

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager  
From: Chief Renee Strasser   
Date: December 13, 2016  
Re: Monthly Report for November 2016

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On Feb 23, 2016 two armed subjects committed a Home Invasion at a residence in Lyons. The offenders allegedly tied-up and battered the adult members in the residence. A person within the home was able to call 911, at which time Lyons, McCook, and Riverside units responded. Officers were able to provide information about the fleeing offender's vehicle. Chicago police units and Chicago's helicopter unit were able to seize the vehicle and take the offenders into custody. The local area task force known as the Major Crimes Assistance Team (MCAT) was activated and assisted in the interviews of all the offenders and witnesses, and were subsequently able to charge the offenders with multiple Class X felonies.



On November 29th, 2016, Investigator Ken Uher and members of MCAT, Lyons PD, Chicago PD, and Cook County Sheriffs received the Cook County Sheriff's Unit Citation Award for their assistance in bringing forth justice in the Lyons' Home Invasion. Inv. Uher's actions are highly commendable and bring great credit to him personally and to the LaGrange Police Department.

On November 30, 2016 at 1039 hrs. Sergeant Tom Cimbalista responded to a residence for a call of a man suffering from an apparent heroin overdose. Sgt. Cimbalista was the First Responder on the scene and immediately administered the drug naloxone also known as NARCAN. His actions saved the man's life that day and for that reason he received the LaGrange Police Department's "Life Saving" award. Of great significance is that Sgt. Tom Cimbalista was the driving force behind the Department's NARCAN program. Sgt. Cimbalista procured the NARCAN, wrote the Policy, and trained LaGrange Police Department personnel on how to administer the drug. Sgt. Cimbalista's actions are highly commendable and bring great credit to him personally and to the LaGrange Police Department.



## **MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** P.O. Nevins-Cassiberry and S/L Herrera responded to the 0-50 block of Sawyer Ave. for a harassment through electronic communications incident. The complainant/victim advised that she had received some harassing emails on her smart phone and via Facebook messages from her ex-boyfriend. Officers assisted the complainant in obtaining an Order of Protection against the ex-boyfriend.

Ofc. McDermott, Sgt. Rohlicek and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 0-100 block of S. LaGrange Rd. for the report of some type of fight/disturbance between two male subjects who had now left the area. The two male subjects were in a restaurant ordering food when they became involved in a verbal altercation which lead to them exiting the store. When the two male subjects were pushing/shoving each other outside, they fell onto the passenger side of a vehicle's trunk causing a small scratch in the paint. Officers contacted the mother of the male subject involved in the altercation, she was advised of what happened and stated that she and her son would contact the vehicle owner about fixing the scratch.

Ofc. McDermott, Sgt. Rohlicek and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 200 block of Washington Ave. for the domestic disturbance between two male subjects who are cousins. It was learned that one subject had stopped by his cousin's residence after work for a visit. The two became involved in a verbal argument which lead to them grabbing, pushing and punching each other. Neither subject suffered any injury. Peace was restored, subjects were mutual combatants, no arrests made. The one male subject left to return to his residence. Domestic violence information/forms were provided to both subjects.

Ofc. McDermott met with a male complainant in the P.D. lobby regarding a harassment by telephone incident. The male subject advised that earlier in the day he had received a phone call at his residence in the 300 block of S. Kensington Ave, from the mother of his ex-girlfriend. He stated that the female caller was upset, swearing and made verbal threats against him and his family. He believed that she may have been intoxicated. The following day the complainant contacted R/O and advised that he had spoken to the ex-girlfriend's mother, she apologized and stated the call was a misunderstanding on her part. Complainant advised he wanted no further action taken at this time.

Ofc. Andries, Ofc. McDermott, Ofc. Hon. Ofc. Kang and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 300 block of Bluff Ave. for the domestic disturbance between a husband and wife. It was learned that the two were involved in a verbal argument only involving some ongoing marital problems including the wife's suspicion that her husband is possibly having an affair. The husband advised that he was leaving the house to go to work and that he would be staying with relatives in a nearby town while he and his wife work on their marital issues. Peace was restored, domestic violence information/forms given to both subjects.

