

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Andrianna Peterson, Village Manager

From: Kurt Bluder, Chief of Police

Date: February 20, 2019

Re: Monthly Report for January 2019

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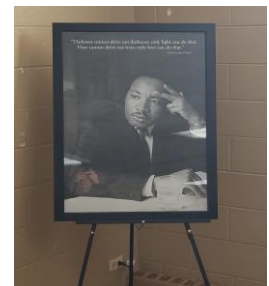
Attached for your review are the general statistics for the shift activities for the month of January 2019. The La Grange Police Department started 2019 off with a number of events and activities.

As part of the police department's "Be the Change, Travel Safe in La Grange" traffic safety campaign, the police department put out its electronic message board on Monday, January 7, 2019 at the corner of Brainard and Hillgrove reminding motorists to slow down because school is back in session (after the conclusion of Winter Break). The police department also deployed two of its electronic speed display signs on Cossitt near Cossitt School to provide motorists with their speed as the travel through the school zone. We wanted these messages to serve as a reminder for everyone to slow down and be more aware of their surroundings.



On Tuesday, January 8, 2019, Deputy Chief Peters, Sergeant Tom Cimbalista, Investigator Fulla, Investigator Coleman, Officer Falls and I attended the All Our Children's Advocacy Center Annual Meeting. Deputy Chief Peters, Officer Falls and Investigator Coleman were recognized by the Executive Director for their contributions to the mission of the Center. Deputy Chief Peters and Officer Falls were recognized for their work on the La Grange Police Department's Annual Toy Drive & Holiday Party at the Community Center. This event has been held for the past three years and all the gifts donated during this event are given to the Advocacy Center in order to provide Christmas presents to children who might not otherwise receive such gifts. Detective Coleman was recognized for his dedication, hard word and attention to detail while working with the staff at the Center.

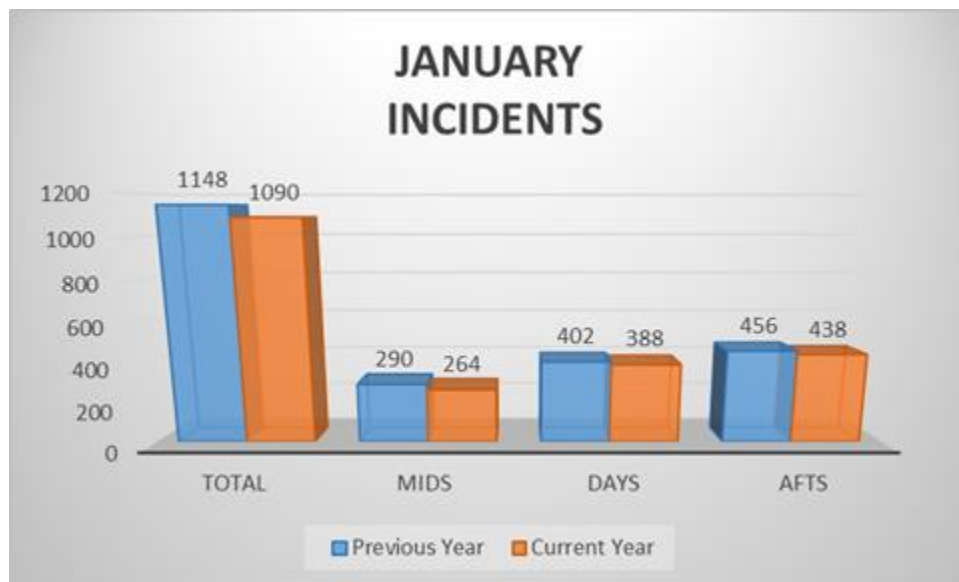
On Monday, January 21, 2019, Fire Chief Don Gay, Village President Tom Livingston, you and I attended a Community Prayer Breakfast Celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King. The event is sponsored by the Second Baptist Church, Western Star Lodge, Caring Place Foundation, the La Grange Areas NACCP and the Diversity Group. It was held at that La Grange Community Center.

