

# CITY OF SIERRA MADRE

## POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2013



Prepared and Presented by:  
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Larry Giannone



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### *Mission Statement*

*Ensure Community Safety by Delivering the Highest Quality Service through Our Dedication, Teamwork and Partnerships.*

### *Vision Statement*

*To be the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Model of Small Town Policing.*

### *Values*

*Integrity, Innovation, Dedication, and Compassion*

### *Department Motto*

*“Serving those we protect”*



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It is with great pleasure that I present the Sierra Madre Police Department's Annual Report for 2013. Our dedicated and motivated staff continues to devote themselves to making Sierra Madre the 21<sup>st</sup> century model of small town policing.

Sierra Madre continues to uphold its reputation for having one of the lowest crime rates in California. Our department, in partnership with our community, continues to work together in an effort to improve service and safety to those who live, work and visit the City of Sierra Madre.

Sierra Madre's 2013 Part 1 crimes (serious felonies) has increased by 11% overall during 2013. The following crime areas showing increases by type and increase number: Rape 1, Robbery 1, Assaults 10 Burglaries 21, and Auto Theft 1. Vandalism and Forgery/Fraud each decreased. Assaults and Burglaries showed the most significant increases with Assaults increasing from 18 to 28 and Burglaries increasing from 37 to 58 in 2013. Robberies and Auto Thefts each showed a slight increase of 1 crime for each over 2012 number of crimes. Vandalism, a misdemeanor, dropped by 15%.

In 2013 traffic collisions increased from 45 to 50 an increase of 11%. This is a direct correlation between the lower numbers of moving citations written and in addition I attribute part of this to the inattention by our motoring community.

During the past year the Department's response to emergency calls decreased by a few seconds from the previous year. Our average response to a Priority One Call is continues to be around three minutes. The average in Los Angeles County is eight minutes.

Crime is up not only in the City of Sierra Madre but in the State of California. The 2011 legislation commonly referred to as corrections realignment (or AB 109) substantially reduced the population of California's overcrowded and expensive prison system. Realignment sought to reduce the prison population by lowering the rate at which



parolees return to state custody and by sentencing lower-level offenders to county jails rather than state prison. After a prolonged period of decline, California's crime rates have recently started to increase. Both violent and property crime rates went up between 2011 and 2012—by 3.4 percent for violent crime (including murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and 7.6 percent for property crime (including burglaries, larceny, and motor vehicle theft). The crimes for 2013 are being evaluated but are expected to be on the rise.

