



BART Beat



Message from the Chief

“Community policing is not a program, it’s an organizational philosophy. Without partnering with the community, it is impossible to do our jobs effectively and efficiently. This collaboration is especially valuable to a transit police agency which runs through many communities and jurisdictions. The establishment, nurturing, and the growth of this partnership between commuters and the Police is probably the most important element for the successful implementation of COPPS (Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving).”

Kenton W. Rainey

Message from General Manager Grace Crunican

September marks 40 years of service at BART and what a month it has been. We’ve had record ridership with 11 out of 19 weekdays surpassing 400,000 riders. In the past it took a Giants World Series Parade or a Bay Bridge closure to spike ridership to these levels but it is quickly becoming the norm. These numbers remind us of just how important the Police Department’s role is at BART. Your work helps deliver people safely and on time to their destination and in return more and more people are choosing BART. Thank you for your dedication and service.

For our 40th anniversary we want to give back to our community and customers. We’re giving away 40,000 free field trip rides for school children spread throughout the upcoming school year and \$40 BART tickets for 1,000 customers spotted wearing our 40th anniversary sticker. We will also host ice cream socials for passengers at 5 stations and you’ll see 40th anniversary decals on our train cars.

We’ve been asking customers to share their photos of BART’s opening day- September 11, 1972. We were thrilled when we got this one. Can you guess which current police employee is the excited little guy in the photo on the right?



Pictured left: K-9 Officer Doug Horner, K-9 Sandro and friends pose for a picture during National Night Out at the Concord BART Station.



A Growing Network: National Night Out 2012

By Lauren Sugayan



This year, a planning committee made up of police officers and community services officers came together to successfully coordinate BART’s 3rd year participating in National Night Out. On Tuesday, August 7th, police representatives and their community partners reached out to thousands of evening commuters at the North Berkeley, 12th Street, Civic Center, Millbrae, Hayward and Concord BART Stations.

New this year, committee members garnered support from over 20 local businesses, nonprofit organizations and community groups. This collaboration resulted in a night of fun-filled activities such as dancing, raffles, music and face painting, to name a few. National Night Out signifies one of BART Police’s many initiatives to get involved with the community and grow its network. Thanks to all BART staff and community partners for supporting the Police Department’s efforts to engage our ridership.

Pictured right: CSO Crystal Raine, CSO Robert Lam and Officer Ashley Rincon stand alongside Hayward Citizen Ambassadors during National Night Out at the Hayward BART Station. Pictured Far right: Officer Lori Bush with a new friend.





Zone Policing Updates

The use of the **S.A.R.A.** model, which stands for **s**canning, **a**nalysis, **r**esponse and **a**ssessment, is taking off at the BART Police Department. Since Spring's BART Beat edition, here is follow-up testimony:

- In Zone 1, Lieutenant Ed Alvarez and Sergeant Tanzanika Carter gathered data on electronic device theft and crafted an awareness plan to address the issue. Zone 1 staff has since been partnering with Oakland Police to jointly carry out crime suppression initiatives and community outreach at Oakland BART Stations.
- Due to ongoing bike thefts occurring in Zone 2 and 3, personnel are regularly carrying out undercover sting operations at hotspot locations. Both Zones have been successful at apprehending bike thieves in the act. Personnel are also raising awareness by distributing bike hang tags onto the handlebars of parked bikes. These tags educate riders about how to properly lock their bike, along with encouraging them to register their bikes.
- In Zone 4, CSO Donald Jackson has been conducting frequent patrols at the 16th Street Station bike parking area to deter thefts and distribute bike hang tags. Sergeant Karen Kreitzer and Officers Patrick Lennan and William Schaffer met with neighborhood crime watch residents in July at St. Johns Church to address community complaints about maintenance and policing of the 16th Street BART plaza. Also, beginning July 26th, the use of video cameras in BART Operations Control Center (OCC) were utilized by operations employees to assist in witnessing criminal activity in the 16th Street plaza area between 0800-0900 hours and 1300-1400 hours.
- In Zone 5, Officer Mike Dobson is working on a project to improve traffic safety at the Millbrae Station. He is partnering with other departments in the BART District to design better traffic control signs inside the parking structure to cut down on wrong-way drivers and other unsafe driving behavior. The new signs have been installed.

