

LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

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



On September 11, 2015, citizens and First Responders from La Grange and the surrounding suburbs came together in a commemoration ceremony at the Robert E. Coulter, Jr., Post 1941 to honor the victims of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks on the United States of America. On that day, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked four airliners. Two of the planes were flown into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. We will never forget the over 3,000 people who lost their lives, 400 of which were Police and Fire personnel.

The ceremony began with a recognition of emergency-service personnel who have remained strong throughout the entire ordeal on the attack of America and who have upheld the honor of patriotism. It concluded with the posting of a ceremonial wreath in honor of the American military service personnel who have died in the war against terrorism.



On September 26, 2015 residents took part in the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Initiative by discarding their unused, expired or unwanted drugs at the LaGrange Police Department. This National Initiative is in response to the exceedingly high rates of prescription drug abuse and the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to prescription drugs. "According to the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 6.5 million Americans abused controlled prescription drugs." Thanks to Sgt. Tom Cimbalista, LaGrange collected over 700 lbs. of prescription drugs for destruction.



MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: S/L Wolf, Ofc. Comstock, Ofc. Herrera and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to a report of Criminal Damage to Property/Vehicle in the 100 block of Bluff Ave. The passenger side tires of (3) vehicles parked in the driveway of the residence were found to be deflated/slashed. The complainant/victim advised he heard a noise, looked outside and observed a male subject crouching down near the vehicles, the subject then fled N/B on foot, eventually getting into an unknown make/color vehicle and leaving the area. Officers checked the area for the offender with negative results.

Ofc. Coleman, Ofc. Comstock, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to a domestic disturbance between a male and female subject in the 900 block of W. 41st St. It was learned that the two subjects were former boyfriend/girlfriend and the male subject had allowed the female subject to stay at the residence on a temporary basis for a few days. The two got into a verbal argument, at which point the male subject threw some of the female subject's clothes outside the residence. Peace was restored and the female subject advised she would leave the residence to stay with a relative. Domestic Violence information sheets were provided to both subjects and arrangements were made for the female subject to stay with a relative.

Ofc. Herrera and Ofc. Coleman responded to assist Brookfield P.D. for a Hit and Run accident in which a vehicle drove into a yard in the 4300 block of Arthur, the driver then fled the scene on foot, running through yards. The subject was subsequently located and taken into custody in the 4200 block of Arthur.

Ofc. Coleman and Sgt. Wardlaw responded to the 9600 block of W. Ogden Ave. for the report of a customer who refused to exit a taxi cab. It was discovered that the male subject customer was suffering a medical episode. LGFD Paramedics/Ambulance were called to scene and subject was transported to LaGrange Memorial Hospital for treatment.

S/L Wolf, Ofc. Herrera, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the Village parking garage/structure for the report of two suspicious male subjects carrying bags and looking at parked vehicles. Two male subjects fitting the description were located in an alley across from the garage. One subject pointed out the parked unlocked vehicle he had entered. Officers checked the other vehicles in the garage and found them to be intact and locked. The owner of the victimized vehicle was located, he verified the stolen item had been in his vehicle and advised nothing else appeared to be missing. The owner declined to pursue criminal charges against the subject.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: The midnight shift completed 62 traffic contacts which included 1 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrest for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked and investigated 3 property damage traffic accidents. Shift Officers issued 98 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 95 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

TRAINING: The shift successfully completed the September 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. All Shift Officers completed the Meggitt Firearms Simulator training.

In addition, S/L Wolf responded to a NIPAS callout in Fox Lake to assist in the shooting death investigation of a Fox Lake officer and also attended NIPAS 1-day Full Team training. Ofc. McDermott completed the Juvenile Officer certification written test, Sgt. Ljubenko, Ofc. Comstock and Ofc. Coleman attended the "Below 100" training class at Brookfield P.D. and Sgt. Ljubenko completed the 2-week Supervision of Police Personnel course at Northwestern University.

DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: The investigative reports taken on this shift include: (1) Burglary to a detached garage, (1) death investigation, (2) theft complaints, (1) possession of Cannabis, (3) fraud complaints, (2) Identity Thefts, (1) suspicious person, (1) suspicious incident.

S/L Fulla was on foot patrol in the 50 block of LaGrange Rd. when he detected the odor of burnt cannabis. S/L Fulla located the smell and suspect inside a parked vehicle. A very small amount of cannabis was recovered and the subject was warned and released.

Ofc. Wessendorf investigated an Identity Theft complaint in the 00 hundred block of Hayes where the offender opened an AT&T wireless account in the victim's name. There was no financial loss. The victim was given information regarding protection after an identity theft.

Ofc. Kang was notified by Homeland Security of a LaGrange resident taking photos from his vehicle of which they found suspicious. Ofc. Kang verified the photos were for a realtor hired by the local school district for taxing purposes of the oil corporation.

Sgt. Rohlicek, Ofc. Kang and Ofc. Wessendorf have taken similar complaints of Attempted Identity Theft. The offender called each victim identifying himself as IRS Agent and attempted to set up a payment plan for purported monies owed to the government. The offender threatened a lawsuit if the victim failed to comply. The victims were from 100 block of S. Spring, 00 block of 6th Ave., and the 900 block of Spring Ave. The victims did not provide any information and suffered no loss.

Officers handled 3 bicycle thefts. One was unsecured in the yard in the 700 block LaGrange Road. Another was stolen from the Stone Ave. Station bike rack and the third was stolen from an unlocked garage in the 400 block of Peck.

Ofc. McDermott investigated an ID theft in the 100 block of south Waiola. The offender was attempting to purchase clothing on-line at Eddie Bauer. The clothing was to be delivered to an address in Downers Grove. The transaction was stopped prior to being completed. The resident cancelled the credit card and was given information for identity theft protection.

S/L Fulla assisted LaGrange Park in locating two suspects involved in a domestic battery complaint. The suspects were detained and turned over to LaGrange Park PD where they were eventually charged.

ARRESTS: Ofc. Hon responded to a customer dispute in the 1000 Block of LaGrange Rd. One of the parties involved, a 32 year old Chicago man, had an active warrant for his arrest for Failure to Appear out of Dupage County Traffic Court. The subject was arrested and later posted bond.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: The shift conducted 115 traffic contacts which included 5 misdemeanor traffic arrests for no driver license and for driving while license suspended or revoked. The shift completed 22 Illinois traffic crash reports.

Dayshift officers continue to monitor student and vehicle traffic around all the schools. Officers spend time greeting students and reinforcing with parents the proper drop-off and pick-up procedures. The officers participated in several bike rodeos/registrations at both Ogden Avenue and Cossitt Ave. Schools. Personnel also provided traffic enforcement for the LTHS Homecoming Parade on September 26.

Ofc. Wessendorf attended St. Cletus' First Responders mass while several other officers attended the 911 First Responders Ceremony at the LaGrange Legion Hall. Finally, shift members, along with Auxiliary Officers, provided assistance with the annual Unity Rally 5k walk.

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

TRAINING: The shift successfully completed the September 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. All Shift Officers completed the Meggitt Firearms Simulator training. Ofc. Moncivais attended NEMRTS's Surviving a Law Enforcement Career course.

AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: Investigative Case Reports taken this month included: Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (2), Theft Under \$500 (3), Disorderly Conduct (4), Battery (2), Unlawful Possession of Cannabis, Warrant Service, Fraud (2), Burglary to Motor Vehicle (3), Theft Over \$500 (3), Attempted Burglary, Possession of a Controlled Substance (3), Domestic Battery, Criminal Damage to Property (2), Elderly Services Assistance, Residential Burglary (2), Identity Theft, Missing Juvenile Located.

