

LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum



To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager

From: Michael A. Holub, Chief of Police

Date: July 17, 2013

Re: Monthly Report for June 2013

June 2013 began with the 67th Annual Pet Parade. We had far fewer volunteers from outside communities, causing us to mandate that our officers the event. However, the Parade began with a tribute to first responders, including Army Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Fonseca and our police and fire personnel. This included the singing of our National Anthem by Jim Cornelison, the inspiring anthem singer for the 2013 Stanley Cup Champion Chicago Blackhawks.



MIDNIGHT ACTIVITIES

As with all of the shifts, the Midnight Shift operated for almost the entire month at minimum staffing. This was due to vacations, military commitments and sick leave. This left little time for self directed patrol.

- Ofc. Timothy Andries, who holds military rank of Captain, was gone for over two weeks as he completed his annual training drills with the Army Reserves at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin. He commanded HHC 330th Medical Brigade during the annual training.
- On the evening before the Annual Pet Parade, Ofc. Rogers spotted two intoxicated subjects attempting to remove the American Flag from in front of the Village Hall. Investigation determined the two subjects were veterans and not going to steal the flag.
- Ofc. Wolf arrested a woman for driving under the influence of intoxicant (DUI). As Ofc. Wolf stopped the vehicle the driver put her car in reverse and backed into the squad car. No injuries occurred and the damage was minimal, however citations were issued for that collision as well as for the DUI.
- Ofc. Wolf observed a convertible vehicle with its top down parked in the Central Business District (CBD). Inside he observed what appeared to be two long guns in plain view unsecured. He located the occupants of the vehicle and the owners of the weapons. They were three juveniles and we found the guns to be paintballs guns. The three were instructed about the weapons and were warned about the appearance.
- The Lyons P.D. picked up a subject wanted for investigation by our department. Previous to that we had sent out a wanted flyer looking for a suspect in a criminal trespass case. Ofc. Herrera and Ofc. Andries interviewed the suspect who denied any involvement, then asked for a lawyer. Due to lack of evidence the subject had to be released without charges. The case remains open.
- The shift completed 5 investigative case files, 4 criminal damage to property reports and 1 missing person case.

DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES

Criminal Cases handled on the Day Shift include:

- Ofc. Pacana investigated criminal damage to motor vehicle.
- Squad Leader Ljubenko investigated a vandalism report involving spray painted swastikas along Hillgrove Ave
- Ofc. Rohlicek took fraud report and investigated a domestic battery report that was closed due to inefficient evidence to support the claim that the battery took place.
- Ofc. Gill took responded to a report of criminal damage in the parking garage.
- Sgt. Cimbalista investigated two separate battery cases.
- Sgt. Cimbalista investigated the theft of property that was left in the parkway in front of a house as the residents were unpacking the car.
- Eight case reports were completed

General Patrol Activities included the shift assisting with another successful La Grange Pet Parade, and they provided security for the LTHS graduation. Sgt. Cimbalista, Sgt. Peters, Ofc. Cozen, and Ofc. Pacana assisted Countryside PD with securing the scene of an armed robbery at the Currency Exchange in the 5400 block of S La Grange Road.

Community activities on the Day Shift included Squad Leader Ljubenko representing the department by participating in the annual Law Enforcement Special Olympics Torch Run. Sgt Cimbalista, Sgt Peters, and Ofc Rohlicek assisted with traffic control during the event. Sgt Peters participated in the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce's Reality Store at LTHS providing practical experience with career development and management.

AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES

Arrests, incidents and activities that occurred on the Afternoon Shift are listed below:

- During Pet Parade weekend at the carnival, a man was arrested for aggravated battery to police officer, two charges of resisting arrest, and one charge of criminal trespass to property. An officer was injured but has returned to work on light duty.
- The same individual in the incident above was arrested at the end of the month for failing to appear in court on initial charges. He resisted arrest once again and additional charges were added.
- During the Pet Parade a man placed a cockatoo on a woman's shoulder and the bird bit the woman. The man was cited on a village ordinance covering an animal exhibiting dangerous tendency.
- A bike was stolen from the front of Dinico's Pizza on La Grange Road. A witness followed the offender and at the same time was calling the police. A Police Officer arrived and located the juvenile offender with the bike and who was also found to be in possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia. The juvenile was processed for arrest.
- During June the Afternoon Shift investigated 5 personal injury accidents, 2 hit and run accidents, and 16 property damage accidents.
- The shift initiated 161 traffic stops, issued 55 compliance citations, and 28 state citations.
- Ofc. Comstock arrested a man for aggravated DUI (a felony) and another DUI arrest.
- Two people were arrested for driving with a suspended driver's license
- One person was cited for driving with a suspended drivers license
- Two people were arrested for driving with suspended registrations.
- Three people were also arrested for not having a valid driver's license.
- Police cited a driver for squealing his tires in the parking garage.

AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES *(continued)*

- A local business reported that their company checks were forged but there was not a loss as the bank questioned the checks' validity.
- A Person reported their tires slashed on their car, a BMW, while at their residence.
- A restaurant received numerous harassing calls which seemed to be related to a couple who made a complaint to the manager. The calls related to service at the restaurant. Officers were able to locate the couple who made the complaint to the restaurant manager and informed them of the laws regarding harassing phone calls.
- A report of criminal damage to property involved BB-gun holes being found in a window on Bassford Avenue.
- The owner of a vacant house for sale reported people had been in the house and court papers for one subject were left behind. Officers were able to locate the subject who is homeless and spoke with him. He admitted the papers were his but denied being in the house.
- A juvenile who was grounded for misbehaving was reported as a runaway and then returned later that night.
- There were two major fire calls the shift assisted with. One fire was a garage at 73 S. 7th Avenue during a major storm. An additional 20 fire calls were received that night due to the storm. A second fire was reported at 131 S. Waiola.
- The shift investigated two domestic disturbances, which were resolved for the time being. In one case a mother reported her ex-husband gave their 9-year-old son beer at a party. In a separate case a mother reported a 16-year-old and 12-year-old were left home unattended for four days by an ex-husband. This second case is still pending.

Special events of interest of the Afternoon Shift include:

- Sgt Miles Odom participating in a Colors Run (Memorial Event) with the Cook County Sheriffs Police Academy
- Six auxiliary officers assisting with the La Grange Rocks - 5KM fundraiser.
- Ofc Balon spoke to the little league players of La Grange at the end of their season about sportsmanship and citizenship.
- Sgt. Marge Kielczynski, while on a personal vacation, took part in the International Police Week in Venice Italy. This is an annual conference designed to improve working relations between police departments of the European Community. Nineteen countries were represented and the topic of the training was Fraudulent Identity Documents and Driver's Licenses.



INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

- After a few days of investigating, a man Ziko was arrested and charged with two counts of disorderly conduct following a child luring investigation for an incident that occurred near the La Grange Library. This was the case where a community wide alert was issued using CodeRED, the La Grange Police Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LGPD.IL, and our Village E-mail blast. We received great information and feedback which assisted out investigation and ultimately led to the arrest.
- Investigators participated in a Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT) callout to Hodgkins for an armed robbery case
- Investigators participated in the South Suburban Major Crime Task Force (SSMCTF) callouts to Bedford Park for an aggravated battery case and to Hometown for a homicide investigation.

JUDICIAL ADVISORY GRANT UPDATE

During the month of June grant funds provided for extra patrol and enforcement details that concentrated on two areas of special concern. One was to identify distracted drivers and the other was on the parking garage area of the CBD

The texting program provided an additional 72.5 hours of traffic directed patrol which resulted in 4 state traffic citations, 60 compliance citations, and 39 traffic stop cards to those who through texting or cell phone use cause accidents. An indicator that our enforcement efforts are working is that some of our Officers are reporting they respond to suspicious vehicles only to find the driver has pulled over to check his phone, stating they heard you cannot text and drive in La Grange.

The second part of our grant programming was to insure that the parking garage and adjacent public plaza areas are safe and not becoming a hang-out for various groups. The grant provided 79.5 hours of additional patrol. The patrol consists of two officers, mostly on the weekends. Sporadic week days were included to keep the garage safe. The people at the fountain and the garage are now noted as families rather than teenagers and/or homeless subjects. Officers on patrol have received many positive comments and thanks for being visible in those areas. The police department has received several notes or phone compliments for making the area family friendly.

DEPARTMENT TRAINING

- Sgt Peters attended the FBI's quarterly Terrorism Liaison Officer's Committee seminar reviewing case studies involving HVT's (Homegrown Violent Terrorists).
- Ofc. Pacana attended Crisis Intervention Team training, a course geared toward training officers to identify, assist, and connecting those in crisis with valuable community resources.
- Sgt. Cimbalista attended an asset forfeiture law update seminar.
- Chief Holub attended the Illinois Police Chiefs training conference held in Downers Grove with the training theme being preparing for when high profile events go bad.
- During the month of June, all of our members participated in the mandatory annual fitness testing and they all successfully completed the mandatory annual firearms qualification.
- Officers also completed on line training in law and department policy updates.

AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME UNITS

As always the members of our Auxiliary unit provide us with great support in our policing efforts. June was no exception as the Auxiliary Officers provided 206 hours of extra patrol time. Our Part-time Officers with busy with directed traffic patrols and assisting the full-time officers where necessary. At the half-year point in the calendar year, our Part-time Officers have worked more than 585 hours. We are grateful for both units and their contributions to the Village.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The number of calls for service is slowly creeping up at a rate higher than a comparable period in 2012. Many of those additional incidents or calls for service appear to be associated with activity in the Central Business District. All of our other categories are fairly close to what we experienced in 2012.

As reported previously, we have altered our parking enforcement efforts in the CBD to include evening enforcement of Fridays and Saturdays. It only included one weekend in June, but we will monitor the tickets to see what impact the additional enforcement is having. Initial results are that we have cited many for violating the 2-hour street limits and the 15-minute zones.

The summer months are when we traditionally experience high levels employee vacation time. The result is that we are most often operating at minimal staffing. This contributes to our reduced opportunities for self-directed enforcement. In fact, we have even had some difficulty filling the extra patrol details (as mentioned previously).

PATROL ACTIVITIES	June		June		2013	2012
	2013		2012		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,437		1,335		8,419	7,947
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	53		51		299	292
FELONY ARRESTS	2		3		4	14
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	4		27		43	164
DUI ARRESTS	2		1		7	17
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	139		56		557	538
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	112		121		608	833
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	89	484	151	512	3,608	3,249
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	395		361			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	2		0		10	9
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	2		8		39	67