GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

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

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

**Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council:** General meeting is the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., Location: 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., Location: 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., Location: Milikan Middle School, 5041 Sunnyslope Avenue, Sherman Oaks, CA.

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

**Van Nuys Clergy Council Meeting:** General meeting is held on a quarterly basis the last Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2021. Location: Bernardi Senior Center, 6514 Sylmar Ave., Van Nuys, CA.

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 the numbers listed below for further details.
Who to Contact

For crimes in progress and medical emergencies dial: 911.

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

Are you interested in knowing about spontaneous police activity in your neighborhood? If so, you may want to try the “Citizen app.” Get real-time safety alerts and live video of incidents happening near you.

Please let your friends and family that live in the City know about the Department’s Community Online Reporting Service (CORS). LAPD offers online reporting service at **www.lapdonline.org**. We highly encourage using this fast and easy service to avoid coming to the station. The following crimes are eligible for online reporting: Theft, Lost Property, Theft/Burglary from a motor vehicle, Identity theft, Minor-injury Traffic Collisions, hit and run traffic collisions, Annoying or Harassing phone calls/texts/emails, and Vandalism. Upon completion of your online reporting, you will immediately receive a temporary report number and be able to print a copy of the report. The following requirements must be met to complete online reporting services:

- The incident is not an emergency.
- The incident occurred within the City of Los Angeles.
- You must be at least 18 years old.
- No one was injured as a result of the incident.
- There are no known suspect(s).
- The incident did not occur on the state highway.
- No firearms were involved in the incident.
- You must have an email address.

Help Us PREVENT TERRORISM “See Something, Report to iWATCH”

iWatch is a community program and partnership between the public and law enforcement. The program educates the community regarding possible acts of terrorism by teaching them about behaviors and activities that appear unusual and/or seem to be out of the ordinary; makes them aware of important places to watch; and informs them on key details that should be included as part of the reporting process.

There are three platforms for public reporting:

1. iWATCH mobile application
2. Online through LAPDonline.org or iWATCHLA.org
3. 1-877-A-THREAT (1-877-284-7328)
Hello everyone, as the hot summer months continue to get even hotter, I am happy to inform that there has been a decrease of 21.34% in Property Crimes and a decrease of 15.51% in Part 1 Crimes. There was a slight increase of 7.94% in Violent Crime with 68 incidents reported year to date versus 63 incidents reported year to date for 2020.

Having said that and as a reminder, here are some tips on how to prevent vehicle thefts and thefts from motor vehicles.

- Remove all your valuables. Sometimes keeping them out of sight may not be enough, whenever possible, take all your valuables with you when not in transit.
- Lock ALL your car doors. Hitting that lock button enough times until you get an audible confirmation that it's locked does not make you paranoid, it ensures that your vehicle is locked.
- Completely close all windows.
- Secure your license plates. Criminals sometimes will take your license plates and put them on another vehicle and commit crimes, thus avoiding identification. So please be sure to secure your license plates and check often to make sure they are still attached to your vehicle.
- Install an alarm or GPS. This is a standard on most new cars and the cost to install an aftermarket system has significantly been reduced and may get you a discount on your car insurance.
- Never leave your keys in or around your vehicle. Please avoid “stashing” your keys in or around your car. You never know who may be watching you and monitoring your activities.
- Park your car in a well-lit place and avoid isolated areas. Also, please do not leave your car parked in the same spot for extended periods of time. It may attract thieves, and, in some cases, it may be against the law.

The Los Angeles Police Department has implemented its Community Online Reporting Service. The following crimes are eligible for online reporting:

Theft, Lost Property, Theft/Burglary from a motor vehicle, Identity Theft, Minor-injury and hit and run traffic collisions, Annoying or harassing phone calls/texts/emails, and vandalism.
Report to: www.lapdonline.org

We want to remind our community members to utilize the non-emergency number, 1-877-ASK-LAPD for incidents requiring immediate police assistance or for non-emergency calls.
**Basic Car 9A19**
Senior Lead Officer Mike Perez  
Cell Phone: 818-731-2566  
Email Address: [35569@lapd.online](mailto:35569@lapd.online)

As of 6/19/21, Basic Car 9A19 has a -7% decrease on Violent Crime year to date. Part One crimes are down 9% year to date, and property crimes are also down -9.5% year to date.

