

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum

To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager  
From: Chief Renee Strasser   
Date: February 17, 2016  
Re: Monthly Report for January 2016

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On Sunday, January 24, 2016, patrol officers and supervisors changed shifts for the year. These new assignments play a big role in our organization's development because it provides personnel the opportunity to work on new teams with different department members, to work different hours of the day/night, and to work towards developing the necessary skills to be well-rounded police officers. For supervisors, a shift change means learning new operational tasks which similarly translates into being well-rounded supervisors.

### **MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Ofc. Herrera, S/L Wolf and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 0-100 block of S. LaGrange Rd. for a domestic disturbance between two female subjects. A verbal argument escalated into both subjects pushing and shoving each other. Peace was restored, neither subject was injured and no arrest was made. One subject agreed to leave the residence for the evening and stay with nearby relatives. Both subjects were provided domestic violence information/forms.

S/L Wolf, Ofc. Herrera and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 800 block of S. LaGrange Rd. for a domestic disturbance between a male subject and his son. The male subject became involved in a verbal argument with his son and wife and that argument escalated to the father and son pushing/shoving each other. Another son intervened and broke up the confrontation between the male subject and son. Peace was restored, none of the subjects were injured, and no arrests were made. The male subject voluntarily agreed to leave the house for the evening and stay with a nearby friend. Domestic violence information/forms were provided to all involved subjects.

During the late hours of New Year's Eve/early hours of New Year's Day, shift officers responded to several calls of possible "shots" fired. In each incident, no indication or evidence was discovered of actual gunshots being fired, rather it appeared the noise had possibly been caused by fireworks.

Ofc. Coleman, Ofc. Herrera, S/L Wolf and Sgt. Wardlaw responded to the 0-100 block of S. Kensington for a domestic disturbance between a female subject and her teenage daughter. The two subjects had become involved in a verbal argument only. Peace was restored and it was decided that the daughter would temporarily stay with her father, who lived in a nearby town. Domestic violence information/forms were provided to subjects.

S/L Wolf, Ofc. Coleman, Ofc. Comstock and Sgt. Wardlaw responded to the 800 block of Arlington for a domestic disturbance between a female subject and her adult son. The two subjects had become involved in a verbal argument only. Peace was restored, neither subject was injured, the adult son voluntarily agreed to leave the residence and stay with a nearby friend. Subjects were provided domestic violence information/forms.

Ofc. Comstock, Ofc. Herrera, P.T.O. King, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 0-100 block of S. 6<sup>th</sup> to assist social service case workers. The case workers advised they had been working with a male subject who had been experiencing emotional problems and had possibly been contemplating hurting himself. LGFD Ambulance/Paramedics were called to the scene. The male subject voluntarily agreed to be transported by Paramedics to the hospital for evaluation/treatment.

Ofc. Comstock, S/L Wolf, Ofc. Coleman and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the LaGrange Hospital Emergency Room to assist staff with an unruly/intoxicated female subject. Assistance was given, peace was restored.

Ofc. Comstock responded to the 0-100 block of N. LaGrange Rd. for the criminal damage to property/vehicle incident. The victim advised that he had parked his vehicle in the business parking lot for several hours while he was at work. Upon returning to his vehicle he discovered the two passenger side tires to be slashed/punctured. No other damaged vehicles or property was discovered, no suspects in the incident.

Ofc. Comstock, Ofc. Herrera, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 300 block of S. Waiola for the suspicious vehicle/activity incident. It was reported that a small red vehicle had been slowly driving/stopping on the block, and that the vehicle driver had been talking to a male subject who was on foot, who then walked up driveways and into yards. Officers observed a vehicle matching the description parked/stopped on Maple near Waiola with a female subject in the driver's seat. Officers conducted a field interview with the subject who advised she was not familiar with the area and had come to pick up a female friend who called her and stated she was near "Waiola/Maple in LaGrange." The female subject denied seeing or talking to any male subject who was on foot. A bicycle was observed in the backseat area of the subject's vehicle. Subject advised she bought the bicycle earlier in the day at a flea market. She consented/allowed officers to look at the bicycle and check the serial number. LEADS check of the serial number showed it not to be reported stolen and no other reports were found for stolen bicycles matching its description. Officers checked the surrounding area for the male subject with negative results. No evidence or indication of thefts or illegal entry to garages or residences was discovered.

Ofc. Coleman, Ofc. Herrera, Sgt. Wardlaw and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 200 block of S. 6<sup>th</sup> for a domestic disturbance between a female subject and her adult son. The female subject had been drinking and the two got into a verbal altercation. Neither subject was injured. Peace was restored and the adult son voluntarily left the residence to spend the evening at a nearby hotel. Both subjects were provided domestic violence information/forms.

