

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Andrianna Peterson, Village Manager  
From: Kurt Bluder, Chief of Police  
Date: November 21, 2020  
Re: Monthly Report for October 2020

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Even though the country is still living through a pandemic, October seemed to be more of a standard month for the Police Department. Staff was able to attend a number of in-person trainings and continued to work on hiring. Officers continued to focus on building checks and being visible. Below is a summary of the Police Department's activity for the month of September.



On Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, interviews were conducted for the vacant Police Deputy Chief position. There were three (3) applicants. Community Development Director Charity Jones and Fire Chief Vavra assisted with the interviews. Watch Commander Dave Rohlicek was chosen from a very good group to serve as Deputy Chief for the La Grange Police Department. Deputy Chief Rohlicek was sworn in before the Village Board on Monday night, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

On Tuesday morning, October 6<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Representative-elect (IL-3<sup>rd</sup> District) Marie Newman visited the La Grange Fire and Police Departments to learn more about the issues affecting public safety. U.S. Representative-elect Newman asked some insightful questions of Fire Chief Vavra, Village President Mark Kuchler, you, and I. She was given a tour of both facilities as well as the consolidated Lyons Township Area Communications Center.



On Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, IO Solutions, out of Oak Brook, proctored the entrance exam for the position of Police Officer. We had forty-seven (47) candidates sit for the exam. An additional applicant took the exam at the Police Department on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Thirty-one (31) candidates passed the exam and were placed on the Initial Eligibility Register, which was approved by the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

