

**CITY OF FONTANA
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

TO: All attendees of the Central Area Community Meeting
FROM: Lieutenant Gary Aulis, Central Area Commander
DATE: November 13, 2008

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2008

Lieutenant Gary Aulis

- Introductions
- Advised the Community Meetings are held quarterly.
- Advised the Area Commander Program is designed to have a Lieutenant assigned to each of the 4 areas of the City. If you have a problem in your neighborhood and it's an on going thing and you don't know who to turn to for help you can call your Area Commander.
- Advised he is the Area Commander for Area 3 which is everything from Foothill to the Interstate 10 freeway. If you have a problem or a concern you can email him at gaulis@fontana.org, or call him at 356-7113.
- Resources:
 - www.fontana.org -has links to departments within the City.
 - Community Connection.
 - Who ya gonna call.
 - www.fontanapd.org –has links to report abandoned shopping carts, abandoned vehicles, street lights that are not working, information about the CAP Program and minutes from the meetings.
- Updates:
 - Cruise Night is the 1st Friday of every month.
 - The Library is open and there are over 200 computers for public access.
 - Fontana Park opened on October 25, 2008.
 - Center Stage Theater is now open.
 - November 13, 2008 is “California Great Shake-out Day”.

Crime Statistics since the last meeting (Foothill to Interstate 10):

- The number one activity is Traffic Officers writing tickets (traffic stops from August 1st to present is 2,743).
- The number two activity is “Pedestrian Checks” (pedestrian checks from August 1st to present are 1,050. Officers stop people to see what they are doing. Officers have 50% more free time and are doing a lot of “community oriented policing”. Elimination of responding to “false alarms” freed up a lot of time).
- 415 subjects (disturbances) is number three.
- Stolen vehicles is number four.

- Petty theft is the highest report crime (anything under 400 dollars-192 since our last meeting on August 13th to present).

Gang Officer Scott Snyder-“Graffiti In Our City” PowerPoint Presentation:

Advised there are 11 Gang Officers, 6 Bicycle Officers, and 2 Grant Theft Auto Investigators in the MET Unit (Multiple Enforcement Team Unit). All of the Officers work on specialized assignments, and on problems that may arise in the City.

The Gang Officers wear a green polo shirt with the word “SMASH” (San Bernardino County Movement Against Street Hoodlums) on it. Fontana PD has the largest gang unit within San Bernardino County. The best way to get information is to stop people and talk to them. He handles all graffiti reports. He also responds to “graffiti in progress” calls. To report graffiti call 350-GONE or report it on the police department’s website www.fontanapd.org. The City’s graffiti team works 6 days a week, and removes graffiti within 24-48 hours. If someone is in the progress of putting up graffiti, call the Police Dispatch Center at 350-7700. Lt. Aulis advised that in the early 90’s, San Bernardino County started the “SMASH” program. When things tampered off most Cities disbanded their gang unit. Our officers kept the uniform. Gang members know that they wear this uniform, and know how they are going to deal with them. Other agencies have started putting their gang unit back together.

There are two types of graffiti-“Gang and Tagging”:

- Gang Graffiti-“SUR” means Southern California 13. This gang has alliances with the Mexican Mafia gang members, and Mexican prison gang members.
- “IE” means the territory they claim. They are showing every other gang or whoever lives in the area that they are there and it is their territory. They can have large gang with smaller cliques. They have monikers that don’t change.
- “Varrío” means hood. You will always see “V” in gang graffiti.
- If a gang member is caught tagging the officer asks for “gang enhancement” (extended sentencing) in his report that is sent to the District Attorney’s Office.
- When the Officers do a search warrant at gang members’ homes they found their rooms usually tagged with gang graffiti (usually have gang roll call-monikers of members in their gang).
- Tagging-Taggers usually tag by themselves or with one of two more people. Tagging is a bubbly design, large, and colorful. A tagging crew is not a gang.
- Go to website www.fontanapd.org to report graffiti and tagging.

