

LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Quarterly Operations Report

3rd Quarter 2021



Ray Sweeney, Chief of Police



Prepared by Crime Analysis

Law Enforcement Operations and Statistics

Part 1 Crimes and Statistics

The 3rd quarter of 2021 concluded with 22.2 crimes per thousand residents compared to 18.9 crimes per thousand in the 3rd quarter of 2020, which represents a 15.4% increase in the number of crimes.

Violent Crimes increased 14.5% in 2021 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2020. There were 134 incidents at the end of the 3rd quarter of 2021 compared to 117 in 2020. Robberies decreased 21.4% in 2021 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2020. During the 3rd quarter of 2021 there were 14 robberies compared to 10 during the 3rd quarter of 2020.

Property Crimes increased by 15.5% in 2021 compared to 2020. At the end of the 3rd quarter of 2021, there were 864 property crimes reported compared to 748 at the end of the 3rd quarter of 2020. The following three categories make up the category of Property Crime: Burglary, Theft and Auto Theft. Burglary decreased 27.9%, Theft increased 33.4% and Auto Theft increased 14.7%. This category also includes a 31.6% increase in vehicle burglaries, a 16.9% increase in residential burglaries, and a 52.5% decrease in commercial burglaries.

The following are some of the significant robbery clearances from the 3rd quarter:

- From 07/07/21 to 09/19/21, the same unknown male suspects robbed two liquor stores and a 7-Eleven in La Mesa by gunpoint. The same suspects were also wanted for an armed robbery series throughout San Diego County. These robberies were caught on surveillance video but no suspects were immediately identified or arrested.

Through a collaborative investigation with detectives from agencies across San Diego County, several search warrants were written and a suspect was identified. Surveillance was performed and a search warrant was served at the suspect's residence. Evidence was found linking the suspect to the robberies including clothing and a firearm. The suspect was arrested and booked into county jail for the robbery series.

- On 09/05/21, three unknown male suspects robbed at gunpoint the Smoke N Stuff located at 5263 Baltimore Drive. The robbery was caught on video surveillance but no suspects were immediately identified or arrested. It was learned that a similar robbery had occurred just prior in the city of San Diego.

Immediately after the La Mesa robbery, the same suspects attempted to rob a store in the city of Lakeside. A pursuit began with the suspects, Sheriff's Deputies, and Officers from CHP that led up to the city of Murrieta. The suspects fired on the Officers and attempted to flee on foot. All three suspects were located,

arrested, and booked into jail in Riverside County for the charges of all three robberies and assault against the Officers.

The following are some of the significant burglary clearances from the 3rd quarter:

- On 10/08/20, an unknown suspect entered the garage of a residence in the 8000 block of El Capitan Drive. The suspect entered the garage through an unlocked door and was confronted by the resident before fleeing on foot. At the time, responding officers were unable to locate the suspect. On 08/15/21, La Mesa Police detectives were notified by the San Diego Sheriff's Crime Laboratory that biological evidence collected from the burglary was matched to a local suspect. The suspect is currently in jail facing several other charges for similar types of crimes.
- On 8/21/21, at 11:40 PM, La Mesa patrol officers responded to the Penske Ford regarding a suspicious person stealing tools from various work trucks in the service lot. As officers arrived on scene, the suspect was seen on video surveillance attempting to hide and flee from the officers. Officers were able to locate and detain the suspect before he was able to flee the location. After reviewing video surveillance, officers discovered the suspect had pried open several other work trucks. The suspect was placed under arrest for 459 PC-Burglary. The suspect was then transported and booked into San Diego Central Jail.
- On 08/24/21, La Mesa Police detectives were notified by the San Diego Sheriff's Crime Laboratory that biological evidence collected from a residential burglary, matched the DNA of a suspect arrested for two other residential burglaries this year. The suspect was arrested and convicted of five residential burglaries and sentenced to 20 years in prison.
- On 8/30/21, at approximately 2:00 PM, an unknown female suspect entered the 7-Eleven, located at 7006 University Avenue, posing as a 7-Eleven employee. The suspect walked behind the register and loaded \$2,000 onto a pre-paid debit card. When questioned by the store manager, the suspect fled the scene in a white sedan. After viewing video, LMPD Detectives were able to identify the suspect who was currently on Federal Probation for fraud. Detectives also learned the suspect had committed a similar crime at a 7-Eleven in Rancho San Diego.

