

COSTA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

To: Chief Dennis Kies
From: Captain Les Gogerty
Subject: July 2 – 4, 2011 After Action Report
Date: July 13, 2011

The following is a citywide summary of fireworks related calls for service and the overall impact on the various City departments. This is the second year in a row the Police and Fire Departments have not deployed a joint task force to address fireworks related calls for service. Instead each department deployed adequate staffing and managed the calls for service each day throughout the weekend.

Staffing

4th of July Weekend Staffing - 2011

Friday, July 1st

Watch Commander

Lt. Ciszek 0700-1700

Lt. Manley 1300-2300

Patrol	Day Shift	7	PM Shift	12	AM Shift	7
	Sergeants	3	Sergeants	2	Sergeants	3

Includes ISE,OT sign ups, K9, & Reserves

Note: K9 considered in PM Staffing only

Traffic	Day Shift	1	PM Shift	2	DUI	1
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Days 0700-1700 PMs 1300-2300 DUI 1800-0400

Gangs (1400 - 0000)	3
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South Coast Plaza (1200-1900)	1
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Total Staffing

0700-1200 (minimum staffing = 7)	8
1200-1300 (minimum staffing = 7)	9
1300-1400 (minimum staffing = 7)	11
1400-1700 (minimum staffing = 7)	14
1700-1800 (minimum staffing = 11)	18

1800-1900 (minimum staffing = 11)	19
1900-2300 (minimum staffing = 11)	18
2300-0000 (minimum staffing = 11)	23
0000-0200 (minimum staffing = 11)	20
0200-0400 (minimum staffing = 7)	8
0400-0700 (minimum staffing = 7)	7

Saturday, July 2nd

Watch Commander

Lt. Manley 1300-2300

Patrol	Day Shift	7	PM Shift	12	AM Shift	8
	Sergeants	2	Sergeants	2	Sergeants	2

Includes ISE,OT sign ups, K9, & Reserves
Note: K9 considered in PM Staffing only

Traffic	Day Shift	1	PM Shift	1	DUI	1
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Days 0700-1700 PMs 1300-2300 DUI 1800-0400

Gangs (1400 - 0000)	2
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South Coast Plaza (1000-2000)	1
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Total Staffing

0700-1000 (minimum staffing = 7)	8
1000-1300 (minimum staffing = 7)	9
1300-1400 (minimum staffing = 7)	10
1400-1700 (minimum staffing = 7)	12
1700-1800 (minimum staffing = 11)	16
1800-2000 (minimum staffing = 11)	17
2000-2300 (minimum staffing = 11)	16
2300-0000 (minimum staffing = 11)	23
0000-0200 (minimum staffing = 11)	21
0200-0400 (minimum staffing = 7)	9
0400-0700 (minimum staffing = 7)	8

Sunday, July 3rd

Watch Commander

Sgt. Myers 1200-2200

Patrol	Day Shift	7	PM Shift	9	AM Shift	7
	Sergeants	2	Sergeants	2	Sergeants	2

Includes ISE,OT sign ups, K9, & Reserves
Note: K9 considered in PM Staffing only

Traffic Day Shift **1** PM Shift **2** DUI **0**

Days 0700-1700 PMs 1300-2300 DUI 1800-0400

Gangs (1400 - 0000) **3**

South Coast Plaza (1000-2000) **1**

Total Staffing

0700-1000 (minimum staffing = 7) **8**
 1000-1300 (minimum staffing = 7) **9**
 1300-1400 (minimum staffing = 7) **11**
 1400-1700 (minimum staffing = 7) **14**
 1700-2000 (minimum staffing = 11) **15**
 2000-2300 (minimum staffing = 11) **14**
 2300-0000 (minimum staffing = 11) **20**
 0000-0200 (minimum staffing = 11) **17**
 0200-0700 (minimum staffing = 7) **7**

Monday, July 4th

Watch Commander

Lt. Sharpnack 0700-1700

Lt. Glass 1300-2300

Patrol Day Shift **8** PM Shift **12** AM Shift **7**

Sergeants **2** Sergeants **2** Sergeants **2**

Includes ISE,OT sign ups, K9, & Reserves

Note: K9 considered in PM Staffing only

Traffic Day Shift **2** PM Shift **2** DUI **0**

Days 0700-1700 PMs 1300-2300 DUI 1800-0400

Gangs (1400 - 0000) **2**

South Coast Plaza (1000-2000) **0**

Total Staffing

0700-1300 (minimum staffing = 7) **10**
 1300-1400 (minimum staffing = 7) **12**
 1400-1700 (minimum staffing = 7) **14**
 1700-2300 (minimum staffing = 11) **16**
 2300-0000 (minimum staffing = 11) **21**
 0000-0200 (minimum staffing = 11) **19**
 0200-0700 (minimum staffing = 7) **7**

Calls for Service

This was the first year the City authorized the use of legal fireworks on July 2nd and July 3rd, which resulted in more overall calls for service. While there were more total calls for service compared with last year, and July 4th was extremely busy at times, supervisors from each department believed there was adequate staffing to handle the call volume and staff was able to manage the increased calls for service appropriately.

Overall, for the entire holiday weekend, July 1st through July 4th, there were 455 calls for service reported. Of those, 387 were routine fireworks calls requiring no contact and handled on a case by case prioritized basis, 59 required a police officer response and contact, and 9 were handled by the Fire Department.

Impacts

Public Services Department

Director Peter Naghavi stated personnel installed informational fireworks signs at city entry points as well as at various selected parks. Sprinkler systems were programmed to assist with mitigating the impact of fireworks use. There were no reports of any problems throughout the holiday weekend. Additional part time personnel and some full time personnel were brought in for a few hours on Monday and Tuesday to clean up from the long holiday weekend. The clean-up mostly involved picking up litter and emptying trash cans.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Kirk Dominic reported personnel met with firework stand operators a week before the holiday to review requirements and regulations. On June 30th, Fire Prevention staff inspected each firework stand to ensure all requirements were met before they were authorized to sell fireworks. He also stated everything went smoothly for the busy holiday weekend. They responded to approximately eight (8) trash/dumpster fires on Sunday and Monday with six (6) of them being on the 4th between 8:00 PM and 11:00 PM. On July 4th, fire units checked on all approved block parties and attended three Community Service Requests around the City.

Police Department

Personnel were briefed daily regarding pertinent fireworks information including “hot spots” and other areas for extra patrol. Although the call volume was high, supervisors were able to prioritize calls to ensure that all calls were handled as efficiently as possible. Additionally, while there were more calls for service, both fireworks related and non-fireworks related, staff reported the overall impact did not appear to be as intense as previous years.

Conclusion

Based upon all of the available information, although there was an increase in the number of days to use fireworks and this increased the number of calls for service, staff reported fewer complaints and adequate staffing to appropriately handle the higher call volume.