

# LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Quarterly Operations Report

Ist Quarter 2022



**Ray Sweeney, Chief of Police**



Prepared by Crime Analysis

## **Law Enforcement Operations and Statistics**

### **Part 1 Crimes and Statistics**

The 1st quarter of 2022 concluded with 23.6 crimes per thousand residents compared to 22.6 crimes per thousand in the 1st quarter of 2021, which represents a 4.4% increase in the number of crimes.

Violent Crimes decreased 43.1% in 2022 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2021. There were 33 incidents at the end of the 1st quarter of 2022 compared to 58 in 2021. Robberies decreased 20.0% in 2022 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2021. During the 1st quarter of 2022 there were 8 robberies compared to 10 during the 1st quarter of 2021.

Property Crimes increased by 14.2% in 2022 compared to 2021. At the end of the 1st quarter of 2022, there were 321 property crimes reported compared to 281 at the end of the 1st quarter of 2021. The following three categories make up the category of Property Crime: Burglary, Theft and Auto Theft. Burglary decreased 32.6%, Theft increased 16.3% and Auto Theft increased 60.0%. This category also includes a 7.6% decrease in vehicle burglaries, an 57.7% decrease in residential burglaries, and a 5.9% increase in commercial burglaries.

The following are some significant robbery clearances from the 1st quarter:

- On 01/04/22 at approximately 10:00 AM, a male entered the Bank of the West, located at 8690 Center Drive, La Mesa. The suspect demanded money from two tellers, and removed cash from a third teller's drawer, before fleeing on foot. La Mesa patrol officers responded to a silent alarm activation at the bank and located the suspect walking through the parking lot of Grossmont Center. The suspect was arrested and booked into San Diego County Jail for robbery.
- On 01/29/22 at approximately 4:50 PM, a male suspect attempted to shoplift shoes from the Famous Footwear located within the Grossmont Center mall. When he was confronted by security, the suspect abandoned the shoes and fled. Ten minutes later the suspect returned and stole the shoes for a second time. The suspect was again confronted by security; the suspect brandished a knife at the guard before leaving with the merchandise. La Mesa patrol officers responded and located the suspect hiding under the Interstate 8 bridge at Jackson Drive. The suspect was arrested for robbery and carrying a concealed dagger.

The following is a significant auto theft clearance from the 1st quarter:

- On 02/11/22, a resident's truck was stolen from the 7400 block of El Cajon Boulevard. On 03/25/22, La Mesa Police Department's Regional Auto Theft Task Force (RATT) Detective located a suspect driving the stolen truck through La Mesa. The suspect was using the La Mesa resident's truck to tow a vehicle trailer that had

been stolen in East County. With the assistance of La Mesa patrol officers, the RATT detective was able to safely take the suspect into custody and return the stolen truck to the victim. The suspect was booked into San Diego County Jail for possession of a stolen vehicle.

The following are some of the significant burglary clearances from the 1st quarter:

- On 01/20/22, a resident's bags, containing clothing, keys, and electronics, were stolen from their locked vehicle. The resident confronted the suspect and took a photo of their license plate as they drove away. La Mesa's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) detectives identified the vehicle and the registered owner. Detectives located the suspect vehicle and identified a residence associated with the suspect. La Mesa detectives executed a search warrant on the residence. Several items stolen from the victim's vehicle were recovered and returned. The suspect was arrested for burglary, and for several felony warrants which were issued for by other local law enforcement agencies.
- On 02/14/22, a La Mesa resident's vehicle was burglarized and their wallet was stolen. Subsequently, the victim's credit cards were used at various stores throughout the County. SIU detectives were able to identify a suspect through investigative leads and partnered with allied agencies in conducting surveillance operations. The suspect was located in San Diego. With assistance from the US Marshal's Service San Diego Fugitive Task Force, SIU detectives were able to safely take the suspect into custody. The suspect was booked into San Diego County Jail for burglary. Property stolen from the victim's vehicle was located and returned.
- On 02/26/22 at approximately 1:36 AM, La Mesa patrol officers contacted a male in his vehicle parked in the lot of a closed business on Baltimore Drive. Upon contact, the officers noticed the propane tank storage container adjacent to the vehicle was unlocked. Officers located stolen propane tanks and burglary tools in the vehicle and arrested the suspect. SIU detectives identified three additional cases in which the same male burglarized the propane tank storage containers of La Mesa businesses, stealing multiple tanks each time. The male was also identified as the suspect in a similar case of burglary in Rancho San Diego.
- On 02/26/22 at approximately 8:40 AM, a La Mesa resident was in the process of loading her vehicle and reentered the residence briefly to retrieve additional items. Upon her return, she witnessed an unknown male removing her bag, containing several unused checks and a laptop, from her vehicle. The resident confronted the suspect and he fled with the property. Subsequently, the checks were cashed at numerous bank locations throughout the County. SIU detectives identified the suspect cashing the checks, and tracked him to his elderly parents' residence. SIU detectives arrested the suspect for burglary.

