

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Andrianna Peterson, Village Manager  
From: Kurt Bluder, Chief of Police  
Date: April 17, 2020  
Re: Monthly Report for March 2020

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Attached for your review are the general statistics for the shift activities for the month of March 2020. This month was a very busy month for the Police Department. The first half of March the Police Department focused on general law enforcement activities. However, during the second half of the month, the Police Department began preparing and adapting to new procedures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Information was being disseminated quickly and changing daily.

### General Police Activities



**Illinois Truck  
Enforcement Association**  
Exceptional Authority Demands Exceptional Accountability

On Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Officer Ryan Nemecek and Sergeant Ken Uher attended the Illinois Truck Enforcement Association's Annual Conference held at the Embassy Suites in Naperville. The conference covered a myriad of topics including D.U.I. Cannabis versus D.U.I. Alcohol, the Commercial Driver's License Act, Cannabis and the CDL and local permitting of overweight and oversized vehicles.

On Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Watch Commander Steve Ljubenko, Watch Commander Rob Wardlaw, you and I attended the annual Illinois Public Employer Labor Relations Associations Annual Conference. The training included an Interest Arbitration Update, Accommodation Issues for 2020 and Beyond, Disability Pensions and PSEBA Claims, Misconduct Issues Unique to the Public Sector, New FLSA Regulations on the Public Sector Workforce and a session on contract bargaining. The training was held at Drury Lane in Oak Brook Terrace.



On Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, Watch Commander Steve Ljubenko and Deputy Chief Andy Peters attended that quarterly Terrorism Liaison Officer's Committee meeting with the FBI. The committee is comprised of at least one law enforcement officer from each of the local police departments located within the FBI Chicago Division territory. The meeting provides a venue for local law enforcement to interact with each other and with the FBI to share ideas and intelligence regarding the nation's war on terrorism as well as to discuss the counterterrorism challenges faced daily by police officers on the streets. The meeting was held at Moraine Valley Community College. The meetings rotate locations throughout the area.



On Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners appointed Casey Gomorzak to the position of Probationary Police Officer. Casey began his employment with the Police Department on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. He will be attending the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (SLEA) in Glen Ellyn once a new schedule is determined (COVID-19 pandemic). Casey has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a minor in Criminal Justice from Ball State University.

### **COVID-19 Preparations**

On Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, a two page memorandum was provided to staff discussing social distancing, ensuring officers had their respirators with them at all times and arrest procedures when dealing with someone who is ill.

On Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, a three page memorandum was provided to staff changing our call procedures (allowing phone reports), limiting traffic stops to serious violations, placing a moratorium on certain station activities (fingerprinting, station tour and ride-alongs) as well as re-emphasizing safety measures (cleaning work areas, using hand sanitizer, social distancing). We also provided each officer with an N95 respirator and protocols on when to deploy safety equipment (gloves, glasses and N95 masks).

On Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, a memorandum explaining the procedures involved with enforcing Gubernatorial Executive Orders was provided to staff. This information was the result of a teleconference with Illinois State Police Director Brendan Kelly.

Beginning Wednesday morning, March 18<sup>th</sup>, a morning briefing with LTACC Executive Director Mike O'Connor, La Grange Fire Chief Terry Vavra and myself was implemented. The purpose of this briefing is to discuss dispatching protocols and share any changes or updates with the La Grange Park and Western Springs Chiefs.

On Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, I participated in a teleconference with Illinois State Police Director regarding Executive Order 2020-10 asking people to remain at home. The teleconference provided information on the exceptions, what is considered an essential business and enforcement steps.

- Police Department personnel were provided with the Executive Order, FAQ's and a brief explanation of our role.

On Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department received disposable N95 masks and disposable gloves from Cook County Emergency Management. The request for these items had been made on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and Cook County Emergency Management was able to provide the items one week later.

On Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, staff was assigned to review a 3M training video on donning and doffing an N95 mask. The video was well done and was about four and half minutes in length.

During the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup>, Police Department staff was able to complete respiratory medical questionnaires and required physical exams in order to utilize N95 respirators.

On Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, Sergeants were provided with a memorandum explaining the procedures for complaints regarding social distancing and groups of ten or more people. The Sergeant were asked to provide that information to their shifts. A PowerPoint presentation (produced by the Illinois State Police) on the topic was provided as well.

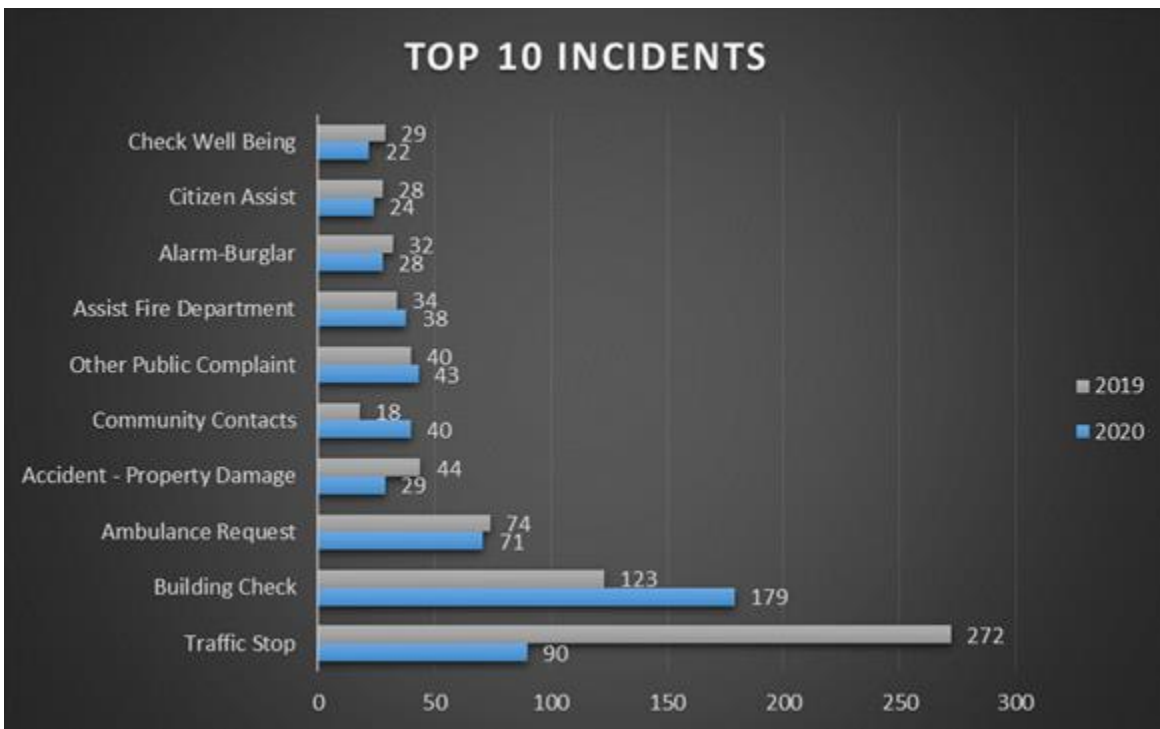
