

**CITY OF FONTANA
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

TO: All attendees of the Area 4 Community Meeting
FROM: Angela Stover, Lieutenant
DATE: January 21, 2009

SUBJECT: Community Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2009

Sergeant Escarpe

- Introductions- David Teater, Engineering; Laurentiu Popescu, Engineering; Sergio Quiroz, Landscaping; Todd Heagstedt, Public Works; Albert Chavez, Community Services; Yolanda Mendoza, FUSD; Ted Porlas, Code Compliance; Sonya Montgomery, Landscaping Technician.
- Advised the current Area Commander for Area 4 is Lt. Stover, however she has allowed him to conduct the meeting tonight. If you need to call Lt. Stover you can reach her at 350-7708 or e-mail him at astover@fontana.org with questions pertaining to the City or to the Police Department. If you need the police to respond to a call, call the police dispatch center at 350-7700.
- Advised community meetings are held every quarter. Community policing addresses not only law issues, but quality of life issues as well. Advised the problem might not always be a police issue, but Lt. Stover will be able to point you in the right direction of who to contact, or she will contact them for you.
- Advised the city is broken up into four areas. Each area has a Lieutenant assigned to it and they are in charge of keeping up with the crime trends, neighborhood problems and problems with parks, etc. The Area Commander for north of I-210 Freeway is Lieutenant Aulis, I-210 freeway to Foothill is Lieutenant Rodriguez, Foothill to Interstate 10 is Lieutenant Tronaas, and from Interstate 10 to Riverside County Line is Lieutenant Stover.
- What the Area Commander does is uses different resources to solve problems. If you don't know who to call you can call the Area Commander and they will know who you should talk to.
- Advised the City website is www.fontana.org. It is a good source of information, such as "Who Ya Gonna Call" link which has numerous city telephone numbers, the Graffiti Hotline (350-GONE), and there is also a link to the PD website- www.fontanapd.org. You can also report abandoned shopping carts and abandoned vehicles on the police department website.
- On the city's website there is a link to the Community Connection. Click on the link and it takes you to a page which has a lot of information in regards to the city and upcoming events. You can sign up for Community Connection and it will be emailed to you in the future.
- Advised the community meeting minutes are on the website. You may print out a copy of the minutes. A copy will also be e-mailed to all attendees within two weeks before the next meeting date. **Go to the website**

www.fontanapd.org. Click on “community meetings”, and then click on “community meeting minutes”.

- The City of Fontana, in partnership with Water of Life Community Church, offers Fontana residents no-cost or low cost community services through the Community Assistance Program (CAP). CAP provides area residents with the ability to readily access resources and community services; which enrich the lives of families and individuals, enabling them to lead more productive lives. Fontana’s CAP Program brings together community assistance organizations, local churches and schools to create a network designed to solve problems and assist people in need.
- Citizens Academy is coming up- it’s the gateway to becoming a volunteer at the police department. This program helps you understanding the way a police department works. For more information please contact Heather Howard at (909) 35-7758.
- CERT- Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. Factors such as number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages will prevent people from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. People will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs. C.E.R.T. trains people to be better prepared to respond to and cope with the aftermath of a disaster. The City of Fontana has a free seven week C.E.R.T. training course. Classes are held one night a week and each class is held from 7:00pm - 9:30pm. There is a Saturday disaster simulation drill at the end of the seven week training, that is held from 7:30am-11:00am.
- CopLogic is a new reporting system which will be implemented within the next week or so. CopLogic is a system that is designed to allow citizens to file certain reports via the internet. The system is accessible from any computer with internet access through the police department’s website and it will also be available in Spanish. There will also be a computer in the police department lobby which residents will be able to use to report incidents. This system gives the citizen the ability to file the report at their leisure and the ability to obtain a copy of the report with in a few days at no cost to them. The reports a citizen will be able to report via the CopLogic program will be: Child Custody Violations, Graffiti, Harassing Phone Calls, Hit and Run (without other party information), Identity Theft, Lost Property, Theft (under \$500), Vandalism, Vandalism of a vehicle, vehicle burglary and vehicle tampering.
- Top calls for service for the area:
 1. Traffic Stops with 458 calls for service
 2. Pedestrian checks with 187 calls for service
 3. Medical Assistance with 164 calls for service

