

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Andrianna Peterson, Village Manager  
From: Kurt Bluder, Chief of Police  
Date: October 12, 2018  
Re: Monthly Report for September 2018

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Attached for your review are the general statistics for the shift activities for the month of September 2018. Besides these activities, I have included a summary of other noteworthy events.



During the first week of September, the police department conducted a traffic safety awareness campaign at the intersection of Ashland and Ogden. The police department utilized two electronic message boards at Ashland and Ogden to notify the motoring public that they can only make a right turn onto Ogden from both southbound and northbound Ashland. This change was made at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting and was done to increase safety at that intersection.

On Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, President Livingston, Trustee Lou Gale, you and I attended the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Race Unity Rally at the La Grange Village Hall. This year's theme was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. The event was well attended and very informative.

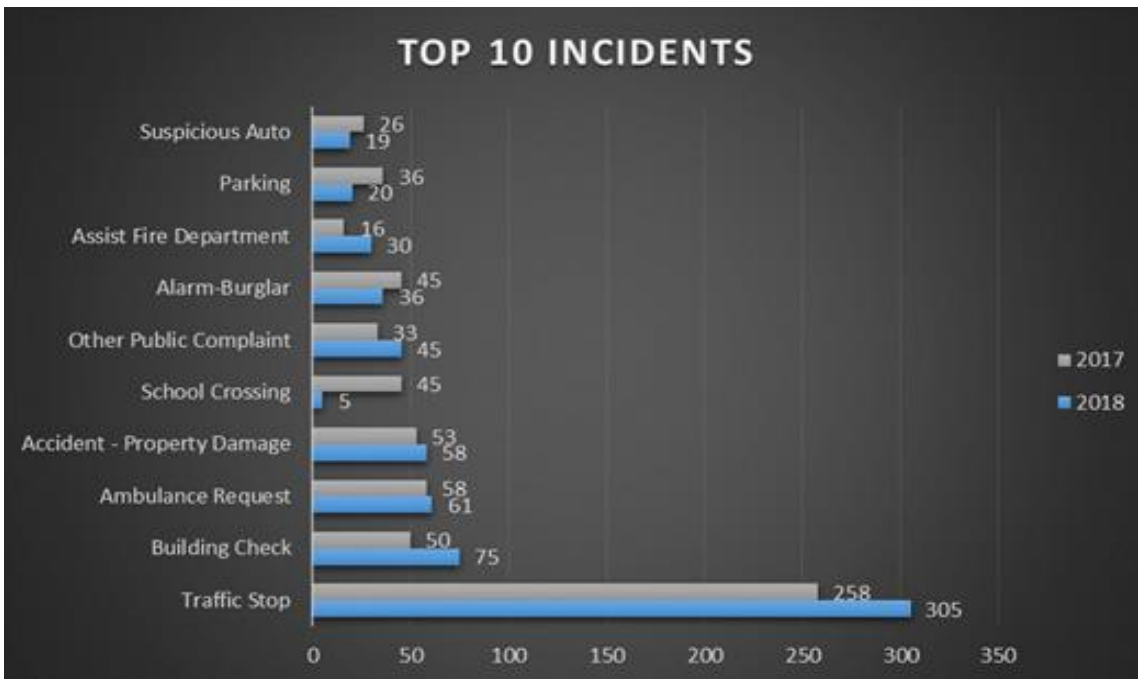
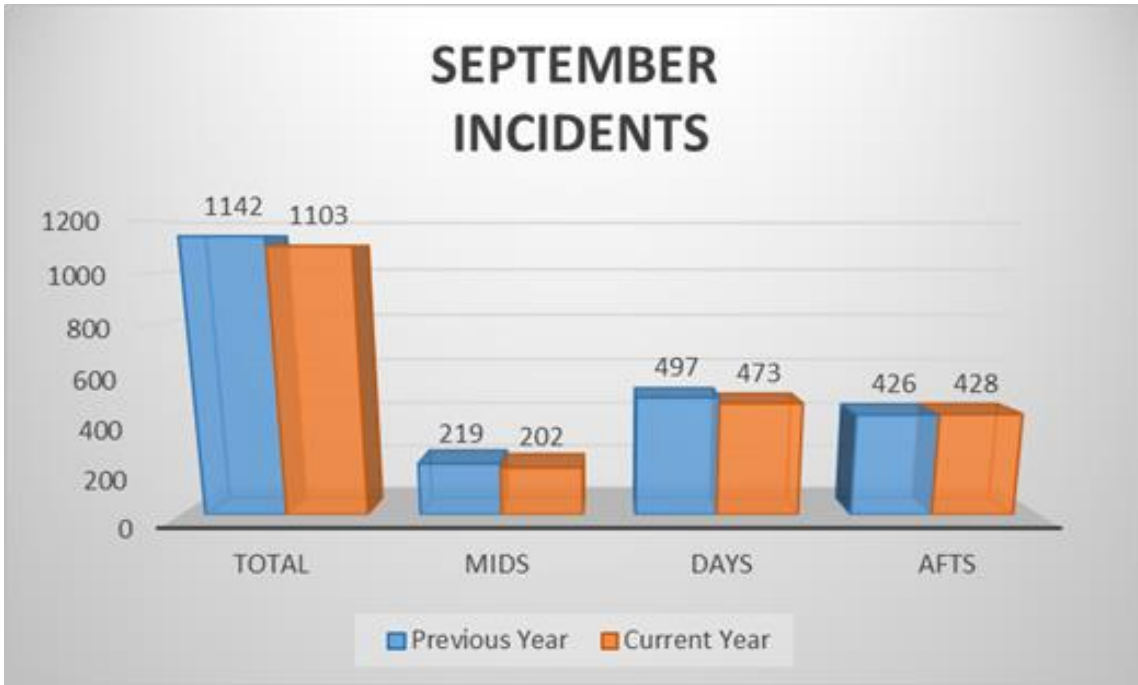
On Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, members of the La Grange Police Department and Fire Department, as well as President Tom Livingston and you attended a Patriot Day ceremony hosted by the Robert E. Coulter, Jr. American Legion Post 1941. The event was held to reflect upon the events of September 11, 2001 and to honor the almost 3,000 victims that died that day.

