



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

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Sergeant Cedric Ingram

Log onto www.lapdonline.org today! You can view information on the crime in your neighborhood, get the monthly newsletter and sign up for e-policing, a real-time way to get information from LAPD to you!

“COMMUNITY AWARENESS IS THE KEY TO CRIME PREVENTION”

Please join us for NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

National Night Out will be on August 7, 2007. This event will take the place of each area's regularly scheduled Neighborhood Watch meeting. National Night Out is a nationwide Neighborhood Watch effort that began in 1984 to increase safety and awareness in our neighborhoods. Please plan on joining us for a celebration of Community, crime fighting and fun. We will be barbecuing hot dogs at **Warner Center Park (21820 Califa St) from 5pm-9pm**. We will have activities for the kids and crime prevention info for the adults.

If you are unable to attend the event at the park, you can still show your support for National Night Out by turning on porch lights, having a cookout in front of your home, meeting with your neighbors, coordinating a group flashlight walk of your block, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Senior Lead Office (818) 374-7630

10A3- Canoga Park, Senior Lead Officer
Alex Padron, cell (818) 731-2583.

10A27-Reseda north of Sherman Way,
Senior Lead Officer Jose Maldonado,
cell (818) 731-2569.

10A33-Winnetka,
Senior Lead Officer Rachel Raigoza,
cell (818) 731-2568.

10A47-Reseda south of Sherman Way,
Senior Lead Officer Brent Rygh,
cell (818)731-2581.

10A51-West Hills, Senior Lead Officer
Janet Zumstein, cell (818) 731-2570.

10A57-West Winnetka, South Canoga Park,
Senior Lead Officer Jerry Velasquez,
cell phone (818) 731-2578

10A67-Tarzana, Senior Lead Officer
Daryl Scoggins, cell (818) 731-2573

10A73/75-Woodland Hills,
Senior Lead Officer Jodie McGee,
cell (818)731-2574.

10A87-Encino, Senior Lead Officer
Robert Trulik, cell (818) 731-2572

Crime and Arrest Information.

Below is a snapshot of just a few of the arrests that officers made in West Valley in the past couple weeks:

- Sherman Way / Milwood Ave: Officers arrested a juvenile for Attempted Murder.
- 21600 Victory Blvd: Officers arrested a man attempting to obtain credit using a forged California Driver's License.
- 6100 Topanga Canyon Blvd: Officers arrested a shoplifter and discovered that he was carrying a switchblade knife.
- Desoto Ave and Sherman Way: Officers searched the motel room of a man on parole and discovered 2 women using narcotics. A further search revealed credit cards that had been stolen in a vehicle burglary.
- 6600 Topanga Cyn Blvd: A juvenile female was arrested for Robbery after she was caught for shoplifting and used violence attempting to escape.
- 61xx Canoga Ave: 2 males were arrested for Burglary after trying to steal video game equipment and hiding it in a baby stroller.
- Topanga Canyon Blvd: and Oxnard St: A man "was having a bad day" and smashed out windows from 11 vehicles. He was arrested for Felony Vandalism.
- 51xx Tampa Ave: A male was seen attempting to break into a house. The police helicopter and patrol officers arrived observed the suspect making some rather rude finger gestures at the helicopter. Officers arrested the suspect for Attempted Burglary.
- 194xx Ventura Blvd: Property Crime Detail officers were checking local motels and discovered evidence of Identity Theft in a room that someone just checked out of. They were able to find the man and discovered that he was on parole and had handgun ammunition. He was arrested for a felony.
- Tampa Ave. and Roscoe Blvd: Violent Crime Task Force Officers were looking for a robbery suspect when they stopped a vehicle for no front license plate and a burned out tail-light. A traffic stop led to the discovery that one of the three occupants had a warrant. A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of 2 handguns and some marijuana in the car.
- Saticoy St / White Oak: Vice Officers arrested a female for Soliciting Prostitution.
- 79xx Newcastle Ave: A family birthday party escalated to violence and lead to an arrest for Assault with a deadly weapon.
- Tampa Ave and Lanark St: A Traffic Officer (motorcycle) stopped a young woman for speed and discovered that she was driving a stolen car. She was subsequently arrested.

You can look up crime activity in your neighborhood on-line at www.lapdonline.org or www.lapdcrimemaps.org .

Crime Prevention target of the month: **Distraction Burglary**. A distraction burglary is a crime where someone gains access to your home under false pretenses, and then removes your property without your knowledge.

Here is an example: A female knocks on your door and says her car broke down on a very hot day, in front of your home. She asks to use your telephone. You allow her inside, and she makes a telephone call. While she is on the telephone, there is another knock on the door, a man who states his wife is in your house, he then asks if he can use your restroom. You are feeling overwhelmed, but don't want to be rude, so you invite him in, and direct him to the restroom. The female then calls you to the phone for your address, or directions, while the man rifles through your bedroom and removes belongings and jewelry. She completes her phone call, and they leave, thanking you profusely for your kindness.

Distraction burglaries can also be committed by people posing as real estate agents, salespersons, inspectors or other officials attempting to gain access to your home.

To prevent this type of burglary, follow these steps.

Step One

Treat strangers who come to your door with healthy suspicion. Check that they are wearing a recognizable uniform or driving a vehicle carrying a company logo or name. Ask to see photo identification.

Step Two

Note the company name, if you've never heard of it or don't recognize the person. Many distraction burglars pose as salesman, contractors and even as representatives of charitable groups.

Step Three

Ask neighbors whether they're familiar with the company or organization the visitor claims to represent. Your neighbors can let you know if the person has been seen around the neighborhood or is a complete stranger.

Step Four

Determine if you should call the police. Even if no crime has occurred, it might be worthwhile to make the police aware of any suspicious behavior. The police might be looking for a suspect that matches the person's description, and your call may save others from falling prey to a distraction burglary.

Step Five

Call the police to report a distraction burglary the moment you realize valuables are missing. Often, distraction burglars strike more than once, so make the report as soon as possible.

Step Six

Make neighbors aware of what happened so they can look out for similar schemes. Print up a flyer detailing the crime and describing the perpetrator. Distribute it on your block.

Step Seven

Don't be afraid to be rude. You are not obligated to open the door for anyone you don't know.

Canoga Park Neighborhood Watch
The second Tuesday of the month
7248 Owensmouth Ave
7pm.

Encino Neighborhood Watch Meeting
Every other month
Call for details.
374-7637

Reseda Neighborhood Watch Meeting
The second Thursday of the month
West Valley Police Station
7pm.

Tarzana Neighborhood Watch Meeting
The third Wednesday of the month
West Valley Police Station
7pm.

**South Canoga Park/ West Winnetka
Neighborhood Watch**
The third Wednesday of the month
20830 Sherman Way, Canoga Park
7pm.

Winnetka Neighborhood Watch
The second Thursday of the month
6844 Oakdale Ave.
7pm.

Woodland Hills Neighborhood Watch
The third Monday of the month
7633 March Ave, West Hills
7pm.

All times and dates are subject to change,
Please call the Senior Lead Officer to verify
prior to attending, or get on the mailing list, for
a monthly updated mailing on the meeting!