

SARATOGA SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT



“GOOD TO KNOW...”

FROM THE DESK OF:

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(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- Oct. 2009)

STATISTICAL DATA:

Year-to-date, the Saratoga Springs Police Department has handled a total of **5,195** incidents (3,998 total cases).

The Department handled: **920** incidents in Sept. 2009. (**554-** in 2008; **561-** in 2007)

The Department currently has **12 sworn officers**, and **2 Animal Control/Code Enforcement officers**, actively patrolling Saratoga Springs. Each officer works various shifts, providing the residents 24/7- 365 coverage; with police supervision round-the-clock.

The Department currently has **2 sworn Investigators**. They are assigned in-house, and at the Westlake High School. **1** part-time “Uniformed” Investigator also assists the Investigations Division via the Patrol Division. Investigations have been assigned **123 active** cases, for **September 2009**. They have an approximate clearance and/or solvability rate of: **84%**. Investigations has written **4** search and/or arrest warrants, and have provided **8** school presentations (WLHS, and elementary schools). These presentations have included a Safety Fair, Career Fair, and presentation for Red Ribbon Week.

DEPARTMENT OUTREACH:

The Saratoga Springs Police Department also provides local services, handled in-house, which benefit the residents of the City. These services include:

***Part-time Crime Victim Advocate; *Neighborhood Outreach (weekly meetings); *Neighborhood Watch; *Citizens Assisting Police Services (CAPS); *Explorers (Youth); *SWAT (Utah County Metro); *Reserve Police Officers; *SRT Team (Special Response Team- SSPD operated); *RAD Kids; *NOVA (6th grade); *Part-time Commercial Vehicle Safety Inspector; *Vacation Patrols; *Citizen’s Academy; *Crisis Intervention Team (CIT).**

(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- Oct. 2009/Con't.)

CASE SAMPLING:

#1- LATE-NIGHT HAIR RAISING HEIST

Officers took a burglary report at the Olivia Jade Hair Salon in the Harvest Hills subdivision. An unknown suspect took a cash register drawer, petty cash, and a flat iron. The suspect used a tool to pry open the back door of the business. The reported loss was valued at over \$750.

#2- OH DEER!!

An officer stopped a pickup truck near the Wal-Mart on SR73. The driver allegedly struck a deer, and stated that he was going to the Wal-Mart to purchase a new headlight, due to the damage the deer had caused. As a result of the traffic stop, it was determined that the driver was operating a stolen motor vehicle. He also had an outstanding \$10,000 felony arrest warrant. The stop also netted an additional felony arrest warrant on a female passenger. The truck also had two bicycles that had been reported as stolen from the BYU campus.

#3- DAD BRINGS THUNDER TO WESTLAKE

An upset father returned to the Westlake High School campus, along with an irate boyfriend, of a student of the school. The father, apparently angry that a young boy had been bothering his daughter, confronted this boy and then head-butted him. The boyfriend of the female student also "jumped" and assaulted the young male. He has since recovered from his minor injuries. Charges against both suspects are pending.

#4- FAMILY DEATH

Officers responded to a residence in the Lake Mountain (North) subdivision, on the report of a 'Medical' call. Upon arrival, it was discovered that the male resident had committed suicide, by self-inflicted gunshot wound. No other family members were injured or involved in this case.

#5- CAUGHT RED-HANDED

SSPD Officers responded to the Dalmore Meadows subdivision on the report of a burglary-in-progress. The victim, who heard noises coming from his garage, confronted the suspects and they fled the scene. A neighbor, who witnessed the event, wrote down a license plate of the suspect vehicle. Both suspects were later identified and eventually arrested. The neighbor has been presented an award for her assistance in apprehending the thieves.

#6- McTHIEF!

Officers arrested an employee at the McDonald's restaurant, after it was discovered that he was bilking the store of nearly \$1,000 cash, over several days. The former employee admitted to having stolen the money to help pay for his brother's medical expenses. He will likely become eligible for felony theft charges.

#7- BIGGEST BLOCKS ON THE BLOCK

It was discovered that a resident of the SSD subdivision had her Chevy Blazer placed on cinder blocks. This, after the tires and rims had been stolen. The unknown suspect(s) only took the tires and wheels. The property inside the vehicle remained intact.

(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- Oct. 2009/Con't.)

#8- THE CAT'S MEOW...

SSPD Animal Control officers responded to a local residence in the SSD subdivision. The ACO officer, while on patrol, noticed several cats soaking-up the sun in the front yard of this house. After further investigation, it was discovered that there were 28 total cats living inside this house. Due to City ordinance (only allowing for up-to four cats), they were immediately removed from this house and taken to the Utah County Animal Shelter. For adoption information, please contact the North Utah Valley Animal Shelter (located in Lindon).

#9- WAS I SPEEDING OFFICER??!

Whoops! Be careful and avoid speeding, especially if you have an outstanding felony warrant. An officer, while conducting traffic enforcement, noticed a motorist who was speeding. The officer, after stopping the vehicle, discovered that the driver had an outstanding felony arrest warrant from Salt Lake County. The driver was placed into custody and was taken to the Salt Lake County Jail for his \$80,000 Vehicle Burglary arrest warrant.

#10- WHO'S RULIN' THE ROOST?

An officer handled a case of dogs vs. chickens at the Lake Mountain (South) subdivision. There were two loose dogs which found their way into a neighboring chicken coop. The dogs attacked and killed eight chickens. The owner calculated the total loss of the chickens (replacement costs and daily egg value) to be roughly around \$1,000. The dogs were taken into custody, and transported to the North Utah Valley Animal Shelter.

CRIME PREVENTION UNIT (C.O.P.)-

Officers working the parkway trails, Inlet Park, and RC Airpark, on bike patrol encountered several individuals that had several violations and/or warrants. These included: alcohol violations, fishing license violations, outstanding misdemeanor warrants, or were involved in gang activity. Although there are no known formally organized gangs within the City, it should be noted that several of these individuals had significant gang ties to area gangs (including gangs from California, Nevada, and Arizona).

One Bike Patrol incident occurred recently. The Bike patrol officers conducted a pedestrian stop of an individual who was wanted on several outstanding warrants. He was also arrested for an alcohol violation. While being placed into custody, officers discovered a concealed, unloaded, b-b gun in his waistband. The suspect gave officers a fake ID, and provided a false name. The man was booked into the Utah County Jail.

PIO MESSAGE OF THE MONTH-

We would like to remind residents that crimes of opportunity are abundant. Many of those whom we've arrested have specifically stated that they "love Saratoga Springs". Not because of our family values, not because of the views of the Lake, not because of our relatively low crime rate. No. The criminals say they love our city because of the many garage doors we leave open; because of the many purses we leave on our car seats; because of our houses we leave unlocked, etc.

My message is simple: take away any and all opportunity for crime to occur. Make sure that you close your garage doors every night. Make sure that you don't leave your purses and wallets inside your vehicles. Lock your cars. Watch your neighbors' houses. Let them watch yours. Together, we can take opportunity away from those who wish to interfere with our quality of life.