Ofc. Kang, Ofc. Andries. Ofc. McDermott, Ofc. Hon and Sgt. Rohlicek responded to the 0-100 block of S. LaGrange Rd. for the possible disturbance/aggravated assault incident between two male subjects. R/O's located one of the male subjects near the scene who advised that he was inside a nearby restaurant ordering takeout food when he became involved in a verbal argument with another male subject whom he does not know. He advised that the male subject continued being verbally aggressive towards him, they exited the store, continued arguing while walking down the street. He states that the other male subject took a swing at him but missed and then displayed a knife. The male complainant stated he pushed the male subject away from him and the subject then left the area on foot. The male complainant advised he wished to pursue criminal complaints against the other male subject. The incident is under investigation.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The Midnight shift completed 210 traffic contacts which included 1 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrest for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked and investigated 2 property

damage traffic accidents and 1 personal injury traffic accident. Shift Officers issued 93 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 158 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols. Ofc. Andries continued teaching the fall semester D.A.R.E. course to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Seventh Avenue School.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the November 2016 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. The shift also completed first aid training in use of the tourniquet and emergency trauma dressing. In addition, Ofc. McDermott and Ofc. Kang completed the 2-day Death Investigation training course, Ofc. Kang completed the Cultural Competency training course, Ofc. Andries and Sgt. Rohlicek completed the Verbal & Tactical De-Escalation training course and Sgt. Ljubenko attended Organizational Accountability-Force Management training provided by IRMA. P.O. Cassiberry completed step II of her field training on the Midnight Watch with FTO Herrera and moved to the Day Watch to begin step III of her field training program.

### **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative Case Reports taken this month included: Fraud (1), Domestic Battery (1), Identity Theft (4), Theft (11), Criminal Damage to Property (2), Burglary to Motor Vehicle (1), Missing Person Located (1), Drug Overdose (1), and Battery (1).

Ofc Falls handled a Fraud case in the 500 block E Cossitt in which an ex-employee cashed/deposited company checks without approval. The case was made a matter of record only/declined prosecution.

Ofc. Falls handled a Domestic Battery case in the 400 block East in which parties were separated and charges were declined by the victim.

Ofc. Wessendorf handled an Identity Theft case in the 300 block S Madison in which the victim was contacted by Target regarding an account that was fraudulently opened. There was no loss.

Ofc. Fulla handled a Theft case in the 00 blk 6<sup>th</sup> (Parking Garage), in which a fire extinguisher was stolen from its case in the garage.

Sgt. Berg handled a Theft case in the 300 block Bluff in which money was taken from a room of an apartment. There are no witnesses to the theft/no charges were filed.

Ofc. Kaiser handled an Identity Theft case in the 100 block E Cossitt, where the victim learned that an account was fraudulently opened in their name with Xfinity. There was no loss.

Ofc. Kaiser handled a Criminal Damage to Property case in the 900 block S Kensington where a vehicle parked in the driveway was vandalized.

Ofc. Falls handled a Theft case in the 4700 block Willow Springs Road in which a patient's piece of jewelry was reported stolen from a room.

Ofc. Moncivais handled an Identity Theft case in the 200 block 7<sup>th</sup> in which the victim received billing statements from a store that she never obtained credit through. No loss to the victim.

Ofc. Wessendorf handled two Theft cases in the 300 block Bluff, where a wallet/personal items were stolen from a rooms with no suspects/witnesses.

Ofc. Kaiser handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 00 block N La Grange, where items were taken from an unlocked vehicle.

Ofc. Wolf and Ofc. Moncivais handled Theft cases in the 300 block 9<sup>th</sup> in which money was stolen from a room with no witnesses/suspects.

Ofc. Cassiberry handled an Identity Theft case in the 300 block S Kensington in which an account was fraudulently opened in the victim's name. There was no loss to the victim.

Ofc. Falls handled a Criminal Damage to Property case in the 200 block W Harris, which turned out to be a civil matter.

Ofc. Falls handled a Battery case at Gilbert/Cossitt, which stemmed from a "road rage" incident. The offender was arrested-see below.

Ofc. Moncivais handled a Theft case in the 600 block 6<sup>th</sup> where a catalytic converter was stolen from a parked vehicle.

Ofc. Wolf handled a Theft case in the 700 block S Spring in which a Home Improvement sign was stolen from the front yard of a residence under construction.

Ofc. Wessendorf handled a Theft case in the 00 block N Drexel in which a UPS package was stolen from the front porch. The case is pending further investigation.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. McGuire arrested a 52 year old man from Chicago on an outstanding Theft warrant.

Ofc. Wessendorf arrested a 25 year old man from Brookfield for Failure to Give Information after Striking Property (accident).

Ofc. Kaiser arrested a 23 year old man from LaGrange on an outstanding Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance warrant.

