



VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Senior Lead Officers Unit
6240 Sylmar Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91401

March 2018



facebook.com/LAPDVanNuysDivision



twitter.com/lapdVanNuysDiv

[@lapdvannuysdiv](https://twitter.com/lapdvannuysdiv)

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Please come out and help shape the future of your community.

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council: General meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Marvin Braude Constituents Service Center, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA.

Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council: General meeting is the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at Valley College, 5800 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys, CA.

Valley Glen Neighborhood Association: General meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of every even numbered month at 7:00 p.m., at Valley College, 5800 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys, CA.

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council: General 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: General meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at Sherman Oaks Galleria located at 15301 Ventura Blvd.

Sherman Oaks Homeowners' Association: General meeting is the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at Notre Dame High School located at 13645 Riverside Drive.

Van Nuys Clergy Council Meeting: General meeting is the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m., at the Church on the Way, 14424 Sherman Way.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting: 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.



local.nixle.com/lapd---Van-Nuys

WHO TO CONTACT

For crimes in progress dial: 911.

To report any suspicious activity or persons call the Los Angeles Police Department Non-Emergency phone number at: **877-ASK-LAPD (877-275-5273)**.

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 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)

Crime Update

Basic Car 9A5:

Senior Lead Officer Katy Paschal

Cell Phone: 818-731-2556

Email address: 36128@lapd.online

Crime Trends/Statistics

As of February 10, 2018, we are down -25.0% in Violent Crimes and -43.2% in Property Crimes. This brings our YTD crime reduction to -40.4% in comparison to last year. To put this into perspective, we have had 62 crimes as opposed to 104 this time (as of February 10th) last year. The Division as a whole is down -22.5% in total crime reduction.

I am currently on loan to our H.O.P.E. (Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement) Unit until the end of March. This is a cross-training program designed to allow Senior Lead Officers the opportunity to make contacts with the different outreach services and programs that the City offers. Please let me (or your respective Senior Lead Officer) know of any issues you are having with encampments. The faster we become aware of it, hopefully the faster we can address it. If you need to report an encampment, please be sure to call 311 or use your mobile app to request Sanitation to respond.

Remember, Nextdoor.com, Twitter, and your SLO's City cell phone/email is **not for reporting crimes or for generating radio calls**. For non-emergencies call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273), and for emergencies dial 911. Please refrain from calling the front desk if you need officers to come out for a radio call. The front desk officers are there to take telephonic reports and answer any questions, not dispatch calls.

Basic Car 9A19:

Senior Lead Officer John Bailey

Cell Phone: 818-731-2566

Email Address: 33445@lapd.online

Crime Trends/Statistics

Basic Car 9A19 encompasses the area of Sherman Way to the North, Victory Boulevard to the South, Van Nuys Boulevard to the West, and Tujunga Wash to the East. As of February 10, 2018, my Basic Car area is down 11.1 % in Residential Burglaries. Unfortunately, there has been an increase of Part 1 crimes by 47.5 %. Year-to-date, Violent Crimes are up significantly by 75.0 %. In addition, there has been an increase of Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicles by 7.4%.

Many tragedies and accidents can be prevented if we plan. As the warmer months approach, please be mindful of the safety of your pool. To those of you that have pools, please ensure it is covered with a tamper resistant layer. Also, there are many companies that can install child resistant/ removable fences around the pool. This will help to ensure the safety of your loved ones.

As mentioned above, we have seen a reduction in residential burglaries, keep up the good work! When away, unfortunately the criminals will play. Remember to try and leave more cars in the driveway. If possible, coordinate with a neighbor and let them park vehicles in your driveway while you are gone for an extended amount of time. The appearance of people at home helps deter crime. During hours of darkness, leave some lights on or install motion sensor lighting/ timers around the house.

Unfortunately, the surrounding areas of a homeless encampments usually see an uptick of property crimes. Please do not take the law into your own hands when dealing with the homeless, as some suffer from mental illness and PTSD. Should you see evidence of homeless trash or tents pop-up in an area, please notify your Senior Lead Officer so we can address the issue by assisting the homeless with shelter information and enforce lodging, Trespass, and sidewalk obstruction laws. This helps reduce crime and over population of homeless encampments in our neighborhoods. Remember, we cannot help you with your problems or concern unless we know about them.

Basic Car 9A23:

Senior Lead Officer Erika Kirk

Cell Phone: 818-731-2557

Email Address: 37525@lapd.online

Crime Trends/Statistics

Thankfully, Basic Car 23 has maintained an overall decrease (-22.8%) in Part 1 Crimes Year-to-Date. Violent Crimes are also down Year-to-Date (12.5%), including a decrease in Homicide and Aggravated Assaults. There is also a decrease (29.4%) in property crimes Year-to-Date. Historically, Property Crimes has been one of the main concerns for Basic Car 23. As we continue to navigate through the year, please do not become complacent by leaving valuables in your vehicle or the doors unlocked. Most of the property crimes are related to Burglary and Theft from Motor vehicles. Be aware of the potential risks even if your vehicle is parked in the driveway. Remember, Lock It, Hide It, Keep it!

We have seen a decrease in overall Personal Thefts, but there have been a few documented incidents at major shopping centers where the suspect is targeting wallets left in unattended purses. If you leave your cart, even if just for a second, be aware of who may be lurking around your belongings.

I've been working with our Homeless Outreach Unit, Sanitation and Cal Trans to assist with the encampments in and around Basic Car 23. If you need to report an encampment, please be sure to call 311 or use your mobile app to request Sanitation to respond.

