



CITY OF
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES

CITY MANAGER'S CORNER

July 25, 2018

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The City of Rolling Hills Estates has a justifiable reputation as one of the safest cities in Southern California. Chief among the reasons for this include our unique close-knit residential communities where neighbors look out for each other and the fine work done by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in crime prevention, patrol and response.

The entire Palos Verdes Peninsula was shocked by the senseless homicide which occurred in May of this year. As a result of this horrific crime, many residents have begun to question their feelings of personal security.

As we wait for more information to be released from the Sheriff's Department regarding the continuing investigation, it may be of comfort to reflect on the general community safety enjoyed over the decades in Rolling Hills Estates.

Every quarter those cities of the Palos Verdes Peninsula served by the Sheriff's Department meet to consider the latest in crime statistics and trends. These official statistics confirm what we all know intuitively and through our experience: Rolling Hills Estates remains the safe and quiet community we all treasure.

Although no crime is insignificant, especially to the victim, most crime in Rolling Hills Estates involves loss of property through burglary or theft. Rolling Hills Estates cases account for only about 0.1% of violent crime committed in the area served by the Lomita Sheriff's Station. When compared to County-wide violent crime, this figure is about 0.008%.

Equally reassuring is the fact that violent crime on the Palos Verdes Peninsula actually decreased by 7.5% from 2016 to 2017 according to the most recent figures.

As for property crimes, personal and neighborhood diligence is the key to prevention. Lock your doors at home; keep your garage door closed; secure barns and tack lockers; lock your vehicles, even in your driveway, and do not leave valuables in plain sight; get to know your neighbors and their schedules, vacation plans, their kids' friends and other visitors such as regular service workers; and do not hesitate to call the Sheriff's Department if something looks amiss.

Personal and community safety begins at the individual and neighborhood level. By empowering small groups of like-minded residents to look out for each other, Neighborhood Watch programs are a valuable tool in helping you to take responsibility for your own safety and security.

RHE is committed to public safety and partners with the Sheriff's Department and neighboring cities to enhance public safety. Forty-five Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras have been installed at all major intersections and entranceways to the Peninsula and more installations

are planned in the near future. As a result of this robust and real-time alert system, there have been almost 100 arrests made for auto theft, outstanding warrants and other crimes, including burglaries.

We, as a community, should continue to strive to protect ourselves, our families, and each other. The best way to do that is to report any suspicious behavior to local authorities as soon as you see it. The Lomita Sheriff's Station non-emergency number is 310-539-1661. So, if you see something... say something.

What else can you do to take advantage of public safety programs offered by the City? Here are a few examples.

- **Sign-up for the City's Nixle Alert System:** This newly launched communication system provides immediate emergency alerts and notifications. **Text RHECITY to 888-777 from your mobile phone to subscribe.** (*Message and data rates may apply.*)
- **Sign up for RHE Neighborhood Watch Crime Updates:** Email the RHE Neighborhood Watch Coordinator at Rhenw90274@dslextreme.com or visit www.RHE.city/crimereport.
- **Connect with your local Neighborhood Watch:** To find out how to join or start a Neighborhood Watch program in your area contact the City at 310-377-1577. You may also visit www.RHE.city/NW to learn more.
- **Participate in National Night Out on August 7:** Check with your HOA to see if there is an event scheduled in your neighborhood or contact City Hall at 310-377-1577.
- **Attend the Situational Awareness Seminar on September 20:** Two sessions will be held (4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.) to educate residents on ways to maintain an awareness of your surroundings either in your neighborhood or when you are out and about. The event will be held at the Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, 501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates.
- **Visit the Sheriff's Substation:** The Promenade has recently dedicated a space ("substation") for Sheriff's deputies and volunteers to utilize for report writing and to take a short break. It is located on the first floor just around the corner from Starbucks. They have also dedicated three parking spaces for the deputies which are located adjacent to Starbucks in the parking structure. Those visiting The Promenade can stop by for information on public safety and personal security. Also, be sure to attend special activities hosted by the Department, so you can get to know our local deputies. On Tuesday, July 31, have "Pizza with a Cop" at Mod Pizza (at Peninsula Center) and be sure to join their future event, "Coffee with a Cop" (date/location to be determined). Check it out.

To view more detailed crime statistics from throughout Los Angeles County, please visit <http://shq.lasdnews.net/CrimeStats/LASDCrimeInfo.html>. Report crime tips through Los Angeles Regional Crimestoppers. Visit <http://www.lacrimestoppers.org> for more information. Follow LASD-Lomita Station on FaceBook ([@LomitaSheriffsStation](https://www.facebook.com/LomitaSheriffsStation)) and Twitter ([@LMTLASD](https://twitter.com/LMTLASD)).

To connect with the City, sign up for Nixle by texting RHECITY to 888-777, subscribe to City E-notifications, or follow us on FaceBook ([@CityRollingHillsEstates](https://www.facebook.com/CityRollingHillsEstates)), Instagram ([@CityofRHE](https://www.instagram.com/CityofRHE)) and [NextDoor](#)