

LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager
From: Chief Renee Strasser *RS*
Date: January 15, 2016
Re: Monthly Report for December 2015



On November 12, 2015, Ofc. Moncivais responded to the 600 block of LaGrange Rd. for a delayed Burglary to Motor Vehicle report. Video surveillance of the burglary was obtained, but the suspect had not yet been identified. Then, on December 6, 2015, while on routine patrol, Ofc. Moncivais observed a subject that matched the description of the suspect in the video surveillance. Ofc. Moncivais conducted a Terry Stop on the suspect, obtained consent to search his backpack and located drugs and drug paraphernalia. Ofc. Moncivais subsequently arrested the subject for the November Burglary to Motor Vehicle and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.



Ofc. Moncivais' attention to detail and persistence in looking for the burglary suspect led to the apprehension of a known felon. Ofc. Moncivais received a Letter of Commendation for excellence in the performance of his duties.



On December 5, 2015 was LaGrange's annual Holiday Walk. As usual, the Day Shift and Midnight Shift personnel cleared the streets in preparation for the event, while members of the Auxiliary Unit and Afternoon Shift managed traffic and pedestrian control. The participants were well behaved and clearly remained in La Grange after the festivities to patronize our local shops and restaurants. However, we had one noteworthy police incident. That night, Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja volunteered his time to provide additional safety and security for the families visiting with Santa Claus, on the second floor of the Village Hall. While performing his law enforcement duties, Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja observed a man fleeing towards the first floor exit of the Village Hall and a young female following close behind. The female alerted Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja that the man had just stolen her wallet. Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja pursued the suspect into the Starbuck's restaurant, temporarily detained him, and called for back-up. Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja performed a cursory search of the area and recovered the victim's wallet in one of Starbuck's garbage cans. The offender was subsequently arrested by Officer Kang and charged with the theft.

Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja is pictured with Sgt. Odom receiving a Letter of Commendation for excellence in the performance of his duties. His actions as a volunteer Auxiliary Officer bring great distinction to the La Grange Police Department Auxiliary Unit.

MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: Ofc Nemecek, Ofc. Coleman, Ofc. Herrera, Ofc. Comstock and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 400 block of S. LaGrange Rd. for the report of an unwanted female subject who was on the porch of a residence, ringing the door bell and apparently refusing to leave. It was discovered that the subject suffered from mental health issues and was not taking her required medication. Subject was issued a "No Trespassing Notice" for the residence and she was voluntarily transported to the hospital for evaluation/treatment. Subject's family was notified of the incident and her subsequent transport to the hospital.

While on patrol in the 600 block of S. LaGrange Rd, Ofc. Coleman observed a large decorative flower pot in front of one of the businesses which appeared to have been purposely broken. The business owner was contacted and it was verified that the incident was apparently one of criminal damage.

Ofc. Herrera responded to Lexington Health Care facility for the report of alleged abuse/battery of a patient. Officer met with the patient's nurse who stated that the patient was at the facility for rehabilitation treatment of his leg/foot. Patient advised the nurse that earlier in the day, while in the dining facility, he got into a dispute with a nursing assistant who then grabbed, pulled on his leg, causing pain and discomfort. The patient was subsequently transported to Loyola Hospital for treatment/evaluation of his leg. The case was turned over to the Investigations Division.

Ofc. Herrera, Ofc. Coleman, PTO. Strand, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the area of Calendar/LaGrange Rd. for the Suspicious Person/Well Being Check incident. Complainant advised that a female subject who was not wearing shoes and appeared confused, in distress, came up to the passenger side of his vehicle, pulled on the door handle, asked for a ride to Chicago then walked away. Officers located the subject a short distance away, walking about without wearing shoes or a coat. It was learned the subject suffered from mental health issues and was not taking her prescribed medication. Subject was voluntarily transported to the hospital by LGFD ambulance for evaluation/treatment. Subject's family was notified of the incident and her transport to the hospital.