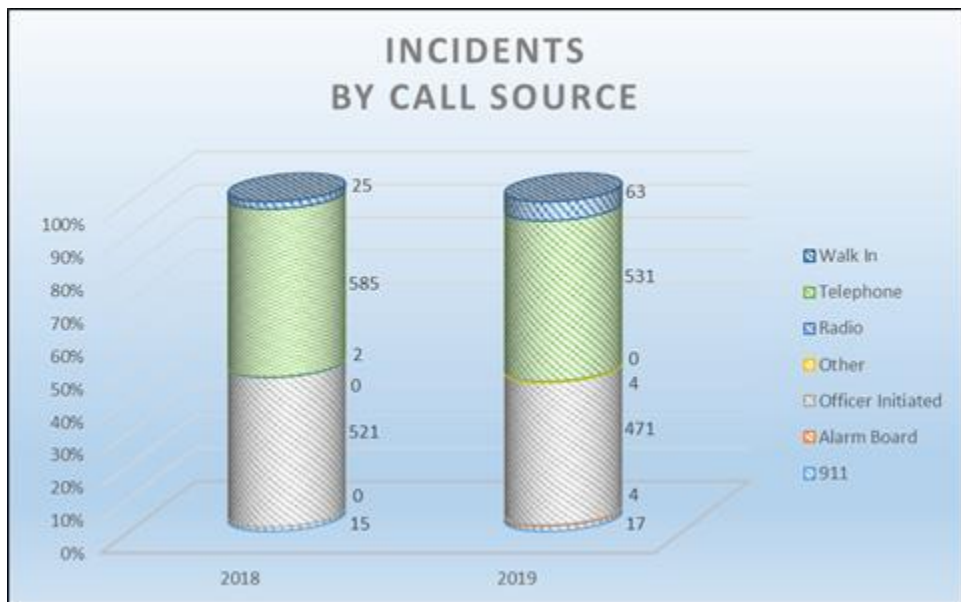
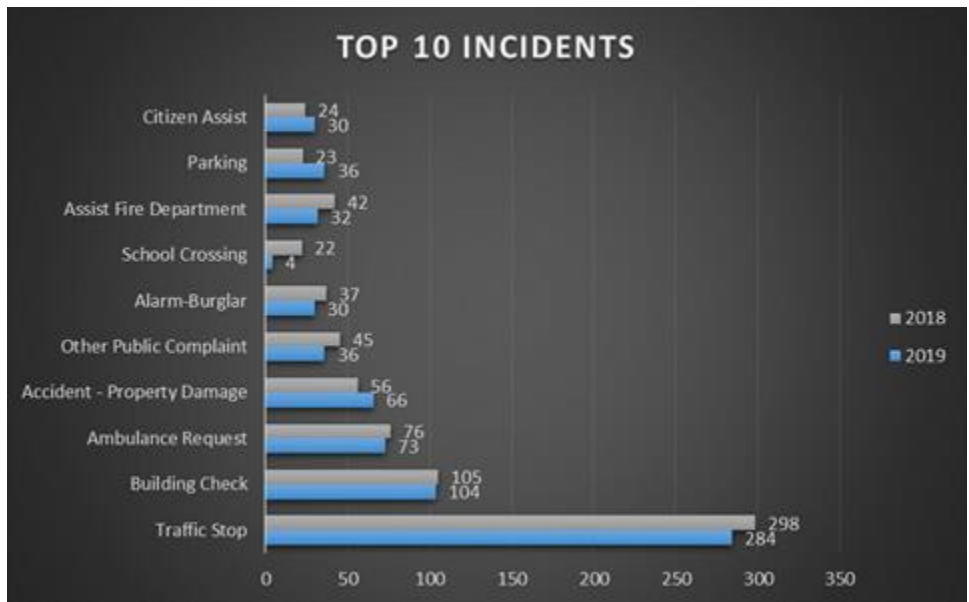


