

In case you missed it

CHIEF'S UPDATE

City Council Meeting March 28, 2023

At the recent City Council meeting, Chief LeBaron provided the following updates:

Use of Technology + Partnerships: Back on 1/29/23, officers responded to a bike theft on Pier Avenue. The bikes were recovered the next day thanks to the use of tracking technology the victim had installed on the bike. However no suspect was located. Through the use of a social media app, detectives were able to locate the suspect in Whittier during an undercover operation on 3/15/23, where she was arrested. She was brought back to Hermosa Beach for booking, where she later posted bail and was released. As she drove out of Hermosa Beach, officers noticed suspicious activity connected to her car and stopped her. After a short investigation, the same female suspect, who had just bailed out, was found in possession of drug paraphernalia and multiple items used in identity theft, including stolen mail. She was arrested again for charges and had to post bail a second time. Both cases have been submitted to the D.A. for felony filing consideration.



Use of Technology + Partnerships Continued : In another case, a resident was able to capture footage of a suspect burglarizing their home last month. Using the footage, detectives were able to determine the time frame to gather vehicle information using our automated license plate readers. A short time later, the suspect used the victim's credit cards to make fraudulent purchases in another city. Detectives located video footage from that business to compare and identify the same car in our license plate reader system. We learned that the suspect had been arrested by another South Bay police department. However, the suspect had posted bail and no address was on record. Detectives ultimately located the suspect at a nearby motel. He was arrested for residential burglary and additional crimes of fraudulent use of the victim's credit card.



Role of an Officer: Although the tragedy in Tennessee took place many miles away, Hermosa Beach PD recognizes the role each officer plays in our community. Staying true to our mission statement, our Watch Commander and Patrol Officers immediately deployed to each of our schools after learning about the shooting. They provided a visible presence on and around campus to let staff, parents, and students know that we are here for them.