Ofc. Coleman and S/L Wolf responded to the LaGrange Memorial Hospital E/R for the report of the possible Criminal Sexual Abuse/Assault of a 2-year old female subject. It was learned that the subject was brought to the E/R when her mother became concerned when she discovered redness/irritation in the subject's private/genital area. Hospital physician/medical staff advised that there did not appear to be signs of sexual/physical abuse, rather the irritation was consistent with diaper rash. DCFS was notified and they advised a case worker would be assigned to the incident. The case was referred to the Investigations Division.

S/L Wolf, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 300 block of S. Gilbert for the report of criminal damage to the front window of a residence, apparently done by a BB-gun. Residents state they were asleep in the house and were awakened by the sound of rapid "popping" noise coming from the front of the house. When they got up to investigate, they discovered the living room picture window and adjacent double hung windows to be damaged. The windows had several small holes/cracks in the outer pane, which appeared to have been caused by BBs. Officers checked the area for possible offenders with negative results. No other damage was found/observed in the surrounding area. Officers learned that earlier in the day Western Springs P.D. experienced similar incidents in which the windows to several residences were damaged by BBs.

Ofc. Coleman and Sgt. Ljubenko responded for the report of criminal damage to the front door of a residence in the 200 block of S. Kensington Ave. Residents state they were asleep in the house and were awakened by loud banging noise coming from the front door area. When they got up to investigate, they discovered the front entrance outer "storm" door to be damaged and they were unable to open the inner front door from inside the residence. They also discovered that the decorative Christmas lights and garland which were on the railing of the front porch steps had been pulled off and damaged. It appeared that someone had kicked the center plexi-glass insert of the outer wooden storm door causing the insert to bend inward and the wooden frame around the insert to break away from the door. No other damage was located to the other homes in the surrounding area.

ARRESTS: Ofc. Comstock arrested a female from Melrose Park for D.U.I. who was involved in a personal injury traffic accident. The subject was traveling W/B Ogden Ave near Brainard Ave, when she crossed over into the E/B lane, striking an oncoming car head-on. The driver of the struck vehicle was not injured. The subject driving the offending vehicle did sustain injuries and was transported to the hospital. The subject was charged with D.U.I. and other traffic offenses.

Ofc. Coleman arrested a male from Lombard for D.U.I. who was involved in a single vehicle property damage traffic accident. The subject was traveling W/B Ogden Ave. when he lost control of the vehicle and struck the wall on the Ogden Ave. Bridge. The subject was not injured and was charged with D.U.I. and other traffic offenses.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: The midnight shift completed 55 traffic contacts which included 2 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, and in addition to the previously listed D.U.I, accidents, investigated 2 three-car property damage traffic accidents and 1 property damage hit & run traffic accident. Shift Officers issued 62 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 99 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

TRAINING: The shift successfully completed the December 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, S/L Wolf attended NIPAS 1-day Arrest Team training, Ofc. Nemecek completed Phase III field training with F.T.O. Coleman and began his Shadow Phase on Day Watch. Ofc. Coleman completed his online LEADS recertification and Sgt. Wardlaw completed the 2-week Supervision of Police Personnel course at Northwestern University.

DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: Criminal Damage To State Supported Property (1), Criminal Damage To Property (6), Criminal Damage To Vehicle (1), Criminal Trespass To Vehicle (1), Fraud (7), Disorderly Conduct (6), Juvenile Case (1), Theft Of Lost/Mislaid Property (1), Burglary To Motor Vehicle (1), Identity Theft (1), Unlawful Possession Of cannabis (2).

While on routine patrol, Sgt. Cimbalista located new damage to the upper deck membrane of the parking garage. It appeared that unknown person(s) caused the damage by squealing vehicle tires on the new membrane, damage estimated at approximately \$2,000.00

Ofc. Wessendorf took a report of an Attempted Theft by Deception in the 900 block 7th Avenue in which unknown person(s) purported themselves to be agents of the IRS and demanded money or the resident would be arrested. The resident contacted the police and there was no monetary loss.

Ofc. Heredia investigated a Theft of Lost/Mislaid Property case in which a student left their violin on a school bus. After calling the bus company, the violin could not be located. The value of the violin was \$699.00.