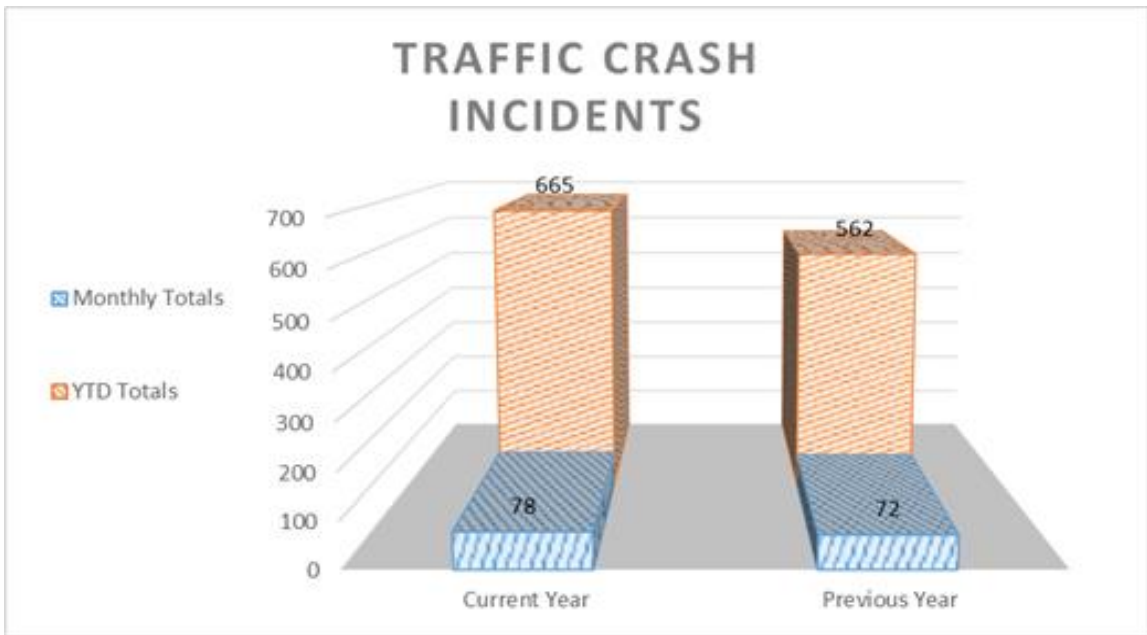
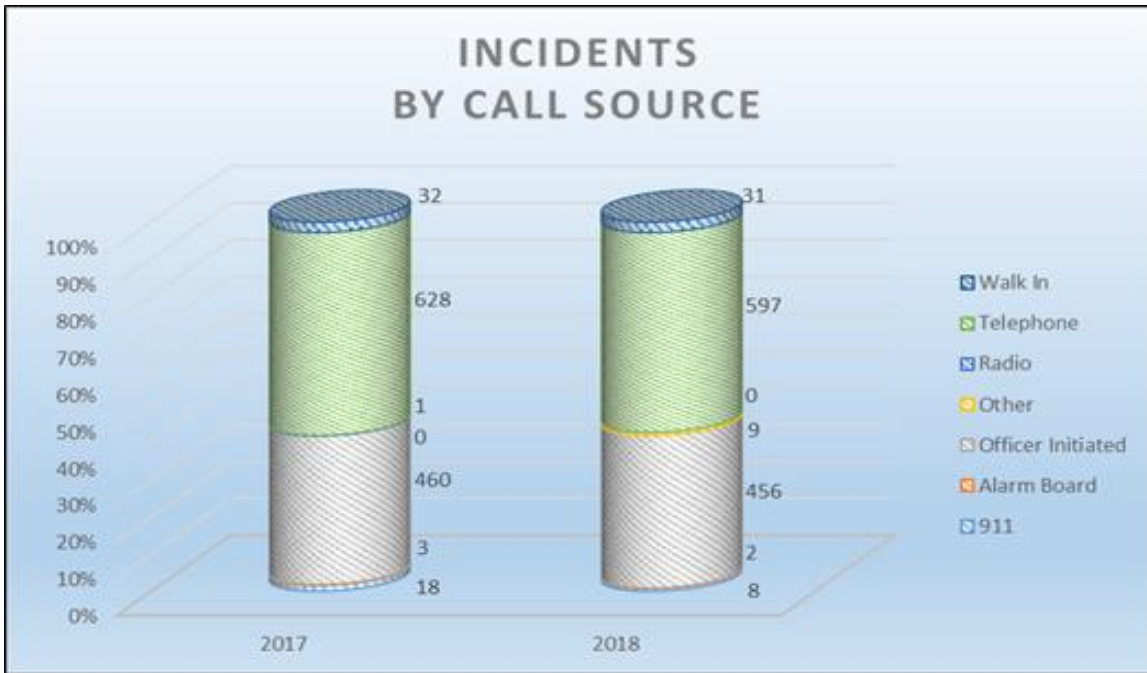


On Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, members of the La Grange Police Department conducted a Truck Enforcement Detail. The officers working the detail made 24 traffic stops, issued 14 compliance citations, 1 traffic citation and 16 verbal warnings (some stops resulted in both a citation being issued and a warning). Many of the warnings were for equipment related issues where something is very close to needing to be replaced (tires) but not at the point a citation was warranted.

On Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, the police department investigated three vehicle burglaries. Please see the attached link for the department's Crime Alert. [Car Burglary Information](#)

On Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, the police department investigated a disturbing social media post that appeared to contain a veiled threat toward Lyons Township High School. Please see the attached link to the department's News Release. [Social Media Post Information](#)





## **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Falls handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 800 block 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, where item(s) were taken from an unlocked motor vehicle.

Ofc. Falls handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 600 block 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, where unknown person(s) entered an unlocked motor vehicle. Nothing was taken from the vehicle.

Ofc. Niewold handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 900 block S. La Grange Rd., where unknown person(s) entered an unlocked motor vehicle. Nothing was taken from the vehicle.

Ofc. Niewold handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 900 block S. La Grange Rd., where item(s) were taken from an unlocked motor vehicle.

Ofc. Niewold handled a Juvenile case at LTHS, involving a student with cannabis/drug paraphernalia. The student was cited with a Civil Law Citation and turned over to his parents.

Ofc. Falls handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case in the 00 block N. Ashland, where unknown subject(s) broke the window of a motor vehicle and removed some items.

Ofc. Wolf handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle in the 00 block N. Catherine, where unknown subject(s) broke the window of a motor vehicle and removed some items.

S/L Uher conducted a traffic stop at Brainard/47<sup>th</sup>. He subsequently arrested a subject for Unlawful Possession Cannabis, No Valid D/L, and various traffic offenses. See arrests below.

### **ARRESTS:**

S/L Uher arrested Garcia, Delilah, female/35 years of age of Brookfield for DWLS and Traffic-related charges.

S/L Uher arrested Osorio, Cristian, male/20 years of age of Chicago for Unlawful Possession Cannabis (over 20g), No Valid Driver's License, and traffic-related charges.

Ofc. Falls arrested Adams, Joseph, male/20 years of age of Lyons for DWLS and traffic-related charges.

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Accidents Reports Taken = 46

Arrests = 3

Building Checks = 5

Community Contacts = 12

Foot Patrols = 38

LE Cases = 15

LE Incidents = 574

State Citations = 8

Parking Citations = 1

Compliance Citations = 46

Traffic Stops = 158

**SPECIAL DETAILS:**

On 9/7, the Day Shift participated in the Western Springs Rotary Steak Fry

On 9/8-9/9, the Day Shift and Auxiliary Unit assisted with the West End Arts Festival

On 9/9, the Day Shift assisted St. Francis School with their Homecoming Parade

On 9/9, the Day Shift participated in the St. Cletus 911 Memorial Mass

On 9/11, the Day Shift participated in a 911 Memorial Ceremony in Riverside and La Grange

On 9/14, the Day Shift Conducted a Lock Down drill at Cossitt School

On 9/22, the Day Shift assisted LTHS with their Homecoming Parade

On 9/23, the Day Shift assisted St Cletus with their Homecoming Parade

On 9/25, the Day Shift conducted a Lock Down drill at LTHS

**TRAINING:**

Ofc. Wolf and Niewold attended a NIPAS callout in Park Ridge for a protest on the Kennedy Expressway.

Ofc. Niewold attended NIPAS training

Ofc. Wolf attended a one-day Use of Force workshop

Ofc. Falls attended a one-day Crisis Communication seminar

Ofc. Falls attended a two-day Vehicle Stops course

**AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Kang, and other police units responded to the 700 block of south 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue for a Domestic Disturbance. No complaints were signed.

Ofc Piraino, along with additional police units, responded to the 300 block of S. Kensington reference a Domestic Disturbance. The male caller reported that his ex-wife spat on him and pushed him. The female denied all physical contact and advised they were only involved in a verbal altercation. Parties were separated and no complaints were signed.

Ofc. McDermott investigated a Disorderly Conduct incident after two complainants in the 00 block of S. Ashland reported receiving a suspicious letter. The letter told the subject to be careful as he may be poisoned, and that there was a large life insurance policy out, with someone wanting him dead. It is unknown who would have written the letter.

Ofc. Kang investigated a Battery after responding to the area of 48<sup>th</sup>/La Grange Rd reference a Motor Vehicle Accident. After being involved in the traffic crash, one of the involved parties punched the other. It was reported that one party was also pushed. Medical attention was refused, and the parties refused to sign complaints. Peace was restored, and a crash report was completed.

Ofc. Burrell responded to the 1000 block of W 47<sup>th</sup> St reference a Criminal Damage to Property. An exterior piece of an aluminum shed was pried away, but it did not allow access to the shed. No items were missing, and a special watch was placed on the residence.