Ofc. McDermott responded to the 100 block of East Ave. for the report of a missing female teenage-juvenile who is a habitual runaway. The female subject advised she no longer wished to live with her father and refused to stay at the residence. The female subject was taken into limited custody as a minor requiring authoritative intervention (MRAI) and transported to the P.D. Social services were notified. After discussing/mediating with the father and daughter, it was agreed upon that the female juvenile would return home to stay with her father and they would follow-up with family counseling.

S/L Herrera responded to the 400 block of S. Madison for the criminal damage to property incident. The homeowner advised that he discovered two decorative planters/pots that are kept in front of the residence to have been turned over and broken. No other damaged property was discovered/observed in the surrounding area. No suspects in the incident.

S/L Herrera, Ofc. Nemecek, Ofc. McDermott and Sgt. Rohlicek responded to the area of 48<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Ave. for a theft of service incident involving a taxi-cab driver and his male customer/fare. The cab driver advised he picked up the male customer in Chicago and was to drive him to the 1400 block of W. Cossitt. When they were in the area of 48<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>, the customer got out of the cab and began walking/running away without paying. He advised that the male subject customer was intoxicated. Officers located the male subject/suspect a few blocks away on foot, he was positively identified by the cab driver as the male customer who exited his cab. The male customer/subject subsequently made full restitution to the cab driver for the fare. The cab driver declined to pursue criminal charges against the male subject.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. Comstock arrested a female subject from Wilmington for D.U.I. Ofc. Comstock was in a fully marked squad doing traffic control at the intersection of Bluff/ Harris, blocking S/B Bluff due to a traffic accident which occurred further up the block. The subject was driving a vehicle S/B Bluff, the vehicle nearly hit the marked squad car, then attempted to drive around the squad and up the blocked street. The subject/driver was found to be intoxicated and was charged with D.U.I. and other traffic offenses.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The midnight shift completed 71 traffic contacts which included 1 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrest for Driving without a Valid License and investigated 2 property damage traffic accidents. Shift Officers issued 134 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 95 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols. Ofc. Andries began teaching the spring semester DARE course to 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at St. John's, St. Cletus and Spring Ave. schools.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the January 2016 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, S/L Wolf attended NIPAS 1-day Arrest Team training, Sgt. Ljubenko completed his online LEADS recertification, Ofc. Herrera completed the 3-day Breath Analysis Operator/Technician certification course and Ofc. Comstock attended the 1-day First Response to Critical Incident training course.

## **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Theft (3), Attempted Theft (1), Battery (1), Vandalism (1), Fraud (2), Disorderly Conduct (1), Missing Juvenile (2), Retail Theft (1), Burglary (1), Identity Theft (2), Overdose (1), Death Investigation (1), Criminal Defacement of property (1).

Ofc. Nemecek took a report of an attempted fraud case in the 00 block W. Harris in which the caller purported himself to be an employee of Nicor and there was an outstanding balance on the account. There was no loss in the case.

Ofc. Nemecek was assigned a death investigation in the 500 block S. Waiola.

Ofc. Nemecek handled a Retail Theft case in the 00 block W. Burlington in which an unknown offender had stolen several Yankee Candles.

Ofc. Nemecek completed a Disorderly Conduct case in the 00 block S. Ashland in which the Complainant was receiving threats from another subject. The report was made as a matter of record.

Ofc. Heredia responded to a report of an Identity Theft in the 400 block Blackstone in which unknown person(s) opened credit card accounts in the Complainant's name and they were receiving bills.

Ofc. Heredia took a Missing Person report in the 100 block Sawyer (juvenile). The juvenile later returned home.

Ofc. McDermott investigated a Battery case in the 100 block S. Brainard in which two LTHS students were fighting. It was determined they were mutual combatants.

Ofc. Wessendorf handled a theft report in the 4700 block S. Willow Springs in which a wallet/ID's were reported missing.

Ofc. Moncivais took a Missing Person report in the 100 block Sawyer (juvenile). The juvenile later returned home.

Ofc. Nemecek responded to a Burglary in the 500 block S. Waiola in which a bicycle was stolen from an unlocked garage.

Ofc. Heredia was assigned an Identity Theft case in the 00 block S. Waiola in which unknown offender(s) had withdrawn money from an ATM from her account.

Ofc. McDermott handled an Attempted Theft by Deception case in the 900 block 8<sup>th</sup> in which the Offender(s) attempted to use the Sweepstakes scam on the Complainant. There was no loss.

Sgt. Cimbalista investigated a Vandalism at the La Grange Parking Garage in which a window in a stairwell had been broken with a pellet/similar projectile.

Ofc. McDermott responded to a Theft case in the 400 block 9<sup>th</sup> in which a UPS package was taken from the doorstep of the Complainant's home.

