

**Captain's Message**

I hope the new year is starting off well for all of you! As we start the year, please remember our slogan of "Lock it, Hide it, Keep it" to protect yourself from the possibility of becoming a victim of Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle.

I would like to take this opportunity to share some news with all of you. Captain Andrew Neiman received a promotion to a Captain II at Media Relations and Community Affairs Group. We are going to miss him, and we thank him for his hard work and dedication while he served at Van Nuys Area as the Patrol Division Commanding Officer. Captain I Pete Casey recently received a promotion, and he has been assigned to Van Nuys Area as the new Patrol Commanding Officer. Captain Casey is coming from Communications Division. We look forward to having Captain Casey as part of our Leadership Team here at Van Nuys Area. We welcome Captain Casey back to Van Nuys Area since he previously worked at as a Lieutenant in the Van Nuys Patrol Division.

I would like to share our crime statistics with you. For 2016, the Van Nuys Area has set a goal of reducing Part I crimes by 1%. In the last four week period of December 27, 2015 to January 23, 2016 as compared to the previous four week period of November 29, 2015 to December 26, 2015, we have seen a decrease of 0% in Violent Crimes. We have a decrease of -13.2% in Property Crimes, and a decrease of -11.3% in Part I crimes. Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicles and Grand Theft Auto continues to be a challenge.

I would like to encourage all of you to participate or start a Neighborhood Watch program, and to think about joining our Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) or the Mid-Valley Community Police Council. These two groups are an integral part of Van Nuys Community Police Station's relationship and outreach with the community. The new C-PAB Co-Chair is Cheryl Cashman. We would like to thank the former C-PAB Co-Chair Penny Meyer for her wonderful service as C-PAB Co-Chair. The President of our MVCPC Executive Board is Larry Hanna. If you would like information about the meetings for the C-PAB or MVCPC, please contact Sergeant II Rudolph Valadez, Community Relations Office at (818) 374-9409, or Sergeant I Maria Pedroza, Senior Lead Office, at (818) 374-5401.

If you have not had an opportunity to logon to our websites, please do so. You can "LIKE" us on Facebook at [facebook.com/LAPDVanNuysDivision](https://www.facebook.com/LAPDVanNuysDivision), "FOLLOW" us on Twitter at [twitter.com/lapdVanNuysDiv](https://twitter.com/lapdVanNuysDiv), and "FOLLOW" us on Nixle at [local.nixle.com/lapd---van-nuys](https://local.nixle.com/lapd---van-nuys), "FOLLOW" us on Patch at [shermanoaks.patch.com/listings/lapd-van-nuys-station](https://shermanoaks.patch.com/listings/lapd-van-nuys-station), and "VISIT" us online at [www.lapdvannuys.com/](http://www.lapdvannuys.com/).

I would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of Van Nuys Community Police Station. Please continue to be the “eyes and ears” for the Police Department!

**LILLIAN L. CARRANZA, Captain**  
**Commanding Officer**  
**Van Nuys Area**

### **Who to Contact?**

Please report any suspicious activity or persons by calling the Los Angeles Police Department Non-Emergency phone number at: 877.ASK.LAPD. For crimes in progress dial: 911.

Keep our community clean! Call: 311 or visit <http://lacity.org/MyLA311/index.htm> to report graffiti, bulky items on the street or sidewalks, and shopping carts in the area. You can also download the MyLA311 Smartphone Mobile Application to submit your report. Keeping the streets clean shows the criminals that we have pride in our community and we will not tolerate their activities.

If you would like information on resources available to support or counsel victims of domestic violence, call the City of Los Angeles “211” support number (option 7) or [www.211LA.org](http://www.211LA.org).

For more information about domestic violence see the LAPD webpage, where you will find online information and resources to go to:

[http://www.lapdonline.org/get\\_informed/content\\_basic\\_view/8893](http://www.lapdonline.org/get_informed/content_basic_view/8893)

Also, you can contact The National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-799-7233) and Domestic Abuse Center, 14402 Haynes Street, Van Nuys, California 91401; (818) 904-1700 (not a 24-hour hotline)

### **Neighborhood Watch News**

**Nextdoor.com:** LAPD is recommending [www.Nextdoor.com](http://www.Nextdoor.com). This is a free service that builds community and promotes community awareness. To logon got to [www.Nextdoor.com](http://www.Nextdoor.com) and click on create account or enter your zip code and press “Get Started.”