Ofc. Irizarry investigated a Suspicious Person report that occurred in the 00 block of South 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. A juvenile was approached by an adult male asking if he would like to get into his car. The juvenile refused, and the male left the area in his vehicle. No physical contact was made, and video surveillance is pending.

S/L Wessendorf responded to the 100 block of N. La Grange Rd reference a male passed out behind the wheel of a vehicle. A male in the BP/McDonald's parking lot advised he was travelling home to Tennessee and had stopped for food and to nap. The male had admittedly been drinking the night before, and got a ride to a nearby hotel for the rest of the day. No further assistance was needed.

Ofc. Nemecek investigated the report of Burglary to Motor Vehicle that occurred in the 00 block of 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. No forced entry was made, as the doors were reportedly left unsecured. The victim reported a small amount of U.S. currency was taken from the vehicle. There was no damage to the vehicle, and there are no suspects. This case is closed.

Ofc. McDermott, along with additional police units responded to the 800 block of S. La Grange Rd. reference a Violation of an Order of Protection. The complainant's soon to be ex-husband had reportedly contacted her son (a protected party), after being served with an emergency Order of Protection. The complainant requested her husband be warned, advising no complaints to be signed. Contact was made with the offending party who advised he understood. No further assistance was needed.

Ofc. Kang responded to the 00 block of N. Madison reference an Identity Theft report. The complainant was contacted by an unknown caller claiming to be employed by Microsoft. The caller requested remote access to the complainant's computer, where access to his bank account was later gained. Transfers in the bank account were made, but no financial loss was reported. The complainant will continue to monitor his financial accounts. This case is closed.

#### **ARRESTS:**

Sgt. Wardlaw investigated a Personal Injury Traffic Crash involving an afternoon shift patrol officer in a marked squad car. An all-terrain vehicle collided with the marked squad car after disobeying a stop sign. Several attempts have been made to contact the offending motorist after his release from the hospital, with negative results. An arrest warrant is pending.

Ofc Kang arrested a 42-year old Chicago Heights female for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, and two outstanding warrants.

#### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Afternoon shift completed 105 traffic contacts, which included 2 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked. Officers completed 24 crash reports (including 4 Personal Injury), and issued 3 parking citations. Shift Officers conducted 13 Building/Business Checks and Foot Patrols.

Shift members, along with Auxiliary Patrol Officers, provided security for the West End Arts Festival.



The Shift attended fifteen Block Parties during the month, and two bike rodeos at Cossitt and Ogden Ave Schools.

### **TRAINING:**

The Afternoon Shift successfully completed the September 2018 Police Law Institute online training on: Implicit Bias, Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistics, and New Laws including Highway/Cyclist Safety, Window Obstructions, Name Change of Offenders, and EpiPen Use and Liability.

The shift also completed firearms training using the MEGGITT Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) device.

Ofc Kang attended a Procedural Justice training course at the Westmont PD.

Ofc. Irizarry attended a Crisis Communication training course at the Riverdale PD.

Ofc McDermott attended a Law Enforcement Ethics training course at the Roselle PD.

Ofc Nemecek attended an Interviews and Interrogations training course at the Northbrook PD, an Emergency Vehicle Operator Course at the Crestwood Biela Center, and the Basic 40-hour Truck Enforcement School.

Ofc Piraino attended a Death Investigation Seminar training course at the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office.

Shift officers continue to use the Frontline program for special watches and self-initiated activity.

### **MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

#### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Kaiser, Ofc. Cassiberry, Ofc. Comstock, Sgt. Rohlicek and Sgt. Ljubenko responded to the 0-50 block of N. Brainard Ave. for the domestic disturbance (verbal argument) between a female subject and her boyfriend. Peace was restored, no injuries, no complaints signed. The boyfriend left for the evening to stay with friends. Domestic violence information forms provided to the subjects.

Ofc. Comstock and Sgt. Ljubenko checked on a suspicious male subject by the La Grange Rd. train depot and discovered he was reported as a missing adult endangered subject out of Berwyn. The subject was transported to the hospital by LGFD ambulance. The subject's mother was notified and both were reunited.

