

Captain's Message:

A number of local news stations have reported that residents from throughout the Los Angeles area have received phone calls from people who identify themselves as working with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). These individuals advised residents that the IRS has learned that they owe back taxes and that if not paid immediately, a warrant for their arrest will be issued. Please note that this scenario that plays out hundreds of times daily is a scam. Staff from the IRS will at no time call someone at their home with the intent of collecting money immediately. I ask all of you to ignore calls from people who portray themselves as agents of the IRS. Don't become a victim of a theft by the trickery that they use. Thank you for your continued support and be safe.

Captain Ernest Eskridge
Commanding Officer
Foothill Area

Basic Car 16A11 (North Pacoima)

SLO Steve Nunez

(818) 634-0652

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Crime Trends

Well, although we jumped off to a bad start to 2015, the last four week period has seen lower crime numbers than the first couple of months. Overall, crime for basic car 16A11 is up 1.8% from the same reporting period last year. Home break-ins are also slightly on the rise. Here are a few tips for burglary prevention:

- Make your home look occupied and make it difficult to break into.
- Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you're going away for a length of time, connect a lamp to an automatic timer to have the lamp turn on in the evening and off during the day.
- Leave a radio on when you leave your home.
- Ask a neighbor to check for leaflets or newspapers left at your door or on your property.

Crime Prevention Tips

Let's 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 crime, try to utilize a theft deterrent device (e.g. steering wheel locks, alarms etc.) to lower your chances of being victimized. Remember to "Lock It, Hide It, Keep It". Please report any suspicious activity or person by calling the Los Angeles Police Department's at the Non-Emergency phone (877) ASK LAPD and for crimes in progress dial "911". Together we can make your neighborhoods safe.

Upcoming Events And Meetings:

Pinney Street Neighborhood Watch Group:

May 6, 2015 6:00 PM

13361 Pinney Street. Pacoima

Foothill Community Police Advisory Board:

May 14, 2015 6:00 PM

12953 Branford Street, Pacoima

Pacoima Neighborhood Council

May 20, 2015 6:30 PM

13520 Van Nuys Boulevard, Pacoima

The LAPD continues to do our best to protect & serve the citizens of Los Angeles, but we cannot be everywhere at once. Having a Neighborhood Watch could prevent crime from occurring in your area. Be a good neighbor. Please join a Neighborhood Watch. If you have any questions regarding joining or starting a neighborhood watch group in your area, please do not hesitate to contact me at (818)634-0652.

Foothill Volunteer Surveillance Team is looking for new members. If you are interested contact Foothill Community Relationship Office and speak with Officer Avila (818) 485-0627

Basic Car 16A23 (South Pacoima)

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Hello, hope everyone is well. I was off for a bit but now I'm back. It's time to get everyone back on track in the community because Summer is almost here and as we know, crime goes up. We need to focus again on protecting your property (Lock it, Hide it, Keep it), Domestic and Family Violence education and cleaning up the neighborhoods. We need to work together in order to keep crime down. Please make it a priority and try to attend a neighborhood watch meeting, clergy meeting or a community-police advisory board meeting (see below for dates & times). There is also a Community Police Academy Class coming up in July you can attend. It is eight consecutive Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. At the end, you will receive a graduation certificate and you get to learn about LAPD and a lot of City entities you can use in your community. Let me know if you are interested in attending. It is a great opportunity and a step to becoming a leader in Pacoima. Take Care and see you out there.

Don't forget to sign up with **NIXLE.COM** for **community crime alerts** and **information from Foothill Division** that is text messaged to your cell phone. This is a great way of staying informed with information that comes from your police station. You will have up-to-date information and be well informed of what is going on in the community.

