

LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Quarterly Operations Report

2nd Quarter 2021



Ray Sweeney, Chief of Police



Prepared by Crime Analysis

Law Enforcement Operations and Statistics

Part 1 Crimes and Statistics

The 2nd quarter of 2021 concluded with 21.7 crimes per thousand residents compared to 19.3 crimes per thousand in the 2nd quarter of 2020, which represents a 10.7% increase in the number of crimes.

Violent Crimes increased 32.4% in 2021 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2020. There were 90 incidents at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2021 compared to 68 in 2020. Robberies decreased 40.6% in 2021 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2021. During the 2nd quarter of 2021 there were 9 robberies compared to 10 during the 2st quarter of 2020.

Property Crimes increased by 7.9% in 2021 compared to 2020. At the end of the 2nd quarter of 2021, there were 561 property crimes reported compared to 520 at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2020. The following three categories make up the category of Property Crime: Burglary, Theft and Auto Theft. Burglary decreased 31.1%, Theft increased 22.0% and Auto Theft increased 17.6%. This category also includes a 22.9% increase in vehicle burglaries, a 22.2% increase in residential burglaries, and a 58.6% decrease in commercial burglaries.

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

- From 04/03/21 to 04/08/21, the same unknown male suspect robbed a 7-Eleven, a Denny's restaurant, and a Shell gas station in La Mesa by gunpoint. The same suspect was also wanted for an armed robbery of a 7-Eleven in the city of Temecula.

On 04/08/21, San Diego Police Department located a vehicle associated with the suspect in the Hotel Circle area of San Diego. La Mesa Police Detectives responded to the hotel where the vehicle was parked. It was discovered the suspect was staying in a room of the hotel. A search of the room revealed the firearm and clothing used in the robberies. The suspect was arrested and booked into county jail for the robbery series.

- On 06/28/21, two parties met at Grossmont Center for the sale of diamond bracelet. The suspect grabbed the bracelet out of the victim's hand and attempted to flee in his vehicle. The victim climbed into the bed of the suspect's truck in an attempt to recover the property. The suspect drove away from the scene with the victim in the bed of the truck. The suspect eventually stopped in the 9100 block of Campina Drive, where he exited the vehicle and produced a knife. He threatened to stab the victim and punched him in the face. On 06/30/21, LMPD Officers identified and located the suspect at his residence. He was arrested and booked into County Jail for 211 PC – Robbery.

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

- On 04/12/21, at approximately 10:41 AM, a resident located an unknown subject in the guest house on their property located in the 4000 block of Massachusetts Avenue. La Mesa patrol officers responded and located a male matching the suspect's description walking away from the residence. He was in possession of property stolen from the guest house. The suspect was arrested and booked into San Diego Central Jail for 460(a) PC – Burglary.
- On 5/13/21 at approximately 1:07 AM, La Mesa patrol officers responded to a commercial burglary alarm at 4700 Spring Street. Officers discovered the front glass door of the building had been broken out, however a suspect was not located. A short time later, at approximately 2:58 AM, La Mesa Police patrol officers responded to another commercial burglary alarm at 8085 La Mesa Boulevard, a block away from the business burglarized on Spring Street. Officers discovered a window to the business had been broken. Officers contacted a male subject at the La Mesa Trolley station, 8248 La Mesa Boulevard. He was in possession of property from both burglaries. The suspect was arrested and booked into San Diego Central Jail for 459 PC – Burglary.
- On 05/19/21, Nacho's Taco Shop, located at 7589 University Avenue, was burglarized. Video surveillance recorded the suspect arriving at the restaurant in a vehicle. The suspect was seen forcing open the drive thru window and climbing into the restaurant. Once inside, the suspect stole food, drinks, trash cans, and cash.

A records check of the vehicle's license plate revealed it had been reported stolen in city of San Diego the previous night. The vehicle was recovered by the San Diego Police Department on 05/22/21, in the 6800 block of El Cajon Boulevard in San Diego. During a search of the vehicle, officers located property belonging to a subject unknown to the registered owner. Further investigation by La Mesa Police detectives lead to the identity of the suspect. He was located, in custody, at the San Diego Central Jail for a probation violation. The suspect's booking was updated to add the charge of 459 PC – Burglary for the La Mesa case.

Homeless Contacts

The Police Department received a total of 830 calls for service related to individuals experiencing homeless during the 2nd quarter of 2021, compared to 704 calls in the 1st quarter of 2021 and 697 in the 2nd quarter of 2020. The top 3 areas where homeless individuals were contacted are as follows:

- 5255 Baltimore Drive
- 5500 Grossmont Center Drive
- 8591 Mellmanor Drive

The City of La Mesa launched the Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement (“HOME”) Program to better connect those experiencing homelessness with existing County services. To learn more, including the most recent program statistics, visit the [HOME Program page](#) on the City’s website.