Ofc. Cassiberry responded to La Grange Memorial Hospital (LMH) for the missing person report in which a male patient from Indiana left the emergency room without being discharged. The male subject was subsequently located, unharmed, in Indiana, by local police.

Ofc. Comstock, Sgt. Rohlicek and Sgt. Ljubenko investigated the theft of pallets from the Trader Joe's Grocery Store. A witness reported seeing three male subjects remove numerous pallets from

the loading dock area and place them into a U-Haul truck. The truck then headed S/B on La Grange Rd. Officers searched the area and stopped the suspected U-Haul truck near Plainfield/Ashland Ave. The witness positively identified the truck and three male occupants in a “show-up”. A search of the truck showed it contained the pallets and the three subjects were taken into custody. The store decided not to sign complaints against the subjects. The property was returned to the store and the subjects were subsequently released without charges.

Ofc. Cassiberry conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the 900 block of S.8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ofc. Nemecek and Ofc. Kaiser arrived as back-up officers. A male passenger in the vehicle was found to be in possession of a large amount of cannabis and drug paraphernalia. The male subject became an active resister before being taken into custody and transported to the P.D. Subject was complaining of mental health issues and was checked by LGFD paramedics and taken to the hospital and admitted. Once released from the hospital, subject will be charged with possession of cannabis (more than 30grams), possession of drug paraphernalia and resisting a peace officer.

#### **ARRESTS:**

Ofc. Comstock arrested a 29 year old male subject from Brookfield for D.U.I. and other traffic offenses. Subject was processed and released on bond with a return court date.

Ofc. Kaiser arrested a 45 year old male subject from La Grange for Domestic Battery. Subject was processed and transported to Bridgeview Courthouse for a bond hearing.

Ofc. Comstock arrested a 43 year old male subject from Chicago on an active Original La Grange Warrant for Forgery. Subject was processed and transported to Bridgeview Courthouse for a felony bond hearing.

Sgt. Rohlicek investigated the loud noise of squealing car tires in the Parking Garage. Skid marks were located on the garage floor surface/membrane. A 20 year old female subject from Willow Springs was cited for traffic offenses, and Damage to Village Property. Subject was released on bond with a return court date.

#### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Midnight shift completed 97 traffic contacts which included 2 misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving while License Suspended/Revoked/No Valid D/L and investigated 5 property damage traffic accidents, 2 of which were Hit and Run accidents. Shift Officers issued 45 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 74 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols. In addition, the shift also conducted traffic control operations, placement of signs and barricades, in support of the “West End Art Fair/Festival” event.

#### **TRAINING:**

The shift successfully completed the September 2018 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins.

Ofc. Cassiberry completed a Police Ethics and 2-day Vehicle Stops training courses.



Ofc. Comstock completed a 2-day Interview and Interrogations training course.

Sgt. Ljubenko completed the 5-day FBI-Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (LEEDA) Supervisor Leadership Institute (SLI) training course.

The shift also completed firearms training using the MEGGITT Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) device.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION:**

Investigative case reports taken/followed up on this month include: (2) Disorderly Conduct, (1) Personal Injury Traffic Crash, (1) Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon, (1) Suspicious Person.

Inv. Fulla and Inv. Coleman conducted follow-up investigations into a personal injury traffic crash involving a department squad and patrol officer. The offending driver was transported to the hospital, and charges are pending.

Inv. Fulla, Inv. Coleman, and SRO Andries investigated a potential threat to Lyons Township High School via Snapchat social media. The suspect was identified, and the case is pending further investigation.

### **ARREST(S) / CITATION(S):**

Inv. Coleman and Inv. Fulla conducted follow-up investigations into a Disorderly Conduct reported assigned to the Afternoon Shift. A Victim Sensitive Interview was conducted at the Children's Advocacy Center with the juvenile victim. One adult male was arrested and charged with one count of Disorderly Conduct.

Inv. Fulla conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of Sawyer. The adult male driver was subsequently found to be unlawfully in possession of a firearm. The male was charged with Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon, along with other traffic offenses.

