

LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Quarterly Operations Report

4th Quarter 2021



Ray Sweeney, Chief of Police



Prepared by Crime Analysis

Law Enforcement Operations and Statistics

Part 1 Crimes and Statistics

The 4th quarter of 2021 concluded with 21.7 crimes per thousand residents compared to 20.0 crimes per thousand in the 4th quarter of 2020, which represents a 7.1% increase in the number of crimes.

Violent Crimes decreased 3.9% in 2021 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2020. There were 174 incidents at the end of the 4th quarter of 2021 compared to 181 in 2020. Robberies decreased 22.4% in 2021 year-to-date compared to the same period in 2020. During the 4th quarter of 2021 there were 12 robberies compared to 16 during the 4th quarter of 2020.

Property Crimes increased by 9.1% in 2021 compared to 2020. At the end of the 4th quarter of 2021, there were 1130 property crimes reported compared to 1036 at the end of the 4th quarter of 2020. The following three categories make up the category of Property Crime: Burglary, Theft and Auto Theft. Burglary decreased 24.9%, Theft increased 18.5% and Auto Theft increased 20.8%. This category also includes a 32.7% increase in vehicle burglaries, an 11.5% increase in residential burglaries, and a 46.6% decrease in commercial burglaries.

The following is a significant robbery clearance from the 4th quarter:

- On 12/3/21, LMPD Patrol officers responded to the California Coast Credit Union regarding a bank robbery which had just occurred. Patrol officers arrived in the area within minutes and located the suspect a couple of blocks away from the bank. FBI Agents from the San Diego Field Office arrived on scene and assisted officers with the investigation. The suspect was ultimately placed under arrest for 211 PC - Robbery and transported to San Diego Central Jail where he awaits trial. All of the stolen money was recovered at the scene.

The following are some of the significant burglary clearances from the 4th quarter:

- On 8/29/21, a resident reported her purse had been stolen from her unlocked vehicle overnight. The victim received several notifications from her bank that her credit cards had been used at various stores in the county. Detectives from the La Mesa PD's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) conducted follow-up at one of the businesses where the victim's card had been used. After viewing surveillance footage, detectives were able to obtain the license plate number for the suspect's vehicle. After checking the plate through law enforcement databases, SIU Detectives learned the vehicle had been involved in two additional theft cases in San Diego County. The suspect from those thefts matched the suspect in the video surveillance.

On 9/30/21, SIU Detectives were notified by their counterparts from the San Diego Sheriff's Department that the suspect had been arrested for an unrelated crime. SIU Detectives arrived at San Diego Central Jail and added charges of 530.5 PC- Identity Theft and 459 PC- Burglary, related to the La Mesa cases.

- On 11/10/21 at 2:01 AM, Grossmont Center security was monitoring video surveillance of the property. An unknown subject appeared on the video and attempted to force entry into a storage area. Security personnel quickly contacted La Mesa Police and provided dispatchers with the suspect's license plate number. Patrol officers responded and were able to locate the vehicle a few blocks away from the mall. Two suspects were arrested for 459 PC Commercial Burglary and 182(A)(1) PC – Conspiracy.

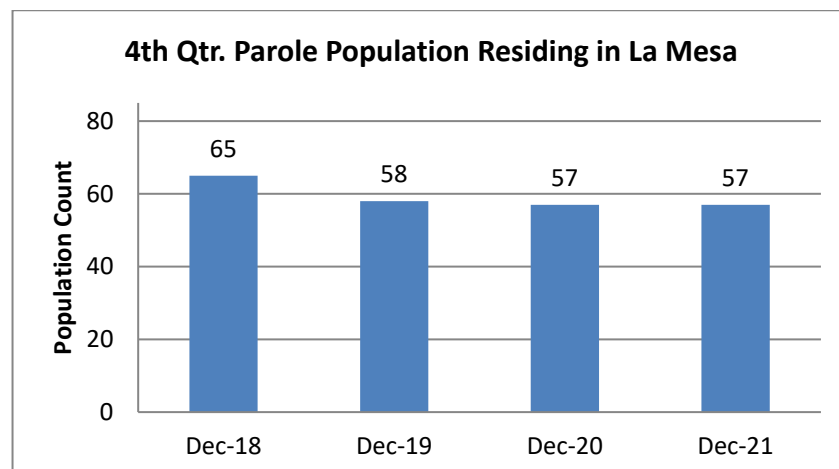
Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

SIU 4th Quarter Activity

Activity	4th Quarter 2021	4th Quarter 2020
Arrests	9	31
Field Interviews*	40	78
Citations	5	1
Vehicle Impounds	1	2
Probation Searches	45	44
Parole Searches	0	5
Traffic Stops	0	14
Pedestrian Stops	0	37
Search Warrants	4	8

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 thirteen (13) of the Post Release Offenders.

