



CITY OF SIERRA MADRE

POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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Mission Statement

Ensure Community Safety by Delivering the Highest Quality Service through Our Dedication, Teamwork and Partnerships.

Vision Statement

To be the 21st Century Model of Small Town Policing.

Values

Integrity, Innovation, Dedication, and Compassion

Department Motto

“Serving those we protect”



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It is with great pleasure that we present the Sierra Madre Police Department's Annual Report for 2014. Our dedicated and motivated staff continues to devote themselves to making Sierra Madre the 21st century model of small town policing.

Sierra Madre continues to uphold its reputation for having one of the lowest crime rates in California. Our department, in partnership with our community, continues to work together in an effort to improve service and safety to those who live, work and visit the City of Sierra Madre.

Sierra Madre's 2014 Part 1 crimes (serious felonies) have decreased 6.6% overall in 2014. Other crimes like Forgery/Fraud also decreased. Burglaries showed the most significant decrease from 58 to 25 in 2014. Vandalism, a misdemeanor, showed the highest increase during 2014.

In 2014 traffic collisions increased 12% going from 50 to 56. Although citations and warnings increased this year, with the hopes of educating our motorist and reducing our accidents, I attribute part of the increase to the inattention by our motoring community.

During the past year the Department's response to emergency calls increased. Despite the slight increase the average response time to Priority One Calls for service remains within 3.31 minutes. Note: The average in Los Angeles County is eight minutes.

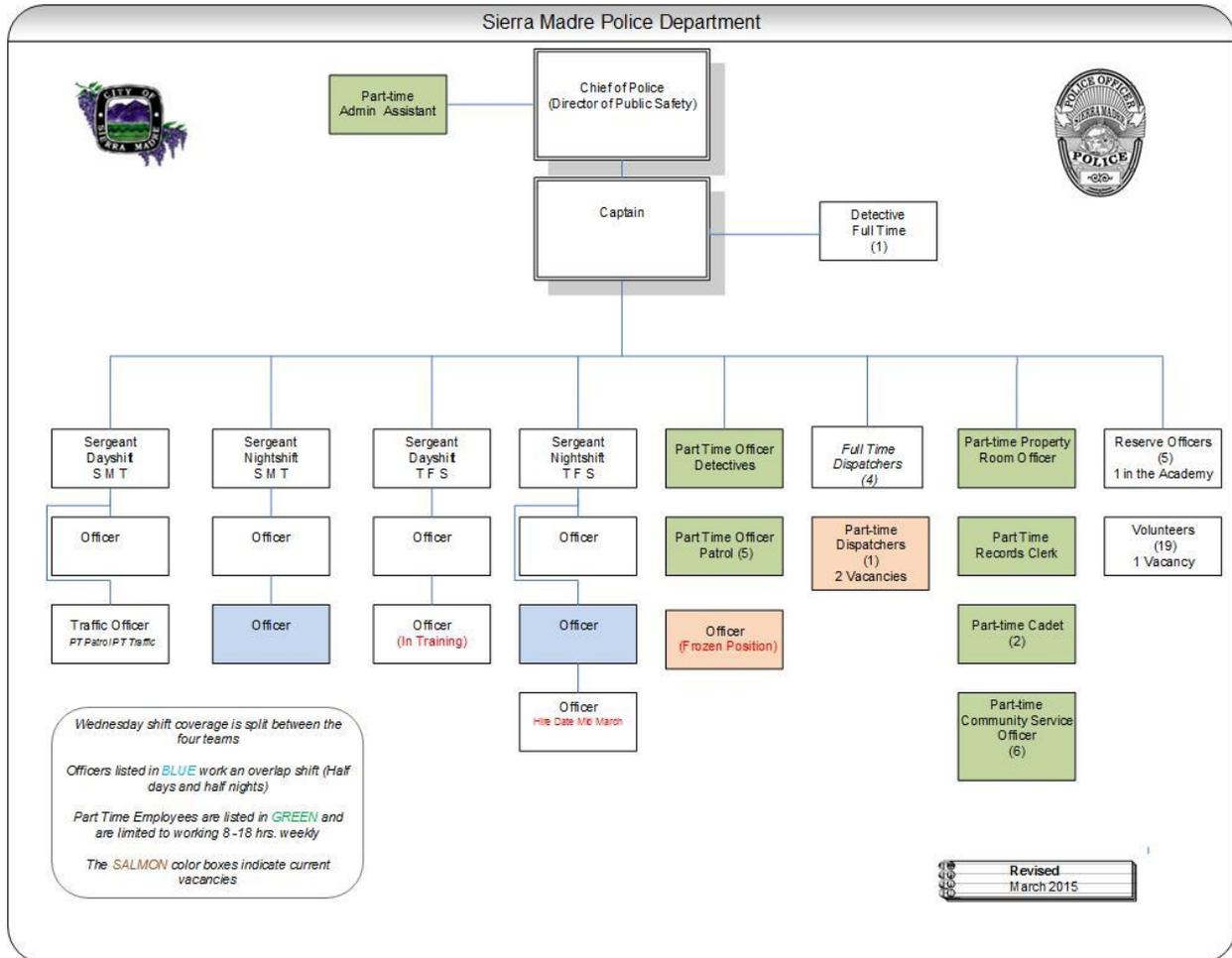
The Department remains vigilant to being proactive in preventing crimes with increased Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch Meetings as well as public forums dealing with crime trends.