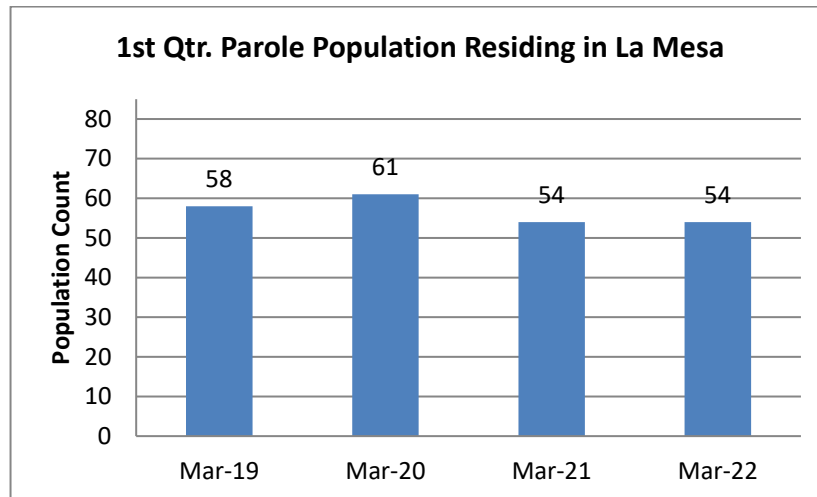
## Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

### SIU 1st Quarter Activity

Activity	1st Quarter 2021	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022
Arrests	29	21
Field Interviews*	75	40
Citations	1	9
Vehicle Impounds	3	1
Probation Searches	68	45
Parole Searches	6	1
Traffic Stops	17	5
Pedestrian Stops	41	15
Search Warrants	10	3

## 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. One is out of 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 1st quarter of 2022. Of the seventy-eight (78) reports, forty-five (45) collisions involved injuries with fifty-five (55) total drivers and passengers reporting injuries. Of the fifty-five (55) injured parties, there were three (3) serious injury collisions and one (1) fatality.

### Traffic Enforcement Operations

During the 1st quarter, the Traffic Unit conducted three (3) DUI Saturation Patrols and three (3) Primary Collision Factor Operations.

### Community Resource Activities and Information

#### Graffiti Tracker

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>1st Qtr 2022</b>	<b>2nd Qtr 2021</b>	<b>3rd Qtr 2021</b>	<b>4th Qtr 2021</b>	<b>YTD Total</b>
Reported Graffiti	71				71
Photographed*	160				160
Cleaned	71				71

\*Each incident of graffiti may have more than one photo cataloged.

“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, the city’s SeeClickFix, 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 1st quarter of 2022, locations with a high frequency of graffiti included the 6000 block of Severin Drive, the 8600 block of La Mesa Boulevard, and the 8800 block of Dallas Street.

School Resource Officer

The SRO is position is currently vacant.

Crime Prevention/Emergency Preparedness

There are currently 115 Neighborhood Watch groups. The Nextdoor.com social media group has approximately 20,488 La Mesa citizens participating. The Department's Facebook account has 6,652 followers. The Department's Twitter account has 5,058 followers. The Department's Instagram account has 3,272 followers.

