

LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Quarterly Part I Crimes and Patrol Statistics

2nd Quarter 2020



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Prepared by Crime Analysis

Law Enforcement Operations and Statistics

Part 1 Crimes and Statistics

The 2nd quarter of 2020 concluded with 19.3 crimes per thousand residents compared to 19.5 crimes per thousand in the 2nd quarter of 2019, which represents a .3% decrease in the number of crimes.

Violent Crimes decreased 28.4% in 2020 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2019. There were 68 incidents at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2020 compared to 95 in 2019. Robberies decreased 31.9% in 2020 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2019. During the 2nd quarter of 2020 there were 10 robberies compared to 26 during the 2nd quarter of 2019. Of the 10 robberies, 1 was a shoplifting case where suspects fought with store employees.

Property Crimes increased by 5.1% in 2020 compared to 2019. At the end of the 2nd quarter of 2020, there were 520 property crimes reported compared to 495 at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2019. The following three categories make up the category of Property Crime: Burglary, Theft and Auto Theft. Burglary increased 103.1% Theft decreased 14.2% and Auto Theft increased 15.6%. This category also includes a 24.5% decrease in vehicle burglaries and a 28.6% increase in residential burglaries.

The following are some of the significant robbery clearances from the 2nd quarter:

- On 02/17/20, at 7:43 PM, an unknown suspected entered Lake Murray Liquor Store located at 6001 Lake Murray Boulevard. The suspect grabbed two champagne bottles and fled the store on foot. Employees from the store chased after the suspect. One of the employees confronted the suspect, and the suspect struck him over the head with one of the stolen champagne bottles. The victim sustained multiple lacerations and a hematoma to his head. The suspect's fled the scene and his identity was unknown at the time. DNA evidence collected from the crime scene was sent to the Sheriff's Crime Laboratory. On 05/03/20, the DNA analysis was able to identify the suspect. The suspect is currently in custody on unrelated charges. The La Mesa robbery charges were added to suspect's booking on 05/12/20.
- On 05/08/20, at approximately 7:00 PM, a robbery on the trolley while passing through La Mesa. An unknown suspect punched and kicked the victim multiple times in order to steal a cell phone. The suspect fled the scene when the trolley was at the trolley stop located at 8248 La Mesa Boulevard. Detectives utilized video surveillance to create a BOL flyer that was distributed to local law enforcement agencies. The suspect was identified and arrested on 05/27/20 for 211 PC - Robbery.

The following are some of the significant burglary clearances from the 2nd quarter:

- Since 01/11/20, ten (10) storage units at StorQuest Self Storage, located at 8265 Commercial Street, La Mesa, CA, have been reported to be burglarized. Each burglary was on the 3rd level. Each storage unit had a large vent opening above the roll-up door that was accessible by climbing over and allowing the suspect to drop into the storage unit. Several victims discovered that the suspect punched the lock mechanism out of the door from the inside.

President Donald Trump declared a National Emergency in the United States of America on March 13, 2020. StorQuest Self Storage surveillance cameras revealed the suspect committing burglaries both before and after March 13th, 2020 – during the time of the declared National Emergency. During the investigations of the burglary series a suspect was identified. The suspect was contacted at his own personal storage unit at another facility. The suspect consented to providing a DNA oral swab. On 04/29/20, a search warrant for the suspect's personal storage unit was obtained. Various stolen property that belonged to the victims of the StorQuest burglaries was found. A wig that the suspect was wearing during several of the burglaries was located in his storage unit as well. In one of the burglaries at StorQuest, the suspect left behind a glove. In another burglary, the suspect left behind eye glasses. DNA matches on the eye glasses and glove came back to the suspect. On 06/23/20, the suspect was arrested by detectives at a motel in Santee. The suspect was charged with 459 PC – Burglary (Commercial) and 463(a) PC – Burglary During a National Emergency.

- Throughout the City of La Mesa, between 01/23/20 and 03/23/20, La Mesa Police officers received several calls referencing purse thefts from various parking lots. Further investigation revealed a group of females were casing parking lots in their vehicle looking for victims. The female suspects would specifically target elderly females who would set their purse on the shopping cart as they loaded groceries into their vehicles. While the victims were distracted, the suspects would slowly drive directly behind the victim's vehicle near the shopping cart. The passenger in the vehicle would hang out of the window as the vehicle drove by and grab the victim's purse and drive off. During each incident, the victims had no idea their purse had been stolen until they arrived home. On each occasion, the victims checked their bank accounts and discovered their credit cards had been used, without their permission, at various locations.