Larry Giannone
Chief of Police





SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW



POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Chief of Police/Public Safety Director – The Chief of Police is responsible to the City Council, City Manager, and the community for delivering a full range of public safety services. This includes overseeing all employees and volunteers, and managing a yearly budget of approximately \$5.4 million between the Police and Fire Department.

Administrative Assistant* – Works to assist the Chief of Police in all administrative duties.



Captain – The Captain manages patrol operations, investigations, budget, personnel, communication systems, property, evidence, jail and provides supervision and training to the sergeants.

Sergeants – Sergeants serve as watch commanders and supervise corporals and patrol officers during their shifts.

Corporals – Corporals serve as a Senior Officer in the absence of a sergeant.

Detective – Detectives perform follow-up investigations, property and evidence management, and file criminal cases.

Patrol Officers – Trained professional police officers work patrol throughout the City, monitoring activity and responding to calls.

Traffic Officers – Focus primarily on traffic enforcement, traffic collision, investigations, traffic safety presentations, and vehicle inspections.

Dispatchers – Dispatchers handle both Emergency Calls for service and “Routine” police business calls, dispatch the appropriate police units and assist the public at the front counter.

Property Room Officer* – This part-time officer handles all the property and evidence for the department as well as assisting detectives with investigations.

Records Clerk* – This part-time employee manages all police reports, court documentation, case preparation, prepares monthly crime stats, and works as the Department’s Liaison to many agencies such as the Department of Justice. This is a new and much needed addition to the police department.

Cadets – These part-time employees prepare criminal cases for filing, take evidence to the crime laboratory, direct traffic at special events, and handle other duties as assigned.

Reserve Officers – The Department’s Reserve police officers volunteer their time to provide operational and administrative support—at minimal to no cost.



Volunteers – Sierra Madre Police Department has 20 volunteers who are an integral part of our partnership with the community. During 2014 volunteers donated over 1569 hours performing various non-hazardous tasks, to include “citizens on patrol” providing added patrol eyes helping to identify suspicious activity that may need to be check by on duty police officer. In addition, volunteers conduct vacation checks of residences, street closure traffic control at special events such as Wisteria and 4th of July Parade. The volunteers also help distribute community crime prevention literature, and assist with other ancillary police service such as, live scan finger printing and National Night Out event.

