

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager  
From: Chief Renee Strasser *RS*  
Date: September 14, 2015  
Re: Monthly Report for August 2015

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On August 19, 2015, Sgt. Dave Rohlicek managed the LaGrange Police Department's participation in Burlington Northern Santa Fa Railway's "Officer on the Train Program." The event is designed to increase enforcement and raise public awareness of motor vehicle traffic laws applying to highway rail grade crossings. During the Detail, a police officer rides in the locomotive cab while it travels through communities and observes motorist and pedestrian behavior at crossings. When a motorist or pedestrian violates the traffic rules, the officer on the train radios that information to an officer on the street for enforcement purposes. This year, LaGrange Officers distributed over 400 pieces of rail safety literature and issued six warnings to violators.



July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup> was LaGrange's Annual Endless Summerfest. LaGrange Police Officers, Auxiliary Officers and LaGrange Citizen Academy Alumni provided security and traffic enforcement for the thousands of guests that attended the three day event sponsored by the LaGrange Business Association and the LaGrange Park District.

On Saturday, August 1st, LaGrange Officers participated in the Human Foosball Tournament at the LaGrange Endless Summerfest to help raise money for the AMITA Health Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital Emergency Department expansion. Unfortunately, LaGrange Police lost by a goal in overtime to Western Springs Fire Department. There is always next year!



## MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Ofc. Herrera, Ofc. Rogers and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to a disturbance/altercation between two male subjects in front of a business on the 50-100 block of S. LaGrange Rd. It was determined to be a verbal altercation; one male subject took offense to a comment directed at his sister by the other male subject. Peace was restored and all subjects were sent their separate ways.

Ofc. McDermott investigated the theft of a Chicago Cubs flag and a Chicago White Sox flag taken from in front of two neighboring houses on the 200 block of S. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. A resident from one of the victim houses believed the offender was a male subject who fled the area in a tan/beige colored vehicle unknown make, model or registration. Officers searched the area for the possible offender and vehicle with negative results.

Ofc. McDermott, Ofc. Herrera and Sgt. Wardlaw responded to the 300 block of E. Calendar Ave. for a reported domestic disturbance/battery. Officers learned that two male subjects (who are brothers) got into a verbal argument which escalated into a physical altercation with both subjects striking each other. It turned out that they were mutual combatants.

While conducting premise checks, Sgt. Wardlaw discovered two 17 year old male subjects and one 18 year old male subject near the playground area behind Spring Ave. and Gurrie Middle Schools. Subjects were on the property after hours and were in possession of alcohol (beer). Subject's parents were contacted and the boys were turned over to their parents.

Ofc. Herrera, Ofc. McDermott and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to a possible domestic disturbance between a male and female subject in a vehicle at the 7-Eleven parking lot, East/Ogden Ave. It was determined that the subjects were boyfriend/girlfriend and got into a brief verbal argument about the proper route to take back to their residence.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. McDermott conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle driven by a male subject near 47<sup>th</sup> St. and Bluff Ave. R/O detected a strong odor of cannabis emanating from inside the vehicle. Upon investigation, a small plastic baggie containing cannabis, as well as a glass pipe and metal grinder with cannabis residue were discovered inside the vehicle. Subject was taken into custody and charged/ cited for traffic violation as well as Unlawful Possession of Cannabis and Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The midnight shift completed 108 traffic contacts which included 1 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrest for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked and investigated 1 property damage traffic accident. Shift Officers issued 152 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 107 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols. Shift officers also conducted directed truck enforcement focusing on LaGrange Rd, East Ave, and Ogden Ave. Numerous truck traffic stops were conducted for moving and equipment/safety violations.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the August 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, Sgt. Wardlaw attended the 3-day "Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure for Supervisors" training course, S/L Wolf attended NIPAS 1-day Arrest Team training, and Ofc. Herrera attended the 1-day NAPD Driver Training course.

## **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** The investigative reports taken on this shift include: (1) Criminal Sexual Assault, (2) Burglary to Motor Vehicle, (1) auto theft, (1) Criminal Damage to Property, (3) Fraud, (1) Battery, (1) theft, (3) Identity Theft, (1) cannabis, (1) warrant arrest, (3) Death Investigations), (1) Suicidal person.

Ofc. Moncivais responded to a traffic crash in the 500 block of s. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. The 68 year old male driver was found unresponsive. Officers performed CPR but were unsuccessful in saving the man's life.