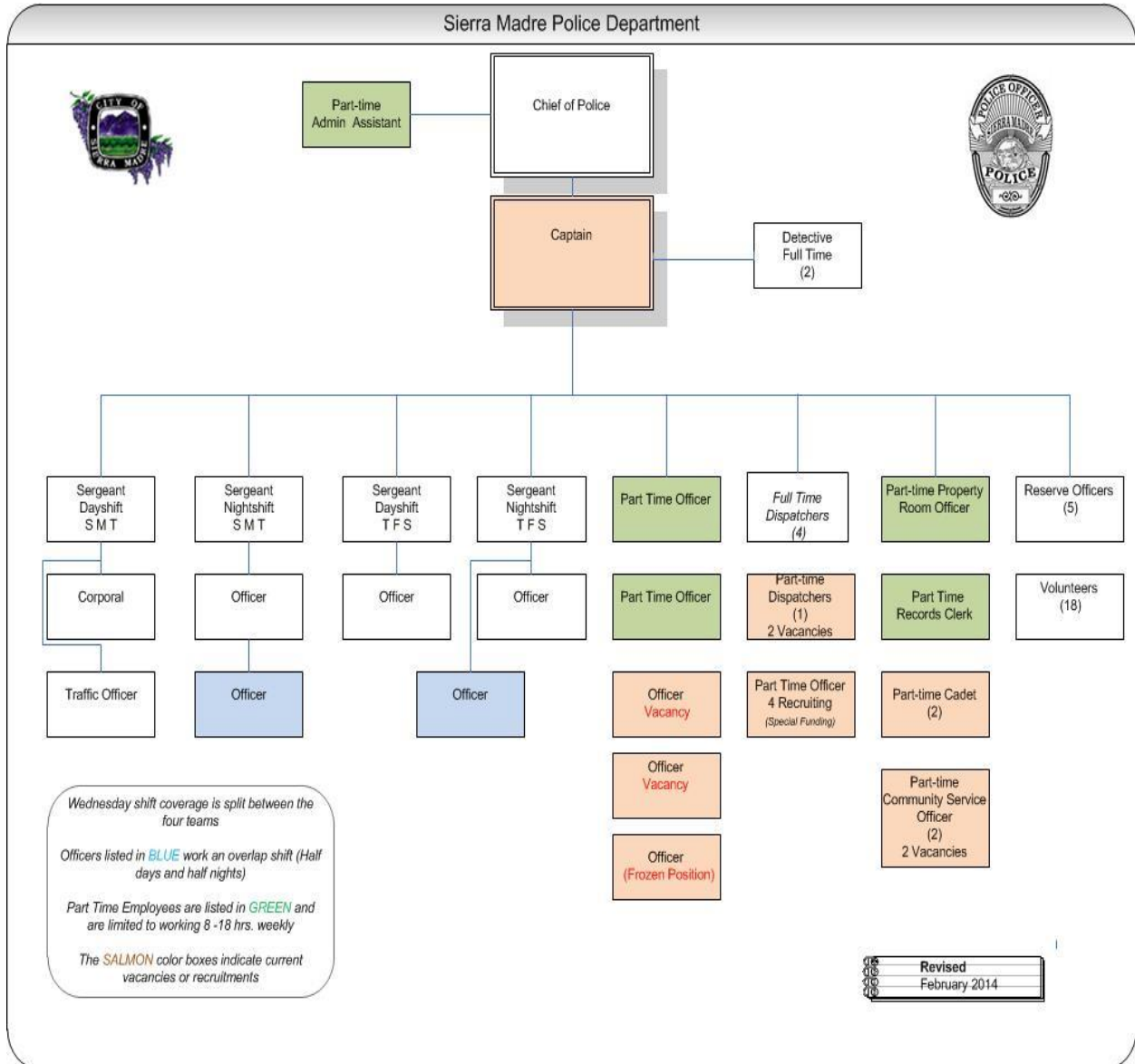
The Department has arrested several suspects associated with AB 109. Our felony arrests for property crimes are up over last year. The Department remains vigilant to being proactive in preventing crimes with increased Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch Meetings as well as public forums dealing with crime trends.

*Larry Giannone*  
*Chief of Police*





# SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW





## POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

**Chief of Police** – Chief of Police is responsible to the City Manager, City Council, and the community for delivering a full range of police services. This includes overseeing all employees and volunteers, and managing a yearly budget of approximately \$3.7 million.

**Administrative Assistant\*** – Works to assist the Chief of Police in all administrative duties.

**Captain** – The Captain manages patrol operations, investigations, budget, personnel, communication systems, property, evidence, jail and provides supervision and training to the sergeants.

**Sergeants** – Sergeants serve as watch commanders and supervise corporals and patrol officers during their shifts.

**Corporals** – Corporals serve as a Senior Officer in the absence of a sergeant.

**Detective** – Detectives perform follow-up investigations, property and evidence management, and file criminal cases.

**Patrol Officers** – Trained professional police officers work patrol throughout the City, monitoring activity and responding to calls.

**Traffic Officers** – Focus primarily on traffic enforcement, traffic collision, investigations, traffic safety presentations, and vehicle inspections.

**Dispatchers** – Dispatchers handle both Emergency Calls for service and “Routine” police business calls, dispatch the appropriate police units and assist the public at the front counter.

**Property Room Officer\*** – This part-time officer handles all the property and evidence for the department as well as assisting detectives with investigations.

**Records Clerk\*** – This part-time employee manages all police reports, court documentation, case preparation, prepares monthly crime stats, and works as the





Department's Liaison to many agencies such as the Department of Justice. This is a new and much needed addition to the police department.

**Cadet\*** – This part-time employee prepares criminal cases for filing, takes evidence to the crime laboratory, directs traffic at special events, and handles other duties as assigned.

**Reserve Officers** – The Department's Reserve police officers volunteer their time to provide operational and administrative support—at minimal to no cost.

**Volunteers** – Sierra Madre Police Department has 18 volunteers who are an integral part of our partnership with the community. During 2013 volunteers donated over 1268 hours performing various non-hazardous tasks, such as "citizens on patrol", assisting Officers with road closures, help distribute community crime prevention literature, and other miscellaneous staffing at community events.