*Part-time position



RESERVE POLICE OFFICERS

Sierra Madre Police Department has five active Reserve Police Officers who volunteer their time to work uniformed patrol and provide vital specialty expertise such as finger printing and computer forensics to assist in solving crimes within the City. During 2104 reserve officers put in over 706 hours providing the additional support to the full time staff helping to make Sierra Madre a safer place to live.



CURRENT COMMUNITY ISSUES

Police departments throughout the state of California have been working diligently to maintain low crime despite the difficulties presented by changes in state laws that have increased the number of felons out of custody due to early release. The passage of AB109 in late 2013, and the recent passage of Proposition 47 in 2014, have each resulted in a large increase of convicted felony offenders being placed back on the streets. The result is a steady increase in property crime in the local jurisdictions.

AB109

In 2011, California Governor Brown signed into law Assembly bill AB 109, known as the prison inmate realignment. Under the realignment, newly-convicted "low-level" offenders with no prior serious or violent crime conviction would be sent to serve their time in County Jail rather than the state prison system. The diversion of offenders to the County Jail has reduced the state prison population by approximately 25000 inmates. Under the new legislation, paroles released under the realignment will no longer be violated and returned to state prison, unless they commit a new serious felony crime.

In the past, a person released on parole who violated any terms of their parole, would be violated and were generally sent back to prison for up to one-year for each violation. Today, that is no longer an available option to keep a parolee in check. As a result, many parolee's released under AB109, can no longer be violated for a violation of parole, effectively removing most of the bite for not following the conditions of parole, leaving little incentive for an active parolee to follow his conditions of parole. Those few parolees who may be considered violent offenders generally can only be violated to serve a maximum of 180 days in the county jail and they will no longer be sent to state prison for a violation of their parole.

Proposition 47

On November 04, 2014 California voters approved Proposition 47 entitled "The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act," which has changed numerous drug and theft – related crimes that were previously felonies to misdemeanors. Although, offenders with certain prior convictions for very serious crimes such as homicide will still be subject to criminal filings as felonies. All other offenders committing certain crimes will be charged with misdemeanors, allowing for almost immediate release from custody. As an example; 11350 H&S-Possession of Heroin, Cocaine, 11357 H&S- Possession of concentrated cannabis, 11377 H&S-Possession of methamphetamine, ecstasy, and GHB (known as the date rape drug), are all now misdemeanors. Anyone arrested for possession of a controlled substance delineated above, will be immediately released with a Notice to Appear (citation) directing them to appear in court, similar to a traffic citation.



In addition, possession of stolen property valued less than \$950.00 such as firearms, which were previously charged as felonies are now a misdemeanor. These reductions allow those persons previously convicted of the felony charges to petition for resentencing for a misdemeanor. As a result, many offenders who support their drug habits by committing burglaries and thefts, will no longer be kept in relative check through prison sentences for narcotics offenses, which have provided a quasi-stop gap in the past for their other crimes. Since the change in the law which has caused the early release of thousands of narcotics offenders, Cities across the state are showing an increase in property related crimes.

It is for this reason that community involvement and neighborhood watch programs are more vital than ever to help keep crime in check in the local cities. The temporary increase in our part-time officer staff was instrumental in keeping crimes lower in Sierra Madre. This position ends July 2015.