Officer McDermott received a Disorderly Conduct case in the 800 block 11th Avenue in which an M/W subject was walking around the neighborhood with no pants on and exposing himself. The subject was not apprehended, however, it appears that the subject matched the description of a subject involved in a case with similar facts in Brookfield a month prior.

Ofc. McDermott received an Attempted Theft by Deception case in the 1000 block S. Spring in which unknown person(s) purported themselves to be agents of the IRS and demanded money or the resident would be arrested. The resident contacted the police and there was no monetary loss.

Ofc. Moncivais responded to a Criminal Damage to Property case at Elm Park in which unknown person(s) damaged a wooden post and several bushes in the park.

Ofc. McDermott took a report of an Attempted Theft by Deception in the 900 block 8th in which unknown person(s) purported themselves to be agents of the IRS and demanded money or the resident would be arrested. The resident contacted the police and there was no monetary loss.

Ofc. Nemecek took an Unlawful Use of Credit Card case in the 00 block Bassford in which the Complainant's credit card was used in another state. The report was made as a matter of record only.

Ofc. Nemecek took a Fraud case in the 300 block E. Plainfield in which the Complainant noticed fraudulent charges from a business account.

Ofc. Wessendorf and Ofc. Nemecek both received reports of Attempted Theft by Deception, both in the 100 block W. Burlington. In each case, an unknown person(s) purported themselves to be an employee with ComEd and advised that the businesses was overdue with their ComEd payment. The businesses called the police. It shall be noted that the police notified the LaGrange Business Association of the scam and several business owners did not become victims of Theft as a result.

Ofc. Nemecek took a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 800 block East in which the resident's vehicle had been stolen and recovered in Lyons. The keys to the stolen vehicle were inside another vehicle on the resident's driveway, which the offender entered. The subject was arrested in Lyons for the stolen vehicle.

There were four reports of Criminal Damage to Property that all appeared to be related. Ofc. Moncivais took a Criminal Damage to Property report in the 1400 block W. Cossitt in which the Complainant's vehicle tires were damaged in the driveway. Ofc. Nemecek took a Criminal Damage to Property report in the 1300 block W. 47th in which the Complainant's picture window had been damaged by an apparent pellet/pellet gun. Ofc. McDermott took a Criminal Damage to Property report in the 800 block S. Madison in which the Complainant's rear vehicle window was shattered by an unknown object. Ofc. McDermott took a Criminal Damage to Property report in the 600 block S. Madison in which the Complainant's rear vehicle window was shattered by an unknown object.

Ofc. Wessendorf took a Criminal Damage to Property report in the 1200 block Birks in which the Complainant's picture window was shattered by an unknown object.

Ofc. McDermott investigated an Identity Theft case in the 1400 block W. Cossitt in which a PayPal account was opened in the Complainant's name without their permission.

Ofc. Wessendorf responded to a Criminal Damage to Property report in the 300 block Bluff in which unknown person(s) broke the antenna of the Complainant's vehicle.

ARRESTS: Ofc. McDermott arrested a 17 year old juvenile from Countryside in the 100 block S. Brainard for Unlawful Possession of Cannabis. The juvenile was station adjusted.

Ofc. Wessendorf arrested a 29 year old homeless man for Criminal Damage to Property and Disorderly Conduct. The offender damaged a chair and was yelling obscenities in the La Grange Theatre.

Ofc. Moncivais arrested a 16 year old juvenile from LaGrange in the 100 block S. Brainard for Unlawful Possession of Cannabis. The juvenile will be petitioned to court.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: The Day Shift wrote a total of (9) Parking Citations, (21) Compliance Citations, and handled (35) Accident Reports. The Day Shift conducted (82) Community Contacts, (6) Foot Patrols, (3) School Crossings, (99) Traffic Stops, and made (7) Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests.