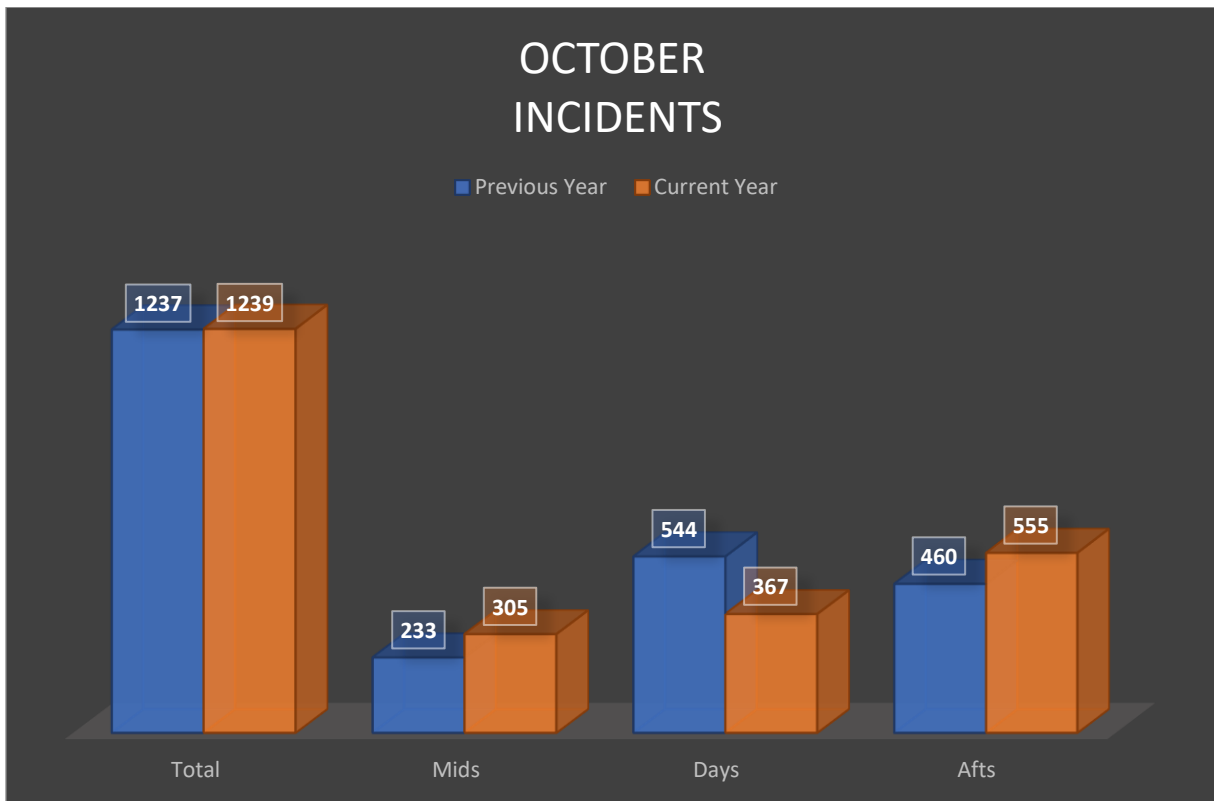


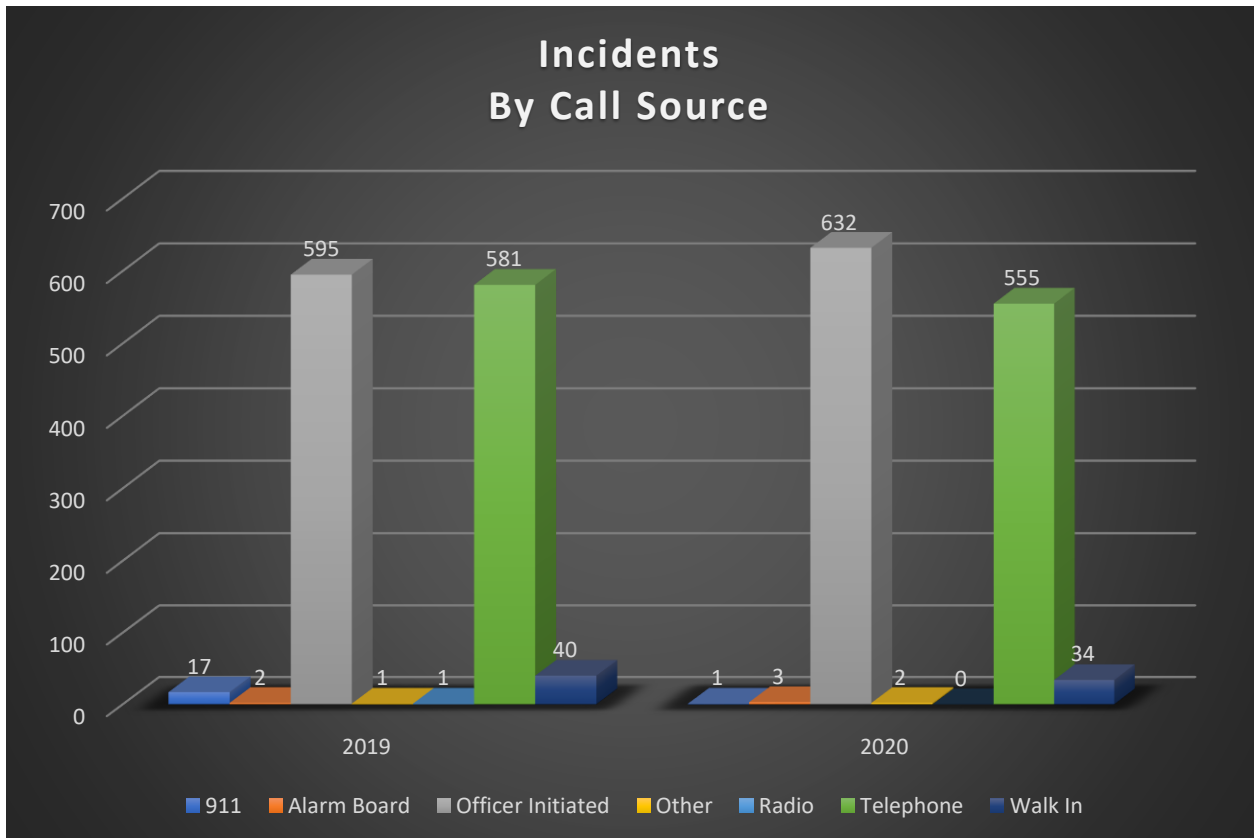
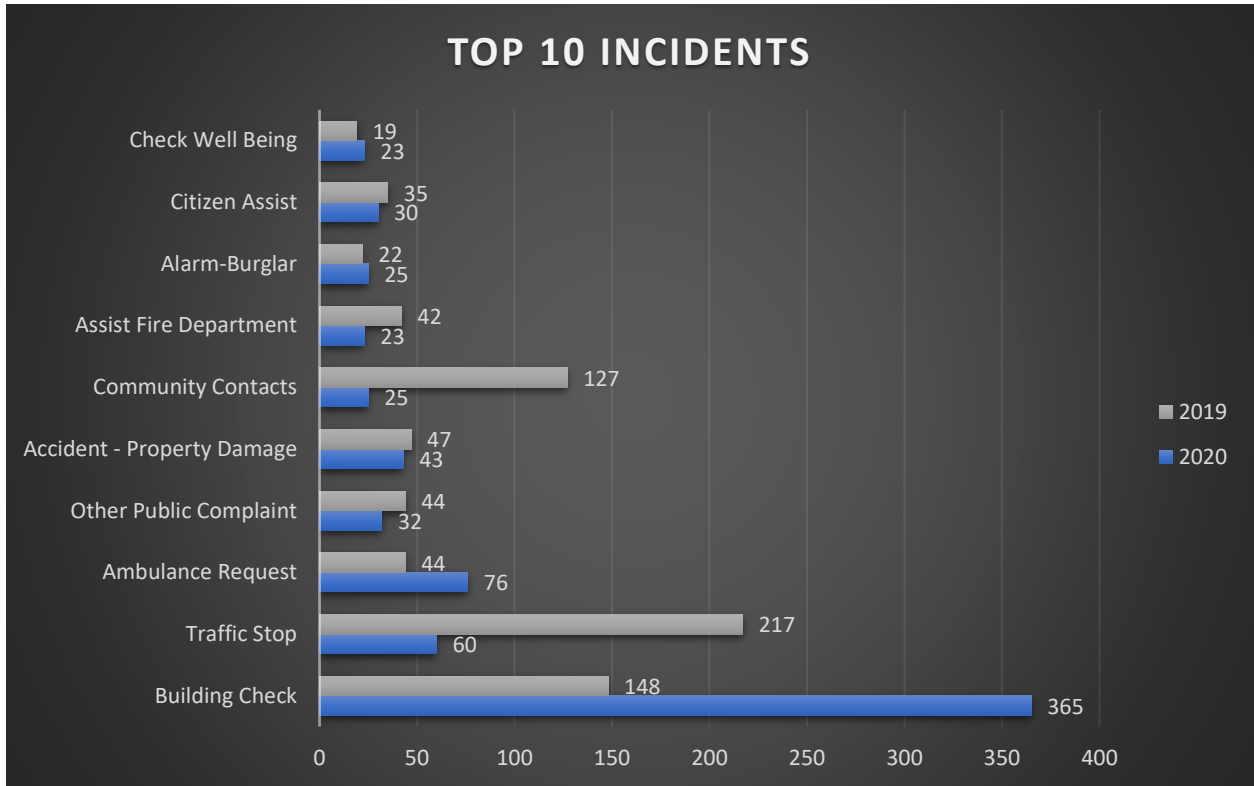
On Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, Squad Leader Laura McDermott located a vehicle at Burlington and 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. that had been reported stolen out of Countryside just minutes earlier. Squad Leader McDermott attempted to stop the vehicle but, after initially stopping, the driver fled eastbound on Ogden. The vehicle and offender were later located in Riverside. Squad Leader McDermott was able to identify the driver. The offender, Edwin Velez, was subsequently charged with Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle, Fleeing and Eluding a Police Officer, and several other charges.