Gang Officer Scott Snyder-“Graffiti Tracker” PowerPoint Presentation:

- About 20 Cities have this computer program.
- The City’s graffiti team has a camera with a GPS tracking system in it. They download the graffiti pictures into a program that goes to a company in Long Beach called the “Graffiti Tracker”. The company link information together in a database for the 20 cities to share.
- The system has a “Gang Intelligence Report” and “Tagging Intelligence Report” tracking program that the officers use to find offenders.
- The program was started on August 28, 2008. Officer have made 20 arrests since starting the program. The program has a Google map that shows where graffiti/vandalism occurred. It has the date and time when the picture was taken. The Officers take this information to court and shows it to the judge at the suspect’s hearing...
- From October 1 to October 31, the City’s graffiti team responded to 4.567 graffiti clean-up requests. The City has now started charging a restitution fee to the vandals according to the amount of “their” graffiti that was cleaned up by the City’s graffiti team.
- The “Graffiti Tracker” has a map that shows where tagging is occurring within the City. Taggers usually tag in their area, and on their way to and from school.

Questions and Concerns of Residents

THE ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT REFLECT ACTIONS TAKEN

- Asked where the newspaper is getting all of these shooting? **Lt. Aulis advised that the news reporters are some times reporting 2-3 shooting a week. Remember the news report will say Fontana, but the shootings may be happening in the County area. If you see “Fontana Sheriff” it means the County area. Most of the shootings are gang related shootings.**
- Asked if all of the traffic stops are all one of a kind? **Lt. Aulis answered, no. He advised motorists are stopped for different traffic violations. When officers conduct a traffic stop, he/she gets on the radio with a dispatcher, and says that they are going to be stopping a car. They give the license plate, make, and color of the car, and the location of the stop. The dispatcher enters the call into the computer system as a “traffic stop”.**
- Asked if the City’s graffiti team clean the graffiti off of the abandoned houses? **Officer Snyder advised the graffiti is removed. A report is taken because it is vandalism, it is ugly, and it can lead to other crime (fights between gang members, etc.). The City Officials want the City to look nice; therefore, graffiti is removed immediately.**
- Advised graffiti has been on the Real Estate business sign on the corner of Sierra/Randall for a while. **Officer Snyder advised he will go by the business the next day, and reminded the residents to be sure to call 350-GONE whenever they see graffiti any where in the City.**

- Asked if you can just arrest someone for their name being on gang tagging? **Officer Snyder advised that you can arrest them if you can prove that there has been prior contacts showing that he is a gang member. The Gang Officers and Patrol Officers contact gang members daily. Their information is put on a gang card. The Officer list the name of the gang they are claiming to be part of. Officers take the card to court to show the judge that he claimed this gang.**
- Asked if the City's graffiti team removes graffiti from homes that you are living in? **Officer Snyder advised you can call the Public Services Department at 350-6760 to let them know where they graffiti is located, and they will let you know if the City's graffiti team will remove it.**
- Asked if most of the graffiti is spray paint? **Officer Snyder advised that colored markers slap stickers, sharpies, cutting edger, etc. (any thing that gang members can use to put up graffiti).**
- Asked what is the amount of gang members in the City? **Officer Snyder advised there are about 300 documented gang members. This does not mean that all 300 are active. There are about 20-30 active South Fontana, and about 50 active TFK gang members.**
- Asked if there is a big problem at the Metrolink? **Officer Valerie Gutierrez advised the Bicycle Officers are at the location on a daily basis because people loiter around the restrooms. The restrooms are the most frequent place where narcotics sales and use are reported. The Bicycle Officers question people that are hanging around the restrooms. They check to see if they have bus passes or money to buy a ticket. Lt. Aulis advised approximately 5,000 commuters go through the Metrolink daily.**
- Advised the residents who lives in the second house from the corner at the cross streets of Juniper/Randall set up a taco stand every Friday night and sells tacos. **Community Improvement Project Manager, Ted Porlas, advised residents to call him at 350-6723 or e-mail him at tporlas@fontana.org whenever you see these types of code violations, including push-carts. He took down the address following the meeting, and advised he will take care of it.**
- Advised people are selling refrigerators and other appliances still in boxes on the northwest corner of Juniper/San Bernardino on the weekends. **Ted Porlas took down this information, and advised that he will take care of it.**
- Advised residents are parking cars on their lawns. **Lt. Aulis advised the code enforcement inspectors take care of these types of violations. Advised he will ask the Officers to keep an eye out for this type of violation. Call Code Enforcement at 350-7623 to report these types of violations.**
- Advised there are "no parking signs" posted on Alder, because of road construction. However, people are selling cars and advertising yard sales on the weekends. **Lt. Aulis advised he will ask the Officers to keep an**