CRIME STATISTICS

Crime Trend Analysis

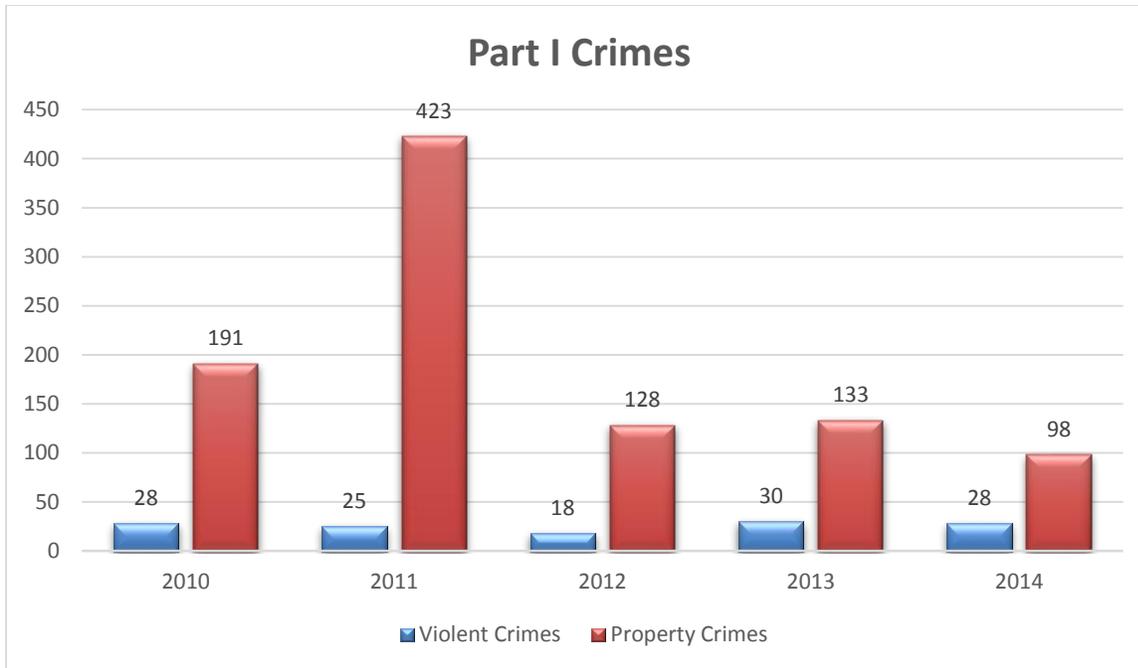
Police departments throughout the country report the crimes for their respective jurisdiction to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). These reports are known as Uniform Crime Reports and are standardized to ensure that the data is comprehensive and comparative on a national basis.

Crimes reported are classified into two categories, Part 1 Crimes and Part 2 Offenses. Part 1 Crimes consist of 7 major crimes; homicide, rape, robbery, assaults, burglary, theft, and auto theft. Part 2 offenses include all other crimes to include felonies, misdemeanors, infractions, and local ordinance violations.

Part 1 Crimes 2013-2014

6.66% **Decrease** in Part 1 Violent Crimes from 2013 to 2014

26.31% **Decrease** in Part 1 Property Crimes from 2013 to 2014



Year	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes
2009	21	141
2010	28	191
2011	25	423
2012	18	128
2013	30	133
2014	28	98



	2014	2013	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0.00
Rape	2	1	100.00
Robbery	0	1	-100.00
Firearms	0	0	0.00
Knife	0	0	0.00
Other Weapon	0	0	0.00
Strong Arm	0	1	-100.00
Assaults	26	28	-7.14
Firearms	0	0	0.00
Knife	2	1	100.00
Other Weapon	4	3	33.33
Other Aggravated	4	7	-42.86
Non-Aggravated	16	17	-5.88
Burglary	25	58	-56.90
Residential	18	46	-53.33
Non-Residential	7	12	-41.67
Thefts	67	66	1.52
Shoplifting	0	1	-100.00
Auto Burglary	21	30	-30.00
All Other	46	35	-31.43
Motor Vehicle Theft	5	8	-37.50
Forgery/Fraud/Embezzlement	6	9	-33.33
Vandalism	21	11	90.91



Other Crimes

	2014	2013	% Change
Weapons Offenses	2	3	-33.33
Prostitution / Sex Offenses	9	6	50.00
Offenses Against Family	6	3	100.00
D.U.I.	44	23	91.30
Liquor Laws / Drunkenness	26	22	-18.18
All other Offenses	784	651	20.43