Ofc. Kang managed a Theft case in the 00 block W. Cossitt in which a wallet and credit cards were stolen, however, the wallet/items were returned to the owner later by an unknown person.

Ofc. Heredia took a Criminal Defacement report in the 900 block 8<sup>th</sup> in which graffiti was painted on several garages.

Sgt. Cimbalista handled a Fraud case in the 00 block S. Waiola in which unknown Offender(s) contacted the Complainant reference a "computer scam." There was no loss.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. McDermott arrested a 31 year old man from Highland Park on a DWLS Warrant, and other traffic violations at La Grange/Ogden.

Ofc. Nemecek arrested a 29 year old woman from Chicago for Battery and Retail Theft in the 00 block E. 47<sup>th</sup>

Ofc. Nemecek arrested a 35 year old woman from Countryside for Battery in the 00 block E. 47<sup>th</sup>

Ofc. Wessendorf arrested a 17 year old male from Countryside for Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 100 block S. Brainard.

Ofc. Heredia arrested a 17 year old male from Hodgkins for Unlawful Possession of Cannabis in the 1000 block S. Spring.

Ofc. Hon arrested a 31 year old man from La Grange for Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance, DWLS, and other traffic violations at Ogden and Waiola

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The Dayshift completed 110 traffic contacts which included 2 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for No Valid License and 25 Compliance Citations. Officers conducted 78 Community Contacts and 2 foot patrols, completed 26 crash reports, issued 13 parking citations and made 3 Warrant Arrests. Dayshift officers provided traffic control for LTHS's annual All School Assembly.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the January 2016 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. Sgt. Rohlicek attended an Evidence/Property Management seminar in preparation for his new role as the Department's Evidence/Property Custodian.

## **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative Case Reports taken this month included: Vandalism, Warrant Service (5), Possession of a Controlled Substance, Theft Under \$500, Missing Juvenile(3), Suicidal Subject, Theft of Services, Domestic Trouble (2), Elderly Well-Being Check (2), Telephone Harassment (3), Armed Robbery, Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, Theft Over \$500 (2).

Ofc. Wessendorf, along with several members of the Afternoon Shift and detectives investigated an Armed Robbery incident that was reported to have taken place in the vicinity of Cossitt and Spring Avenues. Two male juveniles advised they were approached on the street and robbed by two male black adults, one of whom brandished a small black handgun during the robbery. Taken was an I-Phone and a small amount of currency. No injuries were reported by the victims. A search of the area yielded no suspects or witnesses to the crime. The case was turned over to Investigations.

Ofc. Heredia, along with FTO Irizarry responded to a Domestic Trouble call in the 600 Block of South 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Two adult males (brothers) admitted to engaging in a physical fight within the residence over property belonging to one of the brothers. Both refused medical assistance and neither wished to pursue the matter criminally. One of the males agreed to leave the residence in order to restore peace.

Ofc. Kang took a Missing Juvenile report in reference to a 17 year old LTHS student who was reported missing for two days, by his mother. The male was eventually located safe and unharmed in Kane County. He taken into protective custody by the Gilberts Police Department.

Ofc. Comstock responded to a business in the 600 Block of South LaGrange Road in reference to a Domestic Disturbance. The owner of the business reported that he and his girlfriend got into a verbal argument at the business and she subsequently took items of monetary value from the office. Upon returning to the business a few days later, the owner advised the property was returned and he declined to sign criminal complaints. The case was closed due to no financial loss.

Ofc. Kang responded to the 300 Block of East Plainfield for a report of a Suicidal Subject. Upon arrival, Kang immediately summoned LaGrange FD paramedics and secured the scene due to evidence of a confirmed suicide attempt involving a female LaGrange juvenile. The female was provided medical treatment at the scene and subsequently transported to Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital for further care and evaluation.

Ofc. Burrell responded to the 300 Block of Bluff in reference to a Vandalism complaint. A resident reported his car was damaged by an unknown offender. The owner of the vehicle advised he was able to repair his vehicle with no monetary loss. The report was made as a matter of record only.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. Kang arrested a 36 year old Burr Ridge man for three outstanding DuPage County Warrants for Unlawful Visitation Interference. The man was arrested after Kang

conducted a traffic stop in the vicinity of Ogden and Harvey Avenues. The man was taken into custody and processed without incident.

Squad Leader Uher arrested 49 year old Dixon man for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs and Possession of a Controlled Substance after Uher conducted a traffic stop in reference to a reported reckless driver near Ogden Avenue and LaGrange Road. A powdery substance (suspect Heroin) was located on the man's person and inside his vehicle. He was provided medical treatment at the scene by LaGrange FD paramedics and provided a blood/urine sample at Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital.

Ofc. Hon arrested a 21 year old Brookfield man for Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia after Hon conducted a traffic stop at LaGrange Road and Shawmut Avenue. The item of contraband was located on the man's person and he was taken into custody.