\*Part-time position







# CRIME STATISTICS

## Crime Trend Analysis

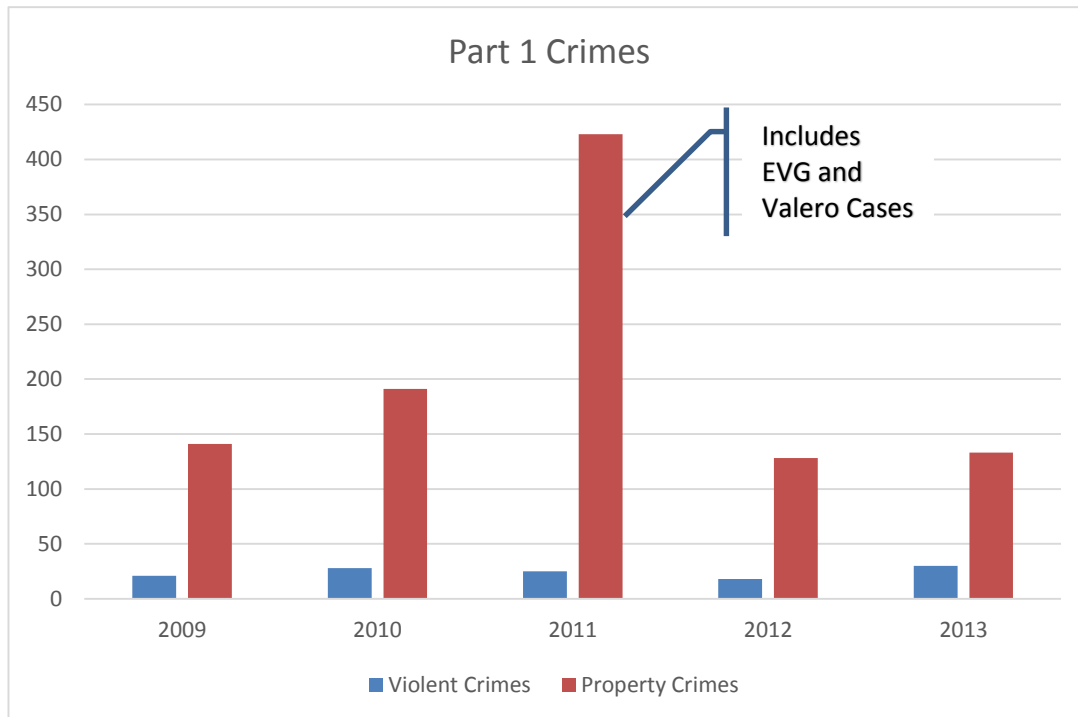
All police departments in the country report crimes to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The reports are known as Uniform Crime Reports and are standardized to ensure that the data is comparative on a national basis.

The crimes are classified into two categories, Part 1 and Part 2 Offenses. Part 1 offenses consist of 7 major felony crimes; homicide, rape, robbery, assaults, burglary, theft, and auto theft. Part 2 crimes include all other crimes; namely other felonies, misdemeanors, infractions, and local ordinance violations.

### Part 1 Crimes 2009-2013

23.34% Increase in Part 1 Violent Crimes from 2009 to 2013

39.75% **Decrease** in Part 1 Property Crimes from 2009 to 2013





	2013	2012	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0.00
Rape	1	0	100.00
Robbery	1	0	100.00
Firearms	0	0	0.00
Knife	0	0	0.00
Other Weapon	0	0	0.00
Strong Arm	1	0	100.00
Assaults	28	18	55.55
Firearms	0	1	-100.00
Knife	1	0	100.00
Other Weapon	3	2	50.00
Other Aggravated	7	1	600.00
Non-Aggravated	17	14	21.42
Burglary	58	37	56.76
Residential	46	30	53.33
Non-Residential	12	7	71.43
Thefts	66	83	-20.48
Shoplifting	1	2	-50.00
Auto Burglary	30	27	11.11
All Other	32	51	-37.25
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	8	12.50
Forgery/Fraud/Embezzlement	10	12	-16.66
Vandalism	11	13	-15.38



### Other Crimes

	2013	2012	% Change
Weapons Offenses	3	5	-40.00
Prostitution / Sex Offenses	6	6	0.00
Offenses Against Family	3	8	62.50
D.U.I.	23	63	-63.49
Liquor Laws / Drunkenness	22	26	-15.38
All other Offenses	650	792	-17.92

