



Gardena, CA



# Gardena Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 12

December 2017

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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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**Gardena Direct** is an App which is free to the public and provides the community an easy way to receive updates about what's happening in Gardena, submit requests for service (graffiti, potholes, illegal dumping, etc.), and track their requests.

**To submit a report:**

On the Web: [http://iframe.publicstuff.com/#?client\\_id=1000006](http://iframe.publicstuff.com/#?client_id=1000006)

**OR** Download the app on the Google Play Store or Apple Store App—  
Search for "Gardena Direct"

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## Message from Chief Medrano: Special Enforcement Unit



The Gardena Police Department is made up of several small teams that are dedicated to specialized assignments. One of those teams is our Special Enforcement Unit, or SEU. This unit is comprised of a gang component, mental health component (GHMET) and a school resource component (SRO). Though the team is small and made up of five officers and one sergeant, its impact is significant and widespread. Our gang detectives are uniformed street officers whose responsibilities include investigating all gang related crimes as well as testify in court as gang experts. Our School Resource Officer

acts as a liaison between the police department and the schools in our city. He focuses heavily on truancy issues and also educates families about school safety. SRO Villanueva can often be seen giving kids a tour of the station or heading our Santa Float during Christmas time. And lastly, our mental health unit works closely with individuals in the city that are in need of mental health evaluations or assistance as a result of a mental disorder. This includes transients and homeless individuals. With the assistance of the Department of Mental Health, we are able to work together with other agencies to help provide solutions for those that need help. And when the gang unit, mental health unit and school resource unit work together, they are often helping probation and parole conduct compliance checks to ensure our city is a little safer today than what it was yesterday.

As the holiday season fast approaches, the Gardena Police Department would like to wish you and your family a safe and pleasant holiday season. If you have any questions or would like to share your comments, please feel free to email me at: [chief@gardenapd.org](mailto:chief@gardenapd.org), or by calling (310) 217-9601. We look forward to continuing to serve our community in the 2018 New Year!





## HOLIDAY TREE COLLECTION



A separate Waste Resources truck will pick up your tree for two weeks after Christmas Day (12/26/17-1/6/18) on the same day as your regular trash collection.

- Don't put your tree in your green cart; place your tree curbside the same day as your trash pick-up (by 7am)
- All decorations (ornaments, tinsel, etc.) and metal or plastic stands must be removed (wooden tree stands are okay)
- Don't place your tree in a bag
- Trees over eight feet tall should be cut in half
- Flocked trees are okay

Call Waste Resources at 800-467-7600 with any questions about this service. Following these simple steps will ensure that your trees will be used as mulch or for compost that may grow new trees for future Christmases!

## PORCH PIRATING PREVENTION TIPS

As many of us took advantage of Black Friday and Cyber Monday to shop for our family and friends for the holiday season, we are expecting lots of package deliveries.

Sadly, we experience a rise in "porch pirating" during the holiday season. Thieves tend to follow delivery trucks, watching for prime targets. Thieves can take your packages as soon as they have been delivered.

To help minimize the chances of becoming a victim of porch pirating, follow these simple tips:

1. If you will not be home during delivery time, have them delivered to a trusted person, such as a family member or neighbor.
2. Ask neighbors who are home during the day to watch for deliveries and pick up the package from your porch or doorstep and keep it until you get home.
3. At checkout, if provided with an option to choose delivery time, schedule a delivery time in which someone will be home to accept the package.
4. When ordering from a large retailer that is close to home, pick store pick-up, rather than delivery.
5. Sign up for delivery alerts so that you can be notified as soon as the package has been delivered.
6. Request for the delivery company to hold your package at their closest pick-up facility until you're able to pick it up.
7. Ask the shipper to require a signature confirmation upon delivery. If you are not home upon delivery, a note will be placed on your door with the next delivery date or pick-up location.
8. Provide delivery instructions so packages are left out of sight from the street.
9. Show off your home security system; make sure you have a sign in the front yard. If you have security cameras, make sure potential thieves know they're there.





