

# Wilshire Area Captain's Newsletter



Captain Shannon K. Paulson, Commanding Officer January 28, 2021

#### Wilshire Area Crime Update - As of 1/28

**Robbery** Up 66.7% (14 more robberies compared to this time last year)

Aggravated Assault Down 2.4% (down 1 compared to this time last year)

**Burglary** Up 28.8% (15 more burglaries)

**Grand Theft Auto** Up 80.6% (25 more cars stolen than this time last year) **Burglary/Theft From Motor Vehicle** - **Down 41.9%** (48 less cars broken into)

**Violent Part I Crime in Total Up 21.9%** (11more violent crimes than this time last year)

**Property Part I Crime in Total Down 22.7%** (78 fewer property crimes)

**Total Part I Crime** Down 15.7% (74 fewer overall serious crimes)

Our robbery numbers started the year off higher than average, though we have had some solid success in some recent investigations and have likely put an end to a couple series. That startling percentage is still a product of the small statistical sampling this early in the year. That being said, the primary concern continues to be street robberies in the evening hours of darkness targeting people walking alone, usually with obvious high dollar items in their possession (iPhone out and visible, expensive name brand hand bags, etc).

#### SOME OF THE BAD GUYS (AND GALS) JUST MAKE IT EASY ...

On January 27, Wilshire patrol officers responded to a radio call of a woman creating a disturbance at a vehicle repair shop in the 5600 block of West Washington Boulevard. The suspect was irate and accusing the repair shop employees of stealing "her" vehicle, which she said she had parked nearby. When she refused to believe their expressed innocence and continued disrupting their business, they called the police.

What both the employees and the suspect were unaware of was Wilshire officers had observed that particular vehicle, parked at that location, earlier in the day and had discovered it was stolen. Specifically, it had been stolen from an auto dealer here in Wilshire Division just two days prior. Those same officers who had recovered the vehicle just a short time prior, now responded to this call for service. Now there existed multiple witnesses to the suspect claiming possession and control of that stolen vehicle.

In addition, just one week prior, the same woman had been identified, through investigation by our Wilshire Auto Detectives ,as the suspect in another GTA committed in the area of Washington and Fairfax. So, as of that afternoon, the case could be closed on at least two open GTA's in Wilshire, thanks to our suspect drawing spectacular attention to herself.

At the time of her arrest (after being the cause of her own radio call), the suspect was found to be on Formal Probation for Grand Theft Auto. She was currently out on zero bail for an arrest on September 17 for GTA, which occurred while she was out on zero bail for another GTA arrest on September 7.

#### **ROBBERY SUSPECTS APPREHENDED**

Over the last couple of weeks, Wilshire personnel identified a pattern of strong arm robberies taking place in the area surrounding Pan Pacific Park. The victims were consistently younger, often juveniles, robbed of their cell phones, wallets or other personal items. The suspects, themselves believed to be juveniles, were described as travelling on foot in a "pack", surrounding and outnumbering the victim and threatening bodily harm if property was not surrendered. In several cases they in fact utilized force to punch and kick the victims to overpower them and forcibly take their property.

Once this pattern was identified, Wilshire personnel ran operations involving undercover and plainclothes personnel in an effort to apprehend the suspects. However, on each of those days, it appeared the cold and rain kept the suspects from being active.

On the evening of Tuesday, January 26, a group of young males snatched the cell phone from a victim enjoying a cup of coffee in the area of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Fairfax then ran from the area. When the victim attempted to retrieve his cell phone he was beaten, then the suspects fled onto a bus. A good samaritan witness, having seen the altercation, followed the suspects and called the police, resulting in their detention at a future stop. Their positive identification by the victim led to their arrest.

It is our belief there may be additional victims of this band of strong arm robbery suspects, so our detectives have prepared the attached community alert. If you or someone you know has been victimized in this fashion and hesitated to previously alert police, please give us a call.

#### MISSING JUVENILES FROM NORTHERN CAL

Attached please find a missing person bulletin regarding two 16year old girls who are from Gilroy, just south of the San Francisco Bay Area. There are travelling together traveling together with their brown Pomeranian (pictured). It is believed they are likely using public transportation or walking.

We believe they were last seen here in Wilshire Division, in the late evening hours of January 25<sup>th</sup> near Venice Boulevard & Wilton, walking east towards Western. If you happen to see them please call 911. If you believe you may have seen them previously, please contact the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department at the number indicated on the flyer.

Please contact me if there are questions you have or topics you believe would be suitable to cover in the weekly newsletter.



## COMMUNITY ALERT

### Notification

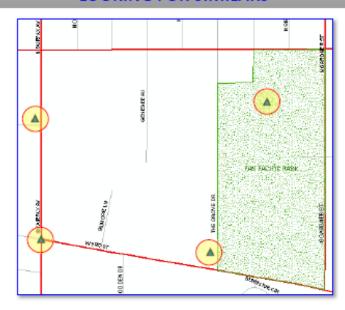


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## ROBBERY

#### LOOKING FOR SIMILARS



SUSPECT(S): 3-5 Suspects, M/B, 506-508/150, 15-17 YOA.

WEP: Bodily Force

MO:

**SVEH:** Possible gray sedan, unk make/model.

Wilshire Robbery Detectives are looking for similar cases involving a group of juveniles in the area committing robberies. Subjects approach the victims and take their cell phones and shopping bags. Subjects punch victims and flee on foot with the property. On one incident, a gray vehicle was used. These crimes have been occurring at Pan Pacific Park, The Grove, and Farmers market areas.

If you have any information regarding the identity of the suspect or circumstances regarding the crime, please E-Mail dets07@lapd.online

To report anonymously, please contact Crime Stoppers



## MISSING PERSON



## CONTACT AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY

Last seen on 1/22/21 in Gilroy, CA travelling with small brown dog in pictures. Diana (16) | 5' 6" 160 lbs |Dark brown hair and eyes Cynthia (16) | 5' 5" 130 lbs | Black hair and brown eyes

For any information that can help us them, please contact Santa Clara County Sheriff (408) 808-4400

#FINDDIANA