



GARDENA, CA



# GARDENA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1      JANUARY 2016

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Emergency	911	Detectives	(310) 217-9607
Non-Emergency	(310) 323-7911	Graffiti/Potholes	(310) 217-9650
Police Records	(310) 217-9600	Community Affairs	(310) 965-2321

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## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF MEDRANO: PROCEDURAL JUSTICE & IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING



I would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year! 2016 was a difficult time in law enforcement, so as we begin 2017, we are looking forward to continuing to build our community-police partnerships and progress as a Department. As an organization, we are constantly implementing new and groundbreaking training to improve officers' skills and ensure that they are at the forefront of law enforcement. Among them, Procedural Justice and Implicit Bias training is being taught throughout our Department to enhance our policing strategies and be the most effective for the community. Implicit Bias training focuses on our ability to acknowledge that we all have bias whether they stem from our background or experiences. By first acknowledg-

ing these biases we can then recognize and separate them in order to police objectively. Procedural justice is a framework with which officers can build effective policing efforts in their communities as they interact with the public in all situations. Procedural Justice includes four main pillars: 1) Fairness; 2) Voice; 3) Transparency; and 4) Impartiality. By employing these four pillars, it builds the practice of treating the public in all encounters fairly; providing them with the opportunity for voice during the interaction; and ensuring the process of the interaction is transparent and impartial, thus demonstrating respect. When the principles of procedural justice are applied—in all interactions—there is a greater willingness by the public to voluntarily obey the law and cooperate with the police, consequently decreasing overall crime rates and enhancing officer safety (Sunshine & Tyler, 2003).

I am humbled and grateful to work for such a wonderful City and lead the men and women of the Gardena Police Department. Law enforcement is entering a new era of policing, and we stand ready to take on the challenges ahead of us. We are so thankful for the continuous support of our community and the partnerships we forged. If you have any questions or concerns, as always, please feel free to contact me at: (310) 217-9601, or [chief@gardenapd.org](mailto:chief@gardenapd.org).



## 10 Things You Can Do to Avoid Fraud

Crooks use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. They often combine new technology with old tricks to get people to send money or give out personal information. Here are some practical tips to help you stay a step ahead.

1. **Spot imposters.** Scammers often pretend to be someone you trust, like a government official, a family member, a charity, or a company you do business with. Do not send money or give out personal information in response to an unexpected request — whether it comes as a text, a phone call, or an email.
2. **Do online searches.** Type a company or product name into your favorite search engine with words like “review,” “complaint” or “scam.” Or search for a phrase that describes your situation, like “IRS call.” You can even search for phone numbers to see if other people have reported them as scams.
3. **Don’t believe your caller ID.** Technology makes it easy for scammers to fake caller ID information, so the name and number you see aren’t always real. If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up. If you think the caller might be telling the truth, call back to a number you know is genuine.
4. **Don’t pay upfront for a promise.** Someone might ask you to pay in advance for things like debt relief, credit and loan offers, mortgage assistance, or a job. They might even say you’ve won a prize, but first you have to pay taxes or fees. If you do, they will probably take the money and disappear.
5. **Consider how you pay.** Credit cards have significant fraud protection built in, but some payment methods don’t. Wiring money through services like Western Union or MoneyGram is **risky** because it’s nearly impossible to get your money back. That’s also true for reloadable cards like MoneyPak, Reloadit or Vanilla. Government offices and honest companies won’t require you to use these payment methods.
6. **Talk to someone.** Before you give up your money or personal information, talk to someone you trust. Con artists want you to make decisions in a hurry. They might even threaten you. Slow down, check out the story, do an online search, consult an expert — or just tell a friend.
7. **Hang up on robocalls.** If you answer the phone and hear a recorded sales pitch, hang up and report it to the FTC. These calls are illegal, and often the products are bogus. Don’t press 1 to speak to a person or to be taken off the list. That could lead to more calls.
8. **Be skeptical about free trial offers.** Some companies use free trials to sign you up for products and bill you every month until you cancel. Before you agree to a free trial, research the company and read the cancellation policy. And always review your monthly statements for charges you don’t recognize.
9. **Don’t deposit a check and wire money back.** By law, banks

must make funds from deposited checks available within days, but uncovering a fake check can take weeks. If a check you deposit turns out to be a fake, you’re responsible for repaying the bank.

10. **Sign up for free scam alerts from the FTC at [ftc.gov/scams](https://ftc.gov/scams).** Get the latest tips and advice about scams sent right to your inbox.