TRAINING: The shift successfully completed the December 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. Sgt. Rohlicek attended Supervision of Police Personnel training at Triton College from November 30 – December 11

AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: Identity Theft (2), Theft Under \$500 (3), Criminal Damage to Motor Vehicle, Fight In-Progress, Domestic Trouble (4), Attempt Luring, Telephone Harassment, Damage to Village Property (2), Burglary to Motor Vehicle, Criminal Damage to Property, Sidewalk Fall Down, Theft Over \$500.

S/L Uher responded to the 400 Block of South Stone Avenue in reference to a Theft. The homeowner reported that he believed his cleaning lady stole items of clothing within his residence, valued at over \$300. Uher then made contact with the woman, who initially denied stealing from the home, but agreed to compensate the homeowner for the amount of the stolen property. The case was closed, after full restitution was made, at the request of the resident.

Ofc. Hon responded to the 500 Block of South Edgewood in reference to an Attempt Luring of a Minor report. Two female juveniles (sisters) reported that an adult male Hispanic approached them in his vehicle and twice asked them if they wanted a ride. The girls were in close proximity to their residence, so they ran into their home and advised their parents. Responding LaGrange police units were unable to locate the vehicle/suspect in the area. A Press Release was immediately issued reference this case.

Ofc. Rogers, along with Sgt. Berg and Ofc. Nemecek responded to the 100 Block of Bassford in reference to a medical assist call. A male resident was located by police inside his garage and he appeared withdrawn and lethargic. The man advised officers he had been in his garage for several hours. LaGrange paramedics were contacted and the man was provided initial treatment at the scene. The man was subsequently transported to LaGrange hospital for further treatment and evaluation.

Ofc. Heredia, along with FTO Irizarry responded to the 600 Block of LaGrange Road in reference to an elderly male subject, possibly in need of medical attention. Upon arrival, the officers identified the 91-year old man as a lost dementia patient reported missing by the Countryside PD. The man was reunited with his family a short time later.

Ofc. Kang and additional police units responded to the 00 Block of South Spring Avenue in reference to a Domestic disturbance at a residence involving a young couple. Upon arrival, both parties admitted to making minor physical contact with the other, but both individuals gave conflicting statements, and both refused to sign criminal complaints against the other. Both parties agreed to leave the residence to avoid further escalation.

Ofc. Rogers and additional police units responded to the LaGrange Park District, 536 East Avenue in reference to a fight in-progress. Upon arrival, both adult male individuals were separated. In speaking with the involved parties, both individuals gave statements indicating they were defending themselves during a heated game of basketball. Both subjects left the building with one individual receiving a No Trespass Order.

Ofc Kang, along with Sgt. Odom responded to the PD lobby for a Domestic Battery report. A man stated while returning (visitation) his juvenile son to the son's mother in the 200 Block of Washington, the woman yelled at the man and threw an item at him, striking him in the chest area. The man reported no injury and wished the report to be made as a matter of record only. No further police action was requested.

Ofc. Heredia, along with FTO Irizarry responded to the 00 Block of South LaGrange Road in reference to a stolen I-Phone, valued at over \$800. The next day, the victim contacted Ofc. Heredia and informed him that a fellow employee found his phone and returned it to him intact. No loss was incurred.

Ofc. Hon responded to the 00 Block of North LaGrange Road in reference to a Burglary to Motor Vehicle. Taken from an unlocked vehicle was a purse and a ring valued at over \$5,000. No evidence was located at the scene and the victim reported no suspects or witnesses.

ARRESTS: Ofc. Kang, along with Aux. Ofc. Zachwieja arrested a 47-year old Justice man for Theft after the man stole a purse from a female juvenile during the Holiday Walk festivities. Zachwieja followed the man into a restaurant where he was apprehended by additional responding officers. The man was taken into custody and charged. All property was returned to the victim.

Ofc. Heredia, along with FTO Irizarry arrested an 18-year old Stickney man for Unlawful Possession of Cannabis after Heredia conducted a traffic stop in the vicinity of 47th Street and East Avenue. Officers detected a strong odor of cannabis upon initial contact with the driver. A search yielded the contraband on the driver's person, and inside the vehicle. The offender was taken into custody, and also issued traffic citations.