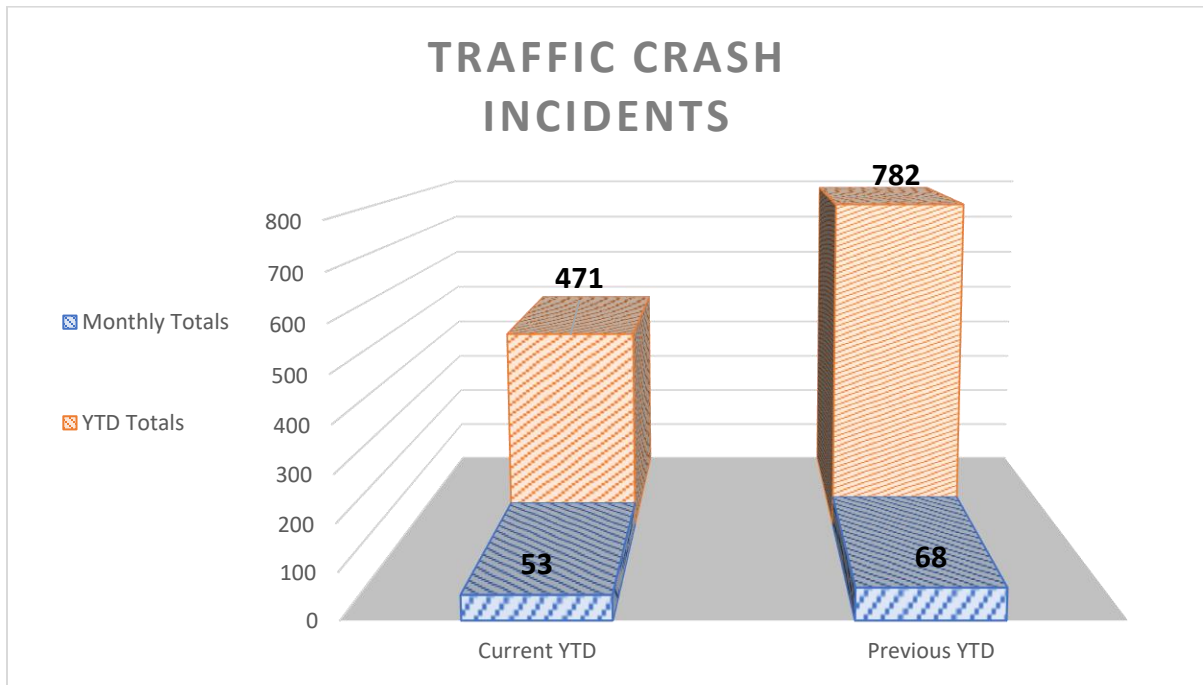


On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department hosted a Drug Take-Back event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is part of the DEA's national program, which allows residents to dispose of any unwanted, unused, or expired prescription medications in their possession. The Village posted information on its website at <https://www.lagrangeil.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=806> about this event. The La Grange Police Department would like to thank The Coalition for a Drug-Free Lyons Township and more specifically

Pablo Garcia and Beckie Anton for volunteering to staff this event. The Police Department received about 35 pounds of medications during this event but will be disposing of 717 pounds of medicine that were collected over the year.







### October Training

On Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Watch Commander Steve Ljubenko, and Sergeant Adam Coleman attended a class titled, "Incident Command for Improved Patrol." The class focused on real-life events and processes, with students being challenged to make their responses safer and more effective. Topics covered include departmental policy considerations, current case law, court-accepted practices, criminal and/or civil consequences, incident resolution strategies, related tactical readiness, and ethical decision-making concerns. The class was sponsored by NEMRT and was held at the Countryside Police Department.

On Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Squad Leader Jerry Moncivais and Investigator Fulla attended a course titled, "Beneath the Body Armor-Strengthening Identity and Wellness." The class provides attendees with an examination of critical factors that influence personal and professional wellness within the law enforcement community. Discussions focused on the challenges presented by a life spent in public service and the impact each has on an overall sense of well-being. Topics include police cultural identity and how it influences individual mindsets/behaviors, managing trauma reactions, creating a comprehensive professional identity, handling personal relationships, and practicing effective self-care. The class was sponsored by NEMRT and was held at the Oak Brook Police Department.

On Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, Investigator Jin Kang attended Recruit and Applicant Background Investigations training. Instruction included exploring an applicant's background through various sources, such as military history, online databases, and networking sites. Participants explore investigative and interviewing techniques, psychological and behavioral testing, pre-interview procedures, polygraph usage, and preparation of the final report and recommendation criteria. The class was sponsored and hosted by the Homeland Security Training Institute at the College of DuPage.

On Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Ken Uher and Officer Ryan Nemecek attended Truck Enforcement Refresher, which was held at the College of DuPage. The class is for Police Officers that have attended the 40-hour Basic Truck Enforcement course and provides a review as well as in-depth analysis of truck enforcement. Topics covered include commercial driver's license update and refresher when a CDL is needed, basic weight enforcement and exceptions, oversize/overweight permits and size law, second division vehicle registration, safety test and IFTA Laws, and impaired driving. The class was sponsored by the Homeland Security Training Institute at the College of DuPage.

On Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Officer Mike Kaiser attended Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training. This class addresses the gap in training between Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and Drug Evaluation and Classification Programs. Officers will have a broader knowledge of drug impairment indicators. With the legalization of recreational marijuana, this class has become highly sought after. The training was sponsored by NEMRT and was held at Triton College.

On Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Squad Leader Laura McDermott attended Acting Patrol Officer in Charge. The class is designed to meet the practical needs of uniformed patrol officers who have supervisory responsibilities and will challenge them to evaluate their leadership styles. The management of numerous patrol challenges is discussed and it is done in a highly interactive setting with a safe and proper response to situations being the main theme of the program. The class was sponsored by NEMRT and was held at the Darien Police Department.

On Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Squad Leader Edgar Herrera attended Body Searches from Terry Stop to Strip Searches. The class provides an in-depth analysis of fatal searching mistakes that are frequently acknowledged but seldom addressed. Topics covered include proper search methods, common search mistakes, legal doctrine pertaining to different types of searches, same-sex searches, opposite sex searches, and policy and procedure.

On Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Adam Coleman attended virtual training titled, "Lexipol Connect." This training was given by the vendor that provides our department with policies and online training. The purpose of this course is to learn more about Lexipol's policy management system, its online training component, and other digital community platforms.

Beginning Monday, October 19 through Thursday, October 22, Squad Leader Laura McDermott attended Ground Fighting Control Tactics: Instructor Development. This course is specifically designed for defensive tactics instructors and includes topics such as basic self-defense, escort

positions, weapon retention, takedowns, positional escapes, and handcuffing skills. The class was sponsored by NEMRT and was held at the Northbrook Police Department.

