

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
August 13 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Vierra called the meeting of the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission to order at 10:06 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners: Brown, Carter, Little, Underwood-Jacobs, Valaskantjis, Chairman Vierra

Absent: Commissioner Smith

**Staff**

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

**Additional**

Attendees: Vice-Mayor Crist, Liaison Parris, Los Angeles County Sheriff Captain Nelson, California Highway Patrol Officer Gil Hernandez, Deputy District Attorney Steven Frankland

**INVOCATION**

None given

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Vierra

**APPROVAL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION CONSENT CALENDAR**

**CC 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 9, 2014**

This item not discussed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **NB 1.** Disposition of Juvenile Citations/absence of Juvenile Traffic Court in the Antelope Valley

The Public Safety Director provided information related to the lack of a Juvenile Traffic Court in the Antelope Valley. Mr. D'Errico stated the local Juvenile Traffic Court previously handled various infractions including truancy, daytime loitering and low level misdemeanor charges; these cases, for the past 2 years, have been sent to Los Angeles County's Juvenile Diversion Unit in Van Nuys. The County is looking for assistance to divert more cases to a Restorative Justice Model; the community needs to work with the County to bring this Court back to the Antelope Valley and in the meantime, work needs to be done regarding diverting cases to the Restorative Justice Model such as the Community Youth Court already in place in Lancaster.

The Criminal Justice Commission requested that Mr. D'Errico contact Mr. Faray, from the Juvenile Diversion Unit, to come and speak at an upcoming meeting to discuss the assistance needed from the City of Lancaster.

## **COMMISSION/ STAFF UPDATES**

### **1. CRIME STATISTICS UPDATE**

The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided crime and arrest statistics for July 29, 2014 through August 2, 2014 and provided the weekly crime event average and median for July, 2014 and August, 2014. The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided total Part 1 Crime Counts by month which compared 2013 and 2014 and provided information for the most active reporting districts for part-one crimes for July 29, 2014 through August 2, 2014. Statistics for Residential Burglary and Larcenies involving vehicles for the most active reporting districts were discussed. Crime trend information for specific part-one crimes for a 52 week time period was given. The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided a list of the repeat calls for service with 10 or more calls for the period of July 29, 2014 through August 2, 2014 and discussed a part-one crime forecast for August.

Discussion among the Commission and staff included discussion of the age groups committing larcenies, the specific ages of the individuals committing the crimes, the time of day the crimes are being committed and where those crimes are being committed. Additionally the factors attributed to the spike in Larcenies in August and the number of repeat offenders related to larcenies was discussed. The way in which Part 1 crimes are counted and what the data means was provided. Discussion of retailers that have instituted loss prevention policies took place; many are heavily involved with loss prevention, some are not.

**2. ARREST STATISTICS**

Los Angeles County Sheriff Deputy Ruiz provided statistics comparing June 2014 to July 2014 for the Burglary Suppression team, the LAN-CAP Team and the NARCO Team. Deputy Ruiz discussed a specific incident of a home invasion robbery where the victims were held at gun point; the vehicle, with the assistance of Hyundai, was located in Van Nuys and stolen property was recovered along with the arrest of the 2 juvenile suspects. Deputy Ruiz discussed the recent 2014 Guns and Hoses Softball game which was won by the Sheriff Department's team. This event benefits the local Fallen Hero's charity. Additionally, Deputy Ruiz discussed upcoming events including the Coffee with the Deputy program which takes place on the second Thursday of each month from 8:00-10:00 AM at the Lemon Leaf restaurant.

Discussion among the Commission and staff included discussion of the increase in guns recovered and the increase in drug seizures.

**3. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL UPDATE**

California Highway Patrol Officer Gil Hernandez provided year to date statistics for enforcement and contacts, fatal traffic collisions and DUI arrests. Officer Hernandez discussed an upcoming impaired driving saturation taking place in the Antelope Valley and discussed the CHP's recent recruitment drive.

**4. DISTRICT ATTORNEY UPDATE**

Deputy District Attorney Steven Frankland, from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, discussed statistics for the number of felony and misdemeanor cases filed in the Antelope Valley for July and year to date. Information included a comparison of the number of cases filed in the Antelope Valley to the surrounding areas. Mr. Frankland discussed the CHP's upcoming DUI saturation and provided the Commission with an overview of the crimes which can result in a state prison sentence.

**5. BUSINESS WATCH SUBCOMMITTEE/ PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE**

The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst discussed the Business Improvement Groups (BIG) and discussed their upcoming meetings; private security firms have been invited to attend these meetings to provide information to these businesses as a complement to the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's efforts.

The Public Safety Director introduced members of the Public Safety staff to the new Commissioners, discussed the recent National Night Out event and thanked the outside agencies for their participation. Mr. D'Errico stated the Neighborhood Watch Program will continue to expand and the Public Safety Office will continue working on a proactive model to impact first time offenders.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

David Paul – comes to these meetings to support the Commission, discussed proactive approach with juvenile offenders and his hope the program will impact one person.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chairman Vierra thanked the outgoing Commissioners for their hard work.

Commissioner Little stated he looks forward to working with the Commission and appreciates the opportunity.

Commissioner Underwood-Jacobs stated she is proud to be a part of the Commission.

Commissioner Carter stated he is honored and excited for the opportunity to serve.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Vierra adjourned the Criminal Justice Commission meeting at 11:11 a.m. and stated the next meeting of the Criminal Justice Commission would take place on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

**ATTEST:**



BRITT AVRIT  
CITY CLERK  
COMMISSION SECRETARY

**APPROVED:**

 FOR:

DAVID VIERRA  
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)

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