Registered Sex Offenders

There are currently eighty-eight (88) 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 five (75) traffic collisions during the 4th quarter of 2021. Of the seventy-five (75) reports, thirty-eight (38) collisions involved injuries with fifty-three (53) total drivers and passengers reporting injuries. Of the fifty-three (53) injured parties, there was one (1) serious injury collisions and zero (0) fatalities.

Traffic Enforcement Operations

During the 4th quarter, the Traffic Unit conducted four (4) DUI Saturation Patrols, three (3) Primary Collision Factor Operations, 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	64	235
Photographed	38	54	55	16	163
Cleaned	54	54	48	62	218

“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 4th quarter of 2021, locations with a high frequency of graffiti included City parks and the 5800 block of Jackson Drive.

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 20,072 La Mesa citizens participating. The Department’s Facebook account has 6,593 followers. The Department’s Twitter account has 4,975 followers. The Department’s Instagram account has 3,222 followers.

During the 4th quarter, Crime Prevention coordinated one Coffee with a Cop, a Drive-Thru Halloween event, and a Citizen’s Academy.

Neighborhood Watch Meetings	1
Community Presentations	3
Residential Security Inspections	0
Commercial Security Inspections	4

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Crime Statistics - 4th Quarter 2021

Violent Crime

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	2	-50.0%
Cleared	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Rape	3	1	9	3	4	2	5	3	14	16	-12.5%
Cleared	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	100.0%
Robbery	22	10	10	16	10	9	14	12	45	58	-22.4%
Cleared	12	5	6	3	2	5	4	5	16	26	-38.5%
Aggravated Assault	17	15	30	43	44	20	24	26	114	105	8.6%
Cleared	8	12	9	28	19	9	8	13	49	57	-14.0%

Property Crime

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Residential	26	19	20	22	26	29	21	21	97	87	11.5%
Commercial	29	58	31	28	17	19	20	22	78	146	-46.6%
Burglary Total	55	77	51	50	43	48	41	43	175	233	-24.9%
Cleared	9	17	15	7	4	5	4	4	18	48	-62.5%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	45	38	34	42	66	41	47	57	211	159	32.7%
Theft > \$400	72	55	63	105	100	97	116	94	407	295	38.0%
Theft \$400 or less	111	76	72	95	103	83	100	76	362	354	2.3%
Theft Total	183	131	135	200	203	180	216	170	769	649	18.5%
Cleared	17	11	13	6	13	20	19	10	62	47	31.9%
Auto Theft	33	41	42	38	35	52	46	53	186	154	20.8%
Cleared	7	4	6	10	1	0	6	3	11	27	-59.3%

Totals

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Total Violent	42	26	49	64	58	32	43	41	174	181	-3.9%
Cleared*	47.6%	65.4%	32.7%	50.0%	37.9%	43.8%	30.2%	43.9%	38.5%	47.0%	-18.0%
Total Property	271	249	228	288	281	280	303	266	1130	1036	9.1%
Cleared*	12.2%	12.9%	14.9%	8.0%	6.4%	8.9%	9.6%	6.4%	8.1%	11.8%	-31.6%
FBI Index	313	275	277	352	339	312	346	307	1304	1217	7.1%
Cleared*	16.9%	17.8%	18.1%	15.6%	11.8%	12.5%	12.1%	11.4%	12.1%	17.0%	-28.8%

Violent Rate per 1000 Pop.

2.9/K 3.0/K

Property Rate per 1000 Pop.

18.8/K 17.0/K

Index Rate per 1000 Pop.