**Neighborhood Engagement Area (NEA)**

Lead by Senior Lead Officer George Lara and myself, Van Nuys Division has been actively engaged in the NEA for the past year. The NEA project was opened in June 2020 and is the area along the Van Nuys Blvd Corridor from Victory Blvd to Vanowen Street, Tyrone Ave. to Vesper Ave. The Van Nuys Division including patrol, Vice Unit, Narcotics Unit, Gang Unit, Bicycle Unit, Senior Lead Officers, community partners and Council District partners have all contributed to a -26.9% reduction in all Part One Crime within the NEA. These are the numbers:

**PART 1 CRIME COMPARISON (06/23/20-06/15/21)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime</th>
<th>% Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>-32.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assaults</td>
<td>-23.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>-32.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thefts</td>
<td>-46.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Crime</td>
<td>-26.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Crime</td>
<td>-27.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>-26.9%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although we have had great success this past year obtaining a significant reduction in crime, we will continue to conduct enforcement and monitor the NEA for an additional year.

**Fireworks Activity Reporting**

During this time of the year, the city calls for service for firework activity significantly increases. To help identify individuals responsible for such activity please call the non-emergency number 1-877-ASK-LAPD and provide the following information:

- Actual address of where the activity is occurring. Intersections are too vague and will be broadcasted as “information only” to patrol officers.
- Suspect(s) description such as name (if known), clothing, height, weight, etc.
- If you are willing to take still photos or video, that may be used as evidence for future prosecution of these individuals.

**Community Clean-Ups: Volunteers Are Needed!**

The Van Nuys Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) Blight Abatement Committee conducts regular Community Clean-Ups throughout the Van Nuys Area, Valley Glen, and Sherman Oaks communities. At a time when city resources are thin, we as a community must come together and keep our neighborhoods clean. If you would like more information about the clean-ups or to participate, please email me at [35569@lapd.online](mailto:35569@lapd.online).
Neighborhood Watch!
An involved community is an informed community. If you are interested participating in a Traditional Neighborhood Watch meeting (with social distancing) or to restart an existing one, please email me at 35569@lapd.online or call at 818-731-2566.

Basic Car 9A23:
Senior Lead Officer George Lara
E-mail: 38454@lapd.online
Cell Phone: (818) 731-2557

I hope everyone has had a good summer so far and that you are all healthy and enjoying this beautiful California weather. I am happy to report that as of Tuesday, June 22, 2021, we continue to see a decrease in crime, year to date there is a decrease of 2.74% in Violent Crime, 12.19% in Property Crime and 10.23% in Part 1 Crime.

But even with these low numbers and reduced number of incidents in our area, it is important to point out that we are still getting some vehicle break ins and thefts from vehicles. Additionally, most insurance companies will not cover a loss or theft if your vehicle was left unlocked or if the keys are unaccounted for.

With the heat increasing and while our little ones are on break from school, I wanted to take a moment and remind you of some basic rules that will keep you safe while using your favorite swimming pools.

Water safety encompasses a person's behavior in and around the water. Before taking your kids to the pool, beach or lakeshore, teach them these 10 basic water safety tips to ensure a safe and pleasant water experience.

1. Never Swim Alone:
Swimming should only happen when a lifeguard is on duty. Lifeguards don't just watch the people in the pool, lake or ocean. Their job is also to watch the water and advise swimmers on any safety concerns and questionable conditions that might arise. They are also trained to respond quickly when something happens.

In addition to swimming with a lifeguard nearby, a good rule of thumb — for children and adults — is to use the buddy system while swimming. Instruct your child to always swim with a friend or sibling so they can look out for one another if their parents aren't physically in the pool with them. Besides being more fun to swim with a friend, this also ensures there is someone who can go for help if something goes wrong.

2. Supervise Children When They’re in the Water:
We understand that parents need to relax too. But when your children are in the water, it's time to be alert. As a rule of thumb, a parent should always be within arm’s reach of a young child. This rule is true whether they're swimming in a pool, lake, ocean or bathtub. Even ones who are strong swimmers need supervision because they're prone to trying tricks, flips and dives — all things that can be dangerous in the water.