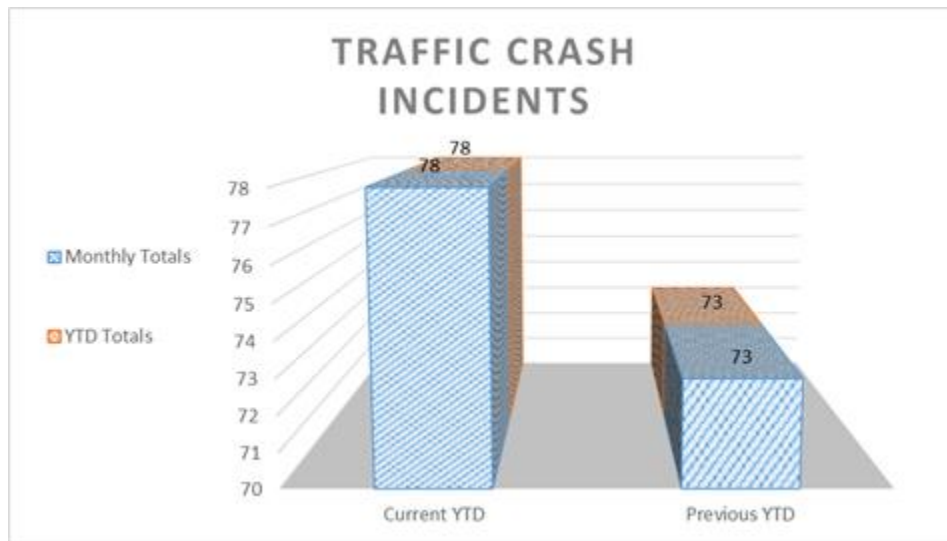


Deputy Chief Peters began attending Northwestern University’s School of Police Staff and Command on Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. Deputy Chief Peters will be attending class every two out of four weeks through May 6, 2019, for a total of ten (10) weeks of classroom instruction. This program provides upper-level college instruction in a total of 27 core blocks. The major topics of study include Leadership, Human Resources, Employee Relations, Organizational Behavior, Applied Statistics, Planning and Policy, Budgeting and Resource Allocation. This course aligns with one of the Village’s Strategic Plan goals, which is to “Develop Staff Resources” but more specifically, the supporting objective of “Organizational Development.” The class is being held at the Plainfield Police Department.

Since our current DARE Officer Tim Andries was selected as the Police Department’s first, full-time School Resource Officer this past August, we had to find someone to replace Officer Andries as the department’s D.A.R.E. Officer. An internal selection process was conducted in January and Officer Taylor Falls was chosen as the Police Department’s next D.A.R.E. Officer. Officer Falls began her two week training on Monday, February 18. Once Officer Falls’ classroom instruction is completed, she will begin working with Officer Tim Andries for the remainder of the spring semester, subsequently taking over the program.







## DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES

### INVESTIGATIONS:

Ofc. Niewold handled an Identity Theft case in the 800 block of S. Madison, where an unknown person(s) opened an account without the victim's permission. The victim did not suffer a financial loss.

Ofc. Moncivais handled a Theft case in the 500 block of East Avenue, where personal items were taken from inside the business. The case is under investigation.

Ofc. Wolf handled an Identity Theft case in the 200 block of S. Brainard, in which the victim was contacted by telephone and informed that they won the lottery. There was no financial loss in this case.

Ofc. Falls handled a Fraud case in the 5200 block of Willow Springs Rd, where an unknown person(s) attempted to use forged prescription forms to obtain medications. There was no loss in this case.

Ofc. Rogers handled an Identity Theft case in the 900 block of S. Spring, where items were shipped to the victim, which he did not order; an account was opened without his permission by an unknown person(s). The items were returned and there was no financial loss to the victim.

Ofc. Burrell handled a Theft case in the 300 block of Bluff, where personal items were taken, possibly from an associate of the victim. No charges were filed.