Arrests

	2014	2013	% Change
Total Crimes Reported	1023	890	14.94
Total Arrests	417	345	20.87
Adult Felony	46	36	27.78
Adult Misdemeanor	338	282	19.86
Juvenile Felony	0	0	0.00
Juvenile Misdemeanor	9	4	125.00
Warrant Arrests	24	47	110.63



DEPARTMENT WORKLOAD

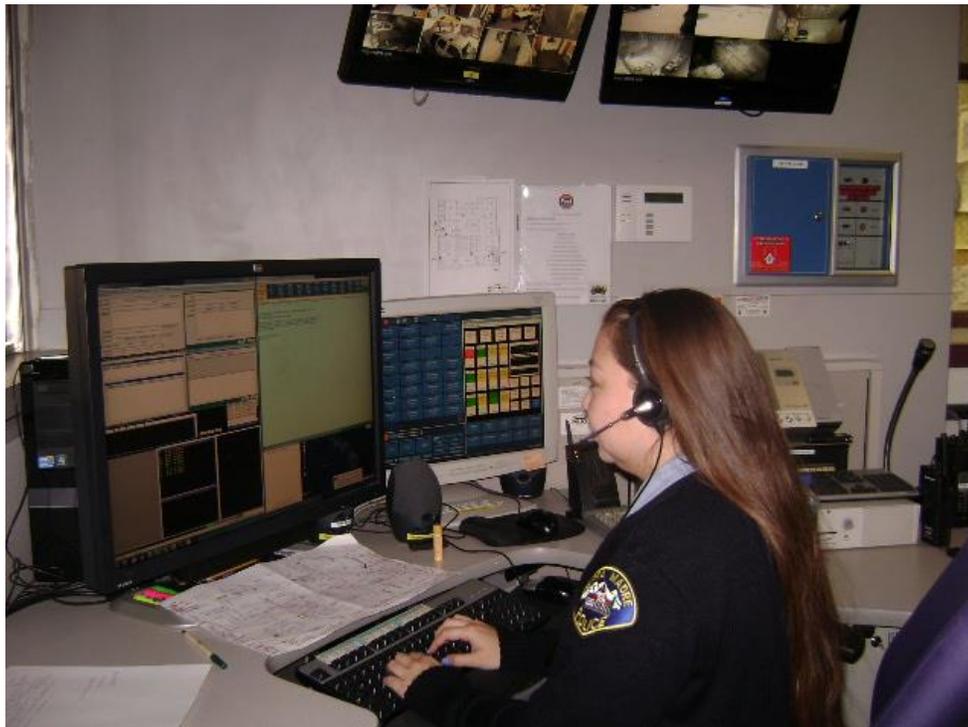
	2014	2013	% Change
Total Workload	14523	13389	8.47
Total Self-Initiated Activity	10236	9137	12.03
Total Calls for Service	4287	4252	0.82
Priority 1	2388	2269	5.24
Priority 2	201	173	16.18
Priority 3	1698	1810	-6.19
Priority 4	0	0	N.C.
Total Incident Reports	1029	884	16.40

RESPONSE TIMES

Priority One calls: (which are the highest priority) 3:31 response time

Priority Two calls: (less important, usually misc. calls for service) 4:13 response time