During the 1st quarter, Crime Prevention coordinated one Catalytic Converter Engraving event.

Neighborhood Watch Meetings	2
Community Presentations	3
Residential Security Inspections	0
Commercial Security Inspections	7

# La Mesa Police Department

## Quarterly Crime Statistics - 1st Quarter 2022

### Violent Crime

	2021				2022 1st Qtr	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	YTD % Change
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr				
<b>Homicide</b>	0	1	1	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	0	N/C
Cleared	0	0	1	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	0	N/C
<b>Rape</b>	4	2	5	3	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	4	-50.0%
Cleared	1	0	1	0	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	1	0.0%
<b>Robbery</b>	10	9	14	12	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	10	-20.0%
Cleared	2	5	5	5	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	2	150.0%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	44	20	24	26	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	44	-47.7%
Cleared	19	9	8	13	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	19	-52.6%

### Property Crime

	2021				2022 1st Qtr	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	YTD % Change
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr				
Residential	26	29	21	21	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	26	-57.7%
Commercial	17	19	20	22	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	17	5.9%
<b>Burglary Total</b>	43	48	41	43	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	43	-32.6%
Cleared	4	6	4	4	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	4	-25.0%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	66	41	47	57	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	66	-7.6%
Theft > \$400	100	97	116	94	<b>116</b>	<b>116</b>	100	16.0%
Theft \$400 or less	103	83	100	76	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>	103	16.5%
<b>Theft Total</b>	203	180	216	170	<b>236</b>	<b>236</b>	203	16.3%
Cleared	13	20	19	9	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	13	23.1%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	35	52	46	53	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	35	60.0%
Cleared	1	1	6	3	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	1	100.0%

### Totals

	2021				2022 1st Qtr	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	YTD % Change
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr				
<b>Total Violent</b>	58	32	44	41	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	58	-43.1%
Cleared*	37.9%	43.8%	34.1%	43.9%	<b>45.5%</b>	<b>45.5%</b>	37.9%	19.8%
<b>Total Property</b>	281	280	303	266	<b>321</b>	<b>321</b>	281	14.2%
Cleared*	6.4%	9.6%	9.6%	6.0%	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	6.4%	2.1%
<b>FBI Index</b>	339	312	347	307	<b>354</b>	<b>354</b>	339	4.4%
Cleared*	11.8%	13.1%	12.7%	11.1%	<b>10.2%</b>	<b>10.2%</b>	11.8%	-13.8%

Violent Rate per 1000 Pop.

**2.2/K** 3.9/K

Property Rate per 1000 Pop.

**21.4/K** 18.7/K

Index Rate per 1000 Pop.

**23.6/K** 22.6/K

# La Mesa Police Department

## Robbery and Theft - 1st Quarter 2022

### Robbery

	2021				2022	2022	2021	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Street/Highway	6	5	2	4	1	1	6	-83.3%
Commercial	2	4	7	3	3	3	2	50.0%
Gas or Service Station	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	N/C
Chain Store	2	0	3	4	0	0	2	-100.0%
Residential	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	N/C
Bank	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	N/C
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
<b>Robbery Total</b>	10	9	14	12	8	8	10	-20.0%
Cleared	2	6	4	5	5	5	2	150.0%
<b>YTD Clearance Rate</b>	<b>63%</b>							

### Theft

	2021				2022	2022	2021	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Pocket-Picking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Purse Snatching	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	0.0%
Shoplifting	29	32	52	17	33	33	29	13.8%
From Motor Vehicles	108	68	76	76	98	98	108	-9.3%
Motor Vehicle Parts & Acc.	21	34	46	23	46	46	21	119.0%
Bicycles	6	7	4	6	5	5	6	-16.7%
From Buildings	20	26	25	30	30	30	20	50.0%
From Coin Operated Mach.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
All Others	17	12	13	17	22	22	17	29.4%
<b>Theft Total</b>	203	180	216	170	236	236	203	16.3%
Cleared	13	20	19	10	16	16	13	23.1%
<b>YTD Clearance Rate</b>	<b>7%</b>							