Ofc. Rogers handled a Commercial Burglary (no forced entry) in the 400 block of Bluff, where an ex-employee was a suspect in taking unspecified items from the business. The case is under investigation.

**ARRESTS:**

Ofc. Kaiser arrested Aristotle Galloway, male, 44 years of age, from Bellwood for DWLS and Suspended Registration

Ofc. Kaiser arrested Gildardo Rodriguez, male, 34 years of age, from La Grange for an outstanding Domestic Battery Warrant

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

LE Incidents = 463

Accident Reports Taken = 31

Traffic Stops = 70

Parking Citations Issued = 4

Compliance Citations Issued = 12

**TRAINING:**

Various members of the Day Shift attended a training provided by the Children's Advocacy Center.

Ofc. Falls and Ofc. Niewold attended a Rapid Deployment scenario-based training in Hinsdale.

Ofc. Wolf attended NIPAS training.

**AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:**

S/L Kang responded to a business in the 500 Block of S. La Grange Rd. in reference to an Identity Theft. The owner of the business reported that they had been the victim of possible Phishing Scam by an unknown offender(s). The owner reported no financial loss and the case was closed.

Ofc. Irizarry responded to the PD Lobby for a reported Threat via Social Media. Ofc. Irizarry was able to identify and contact the suspect associated with the threat, who denied any knowledge of the post on his page. The suspect was warned and the case was closed.

Ofc. McDermott, and additional La Grange police units, responded to the 00 Block of Bluff in reference to a Domestic Disturbance. A resident reported that he was pushed by his domestic partner during a verbal argument. The complainant did not wish to sign criminal complaints and agreed to leave the residence.

Ofc. Comstock responded to Amita Health Adventist Medical Center La Grange, 5100 Block of S Willow Springs Rd., in reference to a reported gunshot victim. The male reported that he suffered the injury during an incident in Orland Park. The case was turned over to the Orland Park Police Department.

Ofc. Niewold completed an accident investigation involving a police vehicle in the 200 Block of N. Catherine. The police squad suffered minor damage to the driver's side door. The driver of the offending vehicle was cited for multiple traffic violations. No injuries were reported.

Ofc. Falls responded to the PD Lobby in reference to a Disorderly Conduct complaint. A resident reported receiving harassing text messages from a former landlord. The case was turned over to Investigations for follow-up.

Ofc. Burrell responded to the 300 Block of W. Calendar Ave. in reference to a Lost Property report. A resident reported that she lost her US Passport in an unknown location. A subsequent search for the passport yielded negative reports. The incident was documented and the case was closed.

Ofc. Piraino responded to the 100 Block of W. Calendar Ave. in reference to a Disorderly Conduct complaint. A resident reported receiving several suspicious texts from a homeless man who he met in La Grange. Ofc. Piraino was able to identify the suspect.

Ofc. McDermott responded to a business in the 00 Block of S. La Grange Rd. in reference to a Theft. Upon arrival, an investigation was initiated and a suspect was identified. Upon making contact with the suspect, he agreed to make restitution. The victim was satisfied with this outcome and did not want to sign complaints.

S/L Kang responded to the 00 Block of W. Calendar Ave. in reference to a Missing Person (adult with disabilities) report. The man was located a short time later. Responding officers transported the man to the police station without further incident.

#### **ARRESTS:**

Afternoon Shift Officers, along with Investigators, participated in the arrest of a 34-year old La Grange man for Aggravated Battery to a Peace Officer. The man was taken into custody (without incident) at the Bridgeview Court House, where he had been present on another matter not related to this case.

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

The Afternoon shift completed 162 traffic contacts, which included 2 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked. Officers completed 25 crash reports (0 Personal Injury), and issued 3 parking citations. Shift Officers conducted 25 Building/Business Checks and Foot Patrols.