eye out for this type of violation. Ted Porlas advised he will ask the Code Enforcement Inspectors to do the same.

- **Asked what is the guideline for yard sales? Lt. Aulis advised that residents can have two yard sales per year (every six months) and must buy a “yard sale permit”. The permits are sold at City Hall. Advised residents to call the Police Dispatch Center at 350-7700 whenever you see people having frequent yard sales. The Officers will check to see if they have a permit. Ted Porlas advised they can be issued a citation for the infraction.**
- **Advised someone broken into her neighbors’ home on Anastasia while her neighbors were inside sleeping. Lt. Aulis explained that this is called a “hot prowl” call. Advised he will research the call and make sure the detectives are aware of it. Advised the same thing was occurring in Southridge about two months ago. The MET Officers set up undercover surveillance in the area several times. They found the suspect and arrested him.**
- **Advised some of the doors at the Seniors Complexes on Sierra are broken and people are trespassing. Lt. Aulis advised that he has set up a meeting with the manager at the complex on November 11, 2008 at 11:00am to discuss this issue and other issues.**
- **Advised tagging the abandoned cars on the streets have gotten better, but do we have an ordinance to tow them out of the streets? Lt. Aulis advised City Officials are still working on the ordinance. The ordinance will be presented to Council. Councilmember Frank Scialdone advised it takes about two months to be approved after the first reading.**
- **Asked if people are stealing City property and selling it? Lt. Aulis answered, no. He advised they are usually stealing out of vacant homes, and warehouses that are in remote places. Advised a new ordinance has been passed regarding recycling businesses buying copper and metal. They must follow the same procedures as pawn shops (take fingerprints, put down driver’s license number and address, give the seller a receipt of the transaction, and keep a copy of the receipt of the transaction).**
- **Advised there are a lot of children at the library during school hours. Lt. Aulis advised that School Police Officers recently conducted a “truancy sweep”. They found 50 students in one day. Advised he will ask School Police officials to talk with the library staff and let them staff know the schools’ schedule (when school is in and out).**

Laura Van Sciver-Community Services Coordinator

- **Advised residents that the City is sponsoring “Art in the Park” at the Art Depot on November 15, 2008 from 11:00 am-5:00 pm. Call her at 428-8360 ext. 230 with questions.**

Councilmember Frank Scialdone

- Advised the City Council members voted 5-0 to ban "safe and sane fireworks" in the City starting in 2008. People with petitions sponsored by the fireworks companies are petitioning to have fireworks back in the City. The City residents will probably vote on it around March.

THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS FEBRUARY 17, 2009 AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 17244 RANDALL (CORNER OF RANDALL/PALMETTO) AT 6:30 PM.

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA BEFORE FEBRUARY 16, 2009 TO:

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17005 Upland Ave.
Fontana, CA 92335
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E-Mail: asmith@fontana.org

THE CITY OF FONTANA COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD, KFON CHANNEL 3, GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL ANNOUNCES THE CENTRAL AREA COMMUNITY MEETINGS' DATE, TIME, AND PLACE DAILY.