



# TOPANGA AREA

Serving West Hills,  
Woodland Hills,  
Canoga Park, and Winnetka  
21501 Schoenborn St, Canoga Park



Volume 1, Issue 9

Topanga Senior Lead Office (818) 756-3070  
Sergeant II Desi Ehrlich

September 2009

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

### Hello Topanga Area!

Canoga Park, West Hills, Woodland Hills, and Winnetka,

As we roll into September, that can only mean one thing...it is back to school time! Please, if your children walk to and from school or take any form of public transportation remember to remind them to always stay aware of their surroundings and away from secluded areas.



#### Captain's Corner:

There is a new Sergeant OIC (Officer in Charge) of the Community Relations and Senior Lead Office! Sergeant Kimberly Harper has moved over to become the OIC of the Topanga Vice Unit and Sergeant Desi Ehrlich (who was the Vice OIC) is now our new Community Relations and Senior Lead Sergeant Officer in Charge. Please stop by and welcome them both respectively to their new positions!

Sergeant Ehrlich has been with the Department 12 1/2 years and has been a Sergeant since 2006. He has worked a variety of Divisions which include; Operations-Valley Bureau, Devonshire, Van Nuys, Hollywood, Foothill, and Topanga. He spent 10 years as a patrol officer, vice investigator, and supervisor in the San Fernando Valley area. Sergeant Ehrlich has received two Department Meritorious Unit Citation medals and the Department's Community Policing medal. He is also very active with his children's sports teams and school boards.

Sergeant Harper will definitely be missed, but as you can see, Sergeant Ehrlich has a well rounded background and will be a wonderful addition to the CRO/SLO Office.



### Good Neighbor Laws

The following information comes directly from the City Attorney Neighborhood Prosecutor Program.

Take note of these helpful "Noise" laws; by abiding by these laws, we will all be better neighbors! ☺

- **CONSTRUCTION IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS** is limited to the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., during the week, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays. It is banned on Sundays.
- **CAR ALARMS** must be automatically silenced within five minutes.
- **LEAF BLOWERS** may not be used before 7 a.m. or after 10 p.m.
- **NO INSTRUMENT OR SOUND PRODUCING DEVICE** should be audible more than 150 feet away from the boundary where it is being played.
- To file a complaint regarding **excessive noise from barking dogs**, submit a letter to your area Animal Shelter, including your name, address, phone number, address of barking dog, description of problem, and your signature.

## **Recycling Theft Becoming BIG Business...**

The items that you place into the blue recycling bins are donations to the City and *not* intended as a free-for-all for scavengers. On August 21, 2009, officers from Topanga's Senior Lead Office conducted a Task Force Operation to combat the theft of recyclables from blue recycling bins in residential areas. Topanga's Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST) showed up in force to help locate these suspects digging through recycling bins. As suspects were located, officers were called in to catch these "recycling scavengers" in the act. Topanga officers arrested 13 suspects and discovered that the suspects are coming from all over the city to the Topanga Area to take our recycled items. If you observe people taking items from your blue recycling bins, call LAPD dispatch (1-877-275-5273) and provide them with the best description you can of the suspect and direction of travel. For more information on the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Recycling program, visit <http://www.lacity.org/san/index.htm>



### **Recent news in my area:**

This segment contains some activity in Topanga Division, but it is not intended to reflect all of the crimes in your area.



**The most current updates for your neighborhood can be found on [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org).**

On August 19, 2009, at 2100 hours, Topanga Area gang officers observed and recognized a car full of CPA gang members in the area of Saticoy Street and Eton Avenue. Officers noticed that the vehicle made an unsafe U-turn and conducted a traffic stop to investigate the violation. During their investigation, officers recovered two loaded handguns inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle. All four gang members were arrested for handgun violations based on this awesome observational arrest in Canoga Park.

In the Woodland Hills area we have an estimated 20 medical marijuana dispensaries on and around Ventura Boulevard. Marijuana for medicinal purposes was legalized in California after Proposition 215 (Compassionate Act) was passed on November 5, 1996, by California voters. Unfortunately, for the community members of Woodland Hills, the dispensaries started opening without any rules, laws, or regulations in Los Angeles. Since the dispensaries have been open in

Woodland Hills they have fallen victim to robberies, shootings, and burglaries. While the dispensaries are having problems of their own, members of the community are victims and have their own problems...Kids loitering in front of their houses smoking marijuana, having sex in their cars, and committing a number of public nuisance crimes. These are some of the complaints that our office has received from community members that live in and around these dispensaries. Topanga Division and your Senior Lead Office are doing everything we can to prevent these activities from occurring in your neighborhoods as you can see from the following arrest incidents, but need the community's continual watchful eye to help curtail these activities:

On August 15, 2009, there was a robbery/assault with a deadly weapon at the 23000 block of Ventura Boulevard at a medical marijuana clinic where a victim was shot. An active investigation is still ongoing.

On August 16, 2009, at approx 2200 hours, SLO Dinse stopped a vehicle for "failure to stop" at the intersection of Ventura Boulevard and De Soto Avenue. Further investigation by the officer revealed the driver of the vehicle was on felony probation. The suspect was further found to be in possession of prescription drugs not belonging to him and had a concealed firearm. The suspect was arrested for violation of probation and carrying a concealed weapon. Great work!