Ofc. Rogers arrested a 35 year old LaGrange man on outstanding LaGrange Warrant for Driving While License Suspended. The man turned himself in at the police department and was taken into custody without incident.

Ofc. Wessendorf arrested a 16 year old LaGrange juvenile for Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia after he was dispatched to a call of a male in possession of the contraband at Lyons Township High School. The items of contraband were seized and recovered by Wessendorf. The student was arrested and given a Formal Station Adjustment.

Ofc. Kang arrested a 40 year old Brookfield man on an outstanding DuPage County Warrant for Unlicensed Driving after Kang conducted a traffic stop in the vicinity of Ogden and Washington Avenues. The man was again cited for driving without a valid driver's license, and taken into custody, without incident.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The Afternoon shift completed 95 traffic contacts which included 7 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked. Officers completed 23 crash reports (1 Personal Injury) and issued 5 parking citations. Shift Officers conducted 34 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the January 2016 Police Law Institute online training on: Custodial Interrogation of Juveniles, Eavesdropping, Legal Non-Secret Interception, Citizens Utilizing Recording Devices, Police Video-Recording of Criminal Activity, and Vehicle Repossession.

Officers Rogers and Comstock attended an 8-hour course entitled Response to Critical Incidents conducted at the Homewood Police Department.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Inv. Andries spent the month wrapping-up his case load in preparation for his return to the Patrol Division.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** Inv. Andries continues to serve as the Department's D.A.R.E. Instructor. He attended the monthly M.C.A.T. meeting.

**TRAINING:** Inv. Andries successfully completed the January 2016 Police Law Institute online training along with his Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins.

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

LTACC update: E/D Kim Knutsen selected Wold Architects to design the new dispatch center. A project "kick-off" date has been set for March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> with the new CAD Vender, Tyler Technologies (formerly New World Systems). T/C/O Seymour has volunteered to serve on the CAD committee and will play a critical role by entering LaGrange's data into the software.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 85 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 Liotta, Grimm, and Fritsch assisted Dayshift officers by providing traffic control for the LTHS's annual All School Assembly

The Part-time Officers made 37 traffic contacts. 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 \$16,262 in parking fines through conventional payments, on-line payments, or collection efforts. P/E/O Hannon and Kotrba continued to serve as school crossing guards.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT**

| <b>JANUARY 2016</b>                  | <b>7-3<br/>SHIFT</b> | <b>3-11<br/>SHIFT</b> | <b>11-7<br/>SHIFT</b> | <b>TOTAL</b> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| <b>Total # Of Traffic Stops</b>      | <b>6</b>             | <b>5</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>11</b>    |
| <b>Stop Cards/Warnings</b>           | <b>5</b>             | <b>2</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>7</b>     |
| <b>Compliance Citations</b>          | <b>0</b>             | <b>4</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>4</b>     |
| <b>State Citations</b>               | <b>1</b>             | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>Trucks Weighed</b>                | <b>0</b>             | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>Truck Inspections</b>             | <b>0</b>             | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>Non-Designated Violations</b>     | <b>0</b>             | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>Safety Violations</b>             | <b>0</b>             | <b>3</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>3</b>     |
| <b>State/Local/Admin. Violations</b> | <b>6</b>             | <b>6</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>12</b>    |
| <b>Lane Violations (LaGrange Rd)</b> | <b>0</b>             | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>     |

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

| <b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>          | <b>January</b> |     | <b>January</b> |     | <b>2016</b> | <b>2015</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|-------------|-------------|
|                                   | <b>2016</b>    |     | <b>2015</b>    |     | <b>YTD</b>  | <b>YTD</b>  |
| NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN             | 1,316          |     | 1,256          |     | 1,316       | 1,256       |
| ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN            | 52             |     | 51             |     | 52          | 51          |
| FELONY ARRESTS                    | 1              |     | 1              |     | 1           | 1           |
| MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS               | 4              |     | 4              |     | 4           | 4           |
| DUI ARRESTS                       | 3              |     | 0              |     | 3           | 0           |
| WARRANT ARRESTS                   | 2              |     | *              |     | 2           | *           |
| VERBAL WARNINGS                   | 176            |     | *              |     | 176         | *           |
| COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED       | 55             |     | 44             |     | 55          | 44          |
| TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED          | 26             |     | 72             |     | 26          | 72          |
| PARKING TICKETS - by Officers     | 155            | 850 | 241            | 848 | 850         | 848         |
| PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div. | 695            |     | 607            |     |             |             |
| JUVENILE ARRESTS                  | 3              |     | 0              |     | 3           | 0           |
| PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP         | 9              |     | 3              |     | 9           | 3           |

\* DATA NOT REPORTED IN 2015, NEW CATEGORY FOR 2016