Captain Stephen M. Carmona’s Captain’s Corner:

Greetings to all!
Summer is in full swing and North Hollywood Division is bringing on its “A” game! The officers and staff at our Division are constantly looking for creative ways to fight crime. We are also invested in supporting healthy summer activities for our youth and committed to participating in community events that will foster a relationship between law enforcement and community members.

Before I provide an update on our North Hollywood Community, I would like to take a moment to recognize the horrific incident that took place in Dallas, Texas on July 7th. Five officers were killed and nine officers were wounded on that horrible day in our history. May the families of these victims find the strength to pull through this painful time in their lives. This event is a shocking reminder of the existence of such acts of terror and hate. Our Department is doing all it can to provide security to our officers who “protect and serve” the people of Los Angeles each and every day. We have increased the amount of police helicopters in the air and provided additional communications (dispatch) personnel to help field and screen certain types of radios calls. The Department has also deployed our Metropolitan Division in each geographic area to provide extra security to our patrol units.

Now, to the local beats of North Hollywood. Here is where we are with crime trends and current events...


Approximately 500 of our youth and community members were in attendance and participated in a variety of youth activities put together by the GRYD team from the Mayor’s Office. This program will run Wednesday through Friday nights from 7pm to 11pm, through the end of August. It is anticipated that 500 to 700 youth and community members will participate in this event each night, in each one of the 36 parks affiliated with this program. The success of this event is not in the number of persons in attendance but in the message it sends to the community that there are resources available to keep our youth involved in healthy activities rather than criminal or gang-affiliated behavior.

The wheels are in motion for our annual “National Night Out,” set to take place on August 2, 2016. Several neighborhoods within North Hollywood will rally together as a community to build camaraderie and partnerships with other neighborhoods and with the police department, with the goal of making each community a safer place to live. Your North Hollywood Senior Lead Officers will be actively participating in this event! The three locations include, Valley Village Park, Chase Bank on Riverside Drive and El Paseo de Cahuenga Park in the Cahuenga Pass.

Although crime is up year to date by 6 percent, over the last four weeks we have seen a 16 percent decrease in total crime within our North
North Hollywood Newsletter

August 2016

Hollywood Area. We have deployed extra “Z Cars” on Friday and Saturday nights to help combat the violent crime/aggravated assaults and we’ve noticed the positive impact that it’s had.

Also, a special thanks to the North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council for providing a large amount of steering wheel locking devices. The Senior Lead Officers will be distributing them to all qualified car owners to help reduce vehicle theft.

And, last, but not least, I’d like to conclude this month’s segment by extending my gratitude to all of the community members who reached out to offer their support and prayers to the two North Hollywood Patrol officers who were involved in a serious traffic collision on June 29, 2016 at the intersection of Fulton Avenue and Sherman Way. Although initially in serious condition, and one requiring surgery, both officers are now stable and expected to recover from their injuries. We are thankful and blessed with this news.

Summer Night Lights continue at Valley Plaza Park. The event is held every Wed-Sat from 7pm to 11pm throughout the summer. There will be free food and fun events for adults and children.

STAY INFORMED!
Get important information via social media about crime in your neighborhood.

Nixle- www.nixle.com
Follow the link, click on residents, click “sign up” and complete the process. You will receive alerts on your cell phone whenever the corresponding law enforcement agency sends out a message. Twitter-follow us on twitter @LAPDNorthHwdDiv

Crimestoppers- www.lacrimestoppers.org
You can report crime anonymously using this website.

Community Events

Neighborhood Watch Meeting
Church of San Pablo
7400 Tujunga Avenue
Monday, August 08, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting
Pentecostal Church Juan 3:16
6903 Radford Avenue
Wednesday, August 17, 2016
7:00 p.m.