If you live in an apartment or condominium complex, please don't hesitate to reach out to start an Apartment Watch group. I've found that these types of meetings are a great way to educate and bring together a community.

Basic Car 9A37:

Senior Lead Officer Justin Bergmann

Cell Phone: 818-731-2562

Email Address: 32052@lapd.online

Crime Trends/Statistics

It is still very important that you take precautions to help reduce this crime trend. First, make sure you are locking your bike up with a quality lock that cannot be easily cut. Also when storing your bike, try to keep it inside your residence or in a closed storage area or garage out of sight. Many of the stolen bicycles are being taken from underground parking garages and storage areas. Lastly, please **make a note of the bicycle's serial number**, usually located under the frame below the pedals. This is very important if the bicycle should be stolen so that the police can positively identify it as stolen property. Many of the stolen bicycles are quickly painted and made to look different, and without a serial number it can be very difficult for us to identify.

Build my Neighborhood Watch participation in Valley Glen to combat residential Burglaries is the goal for this year. I will be working with the Valley Glen Neighborhood Association to increase membership, participation, and education. Please contact me if you would like to become involved.

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.

Basic Car 9A41:

Senior Lead Officer Tony Cabunoc

Cell Phone: 818-731-2560

Email Address: 25170@lapd.online

Crime Trends/Statistics

February 2018 crime reduction is minus 5.5 %. Theft is the only crime showing an increase, up 24% compared to last year at this time. Most of the reported thefts occur at our local retail stores. Loss Prevention personnel are engaged at these outlets and are tasked with the in-house security and apprehension of shoplift suspects. Although the suspects are arrested by loss prevention personnel, the numbers are still factored into the total number of thefts. We are also seeing an increase in transient/homeless shoplifters here in the Van Nuys Sherman Oaks area. As for personal theft, items such as cell phones, wallets, and purses are most common items taken, and delivered packages are also adding to the numbers. Always track deliveries and make any arrangements for neighbors or family to receive those deliveries if you are unable. Let us work together and remind ourselves to watch out for each other, and alert others when they may overlook an obvious opportunity for thieves.

Basic Car 9A63:

Senior Lead Officer Trent Berry

Cell Phone: 818-731-2563

Email Address: 27270@lapd.online

Crime Trends/Statistics

Basic Car 9A63 covers the Northern Sherman Oaks community. As we head into the month of March, I show a decrease of -20% in property crime and a decrease of -60% on violent crimes. My two areas of concern were residential burglaries and thefts. Most incidents involving residential burglaries are taking place during the daytime hours, while most homeowners are away at work. Please be mindful of this and properly secure your homes and avoid leaving windows open. Remember, an open window is an open invitation to your home. With regards to thefts, please be mindful to track your packages when ordering on-line. If you cannot be home to receive it, consider a drop off location or ask a trusted neighbor to pick up your package for you. This should help to reduce your chances of being victimized. Please call to report suspicious activity in your neighborhood.

Finally, please continue to be mindful of not leaving valuables inside your vehicles. This will help to reduce your chances of being victimized by the crime of Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle. Remember to "Lock it, Hide it, Keep it."

Basic Car 9A89:

Senior Lead Officer Jose Saldana

Cell Phone: 818-731-2565

Email Address: 30853@lapd.online

Crime Trends / Statistics

Basic Car 9A89 covers the southern portion of Sherman Oaks and a small portion of Studio City. I show a decrease in Total Property Crimes of 28.3 % from last year and 45.5% decrease in violent crimes.

After reviewing the BFMV/TFMV reports, I can report that numerous victims continue leaving their valuables in plain sight and not locking their vehicles. I will continue to attend community/business meetings emphasizing "Lock it, Hide it and Keep it."

We are utilizing as many resources as possible to combat all these problems. However, please email any suspicious activity in the form of videos or photos. This can be our greatest source of information for developing leads on open cases. Please help us help you by being aware of what is going on in your neighborhood. Remember, the best way to avoid becoming a victim yourself is to remove all valuables from your vehicle every time you leave it. Do not leave anything that is not attached to your vehicle in plain sight. Make sure your cars and homes are locked and secured using as many crime prevention tools as possible.

Remember, Nextdoor.com, Twitter, and your SLO's City cell phone/email is not for reporting crimes or for generating radio calls. For non-emergencies call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273), and for emergencies dial 911. Please refrain from calling the front desk if you need officers to come out for a radio call. The front desk officers are there to take telephonic reports and answer any questions, not dispatch calls.

Crime Prevention Tips

- ***LOCK YOUR WINDOWS AND DOORS*** when you leave the house. Close your blinds/drapes so no one can see into your house. Keep every part of your residence locked and secured, including your garage.
- ***DON'T LEAVE EXPENSIVE ITEMS OUT*** put them in a drawer, safe, or somewhere else out of sight.
- ***TAKE YOUR ELECTRONIC ITEMS OUT OF YOUR CAR*** such as your cell phones, computer tablets, other portable electronics, and chargers.

- ***LOCK YOUR CAR AND PARK IT IN A GARAGE OR LIGHTED AREA.*** Make it difficult to get into your car. If it is outside, make your car as visible as possible.
- ***IF YOU ARE HOME AND SOMEONE KNOCKS OR RINGS YOUR DOORBELL, DO NOT IGNORE IT.*** Would be burglars like to knock to determine if someone is home before attempting to break in. So, please make sure you verbally acknowledge the person without opening the door. If you have not invited someone to your home, you should not open the door for them.
- Video cameras are becoming an affordable option to help reduce your chances of becoming a victim. Please consider this option to protect your home.