THE ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT REFLECT ACTIONS TAKEN

Concerns of South Fontana residents:

- Asked what would constitute a pedestrian check. **Sgt. Escarpe advised there are several things; it could be that a person is walking down the street looking suspicious or it could be that we just make contact with someone just because.**
- Advised they are seeing graffiti more and more on the sidewalks. **Officer Porch advised when you call that into our graffiti hotline make sure you mention that the graffiti is on the sidewalk.**
- Asked what the turn around time for the graffiti removal is. **Officer Snyder advised it's usually 48 to 72 hours.**
- Asked what are the ages of gang members. **Officer Snyder advised it's an age from very young to 50-60 years old.**
- Asked how taggers get on the freeway overpass signs. **Officer Snyder advised he does not know.**
- Advised she noticed signs where they are putting stickers on them. **Officer Snyder advised that is called Slap tagging and it should also be reported. It's a form of graffiti.**
- Asked if they graffiti on your home who do they call. **Officer Snyder advised you should call the police department.**
- Advised he takes his children on nature walks and there is a lot of graffiti on the rocks, will the graffiti removal team go up in the hills and remove the graffiti. **Officer Snyder advised they wouldn't be able to go up in the hills because there will be no way they could take all their equipment with them.**
- Asked if tagging was a misdemeanor. **Officer Snyder advised it is now a felony, because the city broke it down to the manpower hours it takes to remove the graffiti and the break down of the equipment used to remove the graffiti it comes out to \$482 for each graffiti they remove which will make it a felony.**
- Asked what else is done besides fining them. **Officer Snyder advised it's up to the court or the probation officer. Usually they have to do 40 hours of community service, a fine and sometimes get their license taken away.**
- Asked if there has been any arrests of anyone who has graffiti'd in Oak Park. **Officer Snyder advised not for Oak Park but they have worked on Shadow park.**
- Advised there is a lot of graffiti in the library. **Officer Porch advised a lot of the graffiti is in the restrooms and we can not put a camera in there so it's up to the parents to watch their children.**
- Asked how many vehicles are in area 4. **Officer Snyder advised it depends on the time of day and the day. Advised it can be anywhere from 4 or 5 to 8 or 9 at one time.**

- Asked if there was any update on the shooting they had in the southend. **Officer Porch advised they have arrested 3 and they are going to trial soon.**
- Asked if they are still having problems in the southend with burglaries and asked if there is any connection to tagging in the area. **Officer Snyder advised we arrested one for the burglaries however there is no connection with tagging.**
- Asked if there was any problems with people egging cars that are parked on the street. **Officer Snyder advised no there hasn't been any issues with that, it's probably just juveniles being juveniles.**
- Advised his property sits on county line and asked how much of a buffer zone do they get when something happens behind them, do they call Riverside County or the Fontana Police Department. **Officer Snyder advised you call us and we'll determine if we should call Riverside.**
- Asked if fireworks are legal this year. **Sgt. Escarpe advised yes they are legal this year.**
- Asked with the budget cuts, what are the effects on the police department services. **Sgt. Escarpe advised we don't know exactly what the state is going to do right now, however we are trying to maintain our services. We currently are 5 officers shy of our 202 officers.**
- Asked what the outcome of the water company meeting was. **Sgt. Escarpe advised he don't know much about that except that it's being reviewed by a judge. There should be more information on the city website.**
- Asked if the city has an evacuation disaster plan. **Sgt. Escarpe advised yes we do, advised you will be able to obtain that information from Laura Wolbert who is in charge of our Emergency Services.**
- Advised he appreciates the hard work on dealing with the unlicensed Push Cart vendors.
- Asked about the tree trimming schedule. **Sonya Montgomery advised currently the city is on the 5 year system, however if you see a tree that needs immediate trimming please contact public works and they'll take a look at it.**
- Asked if bike officers ride the bikes when it rains. **Sgt. Escarpe advised it depends on the weather, if the weather is bad they usually take patrol vehicles.**
- Advised around the school parents are negligent when dropping off their kids. **Sgt. Escarpe advised if there is an issue with traffic call the police department and we'll send an officer out, you can also call school police.**
- Advised her name is Joann and she is from the Central Valley Prevention program and they are funded by the state to establish groups in Fontana to identify conditions which will stop juveniles from underage drinking and drug use, advised if you would like more information please see her after the meeting.

