

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Andrianna Peterson, Village Manager  
From: Kurt Bluder, Chief of Police  
Date: November 17, 2018  
Re: Monthly Report for October 2018

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



On Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the three Lyons Township Area Communications Center communities (La Grange, La Grange Park and Western Springs) “rolled out” the new Frontline Overnight Parking Registration software. This software allows residents to enter their own vehicle information, using the Frontline public portal, from any computer or mobile device. The news release regarding this new software can be found at [Overnight Parking Registration Information](#)

During the week of October 15<sup>th</sup>, Officers Jin Kang and Ryan Nemecek attended a 40 hour Commercial Vehicle Safety course (also known as Truck II) held at the Bloomindale Police Department. This class builds upon the lessons learned in the Basic Overweight Truck Enforcement course and the officers will be certified to enforce Illinois commercial vehicle safety regulations.

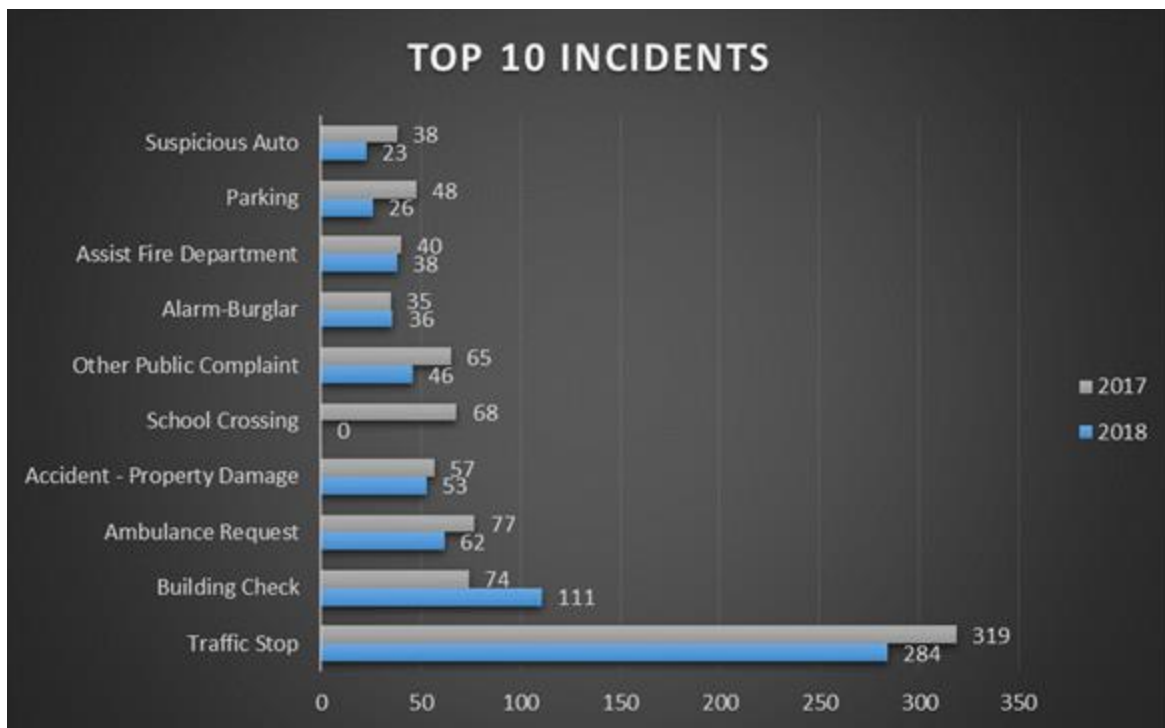
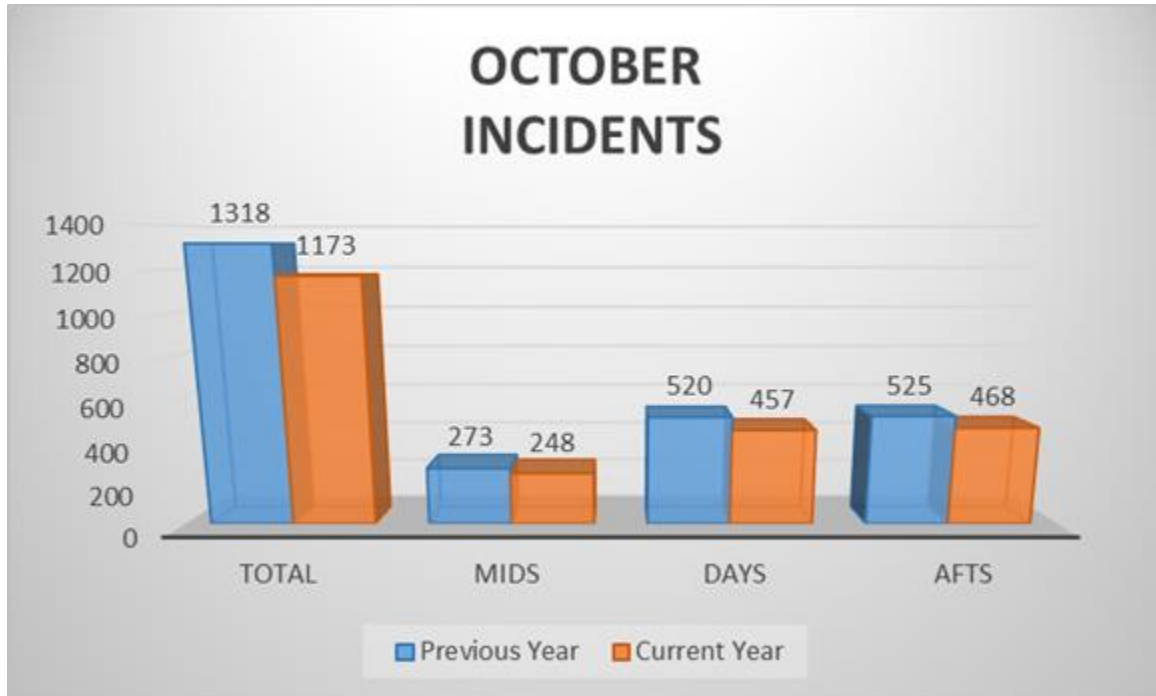
On Tuesday morning, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, several members of the police department attended a Red Ribbon Breakfast event at the Lyons Township High School North Campus. The speaker was Dr. Aaron Weiner, Director of Addiction Services at Linden Oaks Hospital. His presentation was titled, “Emerging Drug Trends in Today’s Adolescents.”