Ofc. Falls arrested a 35 year old man from Oakbrook for Battery.

Ofc. Cassiberry arrested a 26 year old man from Chicago for Aggravated Assault and Criminal Damage to Property stemming from a "Road Rage" incident.

Ofc. Falls arrested a 40 year old woman from Chicago for Theft and Unlawful Possession Drug Paraphernalia. The offender took a wallet/personal items were stolen from inside a restaurant in the 00 W. Hillgrove Ave.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The shift conducted 123 traffic contacts which included 3 misdemeanor traffic arrests including Driving while License Suspended or Revoked and No Valid Driver's License. The shift completed 22 Illinois traffic crash reports. Officers conducted 23 Foot Patrols, 34 Building Checks and engaged in 23 Community Contacts. A total of 18 Compliance Citations were issued along with 2 Parking Citation.

Officers assisted with the LTHS Homecoming, a funeral at 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church, the Crop walk, and a Cossitt School Lock-Down Drill. On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 1000 to 1400 hrs, La Grange Police Department served

as a drop off facility for the DEA National Take Back Initiative. We received a total of 432.6 lbs. of unwanted/expired prescription drugs for destruction.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the November 2016 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. D/C Peters, Sgt. Cimbalista, Sgt. Ljubenko, Sgt. Wardlaw all attended IRMA Steering Committee meeting training on Use of Force. Ofc. Moncivais attended Laws of Interrogation training. Ofc. Wolf attended NIPAS training and Ofc. Fulla attended Commercial Motor Vehicle Interdiction training.

## **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative Case Reports taken this month included: Retail Theft (1), Assault (1), Burglary to Motor Vehicle (1), Disorderly Conduct (1), Suicide Attempt (3), Well-Being Check (2), Missing Juvenile Located (1), Criminal Defacement of Property (2), Theft Under \$500 (4), Fraud (1), Criminal Damage to Motor Vehicle (1), Harassment by Electronic Communication (2), Criminal Trespass to Property (1), Identity Theft (5), Death Investigation (2), Aggravated Battery (1), Residential Burglary (1), Bicycle Theft (5), Violation of an Order of Protection (1), Theft From Motor Vehicle (1), Drug Overdose (1), Battery (4), Fire Investigation (1) and Domestic Trouble (5).

S/L Comstock responded to a restaurant located in the 00 Block of West Calendar Court to take a theft report. The owner advised S/L Comstock that a review of his receipts, and a call from one of his customers revealed that one of his waitresses overcharged the customer, when she dined at the restaurant. The owner stated he provided a gift-certificate to the customer to cover the charge, terminated the employment of the waitress, and wished to have the report as a matter of record only.

Ofc Nemecek responded to a business located in the 00 Block of LaGrange Road in reference to a Disorderly Conduct complaint. A female employee at the business reported that a male entered the store and began to ask her questions that she informed him were inappropriate. The man reportedly then came within close proximity of the employee in another area of the store. The employee eventually contacted the police after the man left the store. After watching surveillance video of the man, Nemecek was able to locate him and issue a No Trespassing Notice at the complainant's request.

Ofc Rogers responded to the PD lobby in reference to a Missing Juvenile. Rogers spoke with a LaGrange woman who advised her 17-year old son was missing from her home. After leaving a message on the male's phone, he contacted his mother and advised her he had traveled to Fort Walton Beach, Florida (without permission) to visit a former girlfriend. Ofc. Rogers made arrangements through the female's parent and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department to take the male into custody until he could be picked up by his parents.

Ofc Kaiser and FTO Irizarry responded to the Village parking garage to handle a Domestic trouble complaint. Upon arrival, officers located two males who indicated they had a physical confrontation in the parking lot. The men advised the altercation occurred due to an argument they were having over their relationship. Both parties were transported to the station where they refused medical treatment. Neither party wished to sign criminal complaints and requested no further police action.

Ofc Irizarry responded to the 100 Block of North LaGrange Road for a report of Harassment via Electronic Communications. During the investigation, Irizarry spoke with two female juveniles who advised they

both received a disturbing message from a female that they know, via Snapchat. After contacting the juveniles' parents, it was determined that the females would cease contact through social media.

Ofc Rogers, along with additional LaGrange officers, responded to the 00 Block of North Edgewood in reference to a Residential Burglary. The resident reported she returned to her residence during the middle of the afternoon and eventually noticed her front door ajar. Taken from the home were several articles of jewelry along with other items. An immediate canvas of the neighborhood by police produced no suspects or witnesses. The case was turned over to Investigations.