Zone Policing by Stations

Zone 1

Coliseum, Fruitvale, Lake Merritt, West Oakland, 12th Street, 19th Street, MacArthur & Rockridge

Zone 2

Richmond, El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito del Norte, North Berkeley, Downtown Berkeley, Ashby, Orinda, Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, North Concord, Pittsburg/Baypoint

Zone 3

San Leandro, Bayfair, Hayward, South Hayward, Union City, Fremont, Castro Valley, West Dublin/Pleasanton & East Dublin/Pleasanton

Zone 4

Embarcadero, Montgomery, Powell, Civic Center, 16th Street, 24th Street,

Zone 5

Glen Park, Balboa Park, Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, SFO, Millbrae

Transit Crime in the News

By Lauren Sugayan

Electronic device theft still remains a top priority here at BART and we continue to find ways to address it. This growing crime trend impacts all transit and city hubs in the Bay Area and nationwide. In fact, Bay Area cities, along with the BART system, have been in recent news reports about how often this crime is taking place.

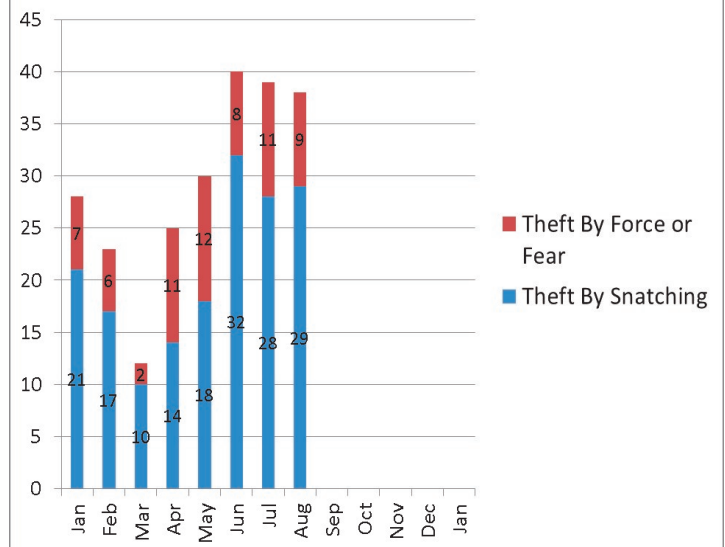
The chart on the right illustrates an upswing in electronic device thefts in June and July of 2012 at BART stations. More particularly, the system has experienced a sharp increase in "snatch and grab" style thefts. This style of crime occurs when opportunistic thieves target individuals using their electronic devices near train doors, station entrances or any location where they can easily escape or go unnoticed.

It is inevitable that as long as trendy gadgets are released, transit riders will continue to use them while traveling. Unfortunately, their values continue to increase when sold illegally on the black market. BART Police strongly sees passenger education as a key prevention measure mostly because criminals target passengers who are not alert while traveling the system. In other words, people tuned out and distracted by their electronic devices are putting themselves at risk. BART Police also rely on vigilant officer observations and focus frequent patrols on the platforms during peak commute hours. More importantly, transit passengers must take personal safety precautions when riding the system.

Here is what we remind our transit riders:

- Don't use your device by train doors, during station stops and when exiting the station.
- Register your device.
- Keep your device close to you or inside your bag or pocket.
- Don't lend your phone to strangers.
- Warn your travel companions to protect their phones.
- Make all phone calls discreetly to avoid the attention from would-be thieves.

Electronic Item Thefts



Did you know?

In an effort to get BART employees, passengers, and extended community members involved with preventing crime, an anonymous tip line was set up. By calling (510) 464-7011, it provides an alternative method of relaying valuable information to the Police Department. The Police Department would rather have crimes reported anonymously, then not reported it at all. However, for all crime that requires an immediate response, (510) 464-7000 remains the primary emergency line.