Ofc. Wessendorf, along with S/L Uher and Sgt. Odom responded to the 00 Block of West Calendar Court in reference to a fight-in-progress call involving two adult females inside a retail store. After speaking with both parties and interviewing witnesses at the scene, it was determined that both women were mutual combatants and no charges were filed. Each were issued a No Trespass Order and advised not to return to the business.

Ofc. Irizarry responded to 300 Block of East Avenue for a report of a residential burglary. A resident of the home reported that she returned from a brief vacation and found items missing, to include a computer, game console (controllers and video games), a TV monitor, and several NFL jerseys, totaling over \$4,000. The woman reported no suspects or witnesses. The case was turned over to Investigations.

Ofc. Rogers responded to the 300 Block of South Peck Avenue for a report of an attempt burglary. A resident reported that she observed two unknown males inside her attached garage while she was inside her residence. Upon seeing the resident, the males reportedly ran from the scene. No loss was reported from the home. The two males were not located by police.

Ofc. Hon responded to the 900 Block of South Catherine in reference to a report of a burglary to motor vehicle. Taken from an unlocked vehicle was a bottle of prescription medication. No other items were reported missing from the vehicle. The victim reported no suspects or witnesses.

S/L Uher responded to the 300 Block of South Waiola for a report of a residential burglary. The homeowner reported two bicycles missing from his attached garage. S/L Uher was able to recover video from the home's surveillance system, showing a male subject taking the bikes. Officers are attempting to identify the suspect.

Ofc. Kang responded to the 800 Block of East Avenue in reference to a fraud report. The victim reported receiving a call from an Internal Revenue Service agent attempting to set up a payment plan for purported money owed to the government. Ofc. Kang advised the resident of an ongoing scam attempt and advised her to refrain from further contact via the telephone. No financial loss was incurred according to the victim.

Ofc. Burrell responded to the 9600 Block of West Ogden Avenue for a report of a theft. The owner of a store reported having video showing two male subjects entering a delivery truck after the driver's completed their supply distribution to his business. Taken from the truck was 209 cartons of cigarettes. Ofc. Burrell recovered the video. The case was turned over to Investigations.

Ofc. Rogers responded to the 300 Block of East Avenue in reference to a missing 16-year old juvenile (from Chicago) who was reportedly in the area. Ofc. Rogers located the juvenile in Brookfield and reunited her with her mother.

ARRESTS: Ofc. Hon arrested a 23-year old Hodgkins woman for two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance and Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia after officers responded to the 00 Block of West Harris for a report of a disturbance. Officers found the contraband in the woman's belongings after she was found to have an outstanding arrest warrant out of MacLean County, Illinois.

Ofc. Kang, along with Ofc. Rogers and Ofc. Hon arrested a 42-year old LaGrange man for two counts of Aggravated Battery to a Peace Officer (felony), Resisting Arrest (felony), Criminal Damage to Property (felony), and Reckless Conduct after officers responded to the 00 Block of LaGrange Road in reference to a disturbance. During the course of his arrest, the man injured one of the officers at the scene and caused extensive damage to a department squad car.

Ofc. Irizarry arrested a 22-year old Chicago man for Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia after Irizarry conducted a traffic stop in the vicinity of Shawmut and Beach Avenues. The contraband was located after he was arrested for Driving on a Suspended License and several other traffic offenses.

S/L Uher, along with Ofc. Heredia and PTO Strand arrested a LaGrange juvenile for Theft after officers responded to Lyons Township High School (100 South Brainard) for a report of a bicycle theft. The male juvenile was observed by officers later that day riding the stolen bike in Hodgkins, IL.

Ofc. Hon arrested a 27-year old Brookfield man for Unlawful Possession of Cannabis after Hon conducted a traffic stop in the 300 Block of East Avenue. Ofc. Hon detected the cannabis inside the vehicle during the initial contact.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: The Afternoon Shift conducted several traffic stops which resulted in 4 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests to include Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, and Driving with a Suspended Vehicle Registration. The shift completed 29 Illinois Crash reports, 1 involving personal injury.