On 9/7/21, La Mesa Police Investigations and Special Investigations Unit detectives conducted surveillance at the suspect's residence and took her into custody. The suspect was placed under arrest for 459 PC – Commercial Burglary and transported to Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility. Additional Burglary charges were added by San Diego Sheriff's Department once the suspect was booked.

Homelessness

The City of La Mesa initiated the recruitment process to transition the HOME program from a contract service with the People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) to an in-house program housed at the police department. The city recruited for two positions; a Clinical Homeless Outreach Specialist and a Homeless Outreach Technician. The city expects to have these two internal positions filled in November 2021.

Housing Outcomes

During the 3rd Quarter, eight (8) individuals received some sort of housing accommodations. Five (5) households exited to temporary housing, defined as an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or other location that provides housing/shelter without tenure. Three (3) households comprised of eight (8) individuals, exited to permanent housing and Urban Development (HUD) occupancy standards with or without supportive services, such as mental health counseling.

For additional information about the HOME Program progress during the 3rd Quarter, see the *City of La Mesa Homeless Outreach & Mobile Engagement (HOME) Program Quarterly Report: July- September 2021* at

<https://www.cityoflamesa.us/DocumentCenter/View/17032/La-Mesa-Outreach-Quarter-3-Report?bidId=>

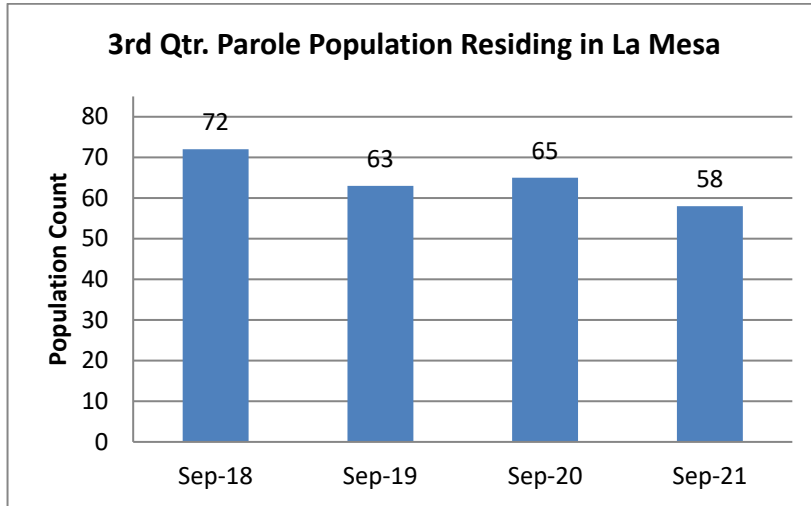
Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

SIU 3rd Quarter Activity

Activity	3rd Quarter 2021	3rd Quarter 2020
Arrests	28	27
Field Interviews*	36	122
Citations	1	0
Vehicle Impounds	0	0
Probation Searches	58	33
Parole Searches	5	4
Traffic Stops	0	7
Pedestrian Stops	4	16
Search Warrants	6	12

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 Eleven (11) of the Post Release Offenders.

Registered Sex Offenders

There are currently eighty-six (86) 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 seventy eight (78) traffic collisions during the 3rd quarter of 2021. Of the seventy-eight (78) reports, forty-four (44) collisions involved injuries with fifty-eight (58)

total drivers and passengers reporting injuries. Of the fifty-eight (58) injured parties, there were three (3) serious injury collisions and two (2) fatalities. The fatal collisions occurred at 7300 University Avenue, involving an impaired driver into a building and in the 5500 block of Grossmont Center Drive, involving an impaired high speed motorcyclist.