### October Case Table

Case Date	Case Type	Case Ofc	Status
10/01/2020 11:48:54	Ambulance	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/02/2020 15:17:05	Ambulance	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/02/2020 15:50:05	Identity Theft	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
10/04/2020 10:11:35	Burglary to Garage	232 - Moncivais	Closed – Unfounded
10/05/2020 08:04:42	Criminal Trespass	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/05/2020 13:20:41	Identity Theft	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/05/2020 13:56:27	Deceptive Practice	250 - Nemecek	Pending
10/05/2020 21:05:01	Disturbance - Domestic	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/05/2020 22:32:33	Ambulance	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/06/2020 09:01:17	Criminal Damage	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/06/2020 10:02:13	Identity Theft	255 - Piraino	Pending
10/06/2020 10:28:40	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/07/2020 15:32:14	Theft	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Low Solvability
10/07/2020 15:37:14	Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/07/2020 17:35:45	Deceptive Practice	245 - Irizarry	
10/08/2020 04:38:29	Criminal Trespass	239 - Wolf	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/08/2020 11:06:36	Criminal Damage	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Low Solvability
10/08/2020 12:14:07	Identity Theft	236 - Uher	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/09/2020 08:30:28	Motor Vehicle Theft	250 - Nemecek	Pending
10/09/2020 11:00:31	Disorderly Conduct	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/09/2020 12:05:28	Information Report	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/10/2020 08:58:05	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/11/2020 15:38:34	Criminal Damage	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
10/11/2020 18:18:52	Recovered Stolen Vehicle	248 - McDermott	Closed By Arrest
10/12/2020 00:54:34	Check Well Being	254 - Cassiberry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/12/2020 09:19:47	Criminal Damage	250 - Nemecek	Closed By Arrest
10/12/2020 11:48:35	Disorderly Conduct	236 - Uher	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/12/2020 18:30:37	Traffic Stop	252 - Falls	Closed By Arrest
10/13/2020 09:20:16	Ambulance	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/13/2020 17:38:17	Information Report	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/13/2020 19:14:21	Disturbance - Domestic	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/15/2020 04:17:59	Criminal Trespass	228 - Herrera	Closed - Low Solvability
10/15/2020 11:23:34	Suspicious Activity	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/15/2020 11:31:49	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/15/2020 12:56:03	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/15/2020 20:52:45	Criminal Damage	245 - Irizarry	Closed Juvenile Arrest
10/16/2020 10:57:34	Identity Theft	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/16/2020 13:05:38	Ambulance	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only

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10/17/2020 11:09:07	Criminal Damage	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Low Solvability
10/18/2020 16:08:37	Theft	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Low Solvability
10/19/2020 10:47:30	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/19/2020 18:48:24	Criminal Trespass	252 - Falls	Closed - Low Solvability
10/19/2020 23:59:24	Criminal Damage	251 - Niewold	Closed - Low Solvability
10/20/2020 15:16:11	Identity Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/21/2020 03:06:48	Recovered Stolen Vehicle	254 - Cassiberry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/21/2020 16:35:03	Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/22/2020 01:32:48	Committal - Involuntary	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/22/2020 03:20:53	Criminal Trespass	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/22/2020 12:02:26	Disorderly Conduct	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Unfounded
10/22/2020 15:33:41	Customer Management Dispute	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/24/2020 09:44:07	Disturbance - Domestic	232 - Moncivais	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/26/2020 11:10:52	Theft	243 - Andries	
10/26/2020 11:25:06	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/26/2020 15:01:23	Theft	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
10/27/2020 15:30:09	Identity Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/27/2020 16:34:54	Identity Theft	253 - Kaiser	Pending
10/28/2020 08:35:09	Identity Theft	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/28/2020 11:44:11	Property - Lost Articles	243 - Andries	Closed - Low Solvability
10/28/2020 19:53:49	Deceptive Practice	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/28/2020 21:28:14	Theft	242 - Comstock	Closed - Low Solvability
10/28/2020 22:22:14	Death Investigation	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/29/2020 08:36:28	Suspicious Person	254 - Cassiberry	Closed By Arrest
10/29/2020 09:00:07	Identity Theft	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/29/2020 10:25:21	Identity Theft	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/29/2020 13:34:58	Disturbance - Other	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/29/2020 15:15:09	Identity Theft	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
10/30/2020 06:35:05	Death Investigation	254 - Cassiberry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/30/2020 08:38:17	Identity Theft	243 - Andries	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/30/2020 09:26:30	Disturbance - Domestic	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/30/2020 09:04:48	Identity Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/30/2020 12:51:48	Identity Theft	243 - Andries	Closed - Low Solvability
10/30/2020 14:17:26	Identity Theft	235 - Rogers	Closed - Low Solvability
10/30/2020 14:55:18	Identity Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
10/30/2020 17:24:00	Battery	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Low Solvability
10/30/2020 17:26:39	Disorderly Conduct	242 - Comstock	Closed - Low Solvability
10/30/2020 19:10:07	Assist Other Agency	245 - Irizarry	TOT Other Agency
10/31/2020 13:43:19	Disorderly Conduct	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only