On 03/23/20, at approximately 11:00 AM La Mesa police officers were dispatched to the Grossmont Mall regarding a similar incident. The reporting party advised two females had driven by and attempted to steal her purse from her shopping cart. A detective who was conducting follow-up at the mall located the vehicle in the parking lot and maintained observation on the vehicle until patrol officers

arrived. Officers arrived on scene and detained the two female suspects. It was determined the two suspects were the same suspects captured on video surveillance using a stolen credit card at two separate locations one week prior. The two females were placed under arrest for 459 PC- Burglary and 530.5(a) PC. After a search warrant was obtained for each of the female's cell phones, detectives discovered they had been involved in similar crimes in other jurisdictions throughout San Diego County.

- During the month of May 2020, La Mesa Police detectives were assigned to investigate several vehicles which had been broken into at the Grossmont Hospital during a nationwide pandemic (COVID-19). The unknown suspect appeared to be targeting the "employee lot" of the parking structure. After further investigation, a male suspect was captured on video surveillance entering the parking structure in the same vehicle prior to each vehicle burglary. Investigative leads led to the identity of the suspect.

La Mesa detectives conducted follow-up and learned the suspect had also committed two separate vehicle burglaries at the SHARP hospital in Chula Vista. Detectives executed a search warrant at the suspect's house in San Diego and located stolen property from a separate string of vehicle burglaries which occurred in Ramona. While detectives were conducting surveillance on the suspect's house, the suspect was seen exiting the residence and entering a vehicle. Detectives initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and took the suspect into custody. Charges were filed against the suspect by the San Diego Sheriff's Department, San Diego Police Department, Chula Vista Police Department, and La Mesa Police Department. The suspect is still in custody and is being charged with a total of 17 counts of 459 PC- Burglary , 4 counts of 530.5(a) PC- Identity Theft, 10851(a) CVC- Auto Theft, 496(d) PC- Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, as well as various other theft related crimes.

- On the evening 05/30/20, a protest, that began peacefully hours earlier at the La Mesa Police Station, turned into a riot. As the night progressed, numerous rioters damaged City of La Mesa property and buildings, commercial businesses, and residential neighborhoods by breaking windows, spray painting graffiti, and starting fires to businesses and vehicles. Numerous subjects moved to different areas of the city and began to loot and vandalize businesses.

The Special Investigations Unit was assigned to investigate the looting and vandalism that occurred during the riot. During the 2nd Quarter, SIU detectives identified and arrested 13 suspects for looting and vandalism. SIU will continue to investigate the crimes that occurred on May 30th.

Homeless Contacts

The Police Department responded to a total of 697 contacts related to homeless individuals during the 2nd quarter of 2020, compared to 555 during the 1st quarter of 2020 and 533 contacts in the 2nd quarter of 2019. The top 3 areas where homeless individuals were contacted are as follows:

- 4554 70th Street
- 5500 Grossmont Center Drive
- 6600 Vigo Drive

The Police Department continues to work with the social worker assigned to LMPD's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) and offer services to those individuals who are willing to accept it.

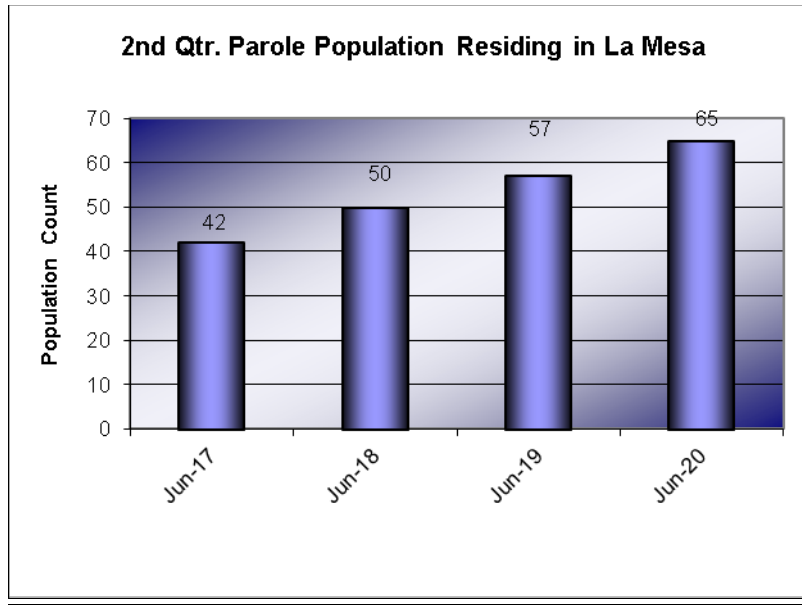
Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

SIU 2nd Quarter Activity

Activity	2nd Quarter 2020	2nd Quarter 2019
Arrests	33	84
Field Interviews*	41	66
Citations	0	17
Vehicle Impounds	5	3
Probation Searches	97	56
Parole Searches	8	4
Traffic Stops	32	31
Pedestrian Stops	65	71
Search Warrants	24	N/A
Riot	1	0

Parolees and Probationers

Below is a graph representing the number of individuals on Parole that have resided in La Mesa over the last four years. Please note that the below graph does not include Post-Release Offenders (AB109).