CRIME TRENDS

In my area, South Pacoima, year to date we are down 2.3% in part-one crime. At this time last year, we had 218 part-one crimes, this year we have 213. That is 5 less victims. Grand Theft Auto and thefts are the highest crime in my area so far. Keep an eye out and make sure you are always aware of your surrounding and where you leave your property. Call if you have any questions.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS:

- * Be alert of strangers in your neighborhood.
 - * If possible obtain an alarm or lock for your car.
 - * If someone is “hanging around” in your block that does not belong, notify your neighbors.
 - * Report suspicious activity. Call the Foothill Desk and keep the SLO Officer (me) informed.
 - * Foothill Desk (818) 756-8861.
 - * **ALWAYS CALL 911** when observing unknown suspects breaking in to any vehicle or home.
- FOR ADDITIONAL SAFETY INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT FOOTHILL AREA AUTO OR BURGLARY DETECTIVES AT (818) 834-3115.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

There are different locations for the community to attend a neighborhood watch meeting. Please make it a point to attend any of the following and do your part for your neighborhood.

The **Hansen Hills Neighborhood Watch** – May 8, 2015 at 6:30 pm.
At the Pacoima Community Center, 11243 Glenoaks Boulevard.

The **San Fernando Gardens Neighborhood Watch** – May 21, 2015 at 5:00 pm.
Located at 10982 Lehigh Avenue.

The **David Gonzalez Park Neighborhood Watch** – May 20, 2014 at 5:30 pm.
Located at Pacoima Charter auditorium, 11016 Norris Avenue.

You can also attend the **Pacoima Neighborhood Council** meetings and have a voice for your area. May 20 at 6:30 pm at the Pacoima Community Center, 11243 Glenoaks Boulevard.

We have our **Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB)** meeting on May 14 at 6:00 pm at the Japanese/American Community Center, 12953 Branford Street in Pacoima.

Please join us. It is a good way to find out what is going on in your area.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

If there are any problem traffic areas that you would like to have patrolled, please call Valley Traffic at
(818) 644-8142.

USEFUL INFORMATION

A reminder about the 3-1-1 system. Any of the Los Angeles City services can be obtained from that phone number. Remember that the number can only be dialed from your home telephone. When you are finished ask for a confirmation number from the operator.

Basic Car 16A35 (Sunland, Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills)

SLO Cesar Contreras

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CRIME TRENDS

At the beginning of 2015, we experienced a very unfamiliar spike in crime. All of a sudden, all the gains that we had fought so hard to achieve were eroding week by week as property crime spiked to levels not seen in a few years. In response, we added more officers in the areas affected and gave them specialized duties such as engaging the businesses and focusing on the transient population. Our gang unit was also beefed up with additional personnel to afford us seven day coverage. I am happy to report that we are now back on track. As of this week, we are currently under in crime stats compared to last year. What this basically means is that with all the aforementioned resources and the help and cooperation of the public, crime is at a lower level than it was last year for the same period.

Let's stay alert and vigilant as we continue to strive to reduce crime to an even lower level. Here are a few tips that can help:

Barriers to Burglary

Burglary is a crime of opportunity. Make their work risky and difficult and you stand a good chance of stopping them before they get in.

Your first line of defense

To a burglar visibility means vulnerability. They hide behind fences and shrubbery. The key is to keep trespassers out while keeping your property visible. Use picket or chain link fences. Keep hedges clipped down around waist level.

On the outside looking in

Burglars try the doors and windows first. If burglars have difficulty here, chances are they will move on to another property.

Doors

- **Locks.** The strongest are deadbolt locks with a minimum 1" throw bolt containing a hardened, saw-resistant steel insert. Attach the strike plate to the door frame with 4" screws. The double cylinder deadbolt lock requires a key from both sides, preventing a burglar from breaking glass in the door and turning the knob from the inside. Make sure the cylinder of the lock has a steel guard — a ring around the key section. The cylinder guard should be tapered, or it should rotate around the key section to prevent wrenching.

Remember, though, a double cylinder dead-bolt can also block your exit in an emergency. Check with your local law enforcement agency or building inspector to see if these locks are permitted in your area.

