

LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum



To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager

From: Michael A. Holub, Chief of Police

Date: October 11, 2013

Re: Monthly Report for September 2013

Attached for your review are the statistics for the Shift activities for the month of September 2013. Besides the activities, I have included a summary of other noteworthy events, starting with a review of the three patrol shifts.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

In September we received two notifications of police officer's impending retirements. On September 7th, we congratulated Ofc. Russ Chorley on his retirement after nearly 30 years of service on the La Grange Police Department. Russ originally began his career as a member of the La Grange Auxiliary Police Unit and then competed for a position as a full-time officer. During his career Ofc. Chorley received the Valor Award, the Chief's Merit Award, several Unit Citations and many letters of appreciation from citizens and other agencies. His in-depth knowledge of the Village will be sorely missed.



As a result of the retirement notifications, two individuals were drawn from the current eligibility list for employment. The final examinations were conducted and we appointed Adam Coleman and Sabrina Irizarry to the La Grange Police Department.

- Adam is a 2006 graduate of Saint Patrick High School. He attended Western Illinois University and graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. Upon completing his studies, Adam was offered an internship with the La Grange Police Department in the summer of 2010. Since April 2012 he has been a member of the La Grange Police Department's Auxiliary Police unit. Adam currently resides in Elmwood Park with his family.
- Sabrina was born in Oak Lawn and raised in Burbank, Illinois. She graduated from Reavis High School in 2007 and then went on to Moraine Valley Community College eventually transferring to Loyola University of Chicago where she completed a Bachelor's degree in political science. Sabrina worked for FedEx Office for seven years while attending school. She also completed an internship at the Burbank Police Department and ride-along at Hometown Police Department. Sabrina is now a second year graduate student at DePaul University pursuing a Masters degree in public management.

Adam and Sabrina will began the Basic Police Officer Recruit course at the Cook County Sheriff's Police Academy on Monday, October 7, 2013.

MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES

Below is a listing of activities during the month of September:

- The Shift assisted the Brookfield Police at Brixies (Ogden and Blanchan) for a large fight. Officers Moncivais, Wolf and Andries assisted Brookfield police in containing a late night bar brawl.
- The Shift assisted the Brookfield Police at Ogden and DuBois with a domestic. Ofc. Moncivais provided back-up on an arrest near Brixies involving an intoxicated couple involved in a domestic dispute.
- The Shift assisted the La Grange Park Police in the use of our booking room and Livescan system when they were unable to use their system.
- A traffic stop resulted in a cannabis arrest by Ofc. Wolf. The stop was conducted at Madison / Shields in Brookfield for violations observed in La Grange. Upon speaking with offender during the stop, Ofc. Wolf detected strong odor of burnt cannabis coming from the vehicle interior and he observed cannabis in plain view on the center console of the vehicle. The driver was arrested for possession of cannabis as well as for the traffic violations.
- Officers responded to a domestic disturbance at 27 S. Madison. Once there they observed a verbal dispute between an intoxicated couple. Both parties were given domestic violence forms and they voluntarily separated for the evening.
- Ofc. Herrera conducted a traffic stop at Spring and Elm and the driver was found to be operating a vehicle with no valid drivers license. Two citations were issued and his vehicle was towed from the stop.
- A caller reported a group of teens yelling and throwing items at a passing car. Lt. Trzeciak located the group at the Spring Avenue School. With assistance of Ofc. Herrera, the group was found to be in possession of open alcohol. Some youths fled when officers attempted to take them into custody. One subject fled but was found later at 53rd and La Grange by Countryside PD officers. Lt. Trzeciak attempted to restrain one male subject who violently resisted the arrest. This caused injury to Lt. Trzeciak as they fell to the ground and that subject fled from the scene. Lt. Trzeciak secured the scene and stayed with other witnesses. The fleeing offender has since been identified and was brought to the station by his parents later for arrest processing. Two male 19-year-old offenders were processed at the station without further incident.
- Tyco Security reported two burglary alarms within a short time frame. The first was an activated burglar alarm at the AT&T Store. Fresh pry marks were found on the front door. A few moments later. The second alarm was reported at the Radio Shack where Officers found the front door shattered. A witness from across street saw three males attempt to break in. The witness screamed and they left the area in a dark colored mini van. Case file were prepared for both attempted burglary cases.

AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES

Investigative Case Reports taken this month included:

3 domestic battery cases; 1 attempted burglary to garage; 2 criminal damage to property cases; 4 disorderly conduct incidents; 1 missing juvenile (who was located); 1 vandalism report; 1 theft of property valued at more than \$500; 3 thefts valued at less than \$500; 1 animal cruelty report; 2 strong arm robberies; a unlawful possession of cannabis case; 1 aggravated assault/resisting a peace officer matter; a case of driving under the influence of alcohol.

AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES *(continued)*

Other cases are listed below:

- Ofc. Kneifel was able to recover a stolen bicycle within minutes of the reported theft. The bicycle was taken from the 200 block of East Cossitt Avenue. Ofc. Kneifel later observed a male riding the bike, but the offender dumped the bike and left the scene. Ofc. Kneifel retrieved the bike and returned it to the owner undamaged.
- Squad Leader Fulla responded to Denning Park and took a vandalism report involving significant damage to the garden area.
- Ofc. Kneifel and Ofc. Andries responded to a domestic battery call in the 700 block of East Cossitt Avenue. After completing the investigation, complaints were prepared and signed pending the location and arrest of the female offender. The male victim contacted police on the following day and advised he no longer wished to pursue the matter.
- Ofc. Balon investigated a hit and run accident that occurred in the intersection of La Grange Road and Hillgrove Avenue. The driver left the scene but was subsequently tracked down at his residence in Lyons, Illinois.
- Ofc. Burrell took a disorderly conduct report in which a woman reported she received five obscene telephone calls at her residence from an unknown male caller. The woman reportedly contacted her provider and placed a block on the number.
- Squad Leader Fulla, along with the La Grange Building Department completed a well-being check in the 900 block of South Ashland and found the home to be uninhabitable. A domestic animal was taken from the home and voluntarily turned over to the Hinsdale Humane Society by the owner.
- Ofc. Gill and Sgt. Kielczynski arrested a 26-year old Stickney woman for unlawful possession of cannabis after conducting a traffic stop in the intersection of Ogden and Maple Avenues (Brookfield). The woman was taken into custody after the cannabis was located on her person. She was also cited for traffic violations.
- Squad Leader Fulla and Ofc. Joseph arrested a 23-year old La Grange man for aggravated assault and obstructing a peace officer after officers responded to a traffic accident at 47th Street and East Avenue. An additional 23-year-old LaGrange man was arrested for obstructing a peace officer after both men confronted and engaged officers.
- Ofc. Joseph and Squad Leader Fulla arrested a 22-year old Hinsdale man for possession of a controlled substance and driving under the influence of alcohol after police responded to a traffic accident at the intersection of Cossitt and Ashland Avenues. As a result of the arrest, over \$16,000 in cash was seized pending asset-forfeiture proceedings.
- Squad Leader Fulla cited a 44-year old Michigan man for operation of unsafe vehicle equipment after the man admitted to knowingly leaking diesel fuel from his impaired commercial motor vehicle on Ogden Avenue and again on La Grange Road. A major clean up effort was initiated with the help of the La Grange FD and DPW personnel.
- The Afternoon Shift conducted several traffic stops which resulted in 4 misdemeanor traffic arrests to include driving while license suspended/revoked, and driving with a suspended vehicle registration.
- Sgt. Odom and Auxiliary Ofc. Fritsch attended the Race Unity Rally conducted at the La Grange Village Hall.
- Sgt. Odom, Squad Leader Fulla, Ofc. Andries and Intern Brian Koltz attended the Spring Avenue School Fall Fest at the school.
- Ofc. Kneifel and Ofc. Balon conducted training for the Citizen's Police Academy on the functions of the Elderly Services Officer.

DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES

Investigative Case files on the Day Shift in September include:

- An animal case at Ashland and Ogden;
- A battery incident that occurred at 8th and Elm;
- A report of a burglary to a motor vehicle in zero hundred block of block 6th;
- A criminal damage to property investigation in the 200 block of Washington;
- criminal damage to a vehicle from the 100 block of Bluff;
- A report of criminal trespassing at the BNRR Depot at La Grange Road;
- A domestic disturbance in the 300 block of 9th;
- An involuntary committal in the 100 block of Sawyer;
- Two juvenile cases from the 500 block of 8th and one at Lyons Township High School;
- An incident involving public nuisance complaints;
- A report of a suspicious person in 5200 block of Willow Springs Road;
- A theft case from the zero hundred block of S. La Grange Road;
- A traffic crash investigation at 47th and Stone;
- Four warrant arrests for various violations.

Special details on the Day Shift in September include Bike Rodeos and bicycle registration at the 7th Avenue and Ogden Avenue School's Bicycle Rodeos. Officers also assisted with the St. Francis and St. Cletus Homecoming Parades. With all of our schools back in full swing, our Day Shift Officers have again started walking halls of several local schools. Officer Pacana has been working with Pillars/B.E.D.S. assisting residents with long-term help arrangements

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

- Lt. Bill Trzeciak coordinated the auction of surplus or unclaimed property which culminated with a public auction on September 28, 2013. This consisted of primarily bicycles that were unclaimed or that had been turned into the police department as abandoned. The sale of all of the items netted \$734.00.
- Chief Holub is pictured here receiving the Excellence in Law Enforcement Award from the Special Agents Association. From left to right are Association member Ed Konstanty, Chief Holub and Association President Tom Begg.
- Several members of the police department participated in the Race Unity Rally held at the Village Hall.
- Chief Holub participated in the AT&T promotional event reaffirming their program entitled "Texting and Driving...It Can Wait".



AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME OFFICERS

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 136 hours in September which included time spent conducting House Checks, Light Lists and Patrol duties. For the entire summer we have tasked the Auxiliary with foot patrols in the Central Business District in addition to their normal routine.

The Part-Time Officers were busy assisting us with directed patrols and with special focus on the Central Business District patrols. This has been extremely helpful during the times when we have been short staffed, which was most of the summer months and continuing into fall.

TRAINING

- All department members are current with their Lexipol Police Manual updates and the September 2013 Police Law Institute online training on Legal Carrying of Firearms, Revocation of FOID cards, and Unlawful Use of Weapons (including Aggravations)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Our Police Intern Brian Koltz has been quite active and helpful since his program began. He continues to be assigned to various officers and observe different aspects of police work.

The three Patrol Shifts have been creative and flexible as we are challenged to fill vacant slots. We have experienced a retirement and several extended leaves of absence, adding to the issues related to staffing. Call response and resolution remain the priority, with other police functions (such as self directed traffic enforcement, foot patrols in the CBD, bike patrols in the parks, etc.) taking a back seat. Combined with the part-time officers, our patrol officers still were able to focus on some traffic enforcement and conducted more than 250 traffic stops in September.

Parking tickets are also up as compared to the same period in 2012. This is due to the enhanced enforcement being conducted. We have also activated our on-line payment program for parking citations, and in September the first group of notices for “collection” on unpaid tickets were mailed out. These are components of the newly acquired parking ticket management programs. That includes the “beta testing” of the handheld ticket writing devices, which we anticipate going “live” in mid-October.

| PATROL ACTIVITIES | September | | September | | 2013 | 2012 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|--------|--------|
| | 2013 | | 2012 | | YTD | YTD |
| NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN | 1,336 | | 1,184 | | 12,567 | 11,705 |
| ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN | 54 | | 85 | | 441 | 491 |
| FELONY ARRESTS | 0 | | 1 | | 13 | 32 |
| MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS | 4 | | 9 | | 59 | 221 |
| DUI ARRESTS | 0 | | 2 | | 8 | 21 |
| COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED | 82 | | 54 | | 899 | 752 |
| TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED | 133 | | 101 | | 1,005 | 1,161 |
| PARKING TICKETS - by Officers | 160 | 555 | 182 | 483 | 5,377 | 4,761 |
| PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div. | 395 | | 301 | | | |
| JUVENILE ARRESTS | 2 | | 3 | | 18 | 18 |
| PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP | 8 | | 8 | | 64 | 95 |