Sgt. Odom, along with Sgt. Wardlaw and PTO Strand assisted the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) during a reverse drug-buy sting in the 100 Block of North LaGrange Road. The operation resulted in the arrest of two LaGrange residents and a Chicago man for two counts each of Possession of a Controlled Substance. The DEA also seized an undisclosed amount of cash.

Ofc. Heredia, along with FTO Irizarry, and Ofc. Hon arrested three male juveniles and an 18-year old LaGrange man for Criminal Trespass to Property after the males were located loitering inside a Park District building within Gilbert Park. The males were taken into custody and charged, without incident.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: The Afternoon shift completed 126 traffic contacts which included 5 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked. Officers completed 33 crash reports (4 Personal Injury) and issued 12 parking citations. Shift Officers conducted 47 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

TRAINING: The shift successfully completed the December 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. Sergeant Berg and K-9 Dak completed bi-monthly canine training.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES

INVESTIGATIONS: Inv. Andries invested two Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse/Neglect Reports. One was regarding an alleged criminal sexual assault between two male juveniles. That incident was resolved through mandated counseling. The other was an allegation of child abuse that was thoroughly investigated and determined to be unfounded.

Inv. Andries processed the scene of a residential burglary on the 700 block of S Catherine Ave. The offender(s) gained forcible entry through the rear entrance of the residence and stole jewelry and USC. The investigation is on-going.

OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY: As the Department's D.A.R.E. Instructor, Inv. Andries completed the 10 week curriculum with the 5th graders at Seventh Ave Elementary School. A total of 23 students graduated from the program. Being a member of the Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT) Inv Andries assisted Riverside PD on a narcotics search warrant. The MCAT recovered marijuana, ammunition and 2 firearms from the suspect's home.

TRAINING: Inv. Andries attended training hosted by the All Our Children's Advocacy Center at the Lyons Township High School south campus. The training covered how school counselors and teachers can assist in juvenile cases.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LTACC update: E/D Kim Knutsen will be interviewing Architects on January 21st for the dispatch center with the hopes of beginning construction in mid-March. The ISP website has added a tab for 911 Administrator. That link provides access to ISP's administrative rules, application for recognition as a 911 authority, and grant information. Grants proposals must be received by March 31st and the monies awarded used to offset non-recurring costs associated with the consolidation. A project manager has been assigned for the new CAD system and the IT infrastructure, to include fiber, is close to completion so each Municipality will be able to have their assigned personnel begin entering the necessary data into NWS.

AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME POLICE UNITS

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 94 hours during the month of December and their time was spent conducting house checks, street lights out lists and various patrol duties. The Auxiliary Officers provided safety and security for the annual Holiday Walk.

The Part-time Officers made 45 traffic contacts and 3 misdemeanor traffic arrests for Suspended/Revoked Registration. 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 \$13,438 in parking fines through conventional payments, on-line payments, or collection efforts. Over 100 commuters have signed-up for Passport Parking. P/E/O Hannon and Kotrba continued to serve as school crossing guards.

TRUCK ENFORCEMENT

DECEMBER 2015	7-3	3-11	11-7	TOTAL
Total # Of Traffic Stops	6	12	2	20
Stop Cards/Warnings	4	7	1	12
Compliance Citations	5	4	1	10
State Citations	0	0	0	0
Trucks Weighed	0	0	0	0
Truck Inspections	0	0	0	0
Non-Designated Violations	0	0	0	0
Safety Violations	2	1	0	3
State/Local/Admin. Violations	6	10	2	18
Lane Violations (LaGrange Rd)	3	1	0	4

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

PATROL ACTIVITIES	December		December		2015	2014
	2015		2014		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,363		1,261		15,330	15,630
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	84		47		666	787
FELONY ARRESTS	1		2		8	8
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	4		5		50	72
DUI ARRESTS	2		0		6	30
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	36		52		536	698
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	24		66		654	1,146
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	123	567	188	719	7,363	9,297
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	444		531			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	6		0		14	16
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	5		4		55	102