The best way to remain vigilant when your children are swimming is to put your phone away, and simply enjoy hanging out with each other! If other adults are present, you can take turns watching the pool, so everyone gets an equal chance to relax. Working together to protect your children is the best way to prevent an accident.

3. Don’t Play Breath-Holding Games:
While swimming, children shouldn’t hold their breath for a long time, as this can cause drowning and has several other severe risks. Make sure children understand competing to see who can hold their breath underwater, and other similar games, can be dangerous and should not be part of any water-related activities.
If a swimmer holds their breath too long or hyperventilates before going underwater — meaning they are breathing deeper or faster — they are at a higher risk of passing out underwater. Children who swim competitively should learn proper breathing techniques to avoid problems during practices or meets.

4. Always Wear a Life Vest:
Young children or inexperienced swimmers should always wear a Coast Guard-certified life jacket around water. There are plenty of products on the market claiming to help children stay afloat, such as water wings, floaties, pool noodles, etc., but these are not a substitute for life preservers or lifesaving devices in a genuine emergency. Use these products only when a parent or trustworthy adult is within arm's length of the child using them.

Also, remember a life jacket or other flotation device should never be an excuse to ignore other water safety guidelines. Life jackets alone are not enough when it comes to staying safe around water.

5. Don’t Jump in the Water to Save a Friend:
If a child sees their friend struggling to keep their head above water, their first instinct may be to jump in to help. However, doing so could lead to both people drowning.

6. Enter the Water Feet First:
Severe injuries can occur when kids jump or dive headfirst into shallow water. Make sure your child understands the proper way to enter and exit the pool. If they're interested in jumping and diving, make sure to teach them the correct way to do it, as well as point out the areas where it is safe to do so. If your pool does not have an area designated for diving, do not allow it, no matter how deep the water.

7. Stay Away From Pool Drains:
Children's hair, bathing suits and even limbs have become stuck in broken or faulty drains, which can lead to drowning or serious injury. Teach children to stay away from these areas in pools, especially if a drain is missing a cover or appears otherwise broken. If you notice one that seems to be operating incorrectly, report it immediately.

8. Stay Within Designated Swim Areas:
Whether you're swimming in a pool, ocean or lake, staying within the designated swim areas is vital to staying safe. Teach children about ropes and why people use them to divide a pool. Never encourage a anyone to swim in water deeper than their abilities will allow, and, especially if you're swimming in a lake or ocean, always follow guidelines local lifeguards have established. They are familiar with the water and, in the case of lakes and oceans, know enough about how it changes from day to day to make wise and up-to-date safety recommendations.

9. Avoid Using Alcohol:
This advice applies mainly to older children and parents. As children become teens, talking with them about alcohol becomes more and more essential. Alcohol impairs judgment, coordination and balance. It affects a person's ability to swim well, and it can even lower body temperature. Make sure your teens understand the truth behind mixing water play with alcohol.

Parents should also use caution. Never consume alcohol while you're supervising your children in the water. Not only can it cause you to become distracted, but it could leave you unable to function appropriately if an emergency should happen.

10. Learn CPR!:
While we hope your family will follow all these guidelines and stay safe in the water, the unfortunate truth is that accidents happen. If a drowning incident or pool-related accident occurs, bystanders are typically the first available to react and respond. As a parent supervising a child, it's critical for you to be familiar with lifesaving techniques, including CPR for children and adults. Knowing how to perform CPR can be the difference
between life and death. Get your CPR certification — and keep it up to date — through the American Red Cross, your local hospital or other community organizations.

If you would like to schedule a meeting, please feel free to contact me. I am always open and available to meet. To all my business owners and managers in the area, feel free to call or e-mail so we can discuss the possibility of starting a Neighborhood or Business Watch Group in your area.

Basic Car 9A37:
Interim Senior Lead Officer Robert Sewell
Cell Phone: (818) 731-2562
Email Address: 37714@lapd.online

As the year reaches its middle mark, Basic Car 9A37 crime continues to decline with a 22% decrease on Violent Crime, 19% decrease in Property Crime and a 20% decrease in all Part One Crimes compared to the same time last year. Most of the crime in basic car 9A37 is property crimes especially auto related crimes such as Grand Theft Auto and Burglary/Theft from motor vehicles.