Traffic Enforcement Operations 3rd Quarter 2021

During the 3rd quarter, the Traffic Unit conducted five (5) DUI Saturation Patrols, Seven (7) Primary Collision Factor Operations, one (1) Bike/Ped Operation, and one (1) DUI Checkpoint.

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	55		171
Photographed	38	54	55		147
Cleaned	54	54	48		156

“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 3rd Quarter of 2021, locations with a high frequency of graffiti included City parks, the 5700 block of Baltimore Drive, and 5800 block of Jackson Drive.

School Resource Officer

There was no significant SRO activity. The SRO has been assigned to light duty.

Crime Prevention/Emergency Preparedness

There are currently 115 Neighborhood Watch groups. The Nextdoor.com social media group has approximately 19,604 La Mesa citizens participating. The Department’s

Facebook account has 6,577 followers. The Department's Twitter account has 4,902 followers. The Department's Instagram account has 3120 followers.

During the 3rd Quarter, Crime Prevention coordinated National Night Out, and the La Mesa Safety Fair.

Neighborhood Watch Meetings	1
Community Presentations	1
Residential Security Inspections	2
Commercial Security Inspections	6

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Crime Statistics - 3rd Quarter 2021

Violent Crime

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	2	0	N/C
Cleared	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	N/C
Rape	3	1	9	3	4	2	5	11	13	-15.4%
Cleared	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	100.0%
Robbery	22	10	10	16	10	9	14	33	42	-21.4%
Cleared	12	5	6	3	2	5	5	12	23	-47.8%
Aggravated Assault	17	15	30	43	44	20	24	88	62	41.9%
Cleared	8	12	9	28	19	9	8	36	29	24.1%

Property Crime

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Residential	26	19	20	22	26	29	21	76	65	16.9%
Commercial	29	58	31	28	17	19	20	56	118	-52.5%
Burglary Total	55	77	51	50	43	48	41	132	183	-27.9%
Cleared	9	17	15	7	4	6	4	14	41	-65.9%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	45	38	34	42	66	41	47	154	117	31.6%
Theft > \$400	72	55	63	105	100	97	116	313	190	64.7%
Theft \$400 or less	111	76	72	95	103	83	100	286	259	10.4%
Theft Total	183	131	135	200	203	180	216	599	449	33.4%
Cleared	17	11	13	6	13	20	19	52	41	26.8%
Auto Theft	33	41	42	38	35	52	46	133	116	14.7%
Cleared	7	4	6	10	1	1	6	8	17	-52.9%

Totals

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Total Violent	42	26	49	64	58	32	44	134	117	14.5%
Cleared*	47.6%	65.4%	32.7%	50.0%	37.9%	43.8%	34.1%	38.1%	45.3%	-16.0%
Total Property	271	249	228	288	281	280	303	864	748	15.5%
Cleared*	12.2%	12.9%	14.9%	8.0%	6.4%	9.6%	9.6%	8.6%	13.2%	-35.3%
FBI Index	313	275	277	352	339	312	347	998	865	15.4%
Cleared*	16.9%	17.8%	18.1%	15.6%	11.8%	13.1%	12.7%	12.5%	17.6%	-28.7%

Violent Rate per 1000 Pop.

3.0/K 2.6/K

Property Rate per 1000 Pop.

19.2/K 16.4/K

Index Rate per 1000 Pop.