Ofc Niewold responded to the 300 Block of North Park Road in reference to delayed Disorderly Conduct complaint. Upon arrival, Niewold located a woman who advised an adult couple approached her booth at a bake sale and began yelling racial slurs at her, and members of her organization. The couple was not located by police. The woman advised she did not wish to pursue criminal complaints.

Ofc Burrell, Ofc Kaiser and FTO Irizarry responded to the 900 Block of West 41<sup>st</sup> street for a Drug Overdose. A resident reported that he found his 31-year old son unresponsive in his bedroom, and believed he may have ingested heroin. LaGrange paramedics were able to revive the man and transport him to LaGrange Memorial Hospital for further treatment.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc Nemecek arrested a 24-year old Bellwood man on an outstanding Hillside PD Warrant for Retail Theft. Nemecek arrested the man after conducting a traffic stop in the vicinity of LaGrange Road and Goodman. The man was taken into custody, issued traffic citations, and processed on the warrant without incident.

Ofc Rogers cited a 51-year old Chicago man for Failure to Give Information and/or Render Aid (Leaving the Scene), Damage to Village Property, and additional traffic citations after LaGrange police units responded to a hit and run accident, in the vicinity of Ogden and Madison Avenues. Rogers, along with Inv Coleman, PTO Strand, and Aux Zachwieja responded to the offender's residence while conducting the investigation. The man turned himself in the next day and was cited accordingly.

Ofc Kaiser and FTO Irizarry arrested a 42-year old Chicago man for Disorderly Conduct, after officers responded to the 00 Block of South LaGrange Road to investigate a possible Luring complaint. An additional charge of Aggravated Battery to a Peace Officer was added after the man spit on a department investigator while in the police lockup facility.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The Afternoon shift completed 133 traffic contacts which included 5 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked. Officers completed 27 crash reports (1 Personal Injury) and issued 7 parking citations. Shift Officers conducted 81 Building/Business Checks and Foot Patrols.

The Afternoon shift provided security presence and crowd control during a civil demonstration and protest march involving high school aged students. The participants concluded their march in downtown LaGrange peacefully, and without incident. Law enforcement involvement was minimal.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the November 2016 Police Law Institute online training on: Abduction and Interference (Child Custody) (Visitation Rights), Crimes by Custodial Parent (Unlawful Visitation Interference), Contempt Proceedings, Child Abduction by a Non-Parent, and Temporary Restraint (Handcuffing).

S/L Comstock and Ofc Nemecek attended the 2-Day Cook County Death Investigation Seminar, Sgt. Wardlaw completed Intergovernmental Risk Management Training, Ofc Nemecek completed Cultural Competency Training, Sgt. Odom and PTO Egan completed LEADS (Less-Than Full Access) recertification. Sgt. Wardlaw and S/L Comstock attended a course on Verbal and Tactical De-escalation.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative case reports taken/followed up on this month include: Theft Over \$500.00, Well-being / Disorderly Conduct (1), Home Repair Fraud (2), Sexual Exploitation of a Child (1), Criminal Damage to Property (1), Criminal Trespass to Property (2), Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts (1), Residential Burglary (1) and Hit and Run Crash (1).

Inv. Coleman assisted the Afternoon Shift with processing a Hit and Run Crash scene. Inv. Coleman photographed the scene and collected evidence.

Inv. Uher conducted follow-up investigation into a Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts. Inv. Uher is in the process of reviewing and enhancing surveillance video in order to identify a suspect(s) and the vehicle(s) used in the commission of the crime. Case pending.

Inv. Coleman conducted follow-up investigation into a Home Repair Fraud incident. Subsequently Inv. Coleman learned of a second victim allegedly taken advantage by the same suspect. Case pending further investigation.

Inv. Coleman assisted the Afternoon Shift with processing the crime scene of a Residential Burglary. Inv. Coleman has maintained contact with the victim and obtained a detailed list of items taken during the burglary. Case pending.

Inv. Uher conducted follow-up investigation into an alleged Sexual Exploitation of a Child. Inv. Uher and Inv. Coleman attended a forensic interview of the juvenile victim along with the department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) at the All Our Children's Advocacy Center. After a thorough investigation the case was closed unfounded. A safety case plan for the family was established by DCFS.

Inv. Coleman conducted follow-up investigation into 2 Criminal Trespasses to Property incidents at the same location. After attempting to obtain surveillance video footage from the victim, Inv. Coleman learned the victim wished not to pursue the matter any further due to a minor loss. Case Closed.