**Neighborhood Justice Program (NJP):** The LA City Attorney has a program called “The Los Angeles City Attorney Neighborhood Justice Program.” The NJP is an opportunity for three community members to take an active role in how the community responds to the commission of minor Crimes, such as vandalism and petty theft. People who commit certain misdemeanors appear before a Panel of community members, instead of going to court and having a criminal record, to discuss the crime, the reasons for its commission, and the negative impacts it has caused. For more information contact: Peter Borenstein 213-978-8735 or [peter.borenstein@lacity.org](mailto:peter.borenstein@lacity.org).

If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain and starting a Neighborhood Watch Program in your neighborhood, please call your Senior Lead Officer at their number below for further details.

The L.A.P.D. is continuing to bring community policing to the Internet. The E-Policing program enables Senior Lead Officers, Area Captains, and Detectives to e-mail Newsletters, crime trends, and other important information to you. It is easy, sign-up now. Get LAPD crime maps, join/start a Neighborhood Watch, and become part of our team of crime-fighters.

Remember to: **LIKE** us on Facebook: [facebook.com/LAPDVanNuysDivision](https://www.facebook.com/LAPDVanNuysDivision). **FOLLOW** us on Twitter: [twitter.com/lapdVanNuysDiv](https://twitter.com/lapdVanNuysDiv). **FOLLOW** us on Nixle: [local.nixle.com/lapd---Van-Nuys](https://local.nixle.com/lapd---Van-Nuys).

### **Upcoming Community Events**

Please come out and support:

**Van Nuys Neighborhood Council.** Their meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Marvin Braude Constituents Center located at 6262 Van Nuys Blvd.

**Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council.** Their meeting is the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the staff lounge at Valley College located at 5800 Fulton Avenue.

**Valley Glen Neighborhood Association.** Their meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every even numbered month at 7:00 p.m., at Kittridge Elementary School located at 13619 Kittridge Street.

**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council.** Their meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at Sherman Oaks Elementary School located at 14755 Greenleaf Street.

**Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce.** Their meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the Devry Building located at 15301 Ventura Blvd.

**Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce/Government Community Affairs Committee.** Their meeting is the last Wednesday of each month at 12:00 p.m., at Bamboo Restaurant located at 14010 Ventura Blvd.

**Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association.** Their meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at Notre Dame High School located at 13645 Riverside Drive.

**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Watch Block Leaders.** Their meeting is the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at the Sunkist Building located at 14130 Riverside Drive.

### **North Van Nuys Basic Car Area 9A5**

Senior Lead Officer John Bailey

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2556

Email address: [33445@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:33445@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends/Statistics**

There has been an overall increase in crime by 31.3% YTD. The crimes causing the increase continue to be Burglaries (100%) and Grand Theft Autos (100%). Remember to lock and secure doors when you leave the house and or vehicle. If possible at night time, leave some lights on or install motion sensor lighting around the house. In addition, if you go on a trip for an extended period of time the more cars in the driveway the better. This usually indicates people are home and helps deter residential burglary activity. Make sure someone is picking up your mail and newspapers, as well, so they don't collect in the front yard.

Take some time to make sure you are doing everything you can to reduce your chances of becoming a victim. There are many things that can be done to help reduce those chances. Please review our crime prevention section at ([http://www.lapdonline.org/crime\\_prevention](http://www.lapdonline.org/crime_prevention)) to see what you can do to make your home and neighborhood safe.

Another excellent resource for keeping your neighborhood safe is to get involved with [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com) to further enhance our ability to work hand and hand with your neighbor. Nextdoor.com is an internet site that you can only join as a verified resident in your neighborhood. It is a great way to keep up with what's going on with your neighbors and stay aware of what is happening in YOUR specific area.

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

If you see graffiti please phone 311, so they can generate a file number and clean it up. You can also download the MY LA 311 to your mobile device/smart phone. Simply take a photo, geo match your location and send the graffiti removal request. You will then receive a confirmation the request was received and e-mail once the graffiti was removed. You can also utilize this application for other things like, TV's, Couches and other bulky items. 311 is also an excellent resource for street services.

Remember, "Lock it, Hide it, Keep it" when it comes to your vehicles. Please remove, or at the very least, hide, all items from your vehicle when parking it. This is YOUR responsibility. If you leave things visible in your vehicle, they will be stolen. Don't be a victim.

### **East-Central Van Nuys Basic Car Area 9A19**

Senior Lead Officer Katy Paschal

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2566

E-Mail address: [36128@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:36128@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends/Statistics**

While we ended 2015 with an increase of +15.9% in Property and Violent Crimes, we are off to a good start in 2016 by being -25% (YTD 01-16-16). However, we are already at +50% in Grand Theft Auto (9 vehicles taken so far this year).