Protect Your Vehicle Against:

Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BFMV)

Most of the crimes committed in this area have been Burglary from Motor Vehicles or auto related type crimes. Most of the crimes have been created by opportunists that have entered the vehicle by unknown means but probably since no evidence of entry, were unlocked vehicles. The most common way these opportunists commit the crime of burglary from motor vehicles is walking around darkened areas of a neighborhood late at night or early mornings hours and pull on door handles to vehicles parked on the street until finding a vehicle with unlocked doors. They then ransack the vehicle finding anything of value.

Grand Theft Auto (GTA)

A lot of the time vehicles are stolen when a vehicle is left with the keys in the ignition and the vehicle running while the owner runs into their residence or a store. Never leave your vehicle with the keys in it and running.

Consider these tips in preventing BFMVs/GTAs in your area:

- Remove all valuables from your vehicle
- Completely close all windows
- Install an alarm with a GPS
- NEVER leave spare keys in the vehicle
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area or driveway
- LOCK all your doors

Understanding when your car might be a target for Grand Theft/Burglary is the first key to preventing it. By following these protective measures, you may help deter thieves from targeting your vehicle. For more Crime Prevention information or to possibly get involved in Neighborhood Watch, Contact the Van Nuys Community police station at (818)374-9500 or reach out to me, Officer Sewell, at (818)731-2562 or at email at 37714@lapd.online.
As we enter the month of July, Violent Crime is down 6.78% and Property Crimes are down 24.24%, our overall Part One Crimes are down 21.59 % year to date! Grand Theft Auto is still one of the crimes that continues to be an issue throughout the Valley. Please be sure to lock and secure your vehicles along with utilizing an auto theft deterrent.

ALL FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL in the City of Los Angeles.

We are coming into the 2021 Fire Season during this time, I can’t stress more how dangerous Illegal Fireworks can be. Please leave it to the professionals! Every year our Department receives thousands of Radio Calls due to Illegal Fireworks. Unfortunately, most of the calls are extremely vague regarding the location of occurrence or suspect description. This is where the community needs to step in to help pin point the location of the suspect. Unfortunately, the same suspects usually light off firework’s multiple days throughout the season. However, this does give more opportunity for those of you who live in that area to speak with your neighbors and together pin point the location of the suspect and then share the information with the LAPD. You can do this anonymously either by calling or emailing your Senior Lead Officer, utilizing the Non-emergency number, 1-877-ASK-LAPD, filling out a compliant form by going online to, LAPDONLINE.ORG/Fireworks or utilizing the MYLA311App, type in the search engine Fireworks. This gives Officers, including myself, the opportunity to go to the possible address of the suspect and speak to whomever is at home about the situation. We can educate the community not only the dangers of illegal fireworks but also the fines and citations that can be written as well. Thank you for your help and support for this very important issue!

For more information and tips go to LAPDONLINE.ORG

A problem location in the area was at the South / East corner of La Maida and Sepulveda. The location consisted of vacant apartments that was attracting squatters and criminals causing a safety concern for the surrounding community. I have closely worked with the property manager to file numerous trespass orders with the city and requested extra patrol by officers from different watches. The good news is that demolition started last week and should be finished by the following week. Once demolition is complete construction should begin.

Need help keeping the community clean from bulky items.
I routinely patrol through streets and alleyways looking for problem locations and bulky items which can be an eye sore, and potentially become part of an encampment. If I see any trash or bulky items I will submit a request for a clean-up. Any community member can request clean ups using the “My 311” application which will help reduce trash and prevent future encampment.

Protect yourself from telephonic Scammers.
I have seen a rise in theft by trickery by means of telephonic threats and government agency impersonations. If you receive a phone call from anyone stating they are from a government organization and request for you to pay by means of gift cards or online wire transfers, it is a scam. Government agencies will not request payment
telephonically. If you received a phone call by anyone stating your computer has a virus and you need to click on a link, it is a scam.

**Protect yourself and your property.**
- Park your vehicle in well-lit areas at night.
- Immediately lock the doors when you enter your vehicle.
- Lock and secure vehicles and windows even if it’s a hot day.
- Do not leave valuables or any items visible inside vehicles.
- If needed, secure items inside the trunk of your vehicle.
- Packed mail and packages attract thieves, ensure packages and mail are picked up in a timely manner.