AB109 – Public Safety Realignment

The California criminal justice system had a fundamental shift on October 1, 2011, as the result of Assembly Bill 109, the Public Safety Realignment Act. The law changed a number of ways Law Enforcement monitors these offenders. Felons who have committed non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offenses are housed in county jail. Those released from state prison, known as Post Release Offenders (PRO), are supervised by the Probation Department. Probation violations by the PRO population are served in county jail and are limited to 180 days.

According to the San Diego County Probation Department, La Mesa currently houses Twenty (20) of the Post Release Offenders.

Registered Sex Offenders

There are currently seventy-eight (78) active sex registrants in the city and all are in compliance. Throughout the year, patrol officers conduct compliance checks on the registrants living in La Mesa.

Traffic Collisions/Citations/Enforcement Operations

There were sixty-two (62) traffic collisions during the 2nd Quarter of 2020. Of the sixty-two (62) reports, thirty-two (32) collisions involved injuries with forty-five (45) total drivers and passengers reporting injuries. Of the forty-five (45) injured parties, there were two (2) serious injuries and no fatalities. The serious collisions occurred in the following

locations, University Avenue in the 8000 block, and at the intersection of El Cajon Blvd and La Mesa Blvd.

Enforcement Operations 2nd Quarter 2020

Due to COVID-19 and Civil Unrest, enforcement operations were extremely limited during the 2nd quarter.

Primary Collision Factor Operations (PCF)

- 05/25/2020 1 Officer
- 05/26/2020 1 Officer
- 05/27/2020 1 Officer

Community Resource Activities and Information

Graffiti Tracker

ACTIVITY	1st Qtr 2020	2nd Qtr 2020	3rd Qtr 2020	4th Qtr 2020	YTD Total
Reported Graffiti	61	62			123
Photographed	42	43			85
Cleaned	56	55			111

“Reported Graffiti” includes graffiti reported to Public Works and the Police Department. “Cleaned Graffiti” includes the graffiti that was painted out by Public Works personnel, Police Department personnel, or private citizens and business owners. “Photographed Graffiti” includes graffiti photographed by Public Works and Police Department personnel.

The Community Resource Unit (CRU) receives reports of graffiti from RSVP patrols, the Graffiti Hotline, phone calls from citizens to the Police Department, and reports of graffiti to Public Works. CRU continues to work with several volunteers and private businesses in an effort to assist in graffiti eradication. CRU has worked with Code Compliance on properties that are chronic graffiti targets.

Our largest problem areas for graffiti during the 2nd quarter were city parks, the 4900 block of Spring Street, and the 8500 block of Chloe Avenue.

School Resource Officers

Schools transitioned to online learning in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. There was no significant SRO activity. The SRO has been assigned to patrol with an unknown return date.

Crime Prevention/Emergency Preparedness

There are currently 124 Neighborhood Watch groups in the city, sixteen (16) of which contain at least one (1) Community Emergency Response Team member. The Nextdoor.com social media group has approximately 17,084 La Mesa citizens participating. The Department's Facebook account has 5,099 followers. The Department's Twitter account has 4,106 followers. The Department's Instagram account has 2,395 followers.

Neighborhood Watch Meetings	1
Community Presentations	0
Residential Security Inspections	1
Commercial Security Inspections	6

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Crime Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2020

Violent Crime

	2019				2020		2020	2019	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Cleared	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Rape	10	7	4	1	3	1	4	17	-76.5%
Cleared	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	-100.0%
Robbery	21	26	15	14	22	10	32	47	-31.9%
Cleared	16	11	7	7	12	5	17	27	-37.0%
Aggravated Assault	22	9	22	22	17	15	32	31	3.2%
Cleared	10	6	9	14	8	12	20	16	25.0%

Property Crime

	2019				2020		2020	2019	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Residential	25	10	28	16	26	19	45	35	28.6%
Commercial	15	15	12	17	29	58	87	30	190.0%
Burglary Total	40	25	40	33	55	77	132	65	103.1%
Cleared	12	6	7	10	9	17	26	18	44.4%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	66	44	34	47	45	38	83	110	-24.5%
Theft > \$400	89	73	64	85	72	55	127	162	-21.6%
Theft \$400 or less	103	101	104	96	111	76	187	204	-8.3%
Theft Total	192	174	168	181	183	131	314	366	-14.2%
Cleared	43	30	33	32	17	11	28	73	-61.6%
Auto Theft	33	31	27	56	33	41	74	64	15.6%
Cleared	9	3	5	5	7	4	11	12	-8.3%

Totals

	2019				2020		2020	2019	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Total Violent	53	42	42	37	42	26	68	95	-28.4%
Cleared*	54.7%	47.6%	42.9%	56.8%	47.6%	65.4%	54.4%	51.6%	5.5%
Total Property	265	230	235	270	271	249	520	495	5.1%
Cleared*	24.2%	17.0%	19.1%	17.4%	12.2%	12.9%	12.5%	20.8%	-39.9%
FBI Index	318	272	277	307	313	275	588	590	-0.3%
Cleared*	29.2%	21.7%	22.7%	22.1%	16.9%	17.8%	17.3%	25.8%	-32.7%

Violent Rate per 1000 Pop.