**Map Your Neighborhood -- a program that can save lives and property in a disaster!**

### Why Map Your Neighborhood ?

**“Map Your Neighborhood” (MYN) is a program designed to help neighbors prepare for disasters and is offered through the Gardena Police Department Emergency Preparedness Office.**

**MYN will help you to:**

- Learn the “9 Steps to Take Immediately Following a Disaster” to secure your home and protect your neighborhood. It is hard to think clearly following disaster and these steps will help you to quickly and safely take actions that can minimize damage and protect lives.
- Identify the **Skills and Equipment** each neighbor has that would be useful in an effective disaster response. Knowing which neighbors have supplies and skills helps your disaster response to be timely, and allows everyone to contribute to the response in a meaningful way.
- Create a **Neighborhood Map** identifying the locations of natural gas and propane tanks for quick responses if needed.
- Create a **Contact List** that helps identify those with specific needs such as the elderly, disabled, or children who may be home alone during certain hours of the day.

**For More Information**

**Please Contact:**  
**Mark Clayton**  
 Daphne MYN Coordinator  
 (310) 327-7398  
[m.clayson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.clayson@sbcglobal.net)

Contact **Mark Clayton** at (310) 327-7398 or [m.clayson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.clayson@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

Submitted by:

**Renee’ Anderson**

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, Chief of Police Citizen Advisory Panel (COPCAP)

Information gathered from:

**Federal Trade Commission (FTC)**

## OFFICER HIGHLIGHT



**Detective Carlos Fernandez**

Detective Carlos Fernandez has dedicated himself to the Gardena Police Department for almost 21 years. Knowing he wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement ever since he was in elementary school, Detective Fernandez established contact with officers through the D.A.R.E program. While in high school, he became an explorer at Inglewood Police Department in order to gain experience in Law Enforcement. From there, Detective Fernandez moved on to becoming a Police Assistant at Gardena Police Department and a Cadet at El Camino College. Shortly after, he became a Police Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department and several months later transferred to the Gardena Police Department where he has taken on a range of assignments including: patrol, narcotics, and Detective. Detective Fernandez is currently assigned Auto Thefts. He enjoys working for the City of Gardena because of the positive feedback that he receives from the community.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR HIGHLIGHT



**Kathy Haynes**

**District 1 Wilkie Neighborhood Watch Coordinator**

**WHAT CAUSED YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED IN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?**

What caused me to become involved in Neighborhood Watch was that when I moved into a new neighborhood here in the City, there had been a few incidents on my block. I thought that one way I could help and minimize these crimes would be to start attending neighborhood watch meetings. I began going to meetings at Rowley Park. However, they were so long and did not address the topics that I really wanted to know about. That's when I decided to start a new Neighborhood Watch group on my block.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM?**

What I like most is to see that the meetings do make a difference, especially in our residents' attitudes towards our Police Department and about how safe our block is if we all work together to keep it that way.

## MEET OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATORS!



**Left to Right:** Captain Kang, Lt. Fox (D2), Lt. Prendergast (D1), Mark Clayson (D1), Virginia Burgos (D3), Renee' Anderson (D1), Jessie Carrara (D3), Annie Roddy (D3), Mary Koch (D2), Char Lynch (D2), Brenda Jackson (D1), Abigail Quiroz (Comm. Affairs), Lt. Lee (D3)

**Not Pictured:** Wilhelmina Bradley (D1), Shiela Doerschel (D2), Shawn Groveunder (D2), Kathy Haynes (D1), Jules Kanhan (D1), Beverly Melville (D2), Diane Morita (D2), Mina Semenza (D3), Chris Vlahos (D3)

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETINGS

### District One

**Holly Park HOA**  
Rowley Park Community Room  
- 13220 S. Van Ness Ave)  
**1st Thursday of every month @ 7 PM.**

**Wilkie NW Group**  
Ms. Kathy Haynes' home -13816 Wilkie Ave  
**2nd Tuesday of every month @ 7 PM**

**NE Quadrant NW**  
Community Room of GTran Municipal Trans. Facility – 13999 S Western Ave  
**Last Tuesday of every month @ 6:30 PM**

**Casimir Gate Keepers Block Watch**  
Meets Quarterly, Contact District Lt for upcoming dates

**Hass Ave Block Watch 13123**  
Haas Ave  
**Contact District Lt for upcoming dates**

### District Two

**Junipero Serra High School**  
14830 S. Van Ness  
**2nd Thursday of every month @ 7:00 PM**

**CrossRoad NW**  
Crossroad Church – 15916 Crenshaw Blvd  
**Last Monday, monthly @ 7:00 PM**

**Doerschel Residence**  
1319 W 147<sup>th</sup> Street  
**3rd Thursday of every other odd month @ 7:00 PM**

**Melville NW**  
2718 W. 143<sup>rd</sup> Place  
**Contact District Lt for upcoming dates**



### District Three

**Area One**  
**Gardena Juvenile Justice Center**  
16206 Western Ave Suite F  
**3rd Thursday of every even Month @ 7:00 PM**

