

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
MINUTES
September 11, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Fuller called the meeting of the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission to order at 10:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commission Members: Brown, Chelette, Pickens, Smith, Vice-Chairman Fuller

Absent: Commissioner Valaskantjis, Chairman Vierra

Staff

Members: Deputy City Manager, Public Safety Manager, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst, Assistant City Clerk

Additional

Attendees: California Highway Patrol Lieutenant Eric Broneer, Head Deputy District Attorney John Morris, CJC Liaison Rob Parris

INVOCATION

Wade Little, Los Angeles County Fire Chaplain

LEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Pickens

APPROVAL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION CONSENT CALENDAR

CC 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 14, 2013

On a motion by Commissioner Chelette and seconded by Commissioner Brown the Commission approved the Consent Calendar by the following vote: 5-0-0-2; AYES: Brown, Chelette, Fuller, Pickens, Smith NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Valaskantjis, Vierra

COMMISSION/ STAFF UPDATES

1. CRIME STATISTICS UPDATE

The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided crime and arrest statistics for August 4, 2013 through August 31, 2013 and provided the weekly crime event average and median for August and September. The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided total Part 1 Crime Counts by month which compared 2012 and 2013 and provided a brief overview of the most active reporting districts for part-one crimes for August 4, 2013 through August 31, 2013. Crime trend information for specific part-one crimes for a 52 week time period was given and a spatial trend analysis comparing August 2013 to July 2013 was discussed. The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided a list of the top ten repeat calls for service for the period of August 4, 2013 through August 31, 2013 and discussed a part-one crime forecast for September.

CRIME STATISTICS UPDATE CONTINUED...

Discussion among the Commission and staff included the number of people who are cited or arrested at each location regarding the top ten repeat calls for service locations; the hospital is required to notify law enforcement for certain events; other locations are helpful in locating areas which will need to be cleaned up regarding crime. An anti-truancy project was discussed which may be helpful in addressing locations at which school age individuals may frequent, possible explanation for high number of calls for the 7-11 could relate to calls being made for truant children. The Business Improvement Groups (BIG) are being encouraged to report truant children. Additionally discussion took place regarding the impact of the BIG program on crime.

2. ARREST STATISTICS –

This item not discussed

3. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL UPDATE

California Highway Patrol Lieutenant Eric Broneer provided year to date statistics regarding fatal collisions, injury traffic collisions, property damage collisions, DUI arrests and motorist services. The Labor Day holiday had no fatalities reported; a DUI checkpoint was in place prior to the beginning of the holiday weekend. Lt. Broneer reminded the Commission of the CHP recruitment which will run from September 12th through September 14th.

4. DISTRICT ATTORNEY UPDATE

Head Deputy District Attorney John Morris from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office stated the Antelope Valley branch of the District Attorney's Office is among the busiest in Los Angeles County – the office files a high amount of criminal cases and has a high number of jury trials for Los Angeles County; Mr. Morris made a few changes upon his arrival at this office in April which are showing positive results. When comparing statistics for April-August 2012 to April-August 2013, the number of criminal trials prosecuted increased utilizing the same amount of personnel and the conviction rate increased. A role of the District Attorney's Office is to deter future crime. In order to accomplish that, Mr. Morris implemented new policies regarding sentences for certain crimes; individuals who commit residential burglary must go to state prison unless he says otherwise; additionally, Mr. Morris believes graffiti instills fear in the community; impacts property values, is expensive to eradicate and breeds gang violence – a new directive for every criminal prosecution for graffiti or possession of graffiti tools - misdemeanor or felony - must serve time in county jail unless he says otherwise; these will improve the community and public safety in the Antelope Valley.

5. BUSINESS WATCH SUBCOMMITTEE/ PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

The Public Safety Manager discussed the BIG program and its success; crime numbers initially will increase due to the increase in reporting taking place in these areas; BIG meetings are continuing for the area near 10th Street West and Avenue K. The area including Valley Central Way (Area 2) is holding a meeting later this month to discuss strategies for their businesses; the Neighborhood Watch Program is continuing to expand targeting homes in the area surrounding Jane Reynolds Park. Mr. D'Errico discussed graffiti and prevention strategies; a plan is being implemented to handle graffiti in the community; the Unite Program will be beginning soon and will be focusing on the Desert View and Mariposa areas; Celebrate America will be held September 14th on Lancaster Boulevard. A future project involving representatives from Antelope Valley High School and the Mayor's Advisory Council which will be emphasizing truancy was discussed; additionally Mr. D'Errico discussed the information he recently provided to the Commission regarding fireworks.

UBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Chelette discussed the report given by Mr. Morris and stated he appreciates the efforts of those offices who work to ensure people are being punished for their actions.

Vice-Chairman Fuller requested a moment of silence in honor of those who lost their lives 13 years ago.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Fuller adjourned the Criminal Justice Commission meeting at 10:30 a.m. and stated the next meeting of the Criminal Justice Commission would take place on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



BRITT AVRIT
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
COMMISSION SECRETARY



DAVID VIERRA
FOR: CHAIRMAN

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES
LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

I, _____, _____ of the City of Lancaster, CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission minutes, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CA on this _____ day of _____, _____.

(seal)