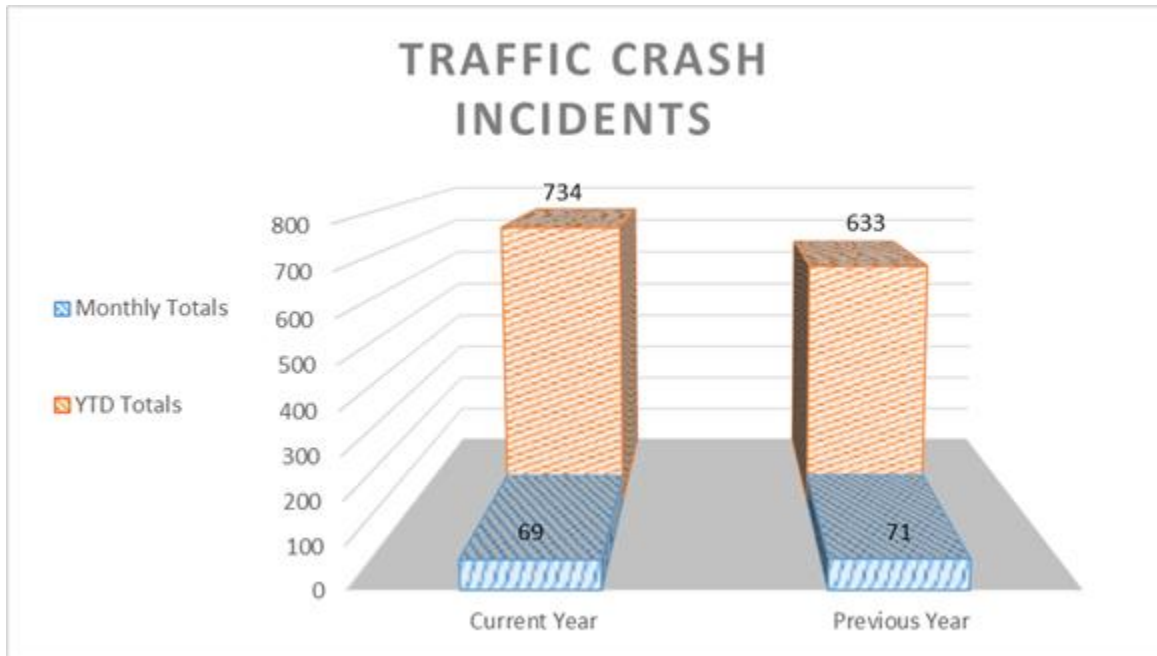
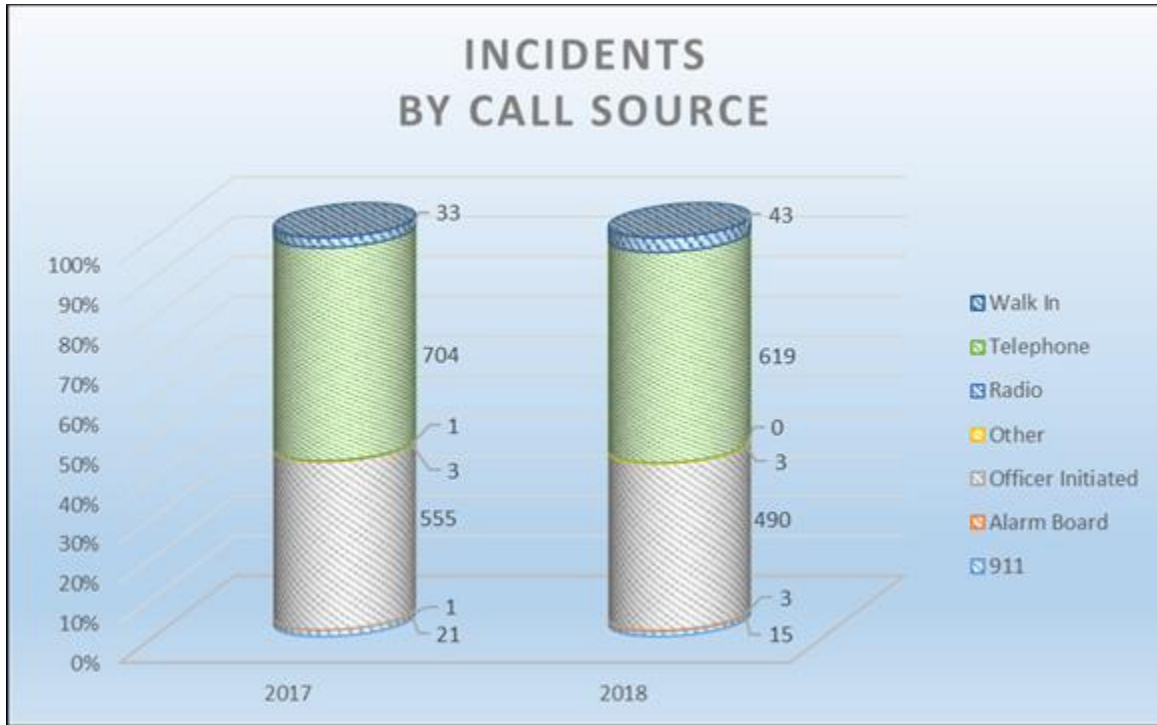


On Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> Sergeant Tom Cimbalista hosted a DEA sponsored National Prescription Drug Take Back event at the police department. The event provides for a safe, convenient and responsible means to dispose of prescription drugs. The La Grange Police Department will be submitting 304.9 pounds of drugs to be destroyed. This is similar to our spring event in which we turned in 339 pounds of prescription medication. The Rotary Club of La Grange provided volunteers to help staff and manage the event.

In continuing with the Village’s effort to improve pedestrian safety, the police department deployed its electronic message board at the intersection of Cossitt Avenue and La Grange Road during the week of October 29<sup>th</sup>. Staff provided motorists with a reminder to yield to pedestrians while turning.







## **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Officer Moncivais handled a Residential Burglary Report in the 700 block of 12<sup>th</sup> in which an offender entered a resident's home while the homeowner was distracted by another suspect (ruse burglary). The case is under investigation and there appears to be no loss at this time.

Officer Moncivais handled a Deceptive Practice/Forgery case at the police department where a subject turned in a counterfeit \$10 bill which was received in Westchester. The case was turned over to the Secret Service.

Officer Wolf handled a Criminal Damage to Property case in the 00 block of N. Brainard, where an offender threw a rock at a store window. No entry was gained to the business.

Officer Uher handled a Criminal Damage to Property case in the 100 block of W. Cossitt, where unknown subject(s) damaged flowers/pots on the property.

Officer Niewold handled a Theft case in the 00 block of S. La Grange, in which an employee retrieved images from a customer's phone which was in the business for repair. The employee had a warrant(s) for his arrest and was taken into custody.

Sgt. Cimbalista investigated an Animal Neglect case in the 500 block of S. Edgewood where a stray animal was found to be in poor health with other issues. Due to extenuating circumstances, no charges were filed in the case.

Officer Niewold handled a Burglary to Motor Vehicle in the 600 block of 9<sup>th</sup>, where unknown offenders entered an unlocked vehicle without permission from the owner. There was no loss.

### **ARRESTS:**

Officer Uher arrested John W. Kropf, male, 35 years of age, of La Grange for Unlawful Possession Cannabis and traffic-related charges.

Officer Uher arrested Robert A. Sassano, 47 years of age, of Indian Head Park for Unlawful Possession Cannabis and traffic-related charges.

Officer Uher arrested Asberto Vallapando-Gaona, 35 years of age, of Chicago for No Valid Driver's License and traffic-related charges.

Officer Wolf arrested Jorge Gomez-Patino, 43 years of age, of Chicago for No Valid Driver's License and traffic-related charges.

Officer Falls arrested Lawrence M. O'Keefe, 69 years of age, of La Grange for three outstanding Disorderly Conduct warrants.

Officer Wolf arrested Julio C. Lazala, 42 years of age, of Villa Park for DWLS and traffic-related charges.

Officer Falls arrested Jo Ann Hernandez, 47 years of age, of Lyons for No Valid Driver's License and No Valid Insurance.

Officer Niewold arrested Christopher M. Petrucci, 34 years of age, of Lyons for an outstanding Theft warrant.

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

Members of the Day Shift assisted with the Fire Department Open House

Officer Wolf attended an emergency vehicle car show in Carol Stream

The Day Shift conducted a station tour for a Cub Scout group

Officer Wolf and Niewold attended a NIPAS callout

Members of the Day Shift conducted a Lock Down drill at Ogden Avenue School

Accident reports = 36

Arrests = 8

Building Checks = 1

Foot Patrols = 49

LE cases = 12

LE Incidents = 382

Tickets = 8

Traffic Stops = 101

Parking Citations = 3

Compliance Citations = 40

#### **TRAINING:**

Officer Wolf and Moncivais trained and certified the Auxiliary Police Unit in the use of O/C spray

Officer Wolf and Niewold attended a NIPAS training

Officer Falls attended a Communications Tactics seminar

Officer Falls attended a four-day Elderly Service Officer training course

Officer Rogers attended a two-day De-escalation Tactics training

Officer Uher attended a Civil Liabilities class

Sgt. Cimbalista and Officer Wolf attended Mass Casualty Response workshop

#### **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

#### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Officer McDermott responded to the 5100 Block of S Willow Springs Road for an Aggravated Battery complaint. A female juvenile suspect reportedly kicked a nurse, while receiving treatment as a hospital patient.