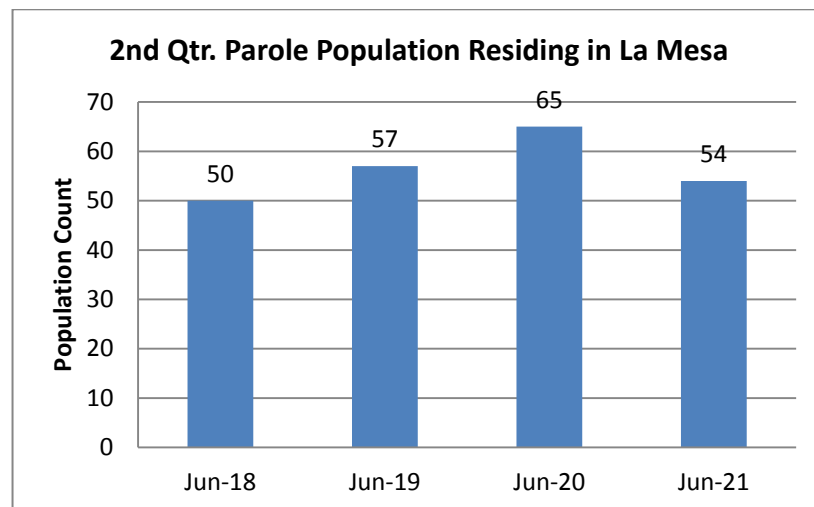
Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

SIU 2nd Quarter Activity

Activity	2 nd Quarter 2021	2 nd Quarter 2020
Arrests	41	33
Field Interviews*	44	41
Citations	11	0
Vehicle Impounds	2	5
Probation Searches	81	97
Parole Searches	19	8
Traffic Stops	22	32
Pedestrian Stops	36	65
Search Warrants	13	24

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 Sixteen (16) of the Post Release Offenders.

Registered Sex Offenders

There are currently ninety-two (92) 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 fifty-five (55) traffic collisions during the 2nd quarter of 2021. Of the fifty-five (55) reports, forty-seven (47) collisions involved injuries with forty-five (45) total drivers and passengers reporting injuries. Of the forty-five (45) injured parties, there were one (1) serious injuries collision and one (1) fatality. The fatal collisions occurred at Fletcher Parkway and Southern Drive and involved a high speed motorcyclist.

Traffic Enforcement Operations 2nd Quarter 2021

During the 2nd quarter, the Traffic Unit conducted five (5) DUI Saturation Patrols. Three (3) Primary Collision Factor Operations, and three (3) Distracted Driving Operations.

Community Resource Activities and Information

Graffiti Tracker

ACTIVITY	1st Qtr 2021	2nd Qtr 2021	3rd Qtr 2021	4th Qtr 2021	YTD Total
Reported Graffiti	62	54			116
Photographed	38	54			92
Cleaned	54	54			108

“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.

During the 2nd Quarter of 2021, locations with a high frequency of graffiti included City parks, the 6000 block of Severin Drive, and areas around SR-125.

School Resource Officer

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 19,382 La Mesa citizens participating. The Department’s Facebook account has 6,527 followers. The Department’s Twitter account has 4,826 followers. The Department’s Instagram account has 3,068 followers.

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

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Crime Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2021

Violent Crime

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	N/C
Cleared	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	N/C
Rape	3	1	9	3	4	2	6	4	50.0%
Cleared	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	N/C
Robbery	22	10	10	16	10	9	19	32	-40.6%
Cleared	12	5	6	3	2	5	7	17	-58.8%
Aggravated Assault	17	15	30	43	44	20	64	32	100.0%
Cleared	8	12	9	28	19	9	28	20	40.0%

Property Crime

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Residential	26	19	20	22	26	29	55	45	22.2%
Commercial	29	58	31	28	17	19	36	87	-58.6%
Burglary Total	55	77	51	50	43	48	91	132	-31.1%
Cleared	9	17	15	7	4	5	10	26	-61.5%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	45	38	34	42	66	36	102	83	22.9%
Theft > \$400	72	55	63	105	100	97	197	127	55.1%
Theft \$400 or less	111	76	72	95	103	83	186	187	-0.5%
Theft Total	183	131	135	200	203	180	383	314	22.0%
Cleared	17	11	13	6	13	20	33	28	17.9%
Auto Theft	33	41	42	38	35	52	87	74	17.6%
Cleared	7	4	6	10	1	0	2	11	-81.8%

Totals

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Total Violent	42	26	49	64	58	32	90	68	32.4%
Cleared*	47.6%	65.4%	32.7%	50.0%	37.9%	43.8%	40.0%	54.4%	-26.5%
Total Property	271	249	228	288	281	280	561	520	7.9%
Cleared*	12.2%	12.9%	14.9%	8.0%	6.4%	8.9%	8.0%	12.5%	-35.8%
FBI Index	313	275	277	352	339	312	651	588	10.7%
Cleared*	16.9%	17.8%	18.1%	15.6%	11.8%	12.5%	12.4%	17.3%	-28.3%

Violent Rate per 1000 Pop.