- **Hinges.** Doors that swing out have hinges on the outside. A burglar can easily remove the hinge pins and lift the door out. To foil this, remove the center screw from each side of the hinge and insert a metal pin or headless screw on one side. When the door is closed, the end of the pin will fit into the opposite hole. Thus, even if the pins are removed, the door will remain bolted to the frame.

- **Padlocks.** Overhead doors, receiving doors, garage doors — all are typically secured with padlocks and hasps. Look for sturdy padlocks that don't release the key until the padlock is closed. The padlock should be case-hardened with a 3/8" shackle to resist repeated smashing. Remember, a padlock is only as good as the hasps on which it is mounted; so bolt hasps securely to a metal plate, and make sure the bolts are concealed when the padlock is closed.

- **Door construction.** Burglars can kick in a weak door. Replace hollow core doors with solid core doors, or strengthen the existing ones with metal sheets. Replace weak door frames, or reinforce them with steel or concrete. Protect glass in the door with steel bars or mesh; or place a polycarbonate sheet over the glass on the inside.

Windows

Protect windows by putting grates, grill work, or bars over them; or cover the glass on the inside with a clear polycarbonate sheet. The sheet should extend 1-1/2" beyond the perimeter of the glass and be bolted to the door. Space the bolts approximately every 3 inches. Unbreakable safety glass is also available, but it is more expensive.

Other entrances

Skylights, ventilation ducts, and fire escapes tempt burglars because these openings usually are not visible from the street. Protect skylights and ducts with metal grates and iron bars. The first stair of a fire escape should be too high for the average adult to reach from the ground. The door or window leading to the escape should be equipped with emergency exit features: window guards should be removable or hinged to allow for an emergency exit. Keys to locked windows or door should be kept nearby.

Key control. Because any lock gives way to a key, practice good key control.

- Label keys with a code indicating back door, receiving door, display case, etc.
- Engrave "Do Not Duplicate" on all keys.
- Restrict key-access to your most trusted employees; maintain a log to record removal and return.
- Consider having locks re-keyed when an employee leaves your business.

Guards

Join neighboring businesses to hire a uniformed guard from a reputable security company. Check references. The security staff should be familiar with your employees, your

store hours and your shoplifting/internal theft policies.

Lighting

Light is a great crime deterrent. In fact, some states have minimum standards for exterior lighting. Light up all dark areas, especially doors and windows. If your business is in a poorly lit commercial area, join with other merchants to petition local government for more lights or pool funds and underwrite the cost yourselves.

Alarms

Before you invest in an alarm system, weigh the cost against your need. How valuable is your merchandise? How great is your risk? After installing an alarm, let burglars know by putting warning signs in windows and entrances.

Every alarm system should include:

- a fail-safe battery backup
- fire-sensing capability
- a feedback device to check the system

For an expert appraisal of your security needs, ask for a premise security survey by your local law enforcement agency, or check with a reputable security consultant.

Operation Identification

Mark your property with your California driver's license number (preceded by the letters "CA"). Then put Operation I.D. decals (obtained from your local law enforcement agency) on all windows and doors to warn burglars that your property can be traced.

Keep a complete, up-to-date inventory of your merchandise and property: office machinery, personal belongings, etc. Put a copy in your safe deposit box or at a location away from the business site.

Remember

Locks and alarms can't prevent a burglary unless they're in use. Establish a routine for "closing up shop," locking doors and windows, setting up alarms.

If a burglar breaks in

Your best protection against an intruder is visibility: Well-lit open spaces, low counters, and large, uncluttered display windows — these precautions keep the burglar in the spotlight.

Put your safe and cash register up front so that the burglar's activity will be visible from the outside. Empty your cash drawers and leave them open so a burglar won't be tempted to break them open. Anchor safes in concrete, and make sure they have combination locks. Put locks on all interior doors and hook them into your alarm system. (Always check fire regulations before installing such locks.)