Ofc. Kang investigated two Burglary to Motor Vehicle calls, both from unlocked vehicles. One was in 4700 block of Willow Springs Road where the victim had his golf clubs stolen from the back of his pick-up truck that was covered. A second one was in the 600 block of S. Catherine where U.S.C. coins were stolen from the console.

Ofc. Pacana investigated an Identity Theft case in 200 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue where someone was unlawfully using the victim's identity at: a Verizon Wireless store in Romeoville, AT&T services, jewelry store credit in Joliet, Sprint phone services.

Ofc. Kang investigated Unlawful Use of Credit Card in 00 hundred block of S. LaGrange Road. The offender purchased gym shoes valued at \$1400 and the store owner later learned the card was fraudulent.

Ofc. Kang took a report of a Motor Vehicle Theft in which a car was stolen from a business in 300 block of Washington. A current employee took a customer's vehicle overnight and returned it the following morning. The vehicle owner did not wish to pursue the case criminally.

Sgt. Rohlicek investigated a report of Fraud in 100 block of S. Spring Ave. where the home owner received a voice mail message indicating the IRS was filing a lawsuit against the homeowner.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. Moncivais arrested a 19 year old LaGrange park man on a warrant for failing to appear on a LaGrange traffic arrest.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The shift conducted 124 traffic contacts which included 7 misdemeanor traffic arrests for Driving while License Suspended or Revoked. The shift completed 28 Illinois traffic crash reports. Shift officers also conducted directed truck enforcement focusing on LaGrange Rd, East Ave, and Ogden Ave. Numerous truck traffic stops were conducted for moving and equipment/safety violations.

The 2015-16 school year has begun and every dayshift officer is assigned to specific schools each morning to monitor student and vehicle traffic. Officers spend time greeting students and reinforcing with parents the proper drop-off and pick-up procedures. The principal of 7<sup>th</sup> avenue School formally acknowledged this added effort by the LaGrange Police.

Sgt. Rohlicek has again volunteered to serve as the Part-Time High School Liaison Officer at Lyons Township High School's North Campus.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the August 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. Ofc. Hon completed the 32 hour cyclist course.

#### **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative Case Reports taken this month included: Theft of Services (2), Unlawful Possession of Cannabis (3), Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse, Disorderly Conduct, Commercial Burglary, Theft Over \$500 (2), Stolen Auto, Burglary to Motor Vehicle, Identity Theft, Sidewalk Fall Down, Sexual Assault, Domestic Trouble, Attempt Burglary, Missing Juvenile Located, Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Battery, Suspicious Subject, Theft Under \$500, Criminal Trespass to Property.

Ofc. Irizarry responded to Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital for a report of a 30-year old homeless man (patient) striking a male nurse, in the Emergency Room. Officers stood by as the medical staff were able to restrain the patient and subsequently provide treatment. The nurse did not wish to file or pursue formal charges.

Ofc. Irizarry, along with additional LaGrange police units responded to Waiola Park in reference to a woman calling and reporting a suspicious male walking with her 8-year old son. Upon arrival of officers,

the suspect was no longer in the area. A 17-year old LaGrange male was eventually identified as the suspect through previous contact data and information provided to officers by LaGrange PD Telecommunicator Donovan. The male was located, brought to the station, and was interviewed by Inv. Andries. Upon completion of the interview, the potential Child Luring case was determined to be unfounded.

Ofc. Rogers responded to the 500 Block of South LaGrange Road for the report of an attempted residential burglary. A resident stated he was inside his home when, from a distance, he observed a man attempting to forcefully remove a ground-level basement apartment window. The unknown suspect saw the resident and immediately fled the scene.

Sgt. Odom responded to the department lobby to speak with a male juvenile who wished to talk to an officer. Upon speaking with the male, it was determined that he was reported Missing/Endangered out of Brookfield, IL. The juvenile was taken into protective custody and eventually turned over to Brookfield PD.

Ofc. Coleman responded to the 300 Block of Bluff for a Commercial Burglary report. Taken from a previously locked office in the building was a Dell Computer Processing Unit and a Hewlett Packard Computer monitor, with a total value of \$700. The case was turned over to Investigations.

Ofc. Wessendorf responded to Spring Avenue School for a Criminal Trespass to Property report. It was reported that two male teenagers were observed outside, and then eventually inside the school loitering. The males were captured on the school's video surveillance system. No theft or vandalism was reported, but interviews with employees yielded negative results in immediately identifying the trespassers. The case was turned over to Investigations.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. Coleman responded to the 00 Block of South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in reference to a call of a 36-year old Chicago man who inappropriately touched a female juvenile. The man was allegedly performing repair work in the building prior to the incident. With additional assistance from Inv. Andries and the Cook County State's Attorneys' Office, the man was arrested and charged with one count of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse.

