



LA MESA POLICE NEWS & INFORMATION



Activity Period: September 2 through September 8, 2013 Media Contact: Lt. Matt Nicholass (619) 667-7512

Calls For Service:

Total Calls for Service: 1,203

9-1-1 Calls: 702

Officer Initiated*: 258

Arrests: 45

Citations Issued: 44

Response Times:

Priority 1 Calls: 5 minutes, 09 seconds

Non-Urgent Calls: 18-52 minutes

Case Highlights: On Friday September 6th, at approximately 2:45 PM, the La Mesa Police Department received a call of a theft at the Starbucks located at 5020 Baltimore Drive. An unknown male ran up to the victim's table located on the outside patio and stole the victim's cell phone. The suspect then ran back to a car that was waiting on Baltimore Drive and fled the area. The suspect is described as a black male adult, approximately 24 years old, 6 feet tall, 180 pounds. The driver of the car is also described as a black male adult in his twenties. The suspect vehicle is described as an older white four door sedan. The investigation is continuing. Anyone with information is urged to call the La Mesa Police Department at (619) 667-1400. You may also call Crime Stoppers' anonymous toll-free tip line (888) 580-TIPS (or www.sdcrimestoppers.com).

Traffic Information:

The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) is reminding parents and caregivers that leaving children unattended in a vehicle, even for a few minutes, can quickly become deadly during the hot summer months, a tragedy that has already been seen this summer in California. A car's internal temperature can rise above 100 degrees Fahrenheit on seemingly cooler days, and can rapidly reach fatal temperatures, increasing as much as 20 degrees in as little as 10 minutes. Senate Bill 255, also known as Kaitlyn's Law, was enacted in California in 2001, making it illegal to leave children unattended in a motor vehicle. "Leaving a child unattended for even a minute can lead to heatstroke and even death," said OTS Director Christopher J. Murphy. "It is imperative that everyone take steps to safeguard their children by remaining alert and ensuring that no child is left unsupervised." To help parents and guardians follow the law and keep their children safe this summer, OTS has compiled the following tips and reminders:

- 1) For parents of young children, place a needed item for your next stop, such as your cell phone or purse, on the floor in front of your child's safety seat. This will help to remind you that your child is in the car when you retrieve the needed items.
- 2) Set a reminder or alarm on your cell phone that reminds you to drop off your child at school or day care, or have a loved one call to ensure that the drop-off occurred.
- 3) Ask day care providers to call if your child is ever late being dropped off.
- 4) Develop a routine before exiting your car; check the backseat and lock all vehicle doors and the trunk every time.
- 5) Always lock your car doors and do not give children access to keys or keyless entry devices.
- 6) Teach your children that cars are never to be used as a place to play.
- 7) If your child is missing, be sure to check all vehicles and trunks.
- 8) If you see an unattended child in a hot vehicle, call 911 immediately.

Crime Prevention/Emergency Preparedness: Every quarter, the La Mesa Police Department hosts a free training and networking meeting for La Mesa apartment managers and owners. This meeting allows multi-family housing professionals to work in partnership with the La Mesa Police to create proactive solutions for criminal activity occurring on rental properties. On Tuesday September 10, 2013 at noon, a special regional meeting will be hosted by the La Mesa and El Cajon Police Departments and the San Diego Sheriff's Department for managers in La Mesa, El Cajon, and Rancho San Diego. The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the La Mesa Police Station, at 8085 University Avenue. R.S.V.P. for this free networking and information session by calling the La Mesa Crime Prevention Unit at (619) 667-7545.

Department Information:

Help solve a cold Homicide case: <http://www.cityoflamesa.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=2487>

* "Officer Initiated" refers to a situation when an officer observes what is believed to be criminal activity and responds accordingly.