Hiring and Recruitment Update

By Terrence McCarty



Be one of BART PD's finest!
Hiring for Lateral and Entry
Level Positions...Apply today at
www.bart.gov/jobs.

On July 9, 2012, Police Department personnel traveled to the South Bay Regional Public Safety Academy located at the College of San Mateo. Officer Guillermo Will Alcaraz is the Recruit Training Officer for the San Mateo academy class. Officer Alcaraz identified cadets who were interested in applying for the Police Officer position. The cadets applied for the entry level position and were provided the opportunity to complete the oral panel process prior to their September 27, 2012 academy graduation. This will result in expediting the hiring process by almost two

months for these applicants.

Oral panels for lateral applicants are being conducted monthly. On August 18, 2012, the Department conducted entry level testing for the police officer position. There were 145 applicants who took both the written and the physical ability tests. Out of this total, 45% (65) passed both tests.

We have received a number of great ideas about recruitment from BPD team members. If you have a recruiting or hiring idea, please contact any member of the Personnel and Training Unit!



Chief Kenton Rainey visits with officers at the North Berkeley Station during this year's National Night Out

BART Police Representing in the San Francisco Bay Area

Pictured right: CSO Livesey, Sergeant McCarty & Officer Joseph at the Bay Area Black Expo in Oakland.



Current Staffing Levels:
Police Officers- 142
Revenue Guards- 17
Dispatchers- 14
Police Administrative Specialists- 8
Community Services Officers- 32

Building on the Legacy of Justice by Action



By Tanzanika Carter

The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) hosted their 36th annual training conference in Little Rock, Arkansas; the conference theme was "Blazing New Trails: Building on the Legacy of Justice by Action." The Department sponsored myself, Sergeant Terrance McCarty and Officers David Greene and Tony Spears, to attend the conference. NOBLE representatives led several workshops including leadership development, conflict resolution, and behavior recognition, just to name a few.

parent in our actions. This allows us to gain the trust of our community.

Current leaders understand there are challenges associated with community policing. It requires that organizations examine more deeply the conditions that give rise to crime. Solutions often call for a collaborative effort among multiple stakeholders. For this reason, strategic plans are devised to outline proactive solutions.

We learned that in order for our police department to go from good to great, we must rise above our comfort level. In doing so, this prepares us for new growth. We must build community relationships by demonstrating our commitment and competency toward public service. As moral agents, we must also be accountable and trans-

In addition, attendees participated in a Memorial March, which honored this year's fallen NOBLE members and other public servants who have given their lives in the line of duty. NOBLE youth participants led the march and they were saluted for their proactive stand for justice.

NOBLE is certainly blazing new trails and taking a stand to fight for the community. They are encouraging us to do the same by serving with fervor and bridging the gap.



Pictured left: BART Police at the Solano Avenue Stroll in Berkeley in September.



What it Takes to Charge a Case: Communicating with Detail

By Jon Woffinden



PART I of 3

Many officers ask detectives on a regular basis, "Why wasn't that case charged? It was a solid case!" The truth is that there are dozens of reasons that the Deputy District Attorney's (DDA's) decide to charge or not charge a case. The crime report submitted by the officer may have everything or nothing to do with a DDA's decision. That said, there are common factors that affect the DDA's decision-making which are within the scope of responsibility for Sergeants and Officers.

As law enforcement officers, most of us have been through some type of communications class or other training exercise which demonstrate the way a simple statement can be understood differently by different people. The same thing happens in police reports when suspect/victim/witness statements are taken. Many times, the wording or lack thereof can affect the way the sentence is understood. Now let's examine ways we can improve upon this.

First, we all understand the elements of crime when we arrive on scene to investigate. Incorporating these elements in your communication to the victim can be beneficial. For example, an officer may say "so, when the suspect demanded money from you, were you in fear for your safety?" When the victim answers "yes", a good follow up is "describe to me what that felt like" or "tell me how this made you feel." Also, when obtaining information about the suspect, ask questions such as, "what physical attributes of the suspect do you remember most clearly and why?" This question requires a response that goes deeper than a mere, "he was six feet tall, wearing a jacket and long pants."