Officer Nemecek responded to the 100 Block of N Kensington for a Burglary to Motor Vehicle report. Several items were taken from the victim's unlocked car including her purse and I-Phone.

Officer Burrell responded to the 600 Block of S Stone for an Identity Theft complaint. The victim advised she gave personal information to an unknown offender on-line, then was asked to purchase

and mail several gift cards. The victim advised she suffered no financial loss as a result of the event.

Officer Irizarry responded to a restaurant in the 1000 Block of S La Grange Road in reference to a Theft. The victim reported that he left his wallet on a table in the restaurant and it was subsequently taken by another patron in the restaurant.

Sergeant Odom and additional La Grange units responded to the 200 Block of Washington for a Battery report. A man reported that his ex-girlfriend punched him in the face after having an argument with her. The man reported that he did not wish to sign criminal complaints, and the case was closed.

Officer Kang responded to the 100 Block of East Avenue in reference to a Domestic Disturbance. Upon arrival, it was learned that a woman was involved in a verbal argument with her father's girlfriend's daughter. The parties were separated and peace was restored.

Officer Nemecek responded to the 300 Block of Bluff for a Missing Juvenile report. The female juvenile returned home and advised she was fine.

Officer McDermott responded to the 1000 Block of Ashland for an Identity Theft report. The victim reported that an unknown offender(s) used his identity to purchase over \$2,000 worth of furniture items. The case was closed.

#### **ARRESTS:**

Officer Nemecek cited a 19-year old La Grange Park man for Possession of Cannabis/Paraphernalia, along with additional traffic citations after Officer Nemecek observed the man have a single vehicle crash in the Village Parking Garage.

Officer Kang arrested a 25-year old La Grange Park man on an outstanding Westchester warrant for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol. The man was also found to have another outstanding DUI warrant out of Kendall County.

Officer Piraino arrested a 15-year old La Grange juvenile for Criminal Defacement of Property after police units responded to a report of a group "tagging" buildings in the area of Calendar and La Grange Road.

Officer Niewold arrested a 59-year old Bellwood man for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol after La Grange police units responded to a traffic accident in the 4700 Block of Gilbert.

Officers Nemecek and McDermott arrested a 35-year old Lyons man on an outstanding La Grange warrant for Theft.

Sergeant Odom and additional Afternoon Shift officers arrested a 35-year old La Grange man for Aggravated Assault and Resisting a Peace Officer after police units responded to a residence in the 100 Block of Sawyer Avenue for an Unwanted Subject.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Afternoon shift completed 126 traffic contacts which included 3 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, and one DUI. Officers completed 26 crash reports (2 Personal Injury). Shift Officers conducted 24 Building/Business Checks and Foot Patrols.

Officer Irizarry hosted a La Grange Cub Scout Troop for a Station Tour. Topics covered were Fingerprinting, Crime-Scene Processing, and Evidence Packaging.

**TRAINING:**

The Afternoon Shift successfully completed the May 2018 Police Law Institute online training on the Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

Officer McDermott attended a Motor Vehicle Operator Course conducted at the Crestwood Biela Center.

Officers Kang and Nemecek attended the 40-hour Truck Enforcement Level II course conducted at the Bloomingdale PD.

Officer Burrell completed the IVC Refresher course given at the Romeoville PD.

Sergeant Wardlaw attended the Risk Management and Civil Liability course conducted at the Homewood PD.