After the completion of applicant interviews, Ofc. Falls was selected to be the next DARE Instructor for the La Grange Police Department. She will attend training for her assignment in February 2019.

Auxiliary Ofc. Zachwieja attended the Funeral of Illinois State Police Trooper Christopher Lambert.

Sgt. Wardlaw and Ofc. Burrell celebrated their 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as sworn officers with the La Grange Police Department.

Sgt. Wardlaw conducted a quarterly meeting with the La Grange Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association.

Ofc. Piraino completed his 18-month Probationary Period with the department.

### **TRAINING:**

The Afternoon Shift successfully completed the January 2019 Police Law Institute online training on: Custodial Interrogation of Juveniles, Custodial Interrogations by School Personnel, Search and Seizure Involving Students at School.

Ofc. Piraino attended Below-100 Training at the Buffalo Grove PD.

### **MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

#### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Comstock was assigned to assist the Lyons P.D. on an MCAT callout, to execute a search warrant of a residence stemming from a shooting incident that occurred in Lyons, IL.

Ofc. Kaiser, Ofc. Comstock and Sgt. Rohlicek responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of East Ave. A male subject and his adult daughter became involved in a verbal argument. No injuries sustained, peace was restored. The male subject left the residence for the night.

Ofc. Comstock responded to the 1200 block of W. 47<sup>th</sup> St. for the missing person report. Complainant advised her adult daughter went out on a date, but did not return home. After a brief investigation the daughter was located, safe and in no danger, staying at a friend's residence in Elmwood Park.

Ofc. Piraino responded to the 5100 block of S. Willow Springs Rd. for the theft report. Complainant advised that her winter boots, jacket and purse were taken from an unlocked storage locker at work. Her purse contained a small amount of cash, driver's license and vehicle keys. No suspects in the incident.

#### **ARRESTS:**

Ofc. Comstock arrested a 32 year old male subject from Willowbrook for D.U.I. and other traffic offenses. Subject was processed and released on bond with a return court date.

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

The Midnight shift completed 98 traffic contacts which included 2 misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving while License Suspended/Revoked/No Valid D.L. and investigated 1 property damage traffic accident and 1 personal injury traffic accident. Shift Officers issued 113 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 82 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

### **TRAINING:**

The shift continued completing the 2018/2019 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, Ofc. Wolf, Ofc. Nemecek and Sgt. Rohlicek completed in-house Handcuffing/Control Tactics training with Defensive Tactics Instructor Ofc. Niewold.

## **INVESTIGATIONS ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Investigative case reports taken/followed up on this month include: Suspicious Incident (1), Identity Theft (1), Stolen Vehicle (1), Vehicle Burglary (3), and Residential Burglary (1).

Inv. Fulla conducted follow-up investigation related to a Stolen Vehicle and Vehicle Burglary occurring in the 00 block of N Drexel in May of 2018. The stolen vehicle was later recovered in Chicago in April of 2018. Evidence was submitted to the Illinois State Police Crime Laboratory for analysis. A suspect has been identified through evidence submitted and additional information is being examined.

Inv. Coleman and Inv. Fulla conducted follow-up investigation related to a Vehicle Burglary occurring in the 00 block of S La Grange Rd (fall of 2018). Investigators learned the victim may have been followed from another business in Chicago. An area in Chicago was checked for surveillance cameras with negative results. Inv. Coleman also examined evidence recovered from the victim's vehicle and determined it was not suitable for submission to the Illinois State Police Crime laboratory for further analysis.

Inv. Fulla conducted a follow-up investigation related to a Vehicle Burglary occurring in the 00 block of W Harris Ave. in March 2018. Evidence was submitted to the Illinois State Police Crime Laboratory for analysis. The laboratory advised latent print evidence submitted came back with negative results. The laboratory is still processing DNA evidence.

Inv. Fulla conducted follow-up investigation related to a Residential Burglary occurring in the 700 block of S 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. (October). The victim was distracted by an offender while unknown offenders entered the residence and removed proceeds. Inv. Fulla is in the process of identifying the offender(s) and their vehicle.