### Arrests

	2013	2012	% Change
<b>Total Crimes Reported</b>	891	1071	-16.80
<b>Total Arrests</b>	356	410	-11.98
Adult Felony	34	33	3.03
Adult Misdemeanor	94	119	-21.00
Juvenile Felony	0	4	-100.00
Juvenile Misdemeanor	2	5	-60.00
Warrant Arrests	99	47	110.63



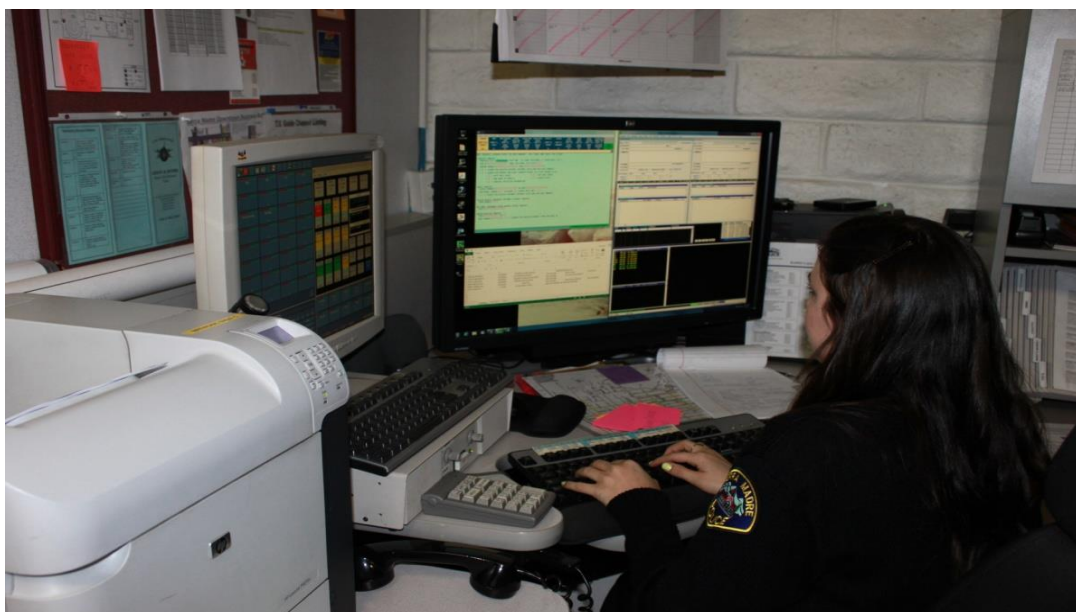
## DEPARTMENT WORKLOAD

	2013	2012	% Change
<b>Total Workload</b>	<b>13389</b>	<b>14151</b>	<b>-5.38</b>
Total Self-Initiated Activity	9137	10022	-8.83
Total Calls for Service	4252	4129	2.97
Priority 1	2269	<b>1956</b>	16.00
Priority 2	173	179	-3.35
Priority 3	1810	1994	-9.22
Priority 4	0	0	0
<b>Total Incident Reports</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1062</b>	<b>-16.76</b>

Priority One calls: (which are the highest priority) 3:02 response time

Priority Two calls: (less important, usually misc. calls for service) 3:26 response time

Priority Three calls: (typically report type of calls) 4:31 response time





## TRAFFIC STATISTICS

### Traffic Enforcement

YEAR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2012-2013 % change
<b>Moving &amp; Equipment</b>	1,599	1,637	1,770	2,042	1,562	-23.5%
<b>Parking</b>	3,516	2,908	2,863	3,411	1,890	-44.6%
<b>Traffic Warnings</b>	690	982	1,649	1,362	1,495	+10.2%
<b>Traffic Activity Total</b>	5,805	5,527	6,282	6,815	4,947	-27.4%

### Motor Vehicle Collisions

YEAR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2012-2013 % change
<b>Non-Injury Collision</b>	37	29	14	33	34	+03 %
<b>Injury Collision</b>	15	12	15	12	16	+25 %
<b>Total Collisions</b>	52	41	29	45	50	+10 %



## BUDGET

### General Fund

The City of Sierra Madre General Fund allocation (FY 2013-2014) for the Police Department was as follows:

Police Personnel (includes benefits)	\$3,208,484
Police Supplies and Services	\$ 408,053
Other Grants, Donations & Revenue	\$ 103,546
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,720,083</b>

The additional Police Department funding received was from the following state and federal resources:

- **Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) Fund.** This fund is derived from a half-cent sales tax (Proposition 172) that California voters passed in 1993. The funds are designated for local public safety.
- **State Homeland Security Fund.** This is a federal Homeland Security Fund that passes through the State and on to the City. The funding is earmarked most recently to ensure radio interoperability for countywide public safety agencies.
- **911 Funds.** This State grant provides reimbursement for some costs associated with the 911 emergency communications systems.
- **DUI (Driving Under Influence) Enforcement Fund.** This LA County fund provides reimbursement for overtime when officers are assigned for one night to a regional DUI task force.
- **Movie Details.** These funds provides overtime pay for officers assigned to filming jobs as mandated by the Sierra Madre Municipal Code and are generally paid by the film production company.
- **Police Donation Fund.** This fund consists of donations from groups and individuals to the Police Department. It is used for community related activities and minor specialized equipment needs.
- **Other Special Revenue.** This fund is derived from illegal drug-related assets seized in the course of narcotics investigations through the federal and state governments.





## GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Every 6 months City Department heads meet with the City Manager and the City Council to identify goals that are consistent with the City's mission.

### GOALS

- Implement the on-line Parking Permit Program
- Institute Electronic Parking Citation Writers
- Train volunteers to direct traffic at community events and reduce the number of paid officers
- Develop a second "Use of Force" instructor for the Department
- Department Wide Meeting to address Departmental concerns
- Increase police volunteers by 76%
- Assist in training the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers
- Reinstate the Police Blotter, posting on the City's website, and on Facebook
- Implement a Community Bicycle Safety Plan
- Implement Officer on Campus Program

### AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Police Chief Giannone awarded Jesse Cazares with the Chief's Special Award at the annual Sierra Madre Honors Banquet for his commitment and achievements in the Department.
- The Sierra Madre Police Department was recognized by Judy Chu of the 27<sup>th</sup> District of Congress in commemoration of their National Night out Celebration.
- Lieutenant Pat Buchanan was recognized for his work in a home invasion case where an elderly woman was the victim. He along with SMPD Officers identified a suspect and he was taken into custody.





## COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Chief Larry Giannone and other members of the Police Department are members of the San Gabriel Valley Police Officers Association, consisting primarily of command officers from local police departments. They meet monthly for training presentations and sharing of vital information.
- Chief Giannone is currently Vice President of the Board for the Foothill Air Support Team (also known as FAST). The FAST program provides airborne law enforcement and is made up of several cities, including Sierra Madre and other neighboring cities.
- Community Service Officers of Sierra Madre Police personnel visit all the local schools on a daily basis, meeting the staff and students, answering questions, assisting with safety plans, and developing professional friendships with community members.
- The Department continues its partnership with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, which provides Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drugs (LEADS) training for area liquor store, restaurant owners and employees.
- The Department participated in the Driving Under the Influence (DUI Avoid the 100) San Gabriel Valley Task Force





## NOTEWORTHY CASES

Below is just a short summary of the types of investigations the Department officers were involved in during 2013:

- In January, an officer from the Sierra Madre Police Department took an initial report of a commercial burglary, which occurred on the 200 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. A witness reported seeing a female climbing over a fence of the property and a male was observed standing next to an awaiting car bending copper piping. The witness was able to write down the license number of the suspect vehicle. Further investigation by officers lead to the identification of a female from Covina, and a male from Glendora as the suspects. Both were subsequently arrested in the City of Glendora for commercial burglary.
- In late February an Officer from Sierra Madre Police Department, was working traffic enforcement when he observed a speeding motorists traveling eastbound on Sierra Madre Blvd. The officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop of the vehicle, however, the driver continued on to Santa Anita and failed to stop in response to the police vehicles activated lights and siren. The slow failure to yield became a pursuit when the driver failed to stop at Foothill and Santa Anita. The driver ultimately stopped at the westbound on ramp of the 210 freeway, just west of Santa Anita. The driver was taken into custody without incident and ultimately transported to Pasadena's jail for several vehicle code violations.
- Also in February, a Sierra Madre Police Officer conducted a traffic stop of motorists for a vehicle code violation. During the initial contact with the motorist, the officer smelled the strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. A consent search of the vehicle revealed live 9mm ammunition on the center console of the vehicle. It was subsequently discovered that the driver was a Temple City resident with a prior felony conviction for Burglary and on active Probation for Domestic Violence. Due to his prior felony conviction he was restricted from possessing ammunition. The suspect was



placed under arrested after he acknowledged handling the ammunition in the vehicle. The suspect was booked for 30305 (a) PC, Felon in possession of ammunition.