If you suspect a burglary:

- **Don't go in** — the burglar may still be inside.
- **Don't open for business** — your employees and customers may unwittingly alter valuable evidence.
- **Call police immediately.**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sunland/Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
7747 Foothill Boulevard, Sunland.

Sunland/Tujunga Neighborhood Watch, Tuesday, May 19, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
7747 Foothill Boulevard, Sunland.

Lakeview Terrace Improvement Association, Monday May 4, 2015 7:00 pm
11075 Foothill Boulevard., Lake View Terrace.

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council Thursday May 21, 2015 7:00 pm
11075 Foothill Boulevard, Lake View Terrace.

TEXT-A-TIP

To provide anonymous tips, text CRIMES (274637) on your cell phone and begin the message with LAPD.

You may submit an anonymous tip anytime an anonymous tip anytime, anywhere, 24 hour a day, 7 days a week, by phone 800-222-TIPS (800-222-8477).

USEFUL INFORMATION

Once again, just a reminder about the 3-1-1 system. Any of the Los Angeles City services can be obtained from that phone number. Remember that the number can only be dialed from your home telephone. When you're finished, ask for a confirmation number from the operator.

Basic Car 16A59 (Tujunga)
Acting SLO Violet Potter
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35464@lapd.lacity.org

Hello everyone, It's been great working in partnership with a lot of you during the past few months!!!! In the month of April, Foothill narcotics made an amazing arrest in A59's area, getting drugs and guns off our streets, very proud of the hard work from our narcotics unit.

Crime Trends

Our crime in the Tujunga area still consists on burglaries and theft from motor vehicle. As some of you have heard me say during our meetings, I drive around the area and I continue seeing open garages (with no one standing around), unattended vehicle (with driver side open and no one standing around). Some of these crimes can be easily prevented by locking the doors. So I will continue to stress LOCK IT, HIDE IT, KEEP IT!!!!

I'm continuing communication with day and night patrol officers, passing on information facilitating communication between community members and law enforcement. Your eyes and ears helped dramatically. I ask that our relationship continues with all of you. Help us help you by starting a neighborhood watch group on your block. Call our office at (818) 756-8866 and I can assist you with this endeavor

Community Events

Community Clean up and Beautification Day May 2, 2015 8:30am- 11:30 am
Foothill Boulevard and Valmont Street

Tujunga Community Coffee, May 11, 2015, 9:00 am
Starbucks (Inside Alberstson's) 6240 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga

Sunland/Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
7747 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga

Foothill Community Police Advisory Board May 14, 2015 6:00 pm
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima

Sunland/Tujunga Neighborhood Watch, Tuesday, May 19, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
7747 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga

Basic Car 16A77 (Sun Valley)
SLO Richard Wall
(818) 634-0755
30204@lapd.lacity.org

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Hi everyone!

The big news is a community coffee every first Tuesday of the month at Bob's Big Boy, 8274 Sunland Bl. Senior Lead Officer Vasquez and I will be there from 8:00 am to 9:00 am. Please drop in and say hi. The next one is on May 5, 2015.

On Thursday Night May 28, 2015, we are having a Stonehurst Neighborhood Watch meeting at Stonehurst Park at 6 pm.

CRIME TRENDS

Our largest crime concern is still vehicle thefts, burglaries, and burglaries from motor vehicles. I can't express enough, how important it is for everyone to keep their homes and cars secure. As I continue reviewing the crime reports there has been one reoccurring factor. Most of the burglars have been able to walk into an unlocked door or get into an unlocked window and unlocked car doors. It's imperative that all of us help each other. This is an old trick to knock and see if someone is home.

If you see a crime in progress then please call 9-1-1. Please lock all your doors and windows when you leave or go to sleep at night. Remember to lock the doors on your vehicles as well.