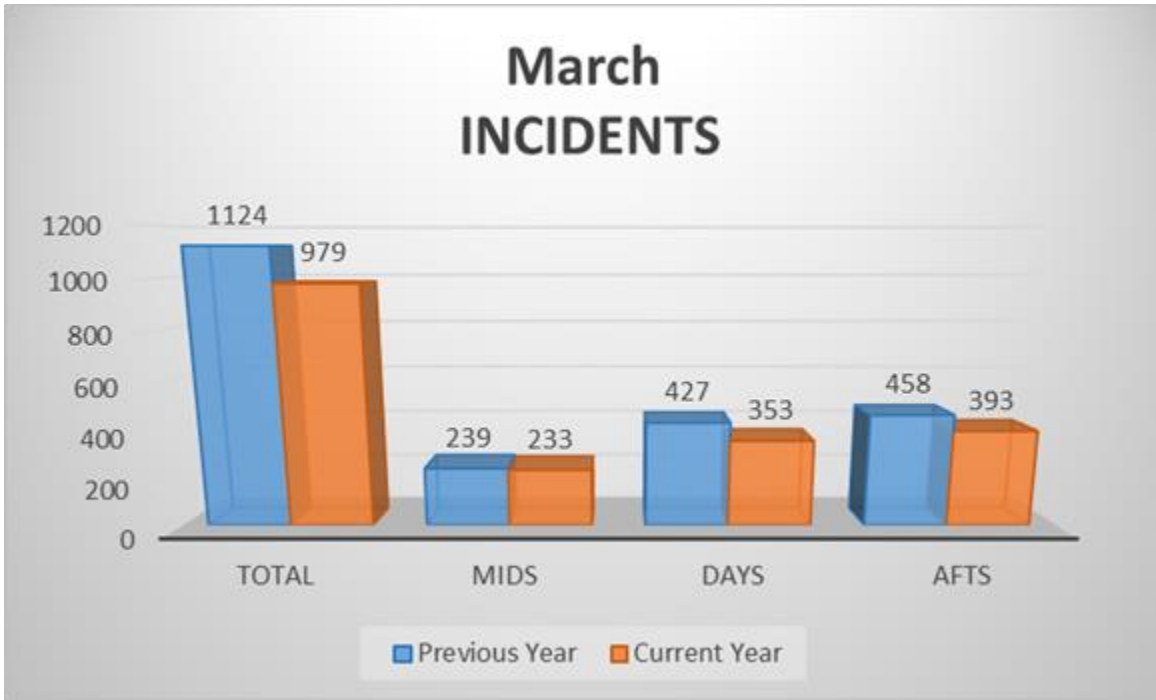
On Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, a new Roll Call procedure was implemented requiring Officers to immediately disinfect their squad car rather than report to Roll Call. Roll Call is no longer being held in a room but instead being held in a large, well-ventilated area. The purpose of this procedure is to limit contact and increase social distancing.

