

CITY-WIDE CRIME NOTES FROM JULY:

Part 1 crime for July was down about 26% compared to last year and about 31% compared to the average of the last 5 years. Even with our low numbers, we still want to be diligent about crime prevention. Here are a couple areas that I'd like us to focus on right now:

Residential Burglaries

We continued to see the uptick in residential burglaries in July. Although we are still seeing lower numbers than we've averaged in the last 5 years, we need to continue to be diligent about home security measures and calling on suspicious activity. I've attached the Home Security Checklist to help provide guidance for adding security layers to your residence. Please share this resource with neighbors! In addition, I just want to reiterate the tips that I shared last month that I still think will be helpful:

- **Keep an eye on your neighbor's house while they're away (and ask them to do the same while you're gone).** If you see or hear anything suspicious, give NBPD a call right away.
- **Secure all windows & doors every time you leave the house.** Don't forget to set your alarms if you have them as well.
- **Don't advertise or give the appearance that you aren't home.**
 - This means save the vacation social media posts for when you get back home.
 - Have indoor lights on timers to make it seem like someone's home & there's normal activity in the house.
 - If you're going out for the evening, leave a television or a radio on in the house.
 - Have outdoor lights on photocells, so the front of our house is well-lit from dusk to dawn.
 - Arrange to have your mail & newspaper stopped while you're out of town. Or have a trusted neighbor or friend pick it up each day.

Catalytic Converter Thefts

For July (& now into August), we are seeing catalytic converters being targeted again - mostly in Areas 2 & 3. As a reminder, we recommend that you consider one or more of these methods for preventing your catalytic converter from being stolen:

- Park your car in your garage if you have one.
- When parking outside, park in well-lit areas and/or close to a building entrance.
- Have the bolts welded.
- Purchase a security device that can make it more difficult to access or remove the catalytic converter.
- Have your VIN number engraved on the catalytic converter so it is easy to identify if stolen.
- If parking in the driveway or close enough to your home, install a video surveillance camera that has your vehicle in view.
- If you have a car alarm, set it so that vibration will activate it. This will set the alarm off if a thief tries to saw it off.

Garage Burglaries

Although we had garage burglaries go down a little in July, Area 1 (Balboa Peninsula) saw an uptick. Almost all of these incidents involved a garage door being left open. This is a good reminder for everyone to **keep your garage doors closed when you aren't present** – it takes seconds for a burglar to take something from your open garage when they have the opportunity.