Ofc. Wessendorf arrested a 20-year old Countryside man for Possession of Cannabis and Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia in the parking lot of the Village Municipal Parking Garage. Wessendorf approached the man's vehicle on foot and immediately detected a strong odor of burnt cannabis, as the man (and passengers) exited the vehicle. A subsequent search of the vehicle yielded the discovery of the contraband. The man was taken into custody, without incident.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The Afternoon Shift conducted 104 traffic contacts which resulted in 6 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests to include Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, and Driving with a Suspended Vehicle Registration. Afternoon Shift conducted foot patrol at the Annual Endless Summer Festival at Gordon Park. Shift officers also conducted directed truck enforcement focusing on LaGrange Rd, East Ave, and Ogden Ave. Numerous truck traffic stops were conducted for moving and equipment/safety violations.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the August 2015 Police Law Institute online training on: Motor Vehicle Crimes and Prevention, Possession of Stolen Vehicles/Parts, Auto Theft, and Motor Vehicle Burglary. Ofc. Coleman completed the 32-hour Police Cyclist Certification Course. Sergeants Berg and Odom attended a Performance Evaluation Training and Review. Ofc. Burrell completed an 8-hour Police Tactical Driver Re-Certification Course. Officers Irizarry and Coleman completed the NEMRT 40-hour

Juvenile Officer Specialist Course and are now State Certified Juvenile Officers. Sgt. Berg and K-9 Dak completed bi-monthly canine training.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Inv. Andries was called to investigate a report of aggravated criminal sexual abuse. Through the investigation, it was learned that the 36 YOA male Contractor from Chicago inappropriately touched a 15 YOA female juvenile. The contractor was arrested and charged with Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse, a class 2 felony.

Inv. Andries investigated the incident at Waiola Park involving a suspicious male subject who spoke to an 8 YOA juvenile. The investigation revealed the male subject was a diagnosed autistic high school student. Inv. Andries spoke to the student and his mother where it was determined there was no malicious intent. The complaint was unfounded.

Inv. Andries followed-up on the two unknown males who illegally entered Spring Ave School and Gurrie Middle School the night before the first day of school. The offenders consumed beer and left the empty cans in the school. Inv. Andries retrieved video footage and photos of the subjects. The investigation is on-going.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** Inv. Andries assisted day shift officers with school patrols during the first weeks of school. Inv. Andries attended the MCAT meeting for the month of August.

**TRAINING:** Inv. Andries attended Effective Internet Safety Presentations for School Resource Officers. The 3 day training covered internet crimes, investigating internet crimes and effective presentations for students and parents.

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

T/C/O McLaughlin moved from part-time status to full-time and now serves as the primary Telecommunicator for the midnight shift.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 101 hours during the month of July and their time was spent conducting house checks, street lights out lists and various patrol duties. As always, the Unit played a vital role in providing safety and security for all the patrons of LaGrange's Annual Craft Fair.

The Part-time Officers made 34 traffic contacts and 1 misdemeanor Driving While Suspended/Revoked. They were also active during the month conducting directed traffic patrols and assisting the full-time officers where necessary.

## **PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$18,559 in parking fines through conventional payments, on-line payments, or collection efforts. Passport Parking is catching-on more commuters are utilizing the software.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT**

The following totals represents truck enforcement conducted by the patrol division as a part of their regular tour of duty for the month of August

<b>AUGUST 2015</b>	<b>7-3 SHIFT</b>	<b>3-11 SHIFT</b>	<b>11-7 SHIFT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Total # Of Traffic Stops</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Stop Cards/Warnings</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Compliance Citations</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>State Citations</b>	<b>9</b>			<b>9</b>
<b>Trucks Weighed</b>				
<b>Truck Inspections</b>				
<b>Non-Designated Violations (OSOW)</b>				
<b>Safety Violations</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>State/Local/Admin. Violations</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Lane Violations (LaGrange Rd)</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>August</b>		<b>August</b>		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>2015</b>		<b>2014</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,585		1,314		11,007	10,499
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	61		54		467	533
FELONY ARRESTS	1		1		6	5
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	3		5		35	39
DUI ARRESTS	0		2		3	25
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	63		54		453	490
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	55		92		559	845
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	159	554	243	739	4,977	6,103
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	395		496			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	0		1		7	13
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	3		10		36	68