

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager

From: Michael A. Holub, Chief of Police

Date: August 11, 2014

Re: Monthly Report for July 2014

*MAH*

Attached for your review are the general statistics for the Shift activities for the month of July 2014. Besides the activities, I have included a summary of other noteworthy events beginning with the fact that we issued a community alert on our Facebook page and on the Village's web alert system warning residents about the thefts and reminding them to secure/lock their unlocked vehicles and to remove items from plain view. This was after we experienced a series of thefts from 8 vehicles between Madison and 7th Avenue in the 600 and 700 blocks. The items taken were IPODS, GPS devices and cellular phones.

### **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, eight vehicles were entered and had items removed from them. The reports were taken on the day shift, although the incidents occurred during the overnight hours and were in a localized area.

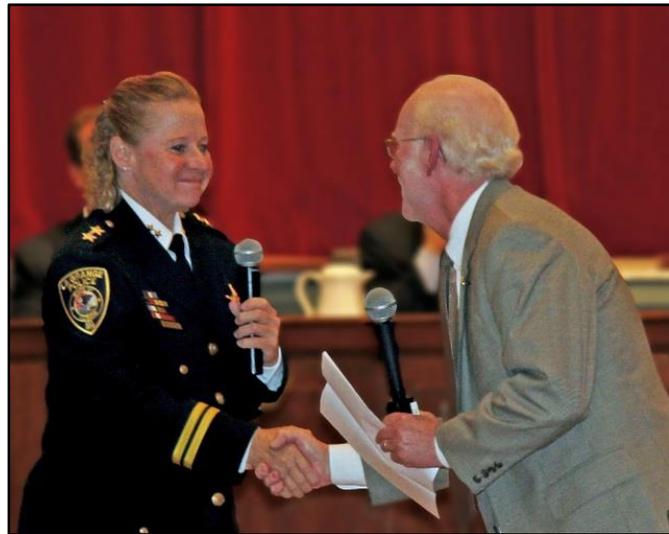
Other case files handled on the Day Shift in July include:

- A misdemeanor battery that occurred in the zero hundred block of S. La Grange Road
- Two garage burglaries in the 400 block of S. Spring and then in the 600 block of S. Madison
- A request for the police on what turned out to be a civil matter in the 200 block of 7th Avenue
- Four criminal damage to property cases (unrelated to one another) that occurred in the 300 block of Lincoln, at Ashland and Calendar, in the 200 block of S. Spring, and in the 100 block of Sawyer.
- A report of criminal damage to a vehicle that occurred in the zero hundred block of Sawyer
- A disorderly Conduct incident in the 1100 block of W. Hillgrove
- A report of elder abuse in the 1200 block of 41st – referral made
- A report of fraud in the 700 block of W. Hillgrove
- A report of a residential burglary in the 300 block of S. Ashland and another residential burglary report from the 300 block of East
- Three misdemeanor thefts reported in the zero hundred block of S. Ashland, in the 100 block of S. Spring, and the zero hundred block of S. Spring.
- A report of vandalism in the zero hundred block of S La Grange Road

Special Details conducted on the day shift included two separate Bicycle Safety Talks at the Montessori School

### NEW ROLE FOR FORMER DAY SHIFT LIEUTENANT

Congratulations to Renee Strasser, who is pictured her receiving a congratulatory handshake from Village Clerk John Burns at a Board Meeting in July after he administered her Oath of Office for the newly created position of Deputy Chief of Police. The Oath took place at a Village Board Meeting. As the one remaining Lieutenant (following the retirement of the previous two Lieutenants) she truly stepped up to take on the tasks of all three Lieutenants positions. She was effectively serving in the role of a Deputy Chief of Police and was formally appointed by Chief Holub on July 14, 2014.



### **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

Investigations conducted on the afternoon shift are detailed below:

- There were 7 stolen bike reports taken during the month. Bikes were reported missing from open and unlocked garages, the Community Center, an apartment storage room, and a bike store. One of the victims of a stolen bike contacted the police to report his stolen bike was found on eBay. Ofc. Wolf began a dialogue with the seller and arrangements were made to view and purchase the bike. Inv. Wardlaw and Gill met with the seller, confirmed it was the same bike reported as stolen and took custody of the bike to return it to the owner. The seller was not arrested as he purchased the bike at Swap-O-Rama and was unaware the bike had been stolen.
- Solicitors were in the area and a resident reported that after purchasing a subscription she checked on-line and found the company and business was listed with negative comments concerning being a scam and phony. The resident cancelled the check and had no loss and Officers were able to locate the seller a few days later and verify his identification. Other solicitors in the area were cited for not registering before soliciting.
- A GPS was taken from an unlocked car, the owner located it on a website and with the assistance of Inv. Wardlaw and Gill, and he was able to recover the GPS from a nearby pawn shop.
- There were also reports taken for a theft of a debit card at a place of employment, an I-phone lost, car tires slashed, and another GPS taken from an unlocked car.
- There was a report of a fight near the fountain in downtown La Grange among juveniles. No disturbance was taking place when officers arrived but an ambulance was requested for minor injuries to a juvenile; treatment was refused.
- The shift handled 4 domestic disturbance complaints which later turned into a report of a juvenile runaway, who returned a short time later.
- A report was taken for an aggravated criminal sexual assault which is being investigated.