21.7/K 20.0/K

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery and Theft - 4th Quarter 2021

Robbery

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Street/Highway	10	8	3	5	6	5	2	4	17	26	-34.6%
Commercial	8	2	2	3	2	4	7	3	16	15	6.7%
Gas or Service Station	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	4	-75.0%
Chain Store	2	0	2	4	2	0	3	4	9	8	12.5%
Residential	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	2	0.0%
Bank	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/C
Robbery Total	22	10	10	16	10	9	14	12	45	58	-22.4%
Cleared	12	5	6	3	2	5	4	5	16	26	-38.5%
YTD Clearance Rate	36%										

Theft

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Pocket-Picking	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
Purse Snatching	7	0	2	5	2	1	0	1	4	14	-71.4%
Shoplifting	27	8	22	17	29	32	52	17	130	74	75.7%
From Motor Vehicles	69	63	53	97	108	68	76	76	328	282	16.3%
Motor Vehicle Parts & Acc.	15	15	16	33	21	34	46	23	124	79	57.0%
Bicycles	9	2	6	5	6	7	4	6	23	22	4.5%
From Buildings	31	26	30	27	20	26	25	30	101	114	-11.4%
From Coin Operated Mach.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-100.0%
All Others	23	17	6	16	17	12	13	17	59	62	-4.8%
Theft Total	183	131	135	200	203	180	216	170	769	649	18.5%
Cleared	17	11	13	6	13	20	19	10	62	47	31.9%
YTD Clearance Rate	8%										

La Mesa Police Department

Patrol Statistics - 4th Quarter 2021

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
Primary	5424	5528	5604	5621	5336	5756	6124	5631	22847	22177	3.0%
Officer Initiated	3405	2183	1118	1263	1678	1506	1630	1493	6307	7969	-20.9%
Reports Taken	1115	1001	977	960	1054	1035	1106	874	4069	4053	0.4%
Arrests Made	378	302	215	203	241	224	245	235	945	1098	-13.9%
5150 Detentions	123	154	115	114	130	132	134	112	508	506	0.4%
Citations	814	109	96	200	347	248	346	392	1333	1219	9.4%
Parking/ Muni Code Citations	229	41	57	66	149	156	112	108	525	393	33.6%
Field Interviews	210	221	124	127	110	106	99	94	409	682	-40.0%

La Mesa Police Department

Robbery Statistics - 4th Quarter 2021

Reported Robberies	Year to Date Totals		
	2021	2020	% Change
Street/Highway	17	26	-34.6%
Commercial	15	15	0.0%
Gas or Service Station	1	4	-75.0%
Chain Store	10	8	25.0%
Residential	2	2	0.0%
Bank	0	3	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Robbery Total	45	58	-22.4%
Cleared	16	26	-38.5%

Reported Robberies	2021		
	Reported	Solved	% Solved
Street/Highway	17	5	29.4%
Commercial	15	9	60.0%
Gas or Service Station	1	0	0.0%
Chain Store	10	2	20.0%
Residential	2	0	0.0%
Bank	0	0	N/C
Miscellaneous	0	0	N/C
Total	45	16	35.6%

La Mesa Police Department

Communications - 4th Quarter 2021

	2020				2021				2021	2020	YTD
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD	% Change
9-1-1	5929	6465	7402	6879	6765	7540	7714	7610	29629	26675	11.1%
9-1-1 Answer Time ¹	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	N/A
Total Calls For Service²	14988	13575	13799	13473	13637	14539	15404	14454	58034	55835	3.9%
Source:											
9-1-1	4957	5139	6416	6011	6070	6696	6882	6842	26490	22523	17.6%
Text 9-1-1 ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	7	8	6	54	N/A	N/A
Non-Emergency	6128	6045	6087	5945	5571	6053	6614	5912	24150	24205	-0.2%
Officer Initiated	3692	2297	1215	1374	1860	1663	1780	1604	6907	8578	-19.5%
Walk Ins ³	211	94	81	143	134	120	120	91	465	529	-12.1%
Calls related to homelessness ⁵	556	592	808	804	891	1185	1000	930	4006	2760	45.1%
Handled by Patrol	556	592	808	804	704	830	866	849	3249	2760	17.7%
Handled by HOME Team	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	187	355	134	81	757	N/A	N/A

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.

⁵ 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 at the end of 2021 when City outreach workers became the sole service providers. Beginning January 1, 2022, LMPD Dispatchers now route the HOME team as primary responders to non-emergency calls for service that do not require a police presence. Prior to this change in dispatching, the team responded to requests for service through phone calls to the HOME hotline, email, or via printouts of calls to the PD's communication center.

La Mesa Police Department

Quarterly Trolley Crime Statistics - 4th 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	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	3	0.0%
Aggravated Assault	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	-33.3%

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	4	0	2	1	1	2	1	9	14	7	100.0%
Car Prowl (Included in Theft)	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	6	3	100.0%
Auto Theft	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	-66.7%

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	2	1	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	5	6	-16.7%
Total Property	2	1	5	0	2	1	1	2	1	10	15	10	50.0%
FBI Index	4	2	7	1	2	2	2	4	2	10	20	16	25.0%

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.