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

I get a lot of phone calls and emails from people notifying me of suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. As I investigate further, I find out that the police are not being called to investigate. While I encourage you to call me so that I am aware of things, if I am on a day off

there is not much I can do. Remember, if you see something that is out of the ordinary and you feel it is suspicious, PLEASE call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5873). As we like to say, “SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!”

I want to remind everyone that if you want to have Neighborhood Watch Meetings to please contact your block captain and set something up.

I get a lot of questions from people asking how they can report violations to Building and Safety. You may do this online at [www.ladbs.org](http://www.ladbs.org) or by downloading their new free phone application “LADBS Go.” By utilizing either of these options, you may report building code violations, request for inspections, or check the status of pending or prior permits.

Have you downloaded the MyLA311 application on your smartphone? This is great tool to report issues to several different City agencies. I personally use it while on patrol to request graffiti removal, bulky item pick-up, illegal dumping and other non-criminal service requests. As soon as you send in your request you will get a confirmation email that it was received, as well as an email once your request has been handled.

### **Central Van Nuys Basic Car Area 9A23**

Senior Lead Officer Erika Kirk

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2557

Email Address: [37525@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:37525@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends /Statistics**

As we enter the New Year we are down in overall crime by -5.6%. This is great news but need to maintain these numbers because statistically these numbers will rise as we continue through the year. Since January 1, 2016, we have had an increase in “suspicious activity” regarding suspects acting in the manner consistent with burglary suspects in RD 931 and RD 911. We don’t have enough information to file a report, however it has been reported that the suspects are knocking on front doors then heading to the backyard. On two occasions I was notified that “suspicious vehicles” were driving around the area possibly looking for potential victims.

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

Please be on the lookout for your neighbors. Get to know one another and try to be aware of who belongs in your neighborhood. Invest in a surveillance system and additional lighting to deter suspects!

If you see graffiti please report it to 311. You can also download the MY LA 311 mobile app to your smart phone. Simply take a photo, geo match your location and send the graffiti removal request. You will then receive a confirmation the request was received, and an e-mail once the graffiti is removed. You can also utilize this app for other things like bulky item pick up as well as street services.

The non-emergency number (**1-877-ASK-LAPD**) is ideal and the most common number used but if it is an emergency, like one of the instances mentioned above, please call **911**. Don’t forget to reach out to one another and stay in touch via [Nextdoor.Com](http://Nextdoor.Com).

## **Valley Glen Basic Car Area 9A37**

Senior Lead Officer Justin Bergmann

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2562

Email Address: [32052@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:32052@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends/Statistics**

As of January 9, 2016, we are down in overall Part 1 crime by almost 40%. This will be a challenge to maintain but it is a good start to the New Year. The most prevalent crime in Valley Glen continues to be stolen cars, car break-ins and thefts.

This year I will be focusing on increasing Neighborhood Watch participation in Valley Glen. I will be working with the Valley Glen Neighborhood Association to increase membership, participation, and education.

Safeguard your home by making sure your residential doors and windows are securely locked when you are not home. Use an alarm and video surveillance cameras. Also, place signs around your home warning of alarm system and cameras to deter would be thieves.

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

Please remember to take special care when having packages delivered to your residence. Try to arrange to have things delivered when you will be home or have them shipped to your work place. Don't become a victim of this type of theft.

PLEASE don't leave valuables inside your vehicle. This is an invitation to a criminal to gather your items for you (and not return them). Car alarms are a good deterrent. Anything that can bring sound or lighting to your property is a plus. Please remember this easy slogan "Lock it, Hide it, Keep it."

Thefts can be prevented by keeping strong hold on your wallet and purse. When at the local stores, make a habit of placing your wallet/purse directly in front of you. Never place it down or leave it to your side. The more the items are out of your direct view, the more likely a theft can occur.

Always look around and be aware of your surroundings. Criminals are looking for people that look like a victim and do not usually want to be seen so look up and take notice of your surroundings.

Use the "myla311" smart phone application to report graffiti removal, fallen tree branches, bulky items that need to be picked up, not only at your home but report it in your surrounding neighborhood.

Don't put up with suspicious characters on your street. Don't wait for your neighbors to tell you that they were broken into when you saw that strange looking person the night before near their car. Please use the 1-877-ASK-LAPD (Non-emergency line) to report any suspicious activity.