## **DAYSHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **ARRESTS:**

Andres Fierro-Lopez (26 YOA), of Chicago, IL was charged with operating a vehicle with no valid license and no insurance following a call of a suspicious person.

Karolina Borczyk (18 YOA), of Burbank, IL was cited on a Village Ordinance with damage to Village property after putting soap in the Village Fountain.

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Dayshift shift completed 36 traffic contacts during October of 2020. Shift Officers completed 31 Illinois Traffic Crash reports. The Officers also issued 78 parking/compliance citations for equipment and other parking violations. Additionally, as a shift, the Officers conducted 60 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

### **TRAINING:**

Sgt Uher and Officer Nemecek attended Truck Enforcement Refresher Training

S/L Moncivais, Officer Rogers, and Officer Nemecek attended range training in Lemont

Lexipol DTB's and Illinois Police Law completed

## **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Kaiser, along with, Ofc. Comstock, S/L McDermott, Ofc. Falls, Ofc. Andries, S/L Herrera, and Sgt. Coleman responded to a residence where an earlier Domestic Disturbance occurred for a suicidal subject. The suicidal subject was located, detained, and medical services were called for proper evaluation and treatment. The subject was then transported to a local medical facility for further treatment. Case closed.

### **ARREST / CITATIONS:**

Ofc. Irizarry, assisted by Ofc. Falls, arrested a 16-year-old juvenile from Palos Heights and a 16-year-old juvenile from Burbank for Damage to Village Property (Village Fountain). The juveniles were placed on Informal Station Adjustments.

Ofc. Falls arrested a 19-year-old Chicago male for No Valid Driver's License and Failure to Yield to a Pedestrian in a Crosswalk. The subject was bonded out and issued a court date.

S/L McDermott, assisted by Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla, completed an investigation into possession of a stolen motor vehicle incident originally occurring in Countryside, IL. A 30-year-old Lyons male was arrested and charged with one count of Possession of Stolen Auto, Fleeing and Eluding a Police Officer, Driving While License Suspended, and several traffic violations. The offender was transported to the Cook County Jail for a bond hearing.



Ofc. Irizarry, assisted by Ofc. Falls, Ofc. Kaiser, and Sgt. Wardlaw, arrested a 42-year-old La Grange, IL man for Battery. The subject bonded out and was issued a court date.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Afternoon Shift Officers responded to 555 calls for service, completed 174 building checks, 111 special watches, 34 initial case reports, 8 supplement reports, and 5 arrest reports.

**TRAINING:**

Sgt. Coleman attended training related to Incident Command for Improved Patrol.

S/L McDermott attended training related to Acting Patrol Officer In Charge.

Ofc. Falls Attended training related to (ARIDE) Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement.

S/L McDermott attended training related to Ground Fighting Control Tactics Instructor Development.

**MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**ARRESTS:**

N/A

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Midnight shift completed 11 traffic contacts and investigated 3 property damage traffic accidents. Shift Officers issued 73 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. The Officers also conducted 199 Building/Business/Special Watch Premise Checks and Foot Patrols. In addition, Ofc. Wolf served as an instructor for the firearms training exercise with patrol rifle and pistol, conducted for Department Officers at the Lemont P.D. outdoor firearms range. Ofc. Niewold, as a member of the NIPAS Mobile Field Force, responded to multiple call outs to assist the Evanston P.D. and Waukegan P.D. with citizen protests/demonstrations, which occurred in their communities.