22.2/K 18.9/K

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery and Theft - 3rd Quarter 2021

Robbery

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Street/Highway	10	8	3	5	6	5	2	13	21	-38.1%
Commercial	8	2	2	3	2	4	7	13	12	8.3%
Gas or Service Station	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	-100.0%
Chain Store	2	0	2	4	2	0	3	5	4	25.0%
Residential	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	1	100.0%
Bank	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Robbery Total	22	10	10	16	10	9	14	33	42	-21.4%
Cleared	12	5	6	4	2	5	5	12	23	-47.8%
YTD Clearance Rate	36%									

Theft

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Pocket-Picking	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Purse Snatching	7	0	2	5	2	1	0	3	9	-66.7%
Shoplifting	27	8	22	17	29	32	52	113	57	98.2%
From Motor Vehicles	69	63	53	97	108	68	76	252	185	36.2%
Motor Vehicle Parts & Acc.	15	15	16	33	21	34	46	101	46	119.6%
Bicycles	9	2	6	5	6	7	4	17	17	0.0%
From Buildings	31	26	30	27	20	26	25	71	87	-18.4%
From Coin Operated Mach.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
All Others	23	17	6	16	17	12	13	42	46	-8.7%
Theft Total	183	131	135	200	203	180	216	599	449	33.4%
Cleared	17	11	13	6	13	20	19	52	41	26.8%
YTD Clearance Rate	9%									

La Mesa Police Department

Patrol Statistics - 3rd Quarter 2021

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Primary Officer Initiated	5424	5528	5604	5621	5336	5756	6124	17216	16556	4.0%
	3405	2183	1118	1263	1678	1506	1630	4814	6706	-28.2%
Reports Taken	1115	1001	977	960	1054	1035	1106	3195	3093	3.3%
Arrests Made	378	302	215	203	241	224	245	710	895	-20.7%
5150 Detentions	123	154	115	114	130	132	134	396	392	1.0%
Citations	814	109	96	200	347	248	346	941	1019	-7.7%
Parking/ Muni Code Citations	229	41	57	66	149	156	112	417	327	27.5%
Field Interviews	210	221	124	127	110	106	99	315	555	-43.2%

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery Statistics - 3rd Quarter 2021

Reported Robberies	Year to Date Totals		
	2021	2020	% Change
Street/Highway	13	21	-38.1%
Commercial	12	12	0.0%
Gas or Service Station	0	2	-100.0%
Chain Store	6	4	50.0%
Residential	2	1	100.0%
Bank	0	2	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Robbery Total	33	42	-21.4%
Cleared	12	23	-47.8%

Reported Robberies	2021		
	Reported	Solved	% Solved
Street/Highway	13	4	30.8%
Commercial	12	8	66.7%
Gas or Service Station	0	0	N/C
Chain Store	6	0	0.0%
Residential	2	0	0.0%
Bank	0	0	N/C
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Total	33	12	36.4%

La Mesa Police Department

Communications - 3rd Quarter 2021

	2020				2021			2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
9-1-1	5929	6465	7402	6879	6765	7540	7714	22019	19796	11.2%
9-1-1 Answer Time ¹	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	N/A
Total Calls For Service²	14988	13575	13799	13473	13637	14539	15404	43580	42362	2.9%
Source:										
9-1-1	4957	5139	6416	6011	6070	6696	6882	19648	16512	19.0%
Text 9-1-1 ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	7	8	48	N/A	N/A
Non-Emergency	6128	6045	6087	5945	5571	6053	6614	18238	18260	-0.1%
Officer Initiated	3692	2297	1215	1374	1860	1663	1780	5303	7204	-26.4%
Walk Ins ³	211	94	81	143	134	120	120	374	386	-3.1%

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 - 3rd Quarter 2021

Violent Crime

	2020 YTD					2021 YTD					2021		
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	2020 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	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	2	50.0%
Aggravated Assault	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	-33.3%

Property Crime

	2020 YTD					2021 YTD					2021		
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	2020 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	1	0	3	0	2	1	1	2	1	6	11	6	83.3%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	0.0%
Auto Theft	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	2	50.0%

Totals

	2020 YTD					2021 YTD					2021		
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	YTD	2020 YTD	% Change
Total Violent	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	5	5	0.0%
Total Property	2	0	4	0	2	1	1	2	1	9	14	8	75.0%
FBI Index	3	1	6	1	2	2	2	4	2	9	19	13	46.2%

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.