Priority Three calls: (typically report type of calls) 4:48 response time





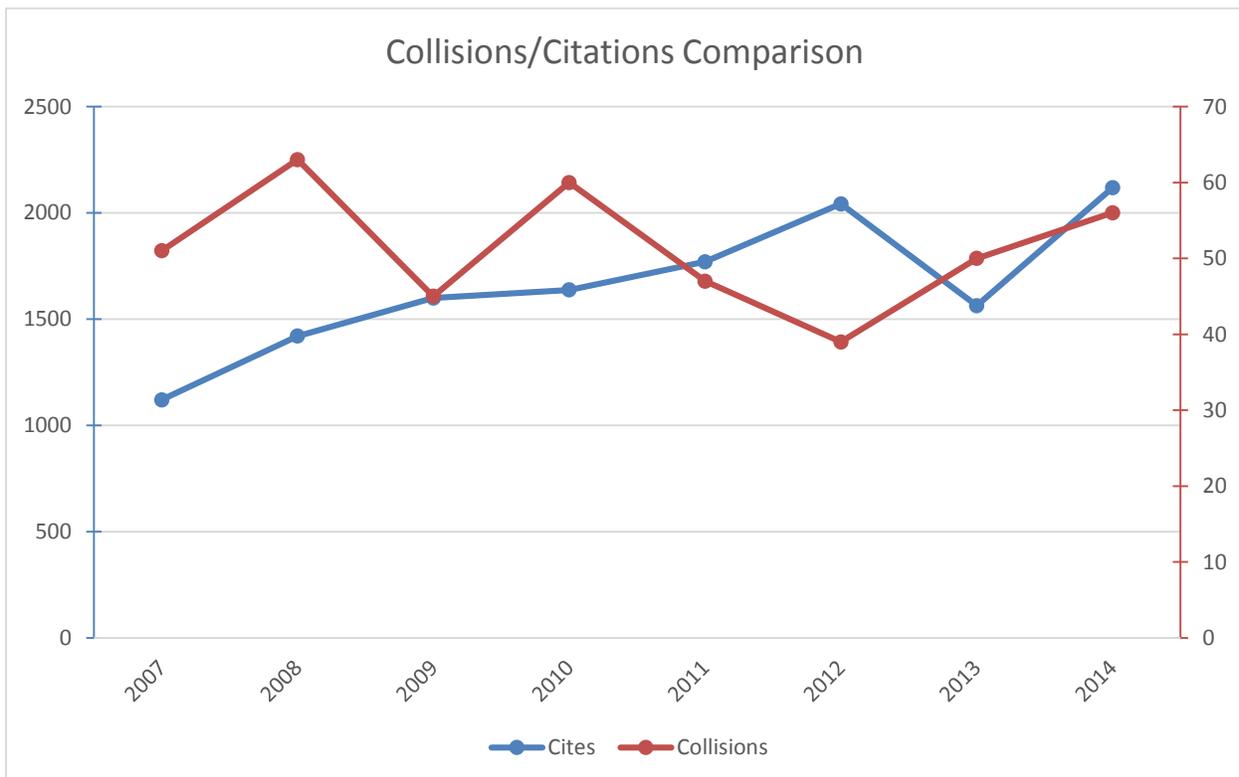
TRAFFIC STATISTICS

Traffic Enforcement

YEAR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2013-2014 % change
Moving & Equipment	1,637	1,770	2,042	1,562	2118	35.60%
Parking	2,908	2,863	3,411	1,890	3,160	67.20%
Traffic Warnings	982	1,649	1,362	1,495	1203	-19.53%
Traffic Activity Total	5,527	6,282	6,815	4,947	6,481	31.01%

Motor Vehicle Collisions

YEAR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2013-2014 % change
Non-Injury Collision	29	14	33	34	42	+19 %
Injury Collision	12	15	12	16	14	-12 %
Total Collisions	41	29	45	50	56	+10 %





BUDGET

General Fund

The City of Sierra Madre General Fund allocation (FY 2013-2014) for the Police Department was as follows:

Police Personnel (includes benefits)	\$3,277,961
Police Supplies and Services	\$ 403,443
Other Grants, Donations & Revenue	\$ 106,625
Total	\$3,788,029

The additional Police Department funding received was from the following state and federal resources:

- **Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) Fund.** This fund is derived from a half-cent sales tax (Proposition 172) that California voters passed in 1993. The funds are designated for local public safety.
- **State Homeland Security Fund.** This is a federal Homeland Security Fund that passes through the State and on to the City. The funding is earmarked most recently to ensure radio interoperability for countywide public safety agencies.
- **911 Funds.** This State grant provides reimbursement for some costs associated with the 911 emergency communications systems.
- **DUI (Driving Under Influence) Enforcement Fund.** This LA County fund provides reimbursement for overtime when officers are assigned for one night to a regional DUI task force.
- **Movie Details.** These funds provides overtime pay for officers assigned to filming jobs as mandated by the Sierra Madre Municipal Code and are generally paid by the film production company.
- **Police Donation Fund.** This fund consists of donations from groups and individuals to the Police Department. It is used for community related activities and minor specialized equipment needs.
- **Other Special Revenue.** This fund is derived from illegal drug-related assets seized in the course of narcotics investigations through the federal and state governments.



GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Every 6 months City Department heads meet with the City Manager and the City Council to identify goals that are consistent with the City's mission.

GOALS

- Standardization of monthly Neighborhood Watch meetings throughout the City
- Hiring of new personnel to increase overall number of police personnel
- Increase foot beats by officers to allow for greater community partnership
- Increase police volunteers by 15%
- Expansion of use of Police Blotter, posting on the City's website, and on Facebook

AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Police Chief Giannone awarded Police Officer Ken Berry and Dispatcher Brian Ho with the Chief's Special Award at the annual Sierra Madre Honors Banquet for their outstanding commitment and achievements in the Police Department.
- Sierra Madre Police Sergeant Joe Ortiz and Police Officer John Ford were commended by United States Secret Service for a major arrest of Identity Theft Suspects connected to organized crime.



COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Chief Larry Giannone and other members of the Police Department are members of the San Gabriel Valley Police Officers Association, consisting primarily of command officers from local police departments. They meet monthly for training presentations and sharing of vital information.



- Chief Giannone is currently the President of the Board for the Foothill Air Support Team (also known as FAST). The FAST program provides airborne law enforcement and is made up of several cities, including Sierra Madre and other neighboring cities.
- Community Service Officers of Sierra Madre Police personnel visit all the local schools on a daily basis, meeting the staff and students, answering questions, assisting with safety plans, and developing professional friendships with community members.
- The Department continues its partnership with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, which provides Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drugs (LEADS) training for area liquor store, restaurant owners and employees.
- The Department participated in the Driving Under the Influence (DUI Avoid the 100) San Gabriel Valley Task Force
- The Department participated in the Toys for Tots Drive and the F.A.S.T Toy Drop Program for Children at our local hospitals.





NOTEWORTHY CASES

Below is a small sampling of the types of investigations the Sierra Madre Police Department officers were involved in during 2014:

In January, the Sierra Madre Police Department assisted the City of Glendora and the City of Azusa during the Colby fires, which destroyed five homes and 11 other structures. A total of eight officers were deployed to the incident over the two day period, showing our commitment to the Area D mutual aid agreement.

On January 14, a residential burglary occurred in 00 block of Auburn Ave. During a child custody exchange, the child's father forced entry into his mother's residence and stole her garage door remote to allow him entry into her residence at a later date. The man was subsequently detained and after questioning, was taken to custody for burglary and booked at LA County Jail

On January 26, Victim reported they were awakened by a noise heard inside their home located in the 400 block of East Highland Ave. Victim checked the area where the noise was heard and confronted suspect in their kitchen area. The suspect immediately exited a rear door and attempted to flee. Sierra Madre Police Officers responded quickly to the location and located the suspect and detained him without incident. The victim identified the suspect and he was booked for residential burglary.

February 2, in the 400 block of Sturtevant, an officer observed a male adult who asked for directions to the City of San Bernardino. The Officer noticed the subject with several pieces of mail in his hand. The subject was questioned about the mail and he admitted to taking the U.S. Mail that did not belong to him from a resident's mailbox. This turned over to the U.S. Postal Inspector for prosecution.

May 1, Sierra Madre Police responded to the 100 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd regarding an assault with a deadly weapon. Reporting party stated that a male subject pulled a knife on him and threatened to harm him. Officers located a subject matching



the description on Sierra Madre Blvd. Subject was searched and a small black pocket knife was located in the subjects' right rear pocket. Subject was positively identified by the victim, as the person who assaulted him. Suspect was taken into custody and booked for assault.

