

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Robert J. Pilipiszyn, Village Manager  
From: Acting Chief Renee Strasser *RS*  
Date: May 12, 2015  
Re: Monthly Report for April 2015

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On April 13, 2015 Village Clerk John Burns administered Steve Ljubenko his new Oath of Office as a LaGrange Police Sergeant. The promotion was the result of a recent restructuring of personnel in the Police Department. Sergeant Ljubenko is a fifteen year veteran of the La Grange Police Department and began his career with us in August of 1999. He has been serving in the Patrol Division as a Squad Leader for the past ten years.



Over his career, Sergeant Ljubenko has served as an Investigator, a D.A.R.E. Instructor, a Field Training Officer, the Police Pension Board Secretary and a High School Liaison Officer. He has been awarded several Unit Citations and two Letters of Commendation for his achievements as a LaGrange Police Officer.



April 15, 2015 was an important day of celebration for fifty-one 5th grade students from St Cletus School. That was their long anticipated D.A.R.E. graduation day. D.A.R.E. Officer/Investigator Tim Andries spent ten weeks educating the children about peer pressure and drug abuse. The event was well attended by school staff, students' families and La Grange Police Officers.

### MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Ofc. Hon, Ofc. Kang, Ofc. Comstock and S/L Wolf responded to two male subjects arguing in the 0-100 block of S. LaGrange Rd. It was discovered that one subject was the manager of a business on LaGrange Rd, the other subject was intoxicated and reportedly had been in the business earlier, removed a painting from the wall, causing damage to the wall and then left with the painting. Officers were able to recover the painting from the subject and return it to the manager. The manager declined to pursue criminal charges against the subject or issue a no trespass order. Subject was warned and released to family members.

Ofc. Kang, Ofc. Hon and Sgt. Kielczynski responded to the report of loud noise/loud party in the 300 block of E. Calendar Ave. It was determined that one of the subjects at the scene had an outstanding warrant for Probation Violation from a Domestic Battery conviction. The male subject was arrested and processed for the outstanding warrant.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The midnight shift completed 116 traffic contacts which included 2 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended and investigated 2 Property Damage Traffic Accidents. Shift Officers issued 98 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers also conducted 81 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the April 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. S/L Wolf attended the 40 hr. Firearms Instructor training course. Ofc. Comstock attended Advanced D.U.I, Tactical Flashlight and Verbal Judo training courses.

## **DAY SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative case reports taken this month included: Criminal Trespass to Motor Vehicle (1), Identity Theft (9), Death Investigation (1), Battery (1), Theft under \$500 (2), Domestic (1), Public Indecency (2), Fraud (1), Criminal Damage to Property (1), Possession of Controlled Substance (1).

Ofc. Coleman took a report of Criminal Trespass to Motor Vehicle in the 700 block of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The offender gained entry to an unlocked vehicle and removed items from the glove box, and center console and these items were left on the front seats and floor boards. Nothing was missing from the vehicle.

Ofc. Pacana investigated a case of Identity theft where the victim attempted to open a bank account at Bank of America in Westmont and was told his social security number was already on record for another person. Complainant notified the credit reporting agencies and obtained a fraud alert.

S/L Rohlicek, Ofc. Pacana, Ofc. Moncivais, and Ofc. Irizarry each investigated separate cases with similar facts. The victims attempted to electronically file their income taxes and were told their social security number had already been used to file a return under a different name. In each case the victims were told to file a complaint with the FTC, and check with the credit reporting agencies. Several of the victims had their identification compromised at either Target or Home Depot in 2014.

Ofc. Moncivais investigated a theft at the antique shop within the Jackson Square Mall where several miscellaneous items were stolen. Total value under \$200.

Ofc. Moncivais investigated a report of Indecent Exposure in the 00 hundred block of S. LaGrange Rd where a person in a vehicle was observed masturbating. The suspect left prior to the officer's arrival. This subject matches the description of the offender arrested by Ofc. Fulla a day later for indecent exposure.

Ofc. Pacana responded to a report of a possible scam involving a resident in 500 block of Brainard. The complainant received a call indicating he won a sweepstake. His prize was \$250,000 and he was required to send \$3600 for the processing fee. The complainant did not send the money and the report was made as a matter of record.

Ofc. Irizarry investigated a report of Criminal Damage to Property where the offender ran across the hood of the victim's vehicle as it was stopped in traffic near LaGrange road and Harris Avenue. The offender ran from the scene and the complainant was unable to identify the offender. There was minor damage to the hood of complainant's vehicle.

Ofc. Irizarry investigated a report of theft under \$500 at the library. The victim forgot his cell phone/case that was still on a table on the second floor of the library and went to the first floor. When the victim returned to the second floor, the cell phone and case were missing.

Ofc. Irizarry investigated a report of Criminal Damage to Property in the 1000 block of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Several words were scratched into the wooden door at that location.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. Fulla investigated a report of Indecent Exposure in the 00 hundred block of North LaGrange Rd. The victim obtained the registration on the vehicle and the vehicle was stopped in LaGrange Park with the assistance of LaGrange Park Sgt. Renc. A man from Oak Brook was arrested and charged.

Ofc. Coleman investigated a Criminal Trespass to Land at McDonalds/BP Amoco and subsequently arrested a local LaGrange resident.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The shift completed 112 traffic contacts which included 8 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, 5 suspended registration. The shift completed 30 Illinois Traffic crash reports.

In addition, the shift members were active in their patrol duties around the schools and conducted several special details at Lyons Township high School during the morning drop-off period. S/L Rohlicek continues to perform Part-Time School Resource Officer duties at LTHS once per week. Ofc. Fulla assisted St. Cletus with their school safety fair.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the April 2015 Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins.