These deeper, probing questions will often help a victim to remember finer details and even provide deeper meaning to what they have just experienced. Not only does this process help the victim see the officer as concerned for their emotions, but it nullifies a defense attorney's ability to poke holes in the elements of the crime.

A robbery is certainly a common crime all officers have investigated, but it is not the most common crime we make arrests on. Recently, a DDA in Oakland explained that public intoxication reports have become "sloppy". He was not referring just to this agency, but rather all agencies. He expressed that his complaint surrounds the lack of investigation on the part of the officer. He pointed out that many officers simply write, "I could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his breath when he spoke" or "his eyes were bloodshot and watery" or "his gait was unsteady." The DDA explained that this type of description is comparable and not much better than "I saw Mr. Smith who was intoxicated and arrested him."

Consequently, he recommended what details should be captured in crime reports. Primarily, he explained wanting to see more question and observation. For example, "Mr. Smith, as I am talking to you, do you feel the effects of the alcohol?" If Mr. Smith answers "yes", then follow up with "Well how do you feel?" I realize that most people that are intoxicated enough to warrant police contact may or may not be able or willing to answer these questions; however, considering these factors during investigations establishes more clarity for the DDA.

Award Committee Update

By Frances Cheung



Members of the BART Police Award Committee have been meeting regularly to discuss ways to showcase department personnel who go above and beyond their duties and responsibilities. BART Police will soon be honoring members in categories including Officer of the year, Civilian of the Year, Exceptional Case Award, Community Service Award, and Good Samaritan Award. The annual Award Recognition ceremony presents an opportunity to spotlight the shining star in your Zone. Furthermore, it recognizes community leaders and citizens who endeavor to make a difference and promote a safer environment.

In addition, the Department plans to honor the service of its retirees with Congressional certificates from local representatives and depending on their years of service, a U.S. American Flag will be flown over the State Capitol. This event sets a milestone for BART Police personnel honoring their dedication, commitment and unselfish service to the community.

The annual Award Recognition will take place at 11:00 a.m. on December 18, 2012 at the Metro Transportation Commission (MTC) Auditorium in Oakland. Refreshments and light snacks will follow. If you are interested in participating on the event planning committee, please contact F. Cheung at (510) 464- 7072.

Why is this even being Investigated?

By Lance Haight



It is absolutely true that Internal Affairs will investigate just about anything, and in some cases this begs the question, "Why is this even being investigated?" You may be relieved to know that there are very good reasons why, and understanding the answers to this question may change your perception of Internal Affairs:

- First and foremost, the investigation of all personnel complaints is a legal mandate. According to 832.5 PC, all law enforcement agencies are required **to accept and investigate all complaints.**
- One very important function of Internal Affairs investigations is to disprove false allegations and to exonerate employees who have done no wrong.
- Our Department is committed the core value of Accountability, "We take ownership of our duties, remaining answerable to the public and accountable to the laws, rules, policies and procedures that govern

and guide us."

- Our Internal Affairs process is audited to ensure investigations are thorough and honest. The Office of Independent Police Auditor reviews the intake, investigation, and disposition of all complaints.

Every Internal Affairs investigation is conducted as a top to bottom review of the incident in question, and sometimes the investigation of one issue will uncover something altogether new. Just as an officer in the field investigates a call for service, Internal Affairs cannot pick and choose what we put in our report. We simply cannot turn a blind eye to matters of policy and/or officer safety. The Department (meaning all of us) is obligated to address these issues for the ultimate benefit of the individual as well as the whole.

Please consider that there is value in what the Office of Internal Affairs does for our Department. Is not an easy job, but it is important.



How to Benefit from the Incident Command System?



By Kevin Franklin

One of the best ways to help ensure a successful outcome for any incident or operation is to use the Incident Command System (ICS). The strength of ICS is that it provides a simple and flexible framework to organize any incident including developing a plan, assigning responsibility for tasks and duties, and managing resources. ICS can adjust to fit incidents of all sizes and can be used for incidents such as crime scenes, planned events, or even long-term projects. The key to ICS is taking that first step to declare that ICS is being activated and identifying the Incident Commander of the event.