# La Mesa Police Department

## Patrol Statistics - 1st Quarter 2022

	2021				2022	2022	2021	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Primary Officer Initiated	5336	5756	6124	5631	5428	<b>5428</b>	5336	1.7%
	1678	1506	1630	1493	1627	<b>1627</b>	1678	-3.0%
Reports Taken	1054	1035	1106	874	1252	<b>1252</b>	1054	18.8%
Arrests Made	241	224	245	235	256	<b>256</b>	241	6.2%
5150 Detentions	130	132	134	112	96	<b>96</b>	130	-26.2%
Citations	347	248	346	392	390	<b>390</b>	347	12.4%
Parking/ Muni Code Citations	149	156	112	108	103	<b>103</b>	149	-30.9%
Field Interviews	110	106	99	94	147	<b>147</b>	110	33.6%

# La Mesa Police Department

## Robbery Statistics - 1st Quarter 2022

Reported Robberies	Year to Date Totals		
	2022	2021	% Change
Street/Highway	1	6	-83.3%
Commercial	3	2	50.0%
Gas or Service Station	0	0	N/C
Chain Store	0	2	-100.0%
Residential	0	0	N/C
Bank	4	0	N/C
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
<b>Robbery Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-20.0%</b>
Cleared	5	2	150.0%

Reported Robberies	2022		
	Reported	Solved	% Solved
Street/Highway	1	1	100.0%
Commercial	3	1	33.3%
Gas or Service Station	0	0	N/C
Chain Store	0	0	N/C
Residential	0	0	N/C
Bank	4	3	75.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>62.5%</b>

# La Mesa Police Department

## Communications - 1st Quarter 2022

	2021				2022	2022	2021	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
<b>9-1-1</b>	6765	7540	7714	7610	7106	<b>7106</b>	6765	5.0%
9-1-1 Answer Time <sup>1</sup>	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	<b>100%</b>	100%	N/A
<b>Total Calls For Service<sup>2</sup></b>	13637	14539	15404	14454	13828	<b>13828</b>	13637	1.4%
Source:								
9-1-1	6070	6696	6882	6842	6250	<b>6250</b>	6070	3.0%
Text 9-1-1 <sup>4</sup>	33	7	8	6	5	<b>5</b>	33	-84.8%
Non-Emergency	5571	6053	6614	5912	5342	<b>5342</b>	5571	-4.1%
Officer Initiated	1860	1663	1780	1604	2060	<b>2060</b>	1860	10.8%
Walk Ins <sup>3</sup>	134	120	120	91	171	<b>171</b>	134	27.6%
HOME <sup>5</sup>	187	355	134	81	617	<b>617</b>	187	229.9%

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Capacity to accept texts via 9-1-1 began January 2021.

<sup>5</sup> The Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement (HOME) is an initiative of the City of La Mesa, in collaboration with the La Mesa Police Department. The HOME program was officially relaunched on November 1, 2021 when City outreach workers became the sole service providers. As part of the relaunch, LMPD Dispatchers now route the HOME team as primary responders to non-emergency calls for service that do not require a police presence.

# La Mesa Police Department

## Quarterly Trolley Crime Statistics - 1st Quarter 2022

### Violent Crime

	2021 YTD					2022 YTD					2022 YTD	2021 YTD	% Change
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.			
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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Aggravated Assault	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100.0%

### Property Crime

	2021 YTD					2022 YTD					2022 YTD	2021 YTD	% Change
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.			
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	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0.0%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100.0%
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C

### Totals

	2021 YTD					2022 YTD					2022 YTD	2021 YTD	% Change
	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.	Alvarado Rd.	Amaya Ct.	Grossmont Center	La Mesa Bl.	Spring St.			
Total Violent	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	-100.0%
Total Property	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0.0%
FBI Index	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	5	-60.0%

#### 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 4/28/22.