



Gardena, CA



# Gardena Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 11

November 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: Thanksgiving & Veterans Day



As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I want to take this opportunity to share my thanks and appreciation for the community in which we serve. I am humbled and grateful to work for such a wonderful City. I admire our community for its commitment to serving one another and its support to our police department. I am also thankful to have the opportunity to lead the men and women of the

Gardena Police Department. Their hard work and professionalism has transformed our City into a great place to live, work and play. I wish you all and your families a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

As I express my gratitude, it is also important to honor the brave men and women of our United States Armed Forces who pledged to protect our country and safeguard our freedom. On November 11, Veterans Day, please take a few moments to pay tribute to our Veterans.

Recently, the Gardena City Council incorporated a new item to their agenda - 'Gardena Veterans Recognition.' During the beginning of each council meeting, City Council publicly recognizes and thanks a Gardena Military Veteran for their service. If you would like to be recognized or would like to nominate a veteran, please fill out the application located on the City of Gardena website, or through our Gardena Direct app. Thank you to our Veterans for their service to our country!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (310) 217-9601, or [chief@gardenapd.org](mailto:chief@gardenapd.org).



# **BLACK FRIDAY**

## *safety tips for the holiday*

Holidays are right around the corner. Many people take advantage of Black Friday to get a head start on holiday shopping, but criminals also see this as an opportunity to get great deals (free-by stealing, if they're lucky enough and don't end up with a free trip to jail instead). Follow these safety tips for a safe Black Friday shopping trip:

- Try to shop with a friend or relative. There is safety in numbers.
- Remember where you parked your car. Being unable to locate a car can cause you undue confusion and stress that may present you as a better target to a criminal.
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area. Remove cell phones or other valuables.
- Conceal your valuables. Nothing gets a thief going like a car full of bags that are clearly visible. Lock them in your trunk or place them under seats out of sight.
- Keep your vehicle doors locked and your windows shut.
- Carry your purse close to your body and don't swing it loosely.
- Don't display large amounts of cash. Take only what you may need, don't have too many things in your pockets or purse.
- Avoid talking to strangers.
- Approach your vehicle with your keys already in your hand.
- Don't approach your car if someone is standing close (even females).
- Trust your instincts. If something tells you to be cautious, trust your gut..

**If you see anything suspicious or if something just doesn't feel right,  
leave immediately and contact the Gardena Police Department.**





On October 26th, the Gardena Police Department hosted its annual Employee Recognition Luncheon. Congratulations to our officer of the year **Sergeant Mike Sargent**. He was chosen by his peers as the officer who best represents the department's values of hard work, integrity, and professionalism.

Other recognition winners were:

Explorer of the year: **Kiara Preciado**

Volunteer of the year: **Kimi Kiyohara**

Part time employee : **Erika McLeod**

Full time employee : **Alejandra Orozco**

Congrats to all of the recipients!



*Congrats!*

The holidays are almost here and many of us will be traveling to visit family and friends. GPD wants to remind you that you can request a Vacation Patrol Check by downloading the "Gardena Direct" app. After submitting a request, our officers will make a special effort to drive by your house while you're away.

Download the 'Gardena Direct' app and search for the 'Extra Patrol or Vacation Check Requests' tab to submit a request. Our officers will make a special effort to drive by your home while you are out of town.

Download "Gardena Direct"  on Google Play or Apple Store

## Officer Highlight



**Detective Richard Reynaga**

Detective Richard Reynaga (Special Enforcement Unit) has dedicated himself to the Gardena Police

Department for the past ten years. Before becoming a police officer for the City of Gardena, Reynaga was a Cadet for Redondo Beach PD for two years and then became an officer for Baldwin Park for the following 5 years. He decided to pursue a career in law enforcement because he knew he wanted to protect the citizens in the community and take bad people to jail. Detective Reynaga has worked a variety of assignments including patrol, Field Training Officer, Detective Bureau, Bike Patrol, SWAT, and Special Enforcement Unit. The assignment that he enjoyed most was Field Training Officer because it allowed him an opportunity to forge the future of the department. What he enjoys most about being in the law enforcement field are the interactions with the community. Outside of work, Reynaga practices jiu-jitsu and coaches kids in soccer.