North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council Meeting
LAFD Station 89
7063 Laurel Canyon Boulevard
Thursday, August 18, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Current Crime Trends
During this period which covered from 06/12/16 to 07/09/16 there was a decrease in all part I crime with the exception of robberies and thefts. There were 23 thefts this period compared to 20 the last period. In regards to robberies, there were 4 robberies this period compared to 3 last period.
Area Update and Current Crime Trends
Officer Hillary Del Rio will be filling in for Senior Lead Officer Carol Sawamura. Officer Del Rio comes from the Gang Enforcement Detail and plans to utilize her knowledge of gang activity in the A21 area to address neighborhood issues. Historically, A21 has been plagued by Mara Salvatrucha and North Hollywood Locos criminal street gangs who have been responsible for assaults, robberies, burglaries and thefts from vehicles and vandalism in the area. However, with the help of vigilant community members, significant arrests of gang members have recently been made. It is this collaboration that sends the message to gang members that crime is not tolerated in the area.

As part of a monthly analysis, A21 is experiencing a slight increase in overall crime. Specifically, Theft and Burglaries from Motor Vehicles are on the rise. This is a reminder of the utmost importance of leaving virtually nothing inside a vehicle while it is parked and unattended. Remember, all items have value! Leaving anything inside a vehicle is a temptation to a potential criminal.

A21 has also experienced an increase in community concern regarding RVs parking in residential neighborhoods. This issue is complex and far reaching within the North Hollywood community. Officer Del Rio is working diligently to address this issue. Please contact Officer Del Rio regarding any RVs parked in your neighborhood.

Lastly, vehicle anti-theft “Club” devices will be given away for older model Hondas and Toyotas. Please contact Officer Del Rio for “Club” give away eligibility.

Community Events
North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council Retreat
Grace Community Church
13248 Roscoe Boulevard
North Hollywood 91605
Saturday, August 20, 2016
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“Summer Night Lights”
Valley Plaza Park – 12240 Archwood Street
Summer Night Lights – Park Program
Wednesday through Saturday
7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Current Crime Trends
Based on the current crime statistics, my area continues to have a small increase of Grand Theft Autos primarily in the area of Vanowen Street and Lankershim Blvd. The area also has seen an increase with Burglary/Theft from motor vehicles in the same area. Please be aware that many of
these crimes could be prevented by not leaving any valuables inside your vehicles. Always park your vehicle in an area that is well lit.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 818 754-8358.

**Community Events**

*Lankershim Business Watch Meeting*
6620 Lankershim Boulevard
Aug 17, 2016
1:00 p.m.

*Cleon Neighborhood Watch*
6300 Cleon Avenue
Aug 24, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Summer is upon us and the days are heating up. Please be conscious of leaving your pet in a vehicle. California Penal Code 597.7 PC makes it illegal to leave an animal (or animals) in an unattended car if by doing so you endanger the health or well-being of the animal.

**Community Events:**

*Greater Valley Glenn Neighborhood Council*
*Valley College*
*August 1, 7 PM*

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**Current Crime Trends:**

There has been an increase in tagging in the area of Victory/Laurel Canyon. If you have any videos of anyone tagging or someone committing vandalism please contact me. Violent crime has slightly decreased for our area.

National Night Out is coming up and we have three events happening in North Hollywood. There will be BBQ's and safety information at each one. If you would like to volunteer or attend please contact me.

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**Current Crime Trends:**

Majority of calls lately for police response are related to quality of life complaints. People residing in vehicles parked in residential areas are a daily complaint. As frustrating as it is for homeowners, we as police are frustrated as well. The 9th Circuit Court made the decision that it is not illegal to reside in a vehicle on the street. Today, all types of vehicles are parked in the various neighborhoods. It is not isolated to commercial areas as in the past and there is not a single residential neighborhood exempt. Complaints are received daily from residents of the very north end of the division as well as in the south end in the Studio City and the Toluca Lake neighborhoods.

This court decision has changed what legal enforcement we are able to do to help address this type of community complaint. The answer really is
very little, unless the vehicle has an expired registration or it is clearly documented that the vehicle has been abandoned for over 72 hours.

Most people understand that the responsibility of parking related enforcement and complaints falls under the jurisdiction of the Dept. of Transportation. However, when it’s related to people residing in vehicles and the complaints associated with this, it is now another added responsibility of the LAPD.

This issue is the cause of frustration for those who feel the police are not doing enough to clean up the neighborhood from blight caused by some of these abandoned vehicles. On the other hand, other community members will say the police should be focusing on real crime and to stop picking on the less fortunate. Many community complaints are valid and we use our limited resources to help rectify the complaint. On the other hand, we are also the last resort in an attempt to provide assistance to someone in serious need.