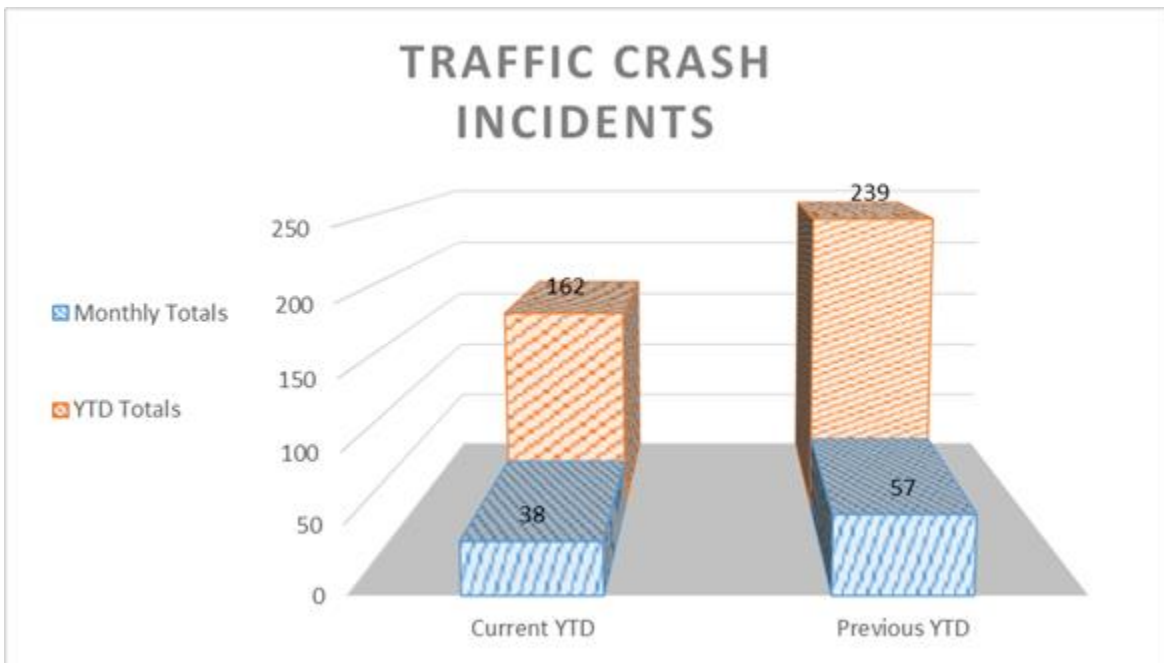
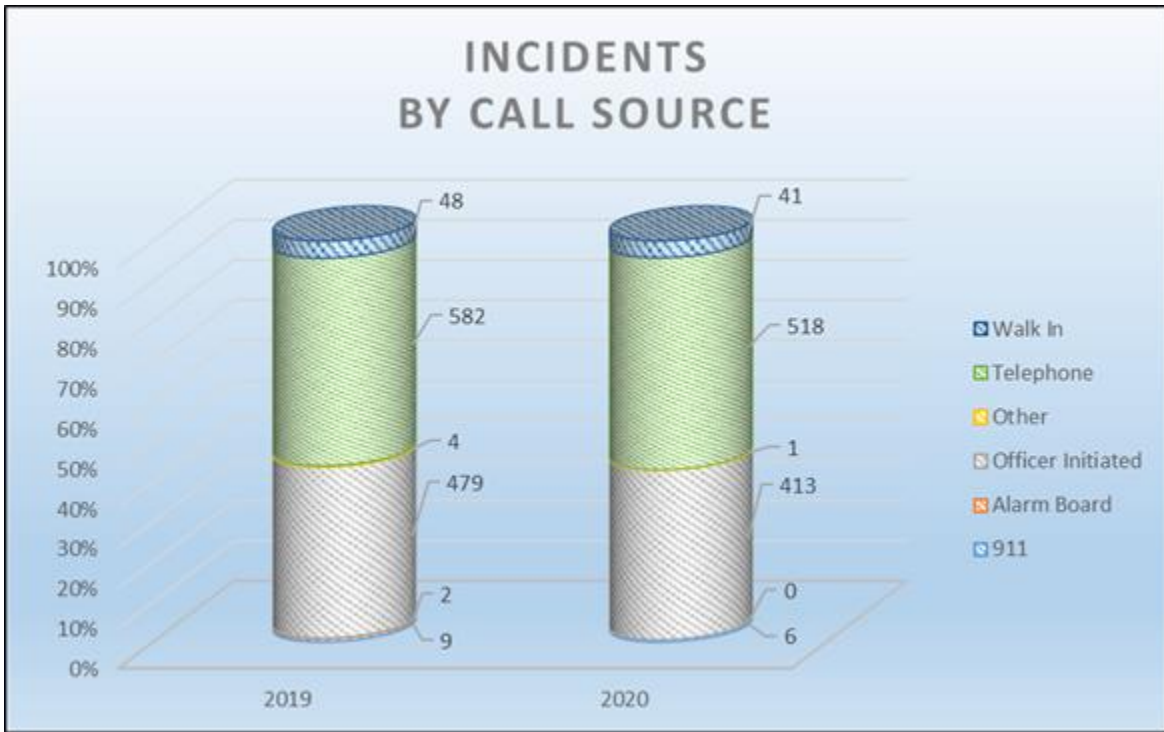
On Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, the La Grange Police Department contacted the La Grange Park District and all the schools within La Grange to ensure they were securing playground areas per the Governor's most recent Executive Order. The Park District and schools either blocked off all playground equipment with yellow caution tape or posted signage.

On Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, all staff were assigned two (2) hours of online Lexipol training regarding COVID-19 (COVID-19 and Law Enforcement, Pandemic Ready and Infectious Diseases).

On Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, an inventory of all the Police Department's Personal Protection Equipment was conducted and a shared spreadsheet was created for tracking that equipment. The spreadsheet is be used to when additional equipment is handed out and to track donations of equipment.

Staff participated in numerous webinars and teleconferences during the last two weeks of March. Supervisor staff is finding the teleconferences with the Illinois State Police Director, Brendan Kelly, very informative and beneficial. These have been occurring two to three times per week and are centering on law enforcement specific issues.





**March Training Hours**

Course Title	Officer	Start Date	End Date	Hours
Certified Trustee Training Program	Nemecek	03/02/2020	03/03/2020	16
School of Police Staff & Command	Rohlicek	03/02/2020	03/13/2020	80
Illinois Truck Enforcement Association Conf.	Nemecek	03/06/2020	03/06/2020	8
Illinois Truck Enforcement Association Conf.	Uher	03/06/2020	03/06/2020	8
IPELRA Employment Law Seminar	Bluder	03/06/2020	03/06/2020	8
IPELRA Employment Law Seminar	Ljubenko	03/06/2020	03/06/2020	8
IPELRA Employment Law Seminar	Wardlaw	03/06/2020	03/06/2020	8
TLOC	Ljubenko	03/10/2020	03/10/2020	6
TLOC	Peters	03/10/2020	03/10/2020	6
Member Orientation to IRMA	Coleman	03/12/2020	03/12/2020	4

**Total Hours: 152**

**March Case Table**

Case Date	Case Type	Case Officer	Status
03/02/2020 08:32:14	Drug Offenses	243 - Andries	Closed - Low Solvability
03/02/2020 11:34:39	Identity Theft	232 - Moncivais	Closed - Low Solvability
03/03/2020 09:18:41	Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/03/2020 09:22:02	Theft	235 - Rogers	Closed - Low Solvability
03/03/2020 13:57:22	Theft	243 - Andries	Closed Juvenile Arrest
03/03/2020 15:46:10	Identity Theft	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
03/03/2020 22:22:18	Theft	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/04/2020 00:47:26	Burglary	255 - Piraino	Pending
03/04/2020 01:30:58	Burglary	251 - Niewold	Pending
03/04/2020 01:35:59	Burglary	239 - Wolf	Pending
03/04/2020 01:37:15	Burglary	239 - Wolf	Closed - Low Solvability
03/04/2020 02:32:11	Burglary	255 - Piraino	Pending
03/04/2020 10:07:59	Suspicious Activity	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/04/2020 11:06:01	Burglary	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/04/2020 11:40:47	Burglary	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/06/2020 16:11:48	Theft	252 - Falls	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/06/2020 16:17:20	Juvenile Problems	248 - McDermott	Closed - Unfounded
03/06/2020 22:03:14	Criminal Damage	252 - Falls	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/08/2020 04:54:30	Disturbance-Domestic	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/09/2020 15:20:49	Disorderly Conduct	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/09/2020 21:00:42	Information Report	254 - Cassiberry	Pending
03/10/2020 10:36:30	Suspicious Activity	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only

Case Date	Case Type	Case Officer	Status
03/10/2020 16:05:47	Criminal Damage	248 - McDermott	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/10/2020 18:21:04	Battery	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/11/2020 14:28:13	Traffic Stop	248 - McDermott	Closed By Arrest
03/11/2020 20:29:49	Ambulance	248 - McDermott	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/11/2020 22:42:16	Battery	252 - Falls	Closed By Arrest
03/11/2020 23:33:35	Criminal Trespass	239 - Wolf	Closed By Arrest
03/12/2020 09:56:11	Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/12/2020 11:26:50	Suspicious Person	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/12/2020 18:04:25	Disturbance-Other	252 - Falls	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/13/2020 17:33:04	Battery	254 - Cassiberry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/13/2020 18:33:16	Disturbance-Domestic	252 - Falls	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/13/2020 21:58:31	Criminal Damage/Trespass	248 - McDermott	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/14/2020 04:21:24	Disturbance-Domestic	251 - Niewold	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/14/2020 10:16:52	Criminal Damage	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/15/2020 12:34:51	Disorderly Conduct	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/15/2020 21:21:40	Ambulance	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/15/2020 23:33:45	Accident-Property Damage	239 - Wolf	Closed By Arrest
03/16/2020 04:38:31	Motor Vehicle Offense	228 - Herrera	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/16/2020 10:55:22	Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/17/2020 11:12:41	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/17/2020 15:31:34	Identity Theft	254 - Cassiberry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/17/2020 16:38:05	Suspicious Activity	252 - Falls	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/19/2020 00:14:22	Deceptive Practice	251 - Niewold	Closed - Low Solvability
03/19/2020 16:37:49	Battery	248 - McDermott	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/19/2020 16:56:03	Juvenile Problems	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/20/2020 16:14:10	Disorderly Conduct	248 - McDermott	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/22/2020 11:28:48	Disorderly Conduct	232 - Moncivais	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/25/2020 15:48:08	Animal – Bite	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/26/2020 16:25:14	Ambulance	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/26/2020 21:26:39	Criminal Damage	244 - Coleman	Closed - Low Solvability
03/27/2020 07:30:49	Disturbance-Other	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/29/2020 03:11:28	Disturbance-Domestic	251 - Niewold	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/30/2020 14:20:00	Burglary	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/30/2020 18:17:26	Burglary	242 - Comstock	Closed - Low Solvability
03/30/2020 18:22:23	Burglary	252 - Falls	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/31/2020 13:30:46	Juvenile Problems	246 - Kang	Closed - Report Purposes Only
03/31/2020 17:52:11	Theft	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
03/31/2020 18:22:28	Criminal Damage	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability

## **DAYSHIFT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Nothing to report.

### **ARRESTS:**

No arrests

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The dayshift shift completed 40 traffic contacts and 18 Illinois Traffic Crash reports that were property damage only. The shift officers issued 91 parking/compliance citations for No Village Vehicle sticker, other parking violations and minor traffic violations. The officers conducted 22 community contacts with area schools, mainly as the students were arriving at school, and they conducted 30 business checks/114 foot patrols.

Officer Rogers went to St. Francis Xavier School and met with the second graders for a presentation.

Due to the restrictions with the Covid-19 and social distancing requirements, the shift members were issued proper Protective Equipment that consisted of N95 masks, glasses, and were told to use gloves in situations consistent with CDC recommendations.

During this month, shift members were visible on the main streets to deter traffic violators. They monitored parks, checking for the social distancing recommendations from CDC.

### **TRAINING:**

Sgt. Rohlicsek attended weeks five and six of the ten (10) week Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. The course is on hold until it is safe to host in-class sessions

## **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Cassiberry investigated a Domestic Battery incident that occurred in the La Grange Highlands. Ofc. Cassiberry had the Cook County Sheriffs Police meet with the victim and the case was subsequently turned over to Cook County Sheriffs Police.

Ofc. Falls investigated a delayed Burglary to Motor vehicle occurring during the overnight hours. Ofc. Falls learned the victim's vehicle was left unsecured and unknown offender(s) entered the vehicle taking unknown items. No evidence was collected and the case is closed.

Ofc. Comstock investigated a delayed Burglary to Motor Vehicle occurring during the overnight hours. Ofc. Comstock learned the victim's vehicle was left unsecured and unknown offender(s) entered the vehicle taking a GPS unit. Video of the incident was recovered from local surveillance cameras. Case turned over to the Investigations Unit.



**ARREST / CITATIONS:**

Ofc. Irizarry, assisted by Ofc. McDermott and Sgt. Coleman arrested a 22-year-old female subject from Chicago for an outstanding DuPage County warrant for failure to appear in court. The offender was detained due to her involvement in a Theft of Services incident at a local La Grange restaurant. Restitution was made to the restaurant and no charges were filed related to the Theft of Services

S/L. McDermott, assisted by Ofc. Falls and Sgt. Uher, arrested a 49-year-old male subject from Midlothian for Driving While License Suspended / Revoked after he committed a traffic violation.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Afternoon Shift Officers completed 22 initial case reports, 16 supplemental reports and 2 arrest reports.

Auxiliary Ofc. Fritsch assisted Countryside PD with their annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

**TRAINING:**

Sgt. Wardlaw attended an Employment Law Seminar hosted by IPELRA.

Sgt. Coleman attended Risk Management training hosted by IRMA.

**MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**ARRESTS:**

Ofc. Wolf and Ofc. Niewold arrested a 25-year-old male subject from La Grange for Criminal Trespass to Property. Subject was processed and transported to court for a bond hearing.

Ofc. Wolf and Ofc. Piraino arrested a 34-year-old male subject from La Grange for Driving under the Influence (D.U.I.) and other traffic offenses. Subject was involved in a traffic crash in which he struck an unoccupied parked car, planter and garbage can. Subject was processed and released on bond with a return court date.

S/L Herrera arrested a 32-year-old male subject from Chicago for Driving under the Influence (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 23 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. Shift Officers issued 44 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. The Officers also conducted 119 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

**TRAINING:**

The shift continued completing the Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, Sgt. Ljubenko attended the Illinois Public Employer Labor Relations Association (IPELRA) 2020 Public Sector Employment Law Training Seminar as well

as the quarterly FBI Terrorism Liaison Officer Committee (T.L.O.C.) training/seminar held at Moraine Valley Community College, and the shift conducted in-house training on evidence processing, collection and packaging.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTITIVITES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Inv. Kang conducted a follow-up investigation into Burglaries to Motor Vehicles. Inv. Kang processed evidence related to the burglaries. The cases are pending at this time.

Inv. Fulla attempted to locate a juvenile wanted in connection to a Robbery (Occurred 10/2019) with negative results. Inv. Fulla and Inv. Kang will attempt to locate the juvenile at a later date. Case pending.

### **ARRESTS / CITATIONS:**

SRO Andries issued 1 Civil Law Citation for Possession of Cannabis – Less than 10 grams to a juvenile LTHS student and 1 Civil Law Citation for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia to a juvenile LTHS Student. SRO Andries also issued 7 Compliance Citations to three juvenile LTHS students for Possession of Tobacco Products.

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla continued working on 4 police applicant backgrounds.

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla conducted surveillance in regards to criminal damage incidents.

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla attended an AOCAC case review.

Inv. Fulla and Inv. Kang attended the monthly MCAT meeting hosted by Riverside PD.

SRO Andries attended the IHSA Sectional basketball tournament hosted at LTHS north campus.

### **TRAINING:**

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla conducted evidence-processing training for members of the Midnight Shift.

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

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 55.25 hours during the month of February. 5.5 hours were spent conducting house checks, 11 hours on patrol and 17 hours staff hours were spent on training. The Auxiliary Officers assisted the Countryside Police Department with their annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The part-time officers responded to 32 calls for service in the community. The part-time officers' activity is lower than usual because they were assigned to the parking deck and downtown area for patrol duties. The officers were not responding to calls and were not conducting typical patrol duties.

**PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$23,315 in parking fines through conventional payments, online payments or collection efforts.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS  
MARCH 2020**

Location	Date	Time				Equipment	Moving	License/Reg	Weight	Insurance
La Grange RD	CBD	03/05/20	8:32	C	C	W	2		1	
		1 Sub-total by Area								
	Cossitt thru 47th	03/02/20	12:07	C					1	
		03/05/20	8:56	W				1		
		2 Sub-total by Area								
	Other									
		0 Sub-total by Area								
	Ogden Ave	East - La Grange RD								
0 Sub-total by Area										
La Grange & West										
		0 Sub-total by Area								
Other	East Ave									
		0 Sub-total by Area								
	47th Street									
		0 Sub-total by Area								
	Other	03/04/20	12:37	C					1	
	1 Sub-total by Area					2	1	3	0	0

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>March</b>		<b>March</b>		<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>2020</b>		<b>2019</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	957		1,123		3,470	3,176
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	32		52		136	164
FELONY ARRESTS	0		1		3	3
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	1		8		8	11
DUI ARRESTS	2		2		7	4
WARRANT ARRESTS	1		1		10	4
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	57		199		505	598
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	37		45		226	137
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	18		55		129	152
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	127	531	125	899	2,434	2,758
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	404		774			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	1		0		5	1
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	6		11		33	28

**Activity was down this month due the COVID-19 pandemic. Officers began practicing social distancing and limited contact to serious violations.**