2.2/K 3.2/K

Property Rate per 1000 Pop.

17.1/K 16.4/K

Index Rate per 1000 Pop.

19.3/K 19.5/K

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery and Theft - 2nd Quarter 2020

Robbery

	2019				2020		2020	2019	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Street/Highway	10	11	3	7	10	8	18	21	-14.3%
Commercial	8	12	5	5	8	2	10	20	-50.0%
Gas or Service Station	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	N/C
Chain Store	2	2	1	1	2	0	2	4	-50.0%
Residential	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	N/C
Bank	0	1	3	0	1	0	1	1	0.0%
Miscellaneous	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Robbery Total	21	26	15	14	22	10	32	47	-31.9%
Cleared	16	11	7	6	12	6	17	27	-37.0%
YTD Clearance Rate	53%								

Theft

	2019				2020		2020	2019	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Pocket-Picking	1	0	3	0	1	0	1	4	-75.0%
Purse Snatching	4	0	2	5	7	0	7	1	600.0%
Shoplifting	54	48	28	35	27	8	35	78	-55.1%
From Motor Vehicles	103	106	75	69	69	63	132	168	-21.4%
Motor Vehicle Parts & Acc.	14	8	14	19	15	15	30	28	7.1%
Bicycles	3	2	7	0	9	2	11	10	10.0%
From Buildings	36	32	25	30	31	26	57	54	5.6%
From Coin Operated Mach.	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	-50.0%
All Others	10	10	10	7	23	17	40	21	90.5%
Theft Total	225	206	164	165	183	131	314	366	-14.2%
Cleared	51	45	29	40	17	11	28	73	-61.6%
YTD Clearance Rate	9%								

La Mesa Police Department

Patrol Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2020

	2019				2020		2020	2019	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Primary Officer Initiated	5435	5730	6105	5692	5424	5528	10952	11165	-1.9%
	5859	4532	4149	3062	3405	2183	5588	10391	-46.2%
Reports Taken	1248	1191	1253	1122	1115	1001	2116	2439	-13.2%
Arrests Made	593	514	523	418	378	302	680	1107	-38.6%
5150 Detentions	137	144	141	131	123	154	277	281	-1.4%
Citations	1001	717	897	570	814	109	923	1718	-46.3%
Parking/ Muni Code Citations	183	168	192	200	229	41	270	351	-23.1%
Field Interviews	177	192	137	219	210	221	431	369	16.8%

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2020

Reported Robberies	Year to Date Totals		
	2020	2019	% Change
Street/Highway	18	21	-14.3%
Commercial	10	20	-50.0%
Gas or Service Station	1	0	N/C
Chain Store	2	4	-50.0%
Residential	0	0	N/C
Bank	1	1	0.0%
Miscellaneous	0	1	-100.0%
Robbery Total	32	47	-31.9%
Cleared	17	27	-37.0%

Reported Robberies	2020		
	Reported	Solved	% Solved
Street/Highway	18	6	33.3%
Commercial	10	9	90.0%
Gas or Service Station	1	1	100.0%
Chain Store	2	0	0.0%
Residential	0	0	N/C
Bank	1	1	100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Total	32	17	53.1%

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Trolley Crime Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2020

Violent Crime

	2019 YTD					2020 YTD					2020		
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	2019 YTD	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Robbery	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	2	6	-66.7%
Aggravated Assault	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	4	2	100.0%

Property Crime

	2019 YTD					2020 YTD					2020		
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	2019 YTD	% Change
Residential	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Theft Total	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	5	1	400.0%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	100.0%
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%

Totals

	2019 YTD					2020 YTD					2020		
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	2019 YTD	% Change
Total Violent	1	1	1	1	4	0	1	3	1	1	6	8	-25.0%
Total Property	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	1	5	2	150.0%
FBI Index	1	1	1	1	6	1	1	5	1	2	10	10	0.0%

Addresses of Trolley Stations

7255 Alvarado Road
 9100 Amaya Court
 8601 Fletcher Parkway
 8248 La Mesa Boulevard
 4250 Spring Street

Note: MTS advises that their statistics "do not include incidents that occurred outside the immediate station area. The total number of incidents and arrests will not equal those reflected on other reports.