**Area Two**  
**Arthur Johnson Park**  
1200 W. 170<sup>th</sup> Street  
**4th Tuesday of every even month @ 7:00 PM**

**Area Three and Four**  
**Gardena Juvenile Justice Center**  
16206 Western Ave Suite F  
**4th Thursday of every odd month @ 7:00 PM**

**Garden West Mobile Estates**  
17700 S. Western Ave  
**2nd Wednesday of every even month @ 7:00PM**

## Follow-Home Robbery Prevention Tips

Follow-home robberies are described as a type of crime in which robbers look for individuals who exhibit or withdraw money at locations such as banks, gas stations, casinos, and grocery/shopping centers and follow them as they leave their location and drive home. These criminals rob the victims as they pull into their driveway or as they step into their home.

To help minimize the chances of becoming a victim of follow-home robberies, follow these simple tips:

1. Be careful when exhibiting money in public or carrying large amounts of cash.
2. Always be aware of your surroundings, especially when leaving a location and driving home.
3. Be aware of people watching you when opening your wallet to make a purchase, making a monetary transaction, pushing your cart towards the car, or putting your shopping bags into the car.
4. Unlock your car a few paces before reaching the vehicle.
5. Watch who is driving behind you at all times.
6. Don't pull into your driveway until you are certain that nobody is following behind you.
7. Lock your vehicle as soon as you exit and home door as soon as you walk in.

If you believe that you are being followed, call the Gardena Police Department and do not stop your vehicle until police is present. Be prepared to provide a description of the vehicle and the individuals that occupied the vehicle.



## CRIME UPDATE

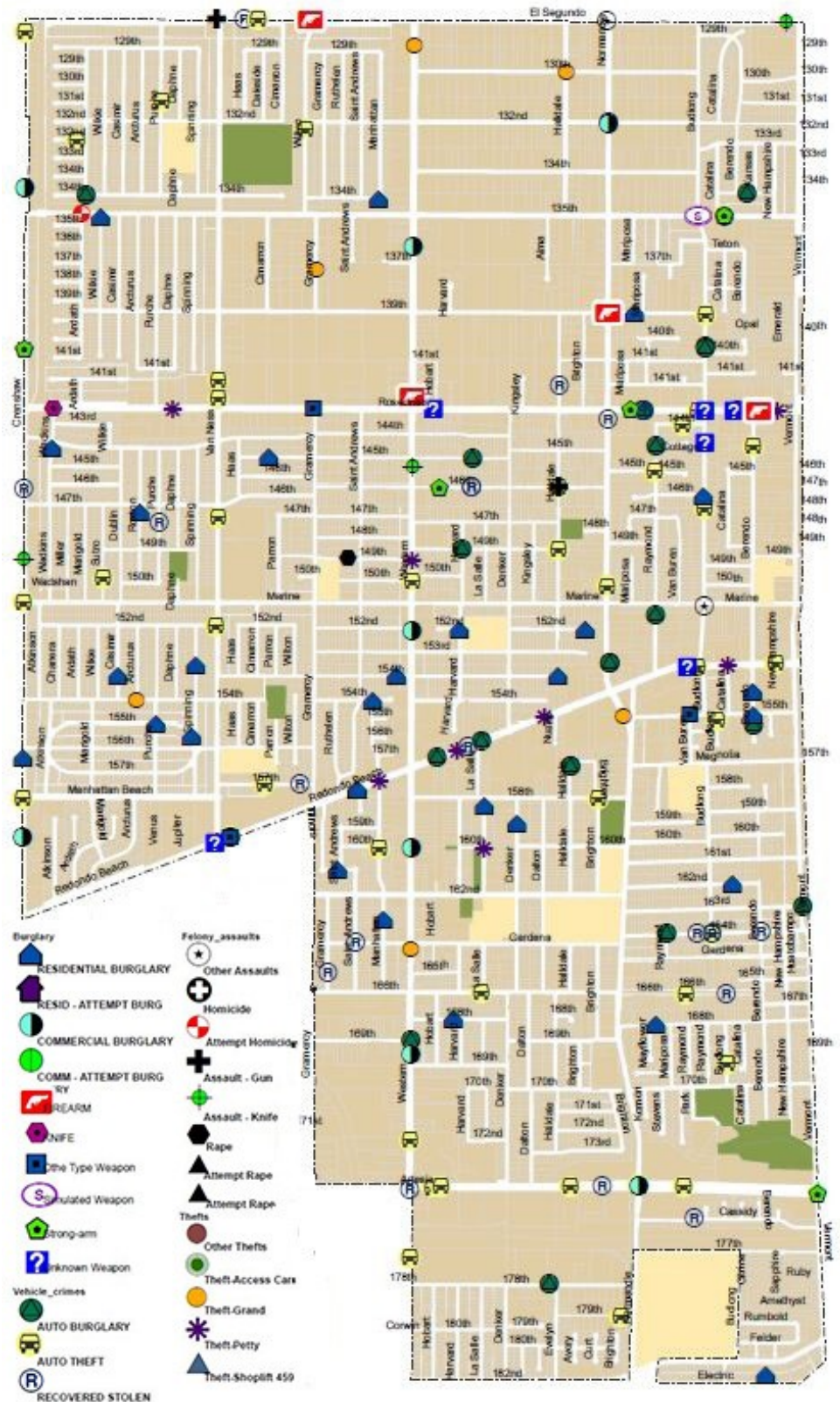
The following map represents the crime that we had in Gardena for the month of December. The tables list the amount of crimes we have had in the past two months. To find more up-to-date crime stats, please go to [www.gardenapd.org](http://www.gardenapd.org).

