

2018 Year in Review

By Burbank Chief of Police, Scott LaChasse

Hardy congratulations are extended to the dedicated men and women of the Burbank Police Department, as well as the spirited Burbank community who have partnered once again to reduce crime in the City of Burbank. We are proud to report that property crime declined 12% in 2018, and violent crime was reduced by 21%. These decreases are attributed, in large part, to the receptivity of the Burbank community to our crime prevention messaging, the "smart" deployment of resources, and the industrious efforts of the BPD's sworn, civilian, and volunteer personnel. In addition, traffic collisions decreased 9%, and the Department's response times for high priority calls averaged an enviable 3:21 minutes.



We once again deployed a pink-wrapped police car during October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, to scores of events in Burbank. The professionally-wrapped vibrant pink Ford Explorer is credited to the donation by Adam Sumner, owner of Wrapix Imaging in Burbank. Many Burbank Police Officers also wore pink police shoulder patches in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Money received during fundraising activities was dedicated and donated to the City of Hope's Pink Patch Project, which supports cancer research and provides public education.

The Police Department also embarked on a body worn camera test program which will ultimately result in the procurement and deployment of the best possible body worn camera. Additionally, due to the nation's opioid overdose crisis, the decision was made to train our field personnel in the use of Narcan Nasal Spray to counteract the life-threatening effects of an opioid overdose. This training is continuing.

The Mental Health Evaluation Team, which is a collaboration between the BPD and LA County Department of Mental Health, continued to experience an increased workload during 2018. The MHET is credited with successfully placing many individuals into treatment programs and providing related support services to these individuals and their family members by working with community based non-profits, insurance companies, and allied public agencies.

The year saw a continued effort to expand community outreach, education, and communications by both traditional and contemporary means, such as social media. During 2018, the BPD witnessed a 23% increase in followers across all social media platforms, and a 118% increase over the past two years. To stay informed, please continue to visit our website at www.burbankpd.org, and follow us on the below-indicated social media pages.

For the purposes of building and sustaining openness, transparency, and trust, the Burbank Police Department continues to retain the services of the Office of Independent Review (OIR) to evaluate the management and disposition of citizen complaints, uses of force, pursuits, and related matters; maintain the Advanced Accreditation Standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), which is the gold standard in public safety; as well as participate in contemporary training provided by the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) and others.

As we are fond of saying, safeguard yourself and your property by being PREVENTATIVE. When you SEE SOMETHING suspicious, SAY SOMETHING by notifying the police.

We look forward to working hand-in-hand with the community to continue our quest for EXCELLENCE.



www.BurbankPD.org