May 23rd, Sierra Madre Police responded to 4 North Baldwin Avenue regarding a vandalism at the Valero Gas Station. Upon arrival, officers were shown surveillance video of two male suspects in a black vehicle tampering with a gas pump. One of the suspects was described as a male Hispanic 6' feet tall, 260 lbs., with a white baseball cap, white jacket, and dark pants. The suspect was tampering with the gas pumps leading the owner opine they had attempted to install a credit card skimmer in the gas pump. On June 7th, Officers again responded to 4 N. Baldwin Ave, Valero Gas Station for a silent gas pump alarm activation. When Officers arrived on scene, they observed a vehicle next to the gas pump, which had triggered a tampering alarm. Further investigation by officers revealed evidence of tools and computer equipment commonly used to install credit card skimmers on gas pumps. The owner of the gas station responded and was able to confirm that one of the suspects detained was the same individual seen on security camera tampering with the gas pump on May 23rd. Both suspects were arrested for conspiring to commit credit card and Identity Theft. Suspects were then turned over to United States Secret Service for federal prosecution.

August 7th, Sierra Madre Police responded to the area of Orange Grove and Rancho Rd. regarding a reckless driver in the area. While on patrol, Officers located the suspect's vehicle as it passed the Officer's vehicle, driving into oncoming traffic. Officers began a pursuit of the suspect as he continued to swerve and drive into oncoming traffic causing other vehicles to swerve to avoid being hit. The suspect led Officers to a residence in Arcadia by driving up onto its lawn. When Officers attempted to stop the vehicle, the suspect accelerated away from authorities. The suspect reached speeds of up to 70 mph in 35 mph residential streets. The suspect eventually drove himself into a cul-de-sac where Officers were able to surround him. The suspect surrendered to Officers and stated, "This was some crazy video game!" The suspect informed Officers he had used narcotics the day before and was still feeling the effects. The suspect was



cleared after evaluation at a local hospital and was arrested for Felony Evading, Reckless Driving, and Driving under the influence of drugs.

September 5th, Sierra Madre Police responded to the area of Baldwin and Alegria Avenue regarding a hit-and-run incident. Upon arriving, Officers were met by a subject who witnessed the incident. She informed Officers that a red truck had made a right turn into a residential drive way and then backed out and collided with the driver's side door of a parked vehicle, parked along the curb. The witness stated the suspect did not attempt to stop or provide any information regarding the collision. Officers observed substantial damage to the parked vehicles driver's side door. Officers contacted the owner and completed a hit-run report. Later that day the victim contacted Sierra Madre Police after she spotted what she believed to be the vehicle that hit her, parked down the street of the original collision site. Officers arrived and inspected the vehicle, noting the positive ID made by the witness and the damage to the rear end of the vehicle. Officers made contact with the vehicle driver and he admitted the events the witness described and explained he fled because he panicked. The man was arrested and charged with Hit and Run Property Damage Only.

September 27th, Sierra Madre Police performed a traffic stop on a vehicle for failing to yield before making a right-hand turn at a red light. Upon making contact, Officers noticed the driver appeared to be very nervous and had shaky hands. When questioned why he was nervous, the subject stated the vehicle belonged to a friend and his driver's license was suspended due to a DUI conviction. When questioned if he had been drinking or if there was anything illegal in the vehicle, the subject stated no to both. The subject complied with a Preliminary Alcohol Screening, which results read as a BAC of 0.00%. The subject consented to a vehicle search. During the search, Officers located the subject's wallet that contained over \$2,000 in cash, three cellphones that belonged to the subject, a small digital scale, and a small zip lock bag containing a white powdery substance, which later tested positive for cocaine. The subject was arrested and transported to Pasadena Jail Facility.