In Winnetka there are no significant crime trends however, the officers have been making fantastic arrests to help keep your neighborhood safe; On August 13, 2009, Officers Pintado and Alfonso arrested suspects in the 20300 block of Cohasset Street for vandalism.

On August 10, 2009, Officers Clymer and Quispe arrested six juveniles for trespassing in the 20000 block of Roscoe Boulevard. These juveniles were known gang members...nice work getting these juveniles off the streets!

On August 6, 2009, Los Angeles Police Officers working the Valley Bureau Auto Theft detail arrested a career Burglar. Officers Flannery and Casillas began working a case involving burglaries from motor vehicles that occurred at the 24000 block of Gardenstone Lane in West Hills. The officers, having only a description of the suspect's vehicle, were able to identify a suspect based on prior investigations. The victim was shown an identification line-up and the suspect was identified. Members of the valley's Auto Theft Detail conducted a follow-up to the suspect's residence. The suspect was arrested and the victim's property was recovered.



Senior Lead Officers play an important role with your quality of life issues... get to know yours! **The Senior Lead Officer's main office number is (818) 756-3070.**

**Please note:** Your Senior Lead Officer may have changed due to a shift within the office. *Please take note of the Senior Lead Officer (SLO) who is now assigned to your area:*

**SLO Dennis Cunningham, Basic Car 21A1 (New SLO)**  
*(Covering the North part of West Hills including part of South Chatsworth near the Chatsworth Reservoir)*  
**Office (818) 756-3073 Cell (818) 731-2578**  
**Email 34966@lapd.lacity.org**

The 21A1 / 21A43 Basic Car meeting will be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7 PM at Topanga Station. SLO Cunningham will also handle the group formerly known as the 17A83 Basic Car (Now called *North West Hills Neighborhood Watch*). This meeting is for the area north of Roscoe Boulevard to Plummer Street, West of Topanga Canyon Boulevard. The meeting is held at the Valley Dispatch Center 23001 Roscoe Boulevard every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.

**SLO Sam Sabra, Basic Car 21A43 (New SLO for area)**  
*(Covering the South part of West Hills)*  
**Office (818) 756-3074 Cell (818) 731-2558**  
**Email 34819@lapd.lacity.org**

The 21A43 meeting will be combined with the 21A1 Basic Car meeting and is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at Topanga Station at 7 PM.

**SLO Brent Rygh, Basic Car 21A73**  
*(Covering Woodland Hills - West of Topanga Canyon)*  
**Office (818) 756-3075 Cell (818) 731-2581**  
**Email 30450@lapd.lacity.org**

The 21A73 meeting will be combined with the 21A97 meeting and will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at the Topanga Station at 6:30 PM.

**SLO Charles "Sean" Dinse, Basic Car 21A97**  
*(Woodland Hills - East of Topanga Canyon)*  
**Office (818) 756-3076 Cell (818) 731-2568**  
**Email 34920@lapd.lacity.org**

The 21A97 meeting will be combined with the 21A73 meeting and will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at the Topanga Station at 6:30 PM.

**SLO Janet Zumstein, Basic Car 21A57 (New SLO for area)**  
*(Covering South Canoga Park and Topanga malls)*  
**Office (818) 756-3188 Cell (818) 731-2570**  
**Email 34819@lapd.lacity.org** The 21A57 Basic Car meeting will be held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, at the Topanga Station at 7 PM.

**SLO Alexis "Alex" Padron, Basic Car 21A5 (Covering North Canoga Park)**

**Office (818) 756-3191 Cell (818) 731-2583**  
**Email 32977@lapd.lacity.org**

The 21A5 Basic Car meeting is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Topanga Station at 7 PM.

**SLO Jose Maldonado, Basic Car 21A29**  
*(Covering Winnetka)*

**Office (818) 756-3079 Cell (818) 731-2569**  
**Email 23639@lapd.lacity.org**

Please note that the location of 21A29's Basic Car meeting has now changed; this meeting is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Topanga Station

**REMEMBER: sign up for E-policing!** E-policing allows you to look up crime activity in your neighborhood, and much more at the LAPD web site [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org) or [www.lapdcrimemaps.org](http://www.lapdcrimemaps.org)



**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**October 15, 2009 -**  
**Grateful Hearts, 21800 Oxnard Street, Woodland Hills, CA**

**November 20, 2009 -**  
**Premier Anniversary Celebrating Topanga. Hilton, Woodland Hills, CA**

**Important Numbers to keep:**

<b>Topanga Front Desk</b>	<b>(818) 756-4800</b>
<b>TDD/TTY</b>	<b>(818) 756-5899</b>
<b>Comm. Relations Office</b>	<b>(818) 756-3180</b>
<b>Senior Lead Office</b>	<b>(818) 756-3070</b>

<b>Detective Desk</b>	<b>(818) 756-4820</b>
<b>Vice Office</b>	<b>(818) 756-4840</b>
<b>Emergency</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>Non-Emergency Dispatch</b>	<b>(877) 275-5273</b>
	<b>(877) ASK-LAPD</b>

***All other city services, please call 311***

# TOPANGA AREA BASIC CARS

★ Police Station