Probationary Officer Arturo Heredia and Ryan Nemecek graduated from the Cook County Police Academy on 9/11 and began Step 1 of their LaGrange Police Field Training Officer program with S/L Uher and S/L Fulla, respectively.

Afternoon Shift members assisted at the Cure Network's 2-Day Clinic Program held at the LaGrange Park District and the West-End Art Festival (3-Day).

TRAINING: The shift successfully completed the September 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. All Shift Officers completed the Meggitt Firearms Simulator training.

Officers Coleman and Irizarry attended a 2-Day Death Investigation Seminar at the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office. S/L Uher and Ofc. Kang attended the "Below 100" Officer Safety Training Class conducted at the Brookfield Village Hall. Ofc. Rogers attended NEMRTs Communications Tactics course. Ofc. Hon attended NEMRTs Ethnic and Cultural Awareness course and Report Writing for Officers course.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: Inv. Andries was invited to attend a meeting with the La Grange Rotary Club and speak about identity theft. Inv. Andries talked to the members about the current trends being used identity theft and what should be done if someone should become a victim of identity theft.

TRAINING: Inv. Andries attended the West Suburban Juvenile Officers (WSJOA) meeting for the month of September.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

During the month of September, E/D Knutsen and the LTACC Operating Board worked towards completing the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the three communities. The goal is to have the IGA finalized and approved by the respective Village Boards sometime in November. Once the IGA is approved, E/D Knutsen will follow-up with purchasing requests for the CAD system and the EMD software.

E/D Knutsen and Chief Strasser attended the 911 Services Advisory Board Meeting at the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) building in Springfield. The transitioning between the Illinois State Police (ISP) and ICC continues. They are still working on emergency rule making and revisions of current rules necessary prior to January 1, 2016. There are no plans in place to distribute the Wireless Surcharge Fees collected by the State since May 2015 to local Emergency Telephone System Boards. The collection of the Wireline Surcharge Fees by the State is still scheduled to take place January 2016. The State's withholding of local ETSB funds has a profound effect on the operations of Emergency Communication Centers across Illinois. HB4305 has been introduced regarding the release of these surcharge fees and currently has over twenty co-sponsors from the House.

AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME POLICE UNITS

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 134 hours during the month of September and their time was spent conducting house checks, street lights out lists and various patrol duties. The Auxiliary Officers provided safety and security for all the LaGrange Park District CURE participants. They also assisted with traffic enforcement at the Village's recycling event at Sedgewick Park.

The Part-time Officers made 28 traffic contacts and 1 misdemeanor traffic arrest for No Valid Driver's License. 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 \$14,354 in parking fines through conventional payments, on-line payments, or collection efforts. More commuters have signed-up for Passport Parking.

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

September 2015	7-3 SHIFT	3-11 SHIFT	11-7 SHIFT	TOTAL
Total # Of Traffic Stops	36	1	7	44
Stop Cards/Warnings	43	1	3	47
Compliance Citations	12	0	5	17
State Citations	4	0	0	4
Trucks Weighed	1	0	0	1
Truck Inspections	15	0	0	15
Non-Designated Violations	2	0	0	2
Safety Violations	2	0	1	3
State/Local/Admin. Violations	11	0	7	18
Lane Violations (LaGrange Rd)	5	1	0	6

* Includes September 3 truck detail numbers

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

PATROL ACTIVITIES	September		September		2015	2014
	2015		2014		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,584		1,330		12,591	11,829
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	54		81		521	614
FELONY ARRESTS	1		0		7	5
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	4		14		39	53
DUI ARRESTS	0		4		3	29
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	59		59		512	549
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	37		99		596	944
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	497	606	201	778	5,583	6,881
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	109		577			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	1		2		8	15
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	6		16		42	84