An amazing tool that we have been using is FREE and EASY to sign up for. I ask that all of you sign up with **NIXLE.COM** for **community crime alerts** and **information from Foothill Division** that is text messaged to your cell phone. This is a great way of staying informed with information that comes from your police station.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please remember to slow down. Valley Traffic Division will be enforcing traffic laws in the Foothill Area. I too will be monitoring and enforcing the law within the Tujunga area. Please help yourself avoid the potential financial strain of a citation. Slow down. Give yourself enough time to get where you're going. Please remember to pick a designated driver prior to attending a party or barbecue. It would be a shame to have to watch one of our young citizens become injured in a senseless act of drunk driving.

If there are any traffic-related problem areas that you would like to have patrolled, please call Valley Traffic at (818) 644-8142, and leave a message for Officer Flores.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Once again, just a reminder about the 3-1-1 system. Any of the Los Angeles City services can be obtained from that phone number. Remember that the number can only be dialed from your home telephone. When you're finished ask for a confirmation number from the operator.

Basic Car 16A81 (West Sun Valley)

SLO Esther Vasquez

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CURRENT CRIME TRENDS

Basic Car 16A81, Saticoy north to the 5 Freeway and the 170 Freeway east to the border of Burbank. I hope everyone is enjoying the springtime weather here in sunny California. Overall Foothill Area is doing better at crime reduction, although still not as spectacular as the past years. In the area of 16A81, there are some decreases and increases. The area is at about a 9% increase in total crime and this is a decrease from last month. Burglaries and thefts have decreased the most. There are still the car break-ins and the stolen cars that the area is still seeing an increase in.

The increase in car break-ins are still the crime that is committed the most in this area. One item of property that was taken from a car was a gate remote. Whether a remote opens your gate or garage, you should make the effort to remove these items from your car. If you need it to enter your garage, hide the remote in your trunk and before you leave to go home, take it out of your trunk. When you arrive, you can open the garage without getting out of your car and then when inside the garage and closed up, then hide the remote in the trunk again. It seems like a lot of work, but it is peace of mind. Either you have to go through the trouble of replacing the remote, and quickly, or a chance of someone entering.

We did see a small increase in violent crime. Robberies for the month of March held at one. For April we are at about four. One robbery that occurred is of a homeless man, who four suspects decided that they were going to take a momma dog and her litter of six. Thanks to good witnesses, the victim and another, a license plate was obtained. Officers located the vehicle and within minutes all four suspects were caught and booked for robbery. I know you all are wondering what happened to the dogs, and yes a happy-ending, all were found and returned to their owner. Take the extra time to look around and be aware of your surroundings, if it looks as if a crime is going down, look for a vehicle and try, without getting hurt, to get a license plate. Additionally, there was a bank robbery where the suspect used a note for the money. Sometimes it is difficult to determine that this type of crime is happening, but if you have that hunch, it doesn't hurt to jot down the plate if the suspect leaves in a vehicle.

Lastly, there is a positive note to crime reduction because burglaries turned around this past month. There was only one business burglary as of the last week of April. This is great, but still don't let your guard down. Please keep vigilant in locking doors and windows of your residence.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sun Valley Area Community Coffee, Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 8:00 a.m.
8272 Sunland Boulevard.

Foothill Clergy Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 12:00 p.m.,
7747 Foothill Boulevard, Northeast City Hall.

Community Police Advisory Board, Thursday, May 14, 2015, 6:00 p.m.,
12953 Branford Street, San Fernando Valley Japanese-American Cultural Center.

Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council Meeting, May 12, 2015, 6:30 p.m.,
10631 Vinedale Street, Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center.

Strathern Street Neighborhood Watch Meeting, Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 6:30 p.m.,
12020 Strathern Street., Church of the Nazarene.

North Hollywood North East Neighborhood Council, Thursday, May 21, 2015, 7:00 p.m.,
7063 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, Fire Station 89.

CRIME TIP

The first holiday weekend to roll in summer is arriving, Memorial weekend. If you will be out of town, take some safety measures for your home. Lock up all valuables in a safe or hide extremely well. Use a timer for lights. Have a neighbor or friend check on your house to collect mail and newspapers. Lastly, lock up those windows and doors. Have a great May!