ICS is an on-scene incident management system, so the first employee at the scene will initially become the Incident Commander (IC). The Watch Commander, or another person who is not yet at the scene, may determine that ICS needs to be implemented, but the IC will always be a person who is actually on-scene. That is not to say that the Watch Commander does not supervise the IC, but the Watch Commander cannot fill the IC role unless they are actually on-scene. In a situation where multiple incidents are occurring at different locations, there may be several IC's, each managing their own incident. In this type of situation, the individual IC's would then report to an Area Commander, which might be the Watch Commander, or another appropriate person, working from a central location.

There are several things that the IC should do immediately when activating ICS at an incident:

- Communicate that ICS is being implemented by notifying police dispatch and/or the OCC. The IC should give the incident a name so that it can be tracked. Each incident should have a simple name such as the name of the location and a brief description of the type of incident ("Lake Merritt Shooting" as an example).
- Establish a Command Post (CP) in a location that can provide safety, security, privacy, and enough space to accommodate the incident management. First responders are often the targets for secondary attacks in terrorist events, so the location of the CP should be searched to ensure security. The CP can always be moved, but picking a good location at the beginning is beneficial. Communicating the location of the CP is critical, especially in incidents where other BART

departments or other first responders are involved, so that the people involved in the management of the incident can meet at the CP.

- Evaluate the incident and make a plan to effectively deal with the situation. The initial plan is usually a short term, verbal plan to immediately respond to the incident. In larger events, or after the initial response period, the incident plan will become a written plan to ensure clear communication.
- Request the resources that are necessary to implement the incident plan and assign tasks to employees who respond to the incident. In a small incident, the IC will be responsible for all aspects of incident management. As incidents grow, the IC will activate a general staff to assist with the four ICS sections, which are Finance, Logistics, Operations, and Planning (use "FLOP" as a memory-aid to recall the sections). Any of the sections can be activated separately (the Operations section is probably the most common for incidents that require activating a section).

The IC can change during an incident to allow the most qualified person to assume command. Change of command should be done face to face when possible and must be clearly communicated to everyone involved in the incident. The IC should give a full situational briefing to the incoming IC about the current state of the incident. In incidents where both police and fire have responsibility for the incident response, unified command should be established with both a Police IC and a Fire IC who work together to develop and implement the incident plan. When an outside agency establishes ICS at an incident that may affect BART, a BART employee will be assigned to the CP in the role of BART Liaison. A Transportation Supervisor normally fills the BART Liaison role, but a police employee may be assigned to act as a BART Liaison.

This article is intended to provide a brief summary of the Incident Command System. Employees should always refer to the BART Emergency Plan for more detailed information about incident management for the specific incidents covered in the plan. The best way to improve your ICS skills is to practice using ICS for everyday incidents at work.

Wall of Recognition

New Assignments:

Training Officer Shaunte Barnes
 Range Master Sergeant Tim Pashoian
 JTTF Liaison John Vuong
 Internal Affairs Sergeant Aaron Togonon
 Personnel & Training CSO Christina Livesey
 Call Taker CSO Rebecca Gee
 Protection/Explosive Detection K-9 Officer Stephen Christ
 Field Training Sergeant Gil Lopez

Promotions:

Sergeant Brando Cruz
 Sergeant Joel Enriquez
 Sergeant Carolyn Perea
 Sergeant Tania Salas
 Sergeant Michael Williamson
 Sergeant Jaswant Sekhon
 Sergeant Anisa McNack

New Hires:

Police Officer David Campbell
 Police Officer-Candidate Matthew Edgcombe
 Police Officer Wilson Velasquez-Ochoa
 Police Officer-Candidate Bryan Trabanino
 Police Officer-Candidate Ninja Allen
 Police Administrative Specialist Cheryl Rinker
 Community Services Officer Melanie Perricone
 Community Services Officer Robert Lam
 Community Services Officer Casey Santos
 Community Services Officer Jessica Ramos

Retirement:

Sergeant Gerald Dominguez
 Sergeant John Austin
 Police Officer Michael Rawski
 Police Officer Dan Hoover
 Master Police Officer Les Scanlan