Inv. Uher conducted follow-up investigation into a Theft Over \$500.00 from the LaGrange Train Depot. Inv. Uher searched the local pawn database for stolen proceeds with negative results.

Inv. Coleman conducted follow-up investigation into Criminal Damage to State Supported Property at the Village Parking Garage. After reviewing surveillance video footage Inv. Coleman was unable to obtain information leading to the positive identification of the vehicles or suspects. Case closed.

**ARREST:** Inv. Uher conducted an investigation into a subject's identity being stolen in order to obtain financial means from his bank account. After obtaining an arrest warrant Inv. Uher and Inv. Coleman located the 65 year old man from Chicago and arrested him. The offender was charged with Aggravated Identity Theft, due to the victim being over 60 years of age.

Inv. Coleman assisted the Afternoon Shift with a suspected Child Luring Incident. While checking on the offender, being held in police custody pending further investigation, the offender spit in Inv. Coleman's face. Inv. Uher prepared a Search Warrant, presented it to the Courts and obtained an order to secure a medical blood draw from the offender. Subsequently the offender was charged with Aggravated Battery and Disorderly Conduct.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** Inv. Uher assisted M.C.A.T. with a follow up Homicide Investigation in Brookfield, IL. The original incident occurred in January 2016. Working with multiple agencies not affiliated with M.C.A.T., three offenders were taken into custody over the course of a week and all were charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder.

Inv. Uher and Inv. Coleman assisted M.C.A.T. with a Homicide Investigation in Stickney, IL at the Hawthorne Race Course. In less than 12 hours, an offender was located in the Chicagoland area and taken into custody. Subsequently the offender was charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder after a thorough investigation.

Inv. Coleman and Inv. Uher attended the monthly M.C.A.T. meeting hosted by Stickney PD. Inv. Uher completed his weekly duties as School Resource Officer at LTHS.

**TRAINING:** Inv. Uher and Coleman successfully completed the November 2016 Police Law Institute online training. Inv. Uher and Inv. Coleman attended a training conference related to Illinois Association of Financial Crimes Investigators.

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Lyons Township Area Communications Center Executive Director Kim Knutsen spent the month of November working closely with vendors on the installation of dispatch equipment so that LaGrange Telecommunicators could transition into their new LTACC room the first week of December. Final consolidation with Western Springs and LaGrange Park is on schedule for March 2017.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 70 hours during the month of November. Their time was spent conducting house checks, street lights out lists and various patrol duties. They also serve as a partner to patrol officers out on the beat.

The Part-time Officers made 28 traffic contacts, which included 5 citations 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 \$11,997 in parking fines through conventional payments, on-line payments, or collection efforts.

### 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 November

November 2016	7-3 SHIFT	3-11 SHIFT	11-7 SHIFT	TOTAL
<b>Total # Of Traffic Stops</b>	6	0	1	7
<b>Stop Cards</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Verbal Warnings For Violations</b>	14	0	0	14
<b>Parking Citations</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Local Ordinance Violations</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Compliance Citations</b>	2	0	0	2
<b>State Citations</b>	3	0	0	3
<b>DWLS/DWLR/No CDL/No DL</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Warrant(s) Served</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Misdemeanor Arrests</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Felony Arrests</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Trucks Weighed-Scales</b>	3	0	0	3
<b>Overweight (axle/gross/registration)</b>	3	0	0	3
<b>Overweight Bond Amounts</b>	\$ 19,890.00	\$	\$	\$ 19,890.00
<b>Truck Inspections Conducted</b>	2	0	0	2
<b>Overlength/Overwidth/Overheight</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Safety Violations</b>	5	0	0	5
<b>Moving Violations</b>	0	0	1	1
<b>Non-Moving Violations</b>	2	0	0	2
<b>Registration Violations</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Lane Violations (La Grange Rd)</b>	0	0	1	1
<b>Outside Agency Citations/OOS</b>	0	0	0	0

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>November</b>		<b>November</b>		<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>2016</b>		<b>2015</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,494		1,376		15,888	13,967
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	76		61		653	582
FELONY ARRESTS	2		0		24	7
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	3		7		41	46
DUI ARRESTS	0		1		7	4
WARRANT ARRESTS	4		*		23	*
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	190		*		1924	*
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	29		36		484	458
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	30		34		420	630
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	117	635	86	459	6,335	6,042
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	518		373			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	0		0		18	8
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	13		8		106	50