Arrests on the afternoon shift included:

- Officers Wolf and McDermott located a subject wanted by Brookfield PD for aggravated assault, subject was taken into custody and turned over to Brookfield.
- A victim of domestic battery approached Officers Wolf and McDermott in the parking lot of the police station requesting assistance. Sgt. Kielczynski located the offender who was taken into custody and processed for an arrest.
- Two drivers were charged with driving with a suspended driver's license and another two were charged with driving with no valid driver's license.

### Other Incidents

- Auxiliary Ofc. Liotta represented the La Grange Police Department at Congressman Dan Lipinski's Patriot Day Parade.
- Auxiliary Officers and Citizen Police Academy Alumni assisted with traffic and crowd control at Waiola Park for the July 3rd fireworks.
- The Craft Fair was in town, again assisted by members of the Auxiliary Police Unit.
- The shift attended two block parties and spoke with residents and children about police work and also to display the police squads and equipment.
- Officers Irizarry and Comstock responded to a call of a disoriented subject, who they learned was missing from a group home for three days. He was without his medication and they assisted him in going to the hospital for treatment.
- Traffic matters include 16 property damage vehicle accidents and 4 hit and run accidents
- A semi-truck lost an axle at La Grange Road and Ogden Avenue blocking all eastbound lanes of traffic. The truck also struck a traffic pole. Our DPW responded immediately with barricades and traffic cones to assist in rerouting traffic. This took place at the start of a weekday rush hour and complicated things for several hours. Officers from both the Day Shift and Afternoon Shift worked to get the disabled truck removed and traffic on its way. Three tow vehicles were needed to remove the semi and the intersection was finally opened about 65 minutes after the incident occurred.



## **MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

Investigative Case Files on the Midnight Shift are listed below:

- Squad Leader Uher arrested a 20-year-old male for driving under the influence (zero tolerance), and possession of cannabis after stopping the vehicle for speeding.
- Squad Leader Uher, arrested a 49-year-old male for driving under the influence after stopping the vehicle for speeding.
- Ofc. Coleman and Squad Leader Uher investigated a criminal damage to property complaint after responding to a call for a lost or stolen cell phone. They identified the 19-year-old male offender who agreed to make restitution with the property owner's consent. No arrest was made in the matter.
- Ofc. Comstock arrested a 43-year-old male for driving under the influence after stopping him for a speeding violation.
- Ofc. Comstock investigated an unlawful use of credit card case with the theft of the card believed to be from Meadowbrook Manor. No suspects could be developed through initial investigation and case was turned over to investigations.
- Ofc. Comstock investigated a burglary to motor vehicle case that took place in the 500 block of La Grange Road. The victim wished the matter to be for record only and no suspects could be developed at the time of the investigation.
- Ofc. Wessendorf and Squad Leader Uher took a report of a missing juvenile. The juvenile is a habitual juvenile and returned home a short time after being entered into LEADS.
- Ofc. Herrera investigated a theft of lawn art but no suspect information could be developed and the item could not be located.
- Ofc. Wessendorf and Squad Leader Uher arrested a 34-year-old male for driving while license suspended/revoked. The suspension was related to a driving under the influence offense and the vehicle was seized per statute.
- Ofc. Coleman arrested a 29-year-old male for driving under the influence after finding him in physical control of a parked and running vehicle.

Other Patrol Activities on the Midnight shift include conducting 73 building checks, 126 traffic stops, and completing regular overnight parking enforcement. Shift members have worked over 107 hours of overtime to help meet minimum staffing standards and cover shift shortages. Additionally, Ofc. Balon and Ofc. Comstock adjusted their schedules to work a week of afternoon shifts to avoid overtime due to personnel shortages on that shift.

## **AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME UNITS**

The members of our Auxiliary unit continue to provide us with great support in our policing efforts. June was no exception as the Auxiliary Officers provided 108 hours of extra patrol time which included time spent conducting house checks, street lights out lists, the annual Craft Fair, and representing us at various law Enforcement related functions in the area. Our Part-time Officers were busy with directed traffic patrols and assisting the full-time officers where necessary. We are grateful for both units and their continual contributions to the Village.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITIES**

In July Chief Holub worked in union with the members of the Fire & Police Commission to complete the final eligibility roster for entry level police officers. They also completed the final steps in the Sergeant’s promotional process in order to establish a promotional eligibility list.

As we are in a rebuilding stage, many of our veteran police officers were in the role of Training Officer for the newest members of the Police Department. Slowly we are getting close to our normal operating levels. Offices were still able to conduct 207 traffic stops for various traffic violations in the Village.

In July more than \$54,000 in parking fines was received through payments, or as a result of fines and collection. The other activities for July are in the graph below.

PATROL ACTIVITIES	July		July		2014	2013
	2014		2013		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,449		1,336		9,185	9,755
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	62		43		479	342
FELONY ARRESTS	0		3		4	7
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	1		3		34	46
DUI ARRESTS	5		1		23	8
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	57		148		436	705
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	83		91		753	699
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	221	717	115	599	5,364	4,207
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	496		484			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	1		2		12	12
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	5		6		58	45