3.0/K 2.2/K

Property Rate per 1000 Pop.

18.7/K 17.1/K

Index Rate per 1000 Pop.

21.7/K 19.3/K

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery and Theft - 2nd Quarter 2021

Robbery

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Street/Highway	10	8	3	5	6	5	11	18	-38.9%
Commercial	8	2	2	3	2	4	6	10	-40.0%
Gas or Service Station	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Chain Store	2	0	2	4	2	0	2	2	0.0%
Residential	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	N/C
Bank	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Robbery Total	22	10	10	16	10	9	19	32	-40.6%
Cleared	12	5	6	4	2	5	7	17	-58.8%
YTD Clearance Rate	37%								

Theft

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Pocket-Picking	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Purse Snatching	7	0	2	5	2	1	3	7	-57.1%
Shoplifting	27	8	22	17	29	32	61	35	74.3%
From Motor Vehicles	69	63	53	97	108	68	176	132	33.3%
Motor Vehicle Parts & Acc.	15	15	16	33	21	34	55	30	83.3%
Bicycles	9	2	6	5	6	7	13	11	18.2%
From Buildings	31	26	30	27	20	26	46	57	-19.3%
From Coin Operated Mach.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
All Others	23	17	6	16	17	12	29	40	-27.5%
Theft Total	183	131	135	200	203	180	383	314	22.0%
Cleared	17	11	13	6	13	20	33	28	17.9%
YTD Clearance Rate	9%								

La Mesa Police Department

Patrol Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2021

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Primary Officer Initiated	5424	5528	5604	5621	5336	5756	11092	10952	1.3%
	3405	2183	1118	1263	1678	1506	3184	5588	-43.0%
Reports Taken	1115	1001	977	960	1054	1035	2089	2116	-1.3%
Arrests Made	378	302	215	203	241	224	465	680	-31.6%
5150 Detentions	123	154	115	114	130	132	262	277	-5.4%
Citations	814	109	96	200	347	248	595	923	-35.5%
Parking/ Muni Code Citations	229	41	57	66	149	156	305	270	13.0%
Field Interviews	210	221	124	127	110	106	216	431	-49.9%

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2021

Reported Robberies	Year to Date Totals		
	2021	2020	% Change
Street/Highway	11	18	-38.9%
Commercial	6	10	-40.0%
Gas or Service Station	0	1	-100.0%
Chain Store	2	2	0.0%
Residential	0	0	N/C
Bank	0	1	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Robbery Total	19	32	-40.6%
Cleared	7	17	-58.8%

Reported Robberies	2021		
	Reported	Solved	% Solved
Street/Highway	11	3	27.3%
Commercial	6	4	66.7%
Gas or Service Station	0	0	N/C
Chain Store	2	0	0.0%
Residential	0	0	N/C
Bank	0	0	N/C
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Total	19	7	36.8%

La Mesa Police Department Communications - 2nd Quarter 2021

	2020				2021		2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
9-1-1	5929	6465	7402	6879	6765	7540	14305	12394	15.4%
9-1-1 Answer Time ¹	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	-1.0%
Total Calls For Service²	14988	13575	13799	13473	13637	14539	28176	28563	-1.4%
Source:									
9-1-1	4957	5139	6416	6011	6070	6696	12766	10096	26.4%
Text 9-1-1 ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	7	40	N/A	N/A
Non-Emergency	6128	6045	6087	5945	5571	6053	11624	12173	-4.5%
Officer Initiated	3692	2297	1215	1374	1860	1663	3523	5989	-41.2%
Walk Ins ³	211	94	81	143	134	120	254	305	-16.7%

¹ 9-1-1 Answer Time indicates the average percentage of 9-1-1 calls answered by the State Ringtime Standard. The State Ringtime Standard is 95% answered within 15 seconds.

² Calls for Service include all calls that generate agency response and officer initiated contact including, assisting citizens, traffic stops, pedestrian stops, front counter contacts, extra patrol, etc.

³ Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the lobby of the police station was closed in March of 2020. The lobby was reopened with limited access in October of 2020.

⁴ Capacity to accept texts via 9-1-1 began January 2021.

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Trolley Crime Statistics - 2nd Quarter 2021

Violent Crime

	2020 YTD					2021 YTD					2021	2020	% Change
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	YTD	
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	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	2	50.0%
Aggravated Assault	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	0.0%

Property Crime

	2020 YTD					2021 YTD					2021	2020	% Change
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	YTD	
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	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	5	-40.0%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0.0%
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	N/C

Totals

	2020 YTD					2021 YTD					2021	2020	% Change
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	YTD	
Total Violent	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	5	3	66.7%
Total Property	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	4	2	100.0%
FBI Index	1	1	3	0	0	2	1	2	1	3	9	5	80.0%

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. Based on ARJIS data run 7/29/21.