Sergeant Wardlaw and Officer Nemecek attended a Mass Casualty and Response workshop conducted at the College of DuPage (Suburban Law Enforcement Academy).

Sergeants Odom and Wardlaw attended training on Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing conducted in the department roll-call room.

**MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:**

Officer Comstock, Officer Kaiser, Squad Leader Herrera and Sergeant Rohlicek responded to and assisted La Grange Park P.D. with a rollover traffic accident near the intersection of La Grange Road and Homestead Road. They conducted traffic control operations and provided, other necessary assistance.

Officer Cassiberry met with a complainant at the P.D. to investigate an identity theft, unlawful use of debit card incident. The complainant's debit card was used without permission to make an unlawful purchase. The incident was turned over to the Investigations Division for further follow-up.

Squad Leader Herrera, Officer Kaiser, and Sergeant Rohlicek responded to investigate a commercial burglary in the 4700 block of Gilbert Ave. An offender broke a front window, entered the store and removed several cartons of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes). The incident was turned over to the Investigations Division.

Officer Comstock, Officer Burrell, Squad Leader Herrera and Sergeant Ljubenko responded to the report of hearing possible shots fired in the 800 block of Spring Ave. and 700 block of La Grange Road. After a brief investigation and interview of residents, it was determined the report of gunshots being fired was unfounded and the noise had been caused by fireworks in the area.

Squad Leader Herrera investigated a missing person incident from the 300 block of Bluff Ave. A female teenage subject had left her residence earlier the previous evening and had not returned home. The subject subsequently returned home later in the day, on her own, unharmed.

Squad Leader Herrera met with a complainant at this P.D. regarding a theft incident. The complainant's spare tire was stolen from underneath his pick-up truck, which was parked in a lot in the 300 block of W. Burlington Ave. A wire cable used to hold the tire in place was cut, and the tire was removed.

Officer Comstock responded to investigate the theft incident in the 0-100 block of S. La Grange Road. The complainant's backpack had been removed without permission from inside a business in that area.

#### **ARRESTS:**

Officer Cassiberry, Officer Comstock, Officer Kaiser, Squad Leader Herrera and Sergeant Rohlicek arrested a 22 year old male subject from La Grange Highlands for Criminal Trespass to Property and Resisting a Peace Officer. Subject was processed and released on bond with a return court date.

Officer Cassiberry and Officer Kaiser arrested a 24 year old male subject from Wheaton who had an active La Grange Warrant for D.U.I. and an active Chicago Warrant for D.U.I. Subject was processed and transported to Bridgeview Courthouse for a bond hearing.

Officer Cassiberry arrested a 24 year old male subject from Hodgkins for Possession of Cannabis (more than 30 grams), Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Resisting a Peace Officer. Subject was processed and released on bond with a return court date.

Officer Comstock arrested a 40 year old male subject from Chicago for DUI and other traffic offenses. Subject was processed and released on bond with a return court date.

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

The Midnight shift completed 87 traffic contacts which included 1 misdemeanor Traffic Arrest for Driving while License Suspended/Revoked/No Valid D/L and investigated 2 property damage traffic accidents, 1 of which was a Hit and Run accident. Shift Officers issued 182 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 109 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

#### **TRAINING:**

The shift successfully completed the October 2018 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, Officer Kaiser completed the Designer Drug



Awareness and 2-day De-Escalation Strategies training courses. Officer Cassiberry completed the Illinois Vehicle Code (IVC) Refresher training course. The shift also finished up firearms qualification training with the shotgun and patrol rifle.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

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Investigative case reports taken/followed up on this month include: (1) Personal Injury Traffic Crash, (1) Residential Burglary, (2) Theft, (1) Missing person and (1) Aggravated Arson.

Investigator Fulla and Investigator Coleman conducted follow-up investigations into a personal injury traffic crash involving a department squad and patrol officer at Washington Avenue and Calendar Avenue. Investigators attempted to locate the at-fault party with negative results and subsequently obtained an Arrest Warrant for the at-fault party. Case pending locating the offender.