## **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigative Case Reports taken this month included: Theft by Deception (1), Suicidal Subject (1), Juvenile Fight (1), Attempted Strong Armed Robbery (1), Identity Theft (3), Domestic Trouble, Warrant Service (2), Criminal Damage to Property (3), Battery (4), Well-Being Check (1), Telephone Harassment (1), Criminal Trespass to Property (1) Voluntary Committal (1), and Fraudulent Activity (2).

On April 25<sup>th</sup> at 1615 hrs, a 20 year old M/W from Brookfield walked to the 7-11 at East and Ogden to make a purchase. While at the counter, the victim was confronted by 4 male

subjects. One asked him if he wanted to buy weed. The victim said no and walked out of the store. As the victim was walking W/B Ogden Ave. near Washington, he was approached from behind and punched in the face. He turned around to defend himself and realized it was the 4 subjects from the 7-11. The victim took-off running. The offenders did not get his money or phone. Case is under investigation.

Ofc. Wessendorf and Ofc. Burrell handled a call of Telephone Harassment, which occurred on successive occasions in the 1000 Block of South Brainard Avenue. The officers were able to confirm a suspect through subpoenaed telephone records. The case is currently pending contact with the suspect.

Ofc. McDermott along with additional LaGrange and Western Springs officers responded to Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital for a report of a missing suicidal female patient. The female was subsequently located and returned to the emergency room, without incident.

**ARRESTS:** Ofc. McDermott arrested a 34-year old Lansing woman on an outstanding Cook County warrant for Aggravated Speeding, after McDermott conducted a traffic stop in the vicinity of LaGrange Road and 47<sup>th</sup> Street. The woman was issued additional traffic citations and taken into custody, without incident.

Sgt. Odom, along with Officers Balon and McDermott assisted the Chicago Police Fugitive Apprehension Unit with the location and arrest of 23-year old Brookfield man on an outstanding warrant for an Order of Protection violation and a Parole violation. The man was taken into custody in the 00 Block of Washington Avenue.

Ofc. McDermott cited a 32-year old Berwyn man for Trespass to Railroad property after the male attempted to board a commuter train after the doors were closed and the train had already began to move from the LaGrange Road Depot. The man was safely removed from the train and arrested, without incident.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** The shift conducted 97 traffic stops which resulted in 6 Misdemeanor Traffic Arrests to include Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, and Driving with a Suspended Vehicle Registration. The shift completed 20 Illinois Crash reports, five involving personal injury.

Ofc. Balon (Elderly Services Officer) attended an M-Team meeting with several Senior Center patrons and the staff from Aging Care Connections. Sgt. Berg, along with Auxiliary Officers Liotta, Grimm, Ward, and Fritsch attended the LaGrange Area Church Leaders' Community Walk and Prayer held at the LaGrange Village Hall. Ofc. Balon and Ofc. Burrell conducted a station tour for LaGrange Girl Scout Troop 5164. The group consisted of 25 first grade "daisies", their Troop leaders, and parents.

**TRAINING:** The shift successfully completed the April 2015 Police Law Institute online training on: Investigating Recently Committed, Recently Discovered Violent Crimes. Sgt. Berg and K-9 Dak completed bi-monthly canine training.

## INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES

**INVESTIGATIONS:** Investigators continue to follow-up on the attempted strong armed robbery from April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Inv. Wardlaw and Inv. Andries were called out to Lyons PD as members of our local Major Case Assistance team (MCAT). Investigators assisted in locating several subjects wanted for aggravated battery.

Both Investigators attended the court hearings for the individuals arrested during the last tobacco enforcement sting. All 4 cited persons pleaded guilty and were required to complete training through the IL BASSET program.

**OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:** As the Department's D.A.R.E. instructor, Inv. Andries also taught at St John's Lutheran School. Approximately 11 students graduated from the program on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Inv. Andries also participated in the St Cletus Safety Fair. Inv. Andries talked to students about responsible behavior and how to be safe in the community.

**TRAINING:** Investigators attended a MCAT meeting and the West Suburban Juvenile Officers (WSJOA) meeting for the month of April. Inv. Wardlaw attended IRMA active shooter training. Both Investigators received training on the new audio visual recording equipment to be used to for interrogations and photo line-ups and will train the rest of the staff.

## AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME POLICE UNITS

The Auxiliary Unit volunteered 106 hours during the month of April and their time was spent conducting house checks, street lights out lists and various patrol duties.

The Part-time Officers made 8 traffic stops and were active during the month conducting directed traffic patrols and assisting the full-time officers where necessary.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

April 13-19, 2015 was National Telecommunicators Week and Fire Chief Don Gay and Acting Police Chief Strasser presented the Dispatch Center with a Proclamation honoring the tireless efforts of our Telecommunicators. These public safety communications professionals work hard 24/7 to protect our community along with police, fire and emergency medical personnel. Their ability to remain calm and simultaneously manage both police and fire emergencies, non-emergencies, administrative and operational tasks, is truly admirable. Thank you Telecommunicators Holly Seymour, Kathy Rapp, Therese Biesek, Patty Donovan, Patty Mesich, Sue Drake, Valarie Lunsford and Lori McLaughlin for your dedication and commitment to public safety.

Kim Knutsen accepted the position of Executive Director for consolidated dispatch and will begin June 1, 2015.



**PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$24,555 in parking fines through conventional payments, on-line payments, or collection efforts.

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>PATROL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>April</b>		<b>April</b>		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>2015</b>		<b>2014</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	1,339		1,212		5,085	4,802
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	52		58		216	256
FELONY ARRESTS	0		0		4	3
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	4		7		17	29
DUI ARRESTS	0		2		2	10
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	52		39		186	151
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	83		93		321	388
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	149	606	163	738	2,755	3,081
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	457		575			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	0		1		2	2
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	3		7		20	35