### Nov. '16

Robbery	14
Res. Burglary	10
Comm. Burglary	11
Vehicle Crimes	51
Assaults	16

### Dec. '16

Robbery	21
Res. Burglary	32
Comm. Burglary	10
Vehicle Crimes	74
Assaults	10





Text 'Gardena' to 888777  
for updates from GPD about road  
closures, events, crimes, and  
more.

## Follow us on Social Media!

Visit us on the web at:  
[www.gardenapd.org](http://www.gardenapd.org)



@GPDCHIEF



@GARDENAPD

Gardena Police

Department



@GARDENAPOLICE

### E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

If you are not on our E-mailing list, please email  
[aquiroz@gardenapd.org](mailto:aquiroz@gardenapd.org) and request to be added.

### CONTRIBUTE

If you would like to add crime prevention tips or articles to our  
next newsletter, please email them to [aquiroz@gardenapd.org](mailto:aquiroz@gardenapd.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

*Did you know we found 186 people experiencing homelessness in your city  
a year ago?*



**JOIN THE CITY OF GARDENA'S  
HOMELESS COUNT**  
on Wednesday, January 25, 2017  
from 8-11 pm

#### Frequently Asked Questions

##### *Why do we do the Count?*

To get the official statistics of  
what homelessness looks like  
in our community. These are  
then used to bring needed  
services and housing to the  
South Bay.

##### *Why is it conducted every year?*

To see the trends and  
understand the progress we  
are making in ending  
homelessness.

##### *How will I know what to do that night?*

You will be fully trained and  
provided with the materials  
you'll need.

##### *How old do I have to be?*

All volunteers need to be at  
least 18 years old to  
participate in this activity.

##### *How long will it take?*

About 3 hours or less.

@ 16206 S. Western Avenue  
Ste. E, Gardena  
(corner of Western Avenue and 162nd St,  
right next to the Police Department)

Visit [www.theycountwillyou.org](http://www.theycountwillyou.org) to sign u

#### How It Works

- Come at this location at 8:00 pm for a brief  
training overview
- While working in teams of 2-3, you'll be assigned  
a census tract that you'll drive, looking for persons  
experiencing homelessness
- You will just be talking how many people you see  
– keeping a respectful distance from them
- When your team has finished, you'll return to this  
deployment site to turn in your results

#### Questions?

Please contact  
Det. Sean Dixon, [sdixon@gardenapd.org](mailto:sdixon@gardenapd.org)  
Lt. Todd Fox, [tfox@gardenapd.org](mailto:tfox@gardenapd.org)



Contact Detective Sean Dixon at [sdixon@gardenapd.org](mailto:sdixon@gardenapd.org) or (310) 217-9670

### WELCOME FOLDERS FOR NEW RESIDENTS!

A new outreach method the Gardena Police Department has  
created is the Welcome Folders for our new residents. These  
folders include a welcome letter from Chief Medrano, infor-  
mation regarding Neighborhood Watch, and a variety of City  
and Police resources.

If you are a new resident or know someone who recently  
moved into your neighborhood, please email [aquiroz@gardenapd.org](mailto:aquiroz@gardenapd.org) with the new resident's name and ad-  
dress!

The men & women of the Gardena Police De-  
partment wish you and your family a happy  
new year!



### Gardena Police Department

1718 West 162nd Street  
Gardena, CA 90247