## SHOP WITH A COP

Sunday, December 3, was a very special day! With the generous support of Target, the Gardena Police Foundation and the Gardena Police Officers' Association, members of our community were treated to a day of shopping with a police officer. A day affectionately called "Shop with a Cop" and "Heroes and Helpers" was held that morning at our local Target store here in Gardena.

Each of the 61 children and their families were treated to a breakfast, and then given a gift card worth \$100 which they were able to use to go shopping with a police officer. Santa even showed up to help! It was truly a magical morning.

We would like to give a huge thank you to TARGET, the GPOA, the GPF, and SANTA for their support and love.







## 2017 GPOA Santa Float Schedule

<b>Tuesday, December 5, 2017</b> 6:00pm—6:30pm: Rowley Park 6:45pm—7:15pm: Surprise Location 7:30pm—8:00pm: 129th & Wilton	<b>Thursday, December 14, 2017</b> 6:00pm—6:30pm: Bell Park 6:45pm—7:15pm: Surprise Location 7:30pm—8:00pm: Amestoy Elementary
<b>Thursday, December 7, 2017</b> 6:00pm—6:30pm: 133rd & Berendo 6:45pm—7:15pm: Surprise Location 7:30pm—8:00pm: 14000 Block of Budlong	<b>Tuesday, December 19, 2017</b> 6:00pm—6:30pm: Mas Fukai Park 6:45pm—7:15pm: Surprise Location 7:30pm—8:00pm: Arthur Johnson Park
<b>Tuesday, December 12, 2017</b> 6:00pm—6:30pm: Thornburg Park 6:45pm—7:15pm: Surprise Location 7:30pm—8:00pm: Freeman Park	<b>Thursday, December 21, 2017</b> 6:00pm—6:30pm: Evelyn & 182nd 6:45pm—7:15pm: Surprise Location 7:30pm—8:00pm: 182nd & Budlong



## Officer Highlight



### Detective Patrick Goodpaster

Detective Patrick Goodpaster has dedicated himself to the Gardena Police Department for the past eleven and a half years. Before becoming a police officer for the

City of Gardena, Goodpaster went to Colorado State University, where he majored in Liberal Arts and minored in Criminal Justice. He also played football during his time in college, as defensive line. He decided to pursue a career in law enforcement after going on a ride along with High School friends, Officer Bobby Rosales and Officer Luis Contreras. Detective Goodpaster has worked a variety of assignments including patrol, District Officer, Detective Bureau, Explorer Advisor, and Crisis Negotiations Team. The assignment that he has enjoyed most is being an Explorer Advisor, because it allowed him to teach and mentor youth in the community and provide them with an opportunity to see law enforcement first hand. What he enjoys most about being a part of the Gardena Police Department is the close-knit family atmosphere and looking forward to coming to work every morning. Outside of work, Goodpaster enjoys outdoor activities such as fishing and camping.

## Neighborhood Watch Meetings

### District One

**Lt. Prendergast (310) 217-9686**

#### **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

**Lt. Brock (310) 217-6128**

#### **Junipero Serra High School**

14830 S. Van Ness  
**2nd Thursday of every month @ 6:30 PM**

#### **CrossRoad NW**

Crossroad Church - 15916 Crenshaw Blvd  
**Last Monday, monthly @ 7:00 PM**

#### **Amestoy Elementary**

1040 W 149th St  
**3rd Thursday of every month @ 7:00 PM**

#### **Melville NW**

2718 W. 143rd Place  
**Contact District Lt for upcoming dates**

### District Three

**Lt. Lee (310) 217-9612**

#### **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. 170th 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**





## Crime Update

The following map represents the crime that we had in Gardena for the month of November. 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).

### Oct. '17

Robbery	19
Res. Burglary	20
Comm. Burglary	10
Vehicle Crimes	74
Assaults	18

### Nov. '17

Robbery	15
Res. Burglary	16
Comm. Burglary	9
Vehicle Crimes	44
Assaults	14





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

## 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, information 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 address!

## 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).

## 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.



**Gardena Police Department**

1718 West 162nd Street

Gardena, CA 90247