- Asked how much success the police department has had with the new cell phone law. **Officer Rodriguez advised we do not have stats but we catch people all day long. Advised texting is harder to catch than the obvious use of the cell phone.**
- Advised her neighbor has been flooding her house, asked who she should contact. **Sgt. Escarpe advised to talk with Code Compliance. Ted Porlas advised he will get more information after the meeting.**
- Advised the drains on Cherry just south of Ralph's on the right side are clogged. **Todd Heagstedt advised he will look into it.**
- Asked if anything can be done about an obnoxious neighbor who pulls up everyday and honks the horn, can they be issued a citation? **Sgt. Escarpe advised the best thing to do is to have a police officer go out and speak with them.**
- Asked if you call and make a report does the officer tell them who called or do you have to tell the dispatcher you want to remain anonymous. **Sgt. Escarpe advised you will have to let the dispatcher know that you want to remain anonymous but if the officer needs more information it would help them to have the reporting party's information.**
- Asked if taking the shopping carts from the stores is a crime. **Sgt. Escarpe advised yes it is. We are currently looking into what we can do differently because other communities around us are taking different actions to reduce the taking of shopping carts.**
- Advised with all the foreclosed homes asked if the companies are allowed to remove the lawn completely in order to not receive a citation for unkempt yard. **Ted Porlas from Code Compliance advised it is not allowed, however we have so many foreclosed homes, we will not be able to restore the lawn however what we will do is make sure the lawn is restored before the house is sold.**
- Advised across the street from her the kids have gone and kicked out the wood fence asked if the city will remove the fence or repair it. **Ted Porlas advised they will remove the fence unless there is a reason to keep people out of the yard for safety purposes such as a pool or some other reason.**
- Asked if there were any plans of putting street sweeper signs up for no parking on the street the day the street sweeper comes by. **Todd Heagstedt advised there are no plans for putting up those signs because there are so many we would have to put up and it's not feasible. Dave Teater with Engineering advised with the rapid growth of the city and the continual changes we couldn't do every area, however we do have one area where signs are posted but that is because they are next to the dump. You can possibly get together with your neighbors and inform them of the street sweeper day.**
- Advised he appreciates the police department because all the problems which were brought up at the last meeting have been taken care of.
- Asked if the police department is still not responding to alarm calls. **Sgt. Escarpe advised yes the policy is still in place. We need something**

that verifies there is an actual burglary in progress. Before the verified alarm policy we got around 2000 burglary alarm calls in a single year now it's below 500.

- Advised they have noticed more and more kids on skateboards and bikes riding around dangerously in the supermarket parking lot very late, asked if the supermarkets are calling the police when this happens. ***Sgt. Escarpe advised he don't know if the supermarkets are calling however sometimes residents do call, if you see something like that please call the police department.***
- Advised on her street there is a street light burnt out. ***Please call 357-OUTT.***
- Advised at Jurupa Hills Park people are in and out of there all hours of the night and the gate is not being locked like it was before. ***Sgt. Escarpe advised we will check with Parks on the gates being locked.***

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON APRIL 2, 2009, AT 6:30 P.M. AT SOUTHRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL (14500 LIVE OAK). PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA BY APRIL 1, 2009 TO:

Amber Smith
Fontana Police Department
17005 Upland Avenue
Fontana, CA 92335

350-7710
asmith@fontana.org