When we have a chance encounter with someone living in a vehicle, it is often clear that many are in this position not by choice but as a last resort because they have run out of all options. What should not be surprising to some, it’s often a stranger from the LAPD that provided some form of support and outreach needed when everyone else in their life has turned away.

Current Crime Trends
A comparison of crime statistics for the Month of June compared to May shows a significant decrease in overall crime. In June 2016, there were 57 reported crimes in A43 Area versus 74 reported crimes in the Month of May.

Crime “spikes” are evident at Magnolia Boulevard and Laurel Canyon as well as Whitsett Avenue and Magnolia Boulevard for property crimes, i.e., Burglary, Theft From Motor Vehicle and Theft. The intersection of Laurel Canyon and Riverside experienced two (2) Commercial Burglaries.

In these extreme heat conditions, please remember to never keep your pets inside enclosed vehicles (or windows cracked) no matter how short of time period you are gone. If pets are left at home, or outside, leave plenty of cold water, shade and a cooling system if possible.

Community Events

National Night Out – “Take Back Our Neighborhood From Crime”
Valley Village Park
5000 Westpark Drive
Tuesday, August 02, 2016
5:30 p.m.

Valley Village Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 24, 2016
6:30 p.m.
Faith Presbyterian Church - 5000 Colfax Avenue
Current Crime Trends
As we move into August, the total crime numbers are still holding at about a 3 percent reduction, year to date. We continue to see good results in reductions in burglary/theft from vehicles as well as residential and commercial burglaries. Car break-ins were down about 20% YTD through June and July and are holding steady. Burglaries have also been down YTD. Grand theft auto has been the biggest problem YTD. There has been a significant increase of vehicles stolen this year compared to 2015. Most of the vehicles stolen continue to be in the area north of the 134 Fwy to Magnolia and east of the 170 FWY to the City of Burbank. We will continue to focus and provide extra patrol in the Noho Arts area, Lankershim and Magnolia Corridors, Hollywood Hills West adjacent to the Cahuenga Pass. The NoHo Arts area continues its growth and redevelopment significantly over the last few months with new businesses, restaurants, entertainment venues and shopping.

Community Events
National Night Out
10050 Riverside Drive (Chase Bank Parking Lot)
Tuesday August 2, 2016 5:00 PM

Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council Meeting
Toluca Elementary
4840 Cahuenga Boulevard
Tuesday, August 16, 2016 7:00 PM

Current Crime Trends
The last few months I have been writing articles about the homeless, homeless encampments, and the lure the Red Line station is for the homeless and for those who have criminal intentions. What I haven’t been talking about is crime or crime statistics, mainly because it’s a little boring. But first, I would be remiss if I did not start off by reminding everybody how low the crime rate is in the City of Los Angeles. Since 2003, crime has fallen each and every year (to historic lows, not seen since the 1950’s and 1960’s), that is until last year. And this year doesn’t look any better.

Overall Part-1 crime in the City is up in 18 of the 21 LAPD Divisions. Here in North Hollywood we are split up into 8 basic car areas and Studio City is one of those 8 basic cars. Here is some good news, crime in Studio City is down significantly. It’s down 19.8% compared to last year. When you look at the other basic cars there is only one other one in North Hollywood which crime is down (-4%) and the 6 other areas are all up, in the No Ho Arts area crime is up 32%.

So, it is true that the City is seeing some significant increases in crime but Studio City continues to be one of the safest places to live and this year we are having one of our best years (at least in the last 20 years) in lowering crime. We are definitely moving in the right direction.
Thanks
Michael Lewis
Senior Lead Officer Studio City
31575@lapd.lacity.org

A Message from Terrorist Liaison Officer

As a reminder, the prevention of terrorism and violent crimes is everyone's responsibility. You are all the eyes and ears in the community and law enforcement needs your help in keeping you all safe. If you see something suspicious, immediately notify law enforcement by calling 911. A simple call may prevent a tragedy from occurring.

http://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something

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GLOSSARY OF PART I CRIMES

HOMICIDE
RAPE
BURGLARY
AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS
ROBBERY
BURGLARY/THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE
PERSONAL/OTHER THEFT
AUTO THEFT