## 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

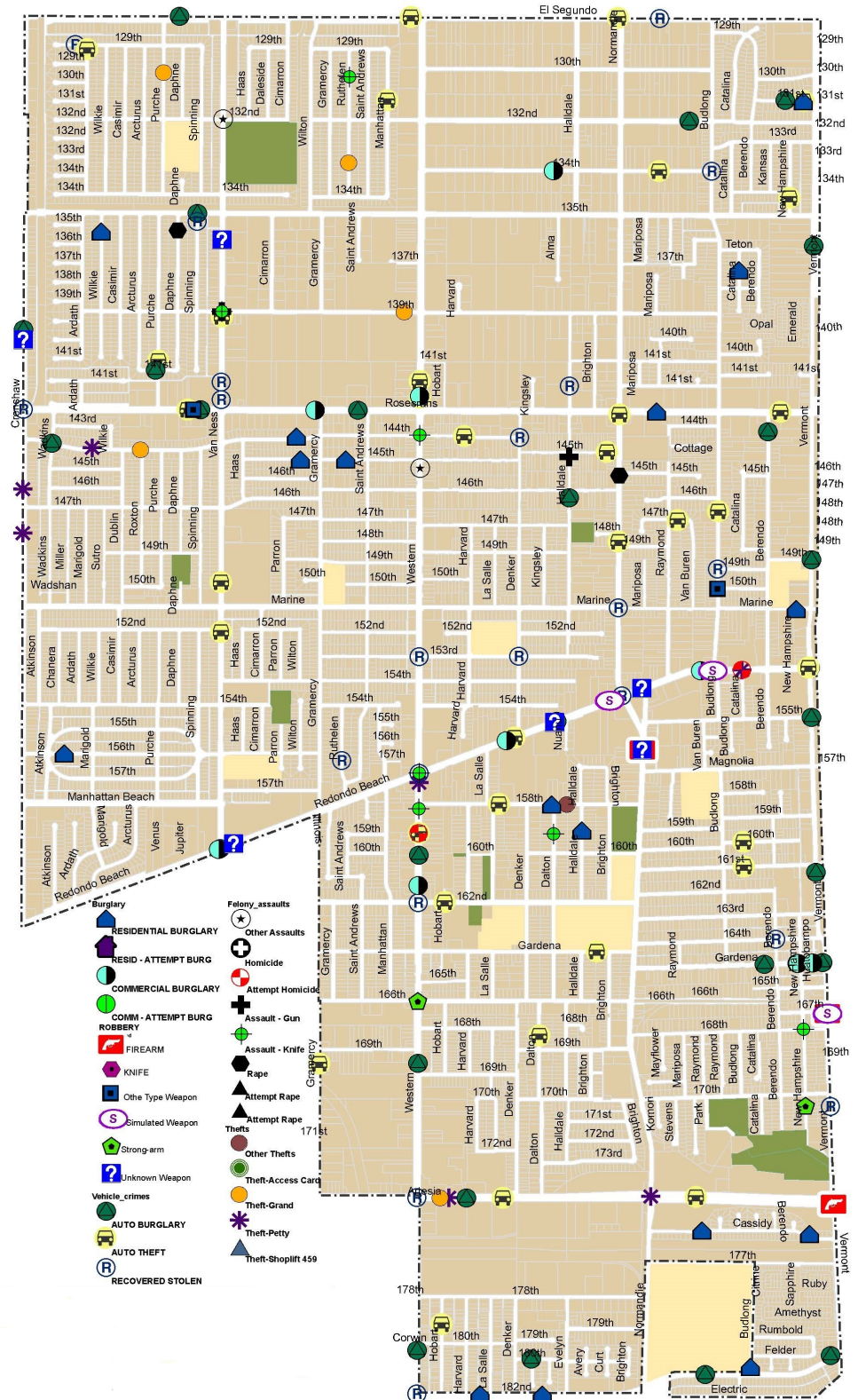
The following map represents the crime that we had in Gardena for the month of November. The tables list the amount of crimes we have had in the past two months. To find more up-to-date crime stats, please go to [www.gardenapd.org](http://www.gardenapd.org).

### Sep. '17

Robbery	13
Res. Burglary	13
Comm. Burglary	16
Vehicle Crimes	57
Assaults	15

### Oct. '17

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





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

## UPCOMING EVENTS




**1398 W Artesia Blvd**  
**November 21, 2017**  
**8:30 – 10:30 am**

**JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS AND POLICE  
OFFICERS FOR COFFEE AND  
CONVERSATION!**

**No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice  
concerns, and get to know the officers in your neighborhood!**

**For questions please contact Abigail Quiroz at (310) 965-2321**

**GARDENA POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

## 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.

## 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!



**Gardena Police Department**

1718 West 162nd Street

Gardena, CA 90247