**Basic Car 9A89**
Senior Lead Officer Jose Saldana
Cell Phone: 818-731-2565
Email Address: 30853@lapd.online

Basic Car 9A89 covers the southern portion of Sherman Oaks and a small portion of Studio City. As of June 2021, Basic Car 9A89 is down 4.55% in Property Crimes year-to-date.

We have noticed an increase in package thefts these past few months, track your package and attempt to be home when the package arrives, or have it delivered to a safe storage location.

Please e-mail me any suspicious activity in the form of videos or photos. This can be our most significant 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.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department encourages families to attend fireworks shows conducted by State-licensed pyrotechnicians. Please check [http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/safety-messages/fireworks-safety](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/safety-messages/fireworks-safety) for professional fireworks shows near you.

- **FIREWORKS:** Under California Health and Safety Code Fireworks Penalties, Section 12700, any person who violates any provision of the State Fireworks laws or Regulations is guilty of a misdemeanor. A misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of not less than $500, but not to exceed $1,000 by imprisonment in the county jail for up to one year, or both.
- **DANGEROUS FIREWORKS:** Under California Health and Safety Code Fireworks Penalties, Section 12700(B), a person in possession of unaltered dangerous fireworks in violation of the State Fireworks Law is punishable as a misdemeanor or a public offense with fines ranging from $500 to more than $50,000, depending on the gross weight of unaltered dangerous fireworks in possession.

For information on volunteer opportunities with the LAPD, email Officer Jason Jimenez in the Community Relations Office at 38903@lapd.online, or call (818) 374-5420. Program Information, the application process, and current volunteer opportunities will be provided. All applicants are required to be fingerprinted as part of LAPD background procedures.
Fireworks Activity Reporting
During this time of the year, the city calls for service for firework activity significantly increases. To help identify individuals responsible for such activity please call the non-emergency number 1-877-ASK-LAPD and provide the following information:

- Actual address of where the activity is occurring. Intersections are too vague and will be broadcasted as “information only” to patrol officers.
- Suspect(s) description such as name (if known), clothing, height, weight, etc.
- If you are willing to, take still photos or video so that it may be used as evidence for future prosecution of these individuals.

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 on a radio call. The front desk officers are here to take telephonic reports and answer questions, not dispatch calls.

Crime Prevention Tips

- **IF YOU’RE 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.

- **SECURITY AND/OR DOOR BELL SYSTEMS WITH VIDEO** are becoming an affordable option to help reduce your chances of becoming a victim. Please consider these options to protect your home.

- **DON’T LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN YOUR VEHICLES.** Whether you are tandem parked, parked in a garage, or just going inside for a moment (i.e. gas station, your home, etc.), do not leave your keys in your vehicles.

- **STEERING WHEEL LOCKS.** 1990’s Toyota’s and Honda’s are some of the most common vehicles stolen. These vehicles have door locks and ignitions that are easily compromised. Steering wheel locks are good tools to assist in deterring criminals from taking these vehicles.

- **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. Do not leave anything valuable or visible in your vehicles.

- **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. Strategic lighting can also assist with crime prevention.

- **DON’T LEAVE EXPENSIVE ITEMS OUT,** place them in a drawer, safe, or somewhere else out of sight.

- **TAKE YOUR ELECTRONIC ITEMS OUT OF YOUR CAR,** this includes your cell phones, computer tablets, other portable electronics, and chargers.

- **SHOPPING CART.** Do not leave your purses in the shopping cart while loading your vehicles.
Did You Know?

Did you know, per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, when temperatures outside range from 80 degrees to 100 degrees, the temperature inside a vehicle parked in direct sunlight can quickly climb to between 130 to 172 degrees? After just ten minutes, the temperature inside a parked vehicle can climb to 19 degrees above the outside temperature. After just twenty minutes, the inside temperature can climb to 29 degrees above the outside temperature, and to over 43 degrees above the outside temperature after sixty minutes (per a study by San Francisco State University). Please do not leave your children or pets in your parked vehicle. That decision could turn into a deadly mistake.

Also, considering the hot summer temperatures that are coming our way, please keep your elderly neighbors in mind. Some statistical approaches estimate that more than 1,300 deaths per year in the United States are due to extreme heat (per the EPA). The elderly is part of the group most susceptible to extreme heat. Check on your elderly neighbors, especially those without air conditioning.