

Captain's Message

I would like to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving! If you travel by car over the holiday weekend, please be courteous drivers and remember not to drink and drive. Also, please ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your home while you are away, and set a lamp on a timer so it appears you are home.

I would like to share our crime statistics with you. For 2015, the Van Nuys Area has set a goal of reducing Part I crimes by 2%. In the last four week period of September 20, 2015 to October 17, 2015 as compared to the previous four week period of August 23, 2015 to September 19, 2015, we have seen a 0% change in Violent Crimes. We have a decrease of -21.5% in Property Crimes, and a decrease of -18.4% 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 C-PAB Co-Chair is Penny Meyer. 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, and "FOLLOW" us on Nixle at local.nixle.com/lapd---van-nuys, "FOLLOW" us on Patch at shermanoaks.patch.com/listings/lapd-van-nuys-station, and "VISIT" us online at www.lapdvannuys.com/.

Thank you for being the eyes and ears for the Van Nuys Police Station. Please remember our slogan of "Lock it, Hide it, Keep it" when you go shopping on "Black Friday," so your belongings will be safe in your vehicles. Also, thank you for your continued support!

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: **1-877-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.

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

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

Neighborhood Watch News

Nextdoor.com: LAPD is recommending www.Nextdoor.com. This is a free service that builds community and promotes community awareness. To logon got to 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 is launching a new 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.

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. “FOLLOW” us on Twitter: twitter.com/lapdVanNuysDiv. “FOLLOW” us on Nixle: local.nixle.com/lapd---Van-Nuys.

Upcoming Community Events

Please come out and support:

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council. Their meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center located at 6262 Van Nuys Blvd.

Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council. Their meeting is the 1st 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 3rd 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 2nd 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 2nd 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 4th 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 3rd 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 4th 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

Acting Senior Lead Officer Cayette

Cellular Phone: (818) 731-2556

Email address: 36974@lapd.lacity.org

Crime Trends/Statistics

9A5, North Van Nuys area is still seeing a slight crime increase over last year at 18.6% over last year. The crimes causing the increase continue to be robberies, aggravated assaults, and burglaries.

Of the above increases, burglary continues to be the highest crime increase in A5’s area, but have slightly decreased from last period with a still high 63% increase from last year. Remember to

lock and secure doors when you leave the house. If possible at night time, leave some lights on or install motion sensor lighting around the house.

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) 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 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 is going on with your neighbors and stay aware of what is happening in YOUR specific area.

Crime Prevention Tips

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

Crime Trends/Statistics

Last month, I reported that Basic Car A19 was still having issues with Grand Theft Auto related crimes at a rate of +165.6% YTD. Although we are far from reaching our goal, we have seen a decrease and are now at +147.4% YTD. The most common types of vehicles being taken are still older model Hondas and Toyota (late 1990s-early 2000s).

In the area of Woodman Avenue and Vanowen Street we have seen an increase in residential burglaries, particularly in apartment buildings. If you live in a gated building, please be sure that your gate locks behind you every time you enter or exit. Please do not “buzz” anyone in to your building that you, yourself, have not invited (i.e. the pizza or UPS/FedEx man asking to go to another apartment number). Also, be sure that when pulling into a gated garage area that gate closes as well.

As of October 10, 2015, Basic Car A19 is at +48.7% for violent crimes, and +16.2% for property crimes, for an overall increase of 22.2%. Although this number is daunting, we do have the second lowest number of actual crimes with 479 YTD.

Crime Prevention Tips

As we begin to start the holiday season, please be mindful of your shopping habits. If you order items online and are unavailable to be there when they are delivered, try to arrange an alternate person/location that can sign for your goods to ensure you receive them safely. During this time of year, we generally see a rise in package thefts from people’s front doorsteps.

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

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

Crime Trends /Statistics

As with other area's of Van Nuys, 9A23's area is seeing a slightly lower than average crime increase of 14.6%.

Of the above crimes, violent crime is up 46.6% and property crime is up 7.3%.

The ongoing transient encampments in the area are causing concerns by homeowners and local residents. Please know we are working closely with the City Attorney's Office and our Community Impact Detail to get a handle on these issues.

Crime Prevention Tips

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 was 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's 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.

Valley Glen Basic Car Area 9A37

Senior Lead Officer Justin Bergmann

Cellular Phone: (818) 731-2562

Email Address: 32052@lapd.lacity.org

Crime Trends/Statistics

The overall crime numbers continue to come down to 24.9%. Even better news is that if we look at the raw crime numbers in A37's area, we continue to have the lowest number of reported crime in Van Nuys Division at about 421 total crimes YTD. The biggest crimes in Valley Glen continue to be stolen cars, car break-ins, and thefts.

Safeguard your home by making sure your residential doors and windows are securely locked when your 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

Try to keep your car in a safe place such as a personal garage. Video Surveillance systems have become an affordable option that are a great crime deterrent and provide the police with valuable evidence if a crime does occur.

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, and 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 don't 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, and 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. Do not 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

Crime Trends /Statistics

Our overall numbers show property crimes up 13% in Basic Car 41. Grand Theft Auto is up nearly 28% while personal theft is at 15%. As for violent crimes we show at plus 1.1 %. Gang on gang crimes have seen an increase in those neighborhoods north of Oxnard Street. Assaults, graffiti, and incidents of shots fired have been rather prevalent in the area. Our Van Nuys Gang Officers have identified and targeted properties for City Attorney hearings. Owners are requested to come in, and are provided the history of the location, and how often police are called to provide service. We exchange information and try to identify those tenants involved in any crimes, disturbances, or perhaps inviting gang members onto the property for the purpose of loitering. 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, laundry room lock up, cameras with real time feed to a smart phone and on-site managers go along way toward abating the criminal element. Outside City and County Departments such as Building and Safety, Housing and Sanitation have also been deployed to the area for code violations.

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. "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

Crime Trends / Statistics

As we head into the month of November, our numbers decreased slightly from last month. We are up in property crime about +1%, as compared to +3% last month. Overall I am up +1% in property crime as compared to this same time period from 2014. Moving forward, 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

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Crime Trends / Statistics

For the southern Sherman Oaks community, we are still experiencing an increase in burglary from motor vehicles, grand theft auto, and Burglaries. A total of 25% increase year-to-date on property crime. I am also still experiencing night time business burglaries along 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.

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. **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 app for other things like, bulky item pick up as well as street services.

The non-emergency number of **1-877-ASK-LAPD** is ideal and the most common number used, but if it is an emergency please call **911**.