## **Central Van Nuys Basic Car Area 9A41**

Senior Lead Officer Anthony Cabunoc

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2560

Email Address: [25170@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:25170@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends /Statistics**

As of the first of this year, our area crime numbers down minus 4.8% compared to this time last year. Unfortunately, Grand Theft Auto (GTA) followed by personal theft has already shown a significant spike compared to last year. Recently, a reported theft from person occurred in the area of Clark Street and Kester Avenue at approximately 3:30 p.m., on January 13<sup>th</sup>. The Victim was approached by a Suspect described as a Male Black, 6 ft., 200 lbs., 25/30 years, old wearing blue jeans, tan print zip-up sweater. The suspect said something to the victim then grabbed the necklace from the Victim's neck and fled on foot. This is defined as a theft because no force or fear was used on the victim. Victim was surprised by the act. Detectives have no further leads as to the identification of the suspect or any other similar crimes. Please be alert to those around you. In this particular case, the victim related that the suspect appeared to be loitering and nervous prior to the crime.

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

Harden the target! Make it difficult for suspects to approach your home without being detected. An early warning system via a smart phone along with exterior cameras allows you to alert police and neighbors to someone trespassing on your property. Once they are inside it is too late. Help your community against such crimes. Report suspicious activity and remind neighbors of the importance of not leaving valuables inside vehicles. Please remember to "Lock It, Hide it, Keep it."

## **North Sherman Oaks Basic Car 9A63**

Senior Lead Officer Trent Berry

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2563

Email address: [27270@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:27270@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends / Statistics**

As we head into February, I look forward to working together to reduce crime in the Sherman Oaks community. My efforts are still focused on the reduction of property crimes. Working together in partnership, I know we can make a difference for the Sherman Oaks community. With that being said, I encourage everyone to participate in a Neighborhood Watch program. Get to know your neighbors and interact with your local Police Department, it works! Please continue to take extra precautions in securing your vehicles and not leaving property behind, this will help reduce the incidents of Theft from Motor Vehicle. My Neighborhood Watch groups have been asked to forward the word and to put crime prevention measures into practice. I cannot stress enough the importance of removing valuables from inside your vehicles. This simple step will help to maintain our reductions in property crime.

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

Let us watch out for one another as a community and be the "eyes and ears" for your Police Department. Please report all suspicious activity in your neighborhood. To combat auto theft, try to utilize a theft deterrent device such as steering wheel locks, alarms, etc. Be mindful of

keeping doors and windows locked when leaving your residence, often these points of entry are forgotten and left unsecured.

### **South Sherman Oaks Basic Car 9A89**

Senior Lead Officer Jose Saldana

Cellular Phone: 818-731-2565

Email Address: [30853@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:30853@lapd.lacity.org)

### **Crime Trends / Statistics**

With your help, I would like to reduce Property Crimes and conduct more Neighborhood Watch meetings for the Sherman Oaks Area. I am still experiencing Burglary from Motor Vehicles on Ventura Boulevard between Woodman Avenue and Fulton Avenue. Please remember to secure your homes and businesses when away and talk with your neighbors about reporting suspicious activity. Owners are given suggestions on how to improve the property exterior, posting no trespassing signs, and make it less inviting. Further suggestions include improved lighting, security gates, fences, cameras with real time feed to a smart phone, and on-site managers go a long way toward abating the criminal element. Happy New Year!

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

The Department continues to push its slogan in the battle against vehicle break-ins. **“Lock it, Hide it, Keep it.”** Please help us help you by being aware of what is going on in your neighborhood and reporting any suspicious activity. Remember, the best way to avoid becoming a victim is to remove all valuables from your vehicle every time you leave it. Too many people continue to make themselves an easy target for Burglary from Motor Vehicles by leaving valuables in plain sight inside their vehicles. Please remember, what may not be valuable to you may be extremely valuable to someone else. Things such as coins, CDs, clothing, cell phones, laptop computers, GPS units, and purses are just some of the targeted items. You must keep your vehicle free of any visible items to reduce your chances of becoming a victim. PLEASE REMEMBER **“LOCK IT, HIDE IT, KEEP IT.”**

If you see graffiti please report it to 311. You can also download the MY LA 311 mobile application to your smart phone. Simply take a photo, geo match your location, and send the graffiti removal request. You will then receive a confirmation the request was received, and an e-mail once the graffiti was removed. You can also utilize this application for other things like bulky item pick up as well as street services.

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