**TRAINING:**

The shift continued completing the monthly Police Law Institute online training lessons, along with the monthly Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, Sgt. Ljubenko attended the 3-day IPPFA Public Pension Trustee Training Conference conducted in Naperville, completed the Incident Command for Improved Patrol training course and firearms training with patrol rifle and pistol at the outdoor range in Lemont. S/L Herrera completed the Body Searches from Terry Stops to Arrests training course. Ofc. Niewold attended NIPAS Mobile Field Force (MFF) team training.

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Inv. Fulla and Inv. Kang processed a recovered stolen vehicle that was found in Chicago. The vehicle had been previously taken from La Grange. Evidence was collected and will be evaluated to determine if it is suitable for submissions to the Illinois State Police Crime Laboratory for analysis. Case pending.

### **ARREST / CITATIONS:**

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla assisted S/L McDermott with an investigation into the possession of a stolen motor vehicle incident originally occurring in Countryside, IL. A 30-year-old Lyons male was arrested and charged with one count of Possession of Stolen Auto, Fleeing and Eluding a Police Officer, Driving While License Suspended, and several traffic violations. The offender was transported to the Cook County Jail for a bond hearing.

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Inv. Kang attended a two-day training on Recruit and Applicant Background Investigations.

Inv. Fulla attended a one-day training on Beneath the Body Armor.

Inv. Kang assisted Niles PD with a Korean translation in reference to a Battery investigation.

Inv. Kang attended training at the Lemont PD outdoor firing range during a combined firearms training exercise with other members of La Grange PD and La Grange Park PD.

Inv. Kang completed several backgrounds for Village Liquor License Applicants.

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

The Auxiliary Unit worked on 3 events during the month of October. They worked a lower amount due to the COVID-19 pandemic so the Police Department does not have anything to report related to their activities.

The part-time officers responded to 48 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.

### **PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$10,585 in parking fines through conventional payments, online payments, or collection efforts.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS  
October 2020**

Location	Date	Time	Result			Equipment	Moving	License/Reg	Weight	Insurance	
La Grange Rd	CBD	10/22/20	5:23	W			1				
		10/22/20	14:14	C			1				
		10/01/20	9:26	C	C	W	2		2		
				W							
		10/22/20	6:35	W				1			
		4	Sub-total by Area								
	Cossitt thru 47th	10/22/20	5:49	W	W			2			
		10/22/20	6:23	W				1			
		10/28/20	11:19	C	C		1	1			
			3	Sub-total by Area							
	Other	10/26/20	9:20	Y	Y	Y	1		3		
				Y							
			1	Sub-total by Area							
		10/19/20	10:46	C	C	C	6				
				C	W	W					
			1	Sub-total by Area							
	La Grange & West	10/12/20	9:02	C	W	W	1		2		
		1	Sub-total by Area								
Other	East Ave	10/22/20	8:47	C	C	W	3		2		
				W	W						
		1	Sub-total by Area								
		Sub-total by Area				15	6	9	0	0	

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

PATROL ACTIVITIES	October		October		2020	2019
	2020		2019		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,225		1,235		11,266	11,897
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	42		58		387	604
FELONY ARRESTS	0		0		5	8
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	3		4		29	33
DUI ARRESTS	0		2		9	11
WARRANT ARRESTS	0		0		11	14
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	35		169		701	1,912
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	27		30		369	497
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	35		38		271	496
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	117	490	140	1,058	4,498	8,890
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	373		918			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	2		0		11	6
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	3		6		64	80

**Some activity was down this month due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Officers have increased some self-initiated activity but are still practicing social distancing when possible and are minimizing contact/interaction with the general public.**