SRO Andries issued two Cook County Civil Law Citations to a juvenile for Possession of cannabis (THC substance located in a vape pen) on school grounds.

SRO Andries issued a Local Ordinance Citations to two juveniles for Possession of Tobacco Product by a Minor.

SRO Andries assisted with a soft lock down of LT North Campus after a "Blue Point" active threat notification was received at LT South Campus. SRO Andries facilitated the lock down, and remained on-scene after the incident to assure campus safety. The "Blue Point" activation occurred in error while maintenance work was being done on the system.

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Inv. Coleman and Inv. Fulla attended "Vehicle CQB" training along with the Major Case Assistance Team (M.C.A.T.). This extensive training included tactical shooting positions and

police shootings in/around vehicles. The training emphasized problem solving and live ammunition was deployed for realistic scenarios.

Inv. Fulla and Inv. Coleman attended a meeting for the Major Case Assistance Team (M.C.A.T.).

Inv. Coleman conducted a fingerprint submission for an applicant attempting to obtain a medical cannabis license.

SRO Andries spoke to high school classes about his experience in Operation Enduring Freedom and the law enforcement hiring process.

SRO Andries participated in “Blue Point” and annual LTHS North campus Active Threat training at LTHS North campus. “Blue Point” is a new active threat school notification system for school personnel and local law enforcement.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 80 hours during the month of September. Time was spent conducting house checks, providing event security at the West End Art Festival and training.

The part-time officers completed 10 traffic contacts and issued 10 citations. The part-time officer spent time assisting with all the special events that occurred during the month of September. They were also active during the month responding to 65 calls for service in the community.

#### **PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$12,285 in parking fines through conventional payments, online payments or collection efforts.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS  
FEBRUARY 2018**

Location	Date	Time	Result		Equipment	Moving	License/Reg	Weight	Insurance	
La Grange RD	CBD									
	0 Sub-total by Area									
	Cossitt thru 47th	09/28/18	9:56	W		1				
		09/28/18	9:40	W		3		1		
		09/28/18	10:20	W		1	1	1		
		09/28/18	7:37	W		3	1			
		09/28/18	7:18	W	C	3	1			
		5 Sub-total by Area								
	Other									
		0 Sub-total by Area								
	Ogden Ave	East - La Grange RD	09/28/18	6:41	W		1			
09/28/18			1:49	W	C	4		1		
09/28/18			11:24	W	C	3		1		
09/28/18			9:22		C	1				
09/28/18			8:39		C	1	1			
09/28/18			8:04	W	C	3		1		
09/28/18			5:57	W	C	1		1		
09/28/18			8:20		C	1				
8 Sub-total by Area										
La Grange & West		09/28/18	6:33		C	2				
	09/25/18	2:22		C	2					
	2 Sub-total by Area									
Other	East Ave	09/28/18	7:29		C	2		1		
		09/28/18	9:38	W		1				
		09/28/18	9:44	W		1		1		
		09/28/18	5:19	W	C	1		1		
		09/28/18	9:38	W		Y	1	1	1	
		09/28/18	9:48	W		1		1		

	09/28/18	7:45		C		3					
	09/28/18	10:30		C		3					
	09/25/18	1:35	W			2					
	09/04/18	6:35		C			1				
	10	Sub-total by Area									
47th Street	09/28/18	9:19	W	C		2		1			
	09/28/18	1:32	W			1		1			
	2	Sub-total by Area									
Other											
	0	Sub-total by Area				48	6	13	0	0	

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

PATROL ACTIVITIES	September		September		2018	2017
	2018		2017		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,102		871		10,430	11,285
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	69		64		574	591
FELONY ARRESTS	0		0		13	7
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	2		4		23	33
DUI ARRESTS	1		1		11	10
WARRANT ARRESTS	2		3		16	17
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	191		169		1,581	1,788
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	83		43		418	451
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	65		76		561	780
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	55	502	98	581	5,114	5,178
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	447		483			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	0		1		6	36
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	12		23		132	136