Inv. Coleman conducted an investigation into an Identity Theft occurring in the 00 block of S. La Grange Rd. A suspect was identified in the case and may be linked to additional Identity Theft cases in other suburbs. A Cook County Grand Jury Subpoena has been sought seeking additional information on bank transactions and suspect information.

### **ARRESTS:**

Inv. Coleman and Inv. Fulla assisted with locating and arresting an offender, Ramon Lacey, male, 34 years of age, wanted for battering a La Grange Police Officer and causing injury. The offender, Lacey, was later charged with one felony count of Aggravated Battery of a Peace Officer. Lacey is currently being held in Cook County Corrections with bond was set at \$50,000.

Inv. Fulla assisted the Day Shift with arresting an offender, Gildardo Rodriguez, male, 34 years of age, wanted by Hickory Hills PD for a Domestic Battery. While in custody, Inv. Fulla noted Rodriguez was overdue on his annual registration as a Youth Violent Offender. Cook County Felony review was contacted and approval was given to charge Rodriguez with one felony count of Failure to Register as a Youth Violent Offender.



SRO Andries issued (1) Local Ordinance Compliance Citation to a juvenile for Possession of Tobacco Product (Vaping Pen containing nicotine) by a Minor.

SRO Andries issued (2) Cook County Civil Citations to juveniles for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Possession of Cannabis being not more than 10 Grams.

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

Inv. Fulla and Inv. Coleman assisted Riverside PD with two separate MCAT activations related to a Home Invasion and Attempt Murder. In the attempt murder incident, an offender Nicholas M. Radkiewicz was arrested and charged.

Inv. Coleman and Inv. Fulla attended the annual end of the year Police Chief's MCAT Luncheon with Chief Bluder and Sgt. Wardlaw.

SRO Andries attended the SAVE Promise Club meeting to discuss ideas for "Say Something Week" that will be taking place the week of February 25<sup>th</sup>.

SRO Andries is working with the LTHS South campus SRO and school officials to train LTHS staff on new ALICE concepts related to Active Threat and Training Assessment for Schools.

SRO Andries completed the first semester 10 week DARE program for Seventh Avenue Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes. A total of forty-two 5<sup>th</sup> graders received their DARE certificates and DARE T-shirts.

SRO. Andries coordinated and started the second semester of the 10 week DARE program at St. Cletus, St. John's and Spring Avenue Schools.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 45 hours during the month of January. 8.5 hours were spent conducting house checks and another 8 staff hours were spent on special details.

The part-time officers completed 28 traffic contacts and issued 19 citations. They were also active during the month, responding to 98 calls for service in the community.

#### **PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$23,080 in parking fines through conventional payments, online payments or collection efforts.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS: JANUARY 2019**

	Location	Date	Time	Result	Equipment	Moving	License/Reg	Weight	Insurance
La Grange RD	CBD								
		0	Sub-total by Area						
	Cossitt thru 47th								
		0	Sub-total by Area						
	Other								
		0	Sub-total by Area						
Ogden Ave	East - La Grange RD	01/14/19	7:14	W			2		
		1	Sub-total by Area						
	La Grange & West	01/11/19	4:45		C	1	1		
		1	Sub-total by Area						
Other	East Ave								
		0	Sub-total by Area						
	47th Street								
		0	Sub-total by Area						
	Other								
		0	Sub-total by Area			1	1	2	0

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>January</b>		<b>January</b>		<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>2019</b>		<b>2018</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,090		1,148		1,090	1,148
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	61		64		61	64
FELONY ARRESTS	1		2		1	2
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	2		1		2	1
DUI ARRESTS	1		1		1	1
WARRANT ARRESTS	2		2		2	2
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	212		217		212	217
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	42		40		42	40
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	50		49		50	49
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	121	898	160	600	898	600
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	777		440			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	0		6		0	6
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	12		15		12	15