- On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Sierra Madre Police Officers responded to a report of a traffic collision at Oakwood Ave. and Santa Anita Ave. Officers arrived to find a two vehicle collision with one vehicle overturned and several individuals injured. It was later determined that one of the vehicle had been traveling southbound on Santa Anita Ave. in the North bound lane of traffic, when it collided with a vehicle turning Eastbound on Oakwood Ave. at Santa Anita Ave. The subsequent investigation of the Traffic Collision determined that one of the drivers was impaired by Alcohol or drugs contributing to the collision.
- In July, Sierra Madre Police Officers also responded to a report of suspicious circumstances on the 300 block of Sierra Woods Drive. A resident on Sierra Woods Drive had observed two males walking into their neighbor's rear yard, while the neighbor was away from the home. When Sierra Madre police officers arrived they observed an unoccupied vehicle parked with the engine running in front of the residence. A male suspect then exited the rear of the property and began running from officers after they attempted to make contact with him regarding his activity. The suspect fled from the officers, but was detained after a brief foot chase without incident. It was subsequently discovered that the residence where the suspect had fled from had been broken into via a rear window. Due to the initial suspect fleeing from officers, a request for additional assistance from mutual aide police agencies was made to assist with a search for additional suspects. Arcadia police officers responded to the request for assistance and detained a second suspect in the area of Fairview Avenue and Grove Street, after he was observed exiting from the rear yard of a residence. The two suspects were connected to the burglary on Sierra Woods Drive, via physical evidence recovered at the burglary scene and charged with 459 PC Burglary.



- In early September a Sierra Madre Police Officer stopped an El Monte resident for a minor traffic violation. Upon contact with the driver, the officer discovered the driver's license was suspended and the driver appeared to be under the influence of unknown substance. The officer noted the driver was transporting her three-year old child in the vehicle. During the investigative interview of the driver, she admitted to concealing 2-grams of methamphetamine inside of her person. Due to the potential health risks to the driver, she was taken into custody for possession of methamphetamine and transported to Arcadia Methodist Hospital for medical examination and recovery of the methamphetamine narcotics. While at the hospital 12.1 grams of methamphetamine was recovered from the suspect. The driver was subsequently booked for 11378 H&S, Possession for sales of narcotics. The three-year-old child was later released to his grandmother.
- Also in September, an early morning burglary attempt occurred on the 500 block of West Sierra Madre Blvd., when an unknown suspect(s) enter a residence via a rear glass patio door of the residence as the victim slept. The suspect(s) upon entering the kitchen area of the residence made a load noise awaking the elderly resident who activated her "Life Alert" emergency alarm notifying the police. The suspect(s) heard the alarm activation and fled the residence prior to police arrival. Sierra Madre Police Officers responded to the location and conducted an investigation, which allowed them to recover several items of evidence that had been left behind by suspect(s). The evidence recovered later helped officers to identify a suspect involved in the burglary and he was taken into custody with the assistance of Covina Police Department.
- The suspect was later interviewed and admitted to the attempt burglary with three additional suspects. The suspect indicated that he and three other suspects went to the victim's residence to commitment the burglary, but they were thwarted by the victim when she heard the break-in and set off her "Life Alert" alarm. Based on the information learned from the first arrested suspect, three additional suspects were identified and arrested for the burglary. All four suspects were filed upon by the District



Attorney for 459 PC Residential Burglary. This investigation is ongoing in an effort to identify all involved parties for prosecution.

- On December 09, 2013 a patrol officer stopped an Altadena resident for a minor equipment traffic violation. During the stop, the officer learned the subject had a no-bail felony narcotics warrant. The subject was taken into custody without incident and an inventory search of his vehicle incidental to the arrest was conducted. The officer located a small baggy of methamphetamine in the vehicle. The suspect was rearrested for 11377(a) (1) H&S-Possession of methamphetamine, and booked at Pasadena jail.
- Also in December, Sierra Madre Police Officers responded to a report of an overturned vehicle collision at 600 W. Highland Ave., Prior to police arrival, witnesses observed both the driver and a passenger exited the vehicle and hide alcoholic beverages at a nearby home. Officers arrived and contacted the driver of the involved vehicle and determined that the driver was displaying objective symptoms of driving under the influence of alcohol. The female passenger sustained a minor bump on her forehead but refused medical attention. It was later determined that the passenger was a minor in possession of alcohol. She was cited released at the scene to her mother. The driver was arrested for 231529 (a) VC, DUI and booked at Pasadena Jail.