. Family home
3. Business
4. Inheritance
5. Retirement savings or children's educational funds
6. Professional or personal credibility

Conclusion

Victims of fraud come from a variety of racial, religious, socioeconomic, educational backgrounds, age, and gender. Some swindlers deliberately seek out families that may have limited means or financial difficulties, figuring such persons may be particularly receptive to a proposal that offers fast and large profits. Your first step as a victim should be to report the incident to your local police department.



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NIXLE

www.lapdonline.org

Free official alerts from the Los Angeles Police Department direct to your phone or email. Crime alerts, DUI Checkpoints and more.

Sign Up Free!!!!

Crime Tips-Reporting a Crime by Text

If you have a crime you would like to report anonymously you can now text the letters LAPD plus your tip to #274637. You can also call 877-LAPD-24-7.



SPECIAL REQUEST PHONE NUMBERS

Graffiti Removal:

(311)

Abandoned Vehicles:

(800/222-6366)

Bulky Item Trash Pick Up (Illegally Dumped Trash):

(800/773-2489)

Department of Health:

(213/351-5110)

City-wide information:

(311)

**UPCOMING COMMUNITY
AND NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH EVENTS**



TOWNHALL MEETING (replacing the C-PABmeeting for the month of April 2011) for all Southwest Community stakeholders, scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2011. The meeting will be held at the FAME Renaissance Building, located at 1658 W. Adams Boulevard at 6:30 PM. For additional information, contact the Southwest Community Relations Office at (213) 847-5800.



Southwest Division is sponsoring a

Spring Carnival

Friday thru Sunday, April 8-10, 2011.

The hours will be:

Friday: 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM
Saturday: 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM
Sunday: 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Carnival proceeds are used to fund divisional Youth Programs.

Check Southwest's Twitter feed, (LAPD_SOUTHWEST) for street closure information.



3SLO1

Are your kids struggling to complete their home work assignments? If so, then join **St. Agatha's Catholic Church** every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. They have a **Life Skills Academy** that will teach your children the skills they need to succeed in life. They will also provide tutors to help your children with their homework. For additional information, contact Senior Lead Officer Sanchez at (213) 847-5800.

3SLO55

Martin Luther King Recreation Center is now open. Come see the new gym and take classes at the new

center. Here are a sample of some classes:
Skateboarding Club 6-17yrs Fridays 5pm-7pm \$5 month

EZ Science Experiments 8-13yrs Saturdays 12-1pm \$15 month

Contact recreation director Cassandra Reyes for more programs and fee information (213) 847-0878.



Come join the **Community Village Project**. Be the change in your neighborhood. Create a safe park for our children to play. Clean up and take pride in our neighborhood. Make our community healthier and safer by removing harmful and irresponsible businesses. For more information call Karume at (323) 750-9087 x263.

For information and exact times on all upcoming events contact Senior Lead Officer Olega at (323) 387-9619.

3SLO63

April 16, 2011, there will be a **Tree Planting Day in Baldwin Village Area** at 4041 Hillcrest Drive Los Angeles, Ca 90008. Approximately 100 volunteers are needed. Please bring a hat, wear closed-toe shoes and bring sunscreen and water. Community service hours available for students who need to complete their community hours before the end of the school year. To sign up, email your name and phone number to Maryum.Ali@lacity.org or at 213.473.9798.

******Dates and times are subject to change. Please consult with your Senior Lead Officer prior to attending any listed event.***