Investigator Fulla assisted the Day Shift with investigating and processing a Residential Burglary scene occurring in the 700 block of S. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. Case pending.

Investigator Coleman conducted follow-up into a Theft occurring in the 1000 block of S La Grange Road. Investigator Coleman obtained surveillance video and was able to identify a suspect and vehicle. Case pending locating the suspect.

Investigator Fulla conducted follow-up into a Theft occurring in the 300 block of W Burlington Ave. Investigator Fulla is in the process of obtaining surveillance video to try and identify a suspect(s). Case pending.

SRO Andries followed-up on a missing person case where the involved party attended LTHS. SRO Andries verified the student returned home safe. Case closed.

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

Investigator Fulla and Investigator Coleman assisted the Day Shift with an Aggravated Arson occurring at Cossitt School 115 W. Cossitt Ave. The investigators coordinated with fire arson investigators to identify and collect evidence. Subsequently, an 11 year old juvenile was arrested and charged with Aggravated Arson. The juvenile was petitioned to Cook County Juvenile Court. Case closed.

SRO Andries issued two (2) Cook County Civil Law Citations to juveniles for Possession of cannabis (THC substance located in a vape pen) on school grounds.

SRO Andries issued seven (7) Local Ordinance Citations to juveniles for Possession of Tobacco Product by a Minor.

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Investigator Fulla and Investigator Coleman attended a meeting for the Major Case Assistance Team (M.C.A.T.). During the meeting they obtained technical entry training on Metra rail cars.

Investigator Fulla and Investigator Coleman assisted Brookfield PD with an M.C.A.T. activation.

SRO Andries was a co-guest speaker at a LTHS Staff Leadership meeting explaining the roles and responsibilities for School Resource Officers (SRO).

SRO Andries began teaching the DARE program for Seventh Ave Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

#### **TRAINING:**

Investigator Coleman and Investigator Fulla attended a two-day conference sponsored by the Illinois Homicide Investigators Association.

Investigator Fulla and Investigator Coleman attended Identity Theft training.

SRO Andries attended IVC refresher training.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 80.25 hours during the month of October. Time was spent conducting house checks and providing traffic control for the LGBA Halloween Walk.

The part-time officers completed 10 traffic contacts and issued 7 citations. They were also active during the month, responding to 86 calls for service in the community.

#### **PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$24,730 in parking fines through conventional payments, online payments or collection efforts.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS  
OCTOBER 2018**

Location	Date	Time	Result	Equipment	Moving	License/Reg	Weight	Insurance	
La Grange RD	CBD								
		0 Sub-total by Area							
	Cossitt thru 47th	10/03/18	6:07	W		1	2	1	
		10/04/18	3:10	W	C	3	1	1	
		2 Sub-total by Area							
	Other								
		0 Sub-total by Area							
	Ogden Ave	East - La Grange RD	10/03/18	9:40		C	1	1	
			10/23/18	4:10	W		1		
10/26/18			7:40		C	3			
3 Sub-total by Area									
La Grange & West									
		Sub-total by Area							
Other	East Ave	10/09/18	3:43		C	1	1		
		10/25/18	3:41	W			1		
		10/26/18	8:08	W		3			
		3 Sub-total by Area							
	47th Street								
		Sub-total by Area							
	Other	10/24/18	10:00		C	3	1		
		1 Sub-total by Area				16	5	4	0

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>October</b>		<b>October</b>		<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
	<b>2018</b>		<b>2017</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,172		1,290		11,602	12,575
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	62		65		636	656
FELONY ARRESTS	3		1		16	8
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	3		1		26	34
DUI ARRESTS	2		0		13	10
WARRANT ARRESTS	5		2		21	19
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	199		192		1,780	1,980
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	76		67		494	518
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	46		81		607	861
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	197	971	72	581	6,085	5,803
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	778		553			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	1		0		7	36
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	15		16		147	152