

City of Los Banos

Police Department

January 24, 2012

From the office of the Chief of Police,

To the residents of Los Banos, with the New Year upon us we are all presented with the opportunity to start anew. At the Los Banos Police Department we resolve to continue to battle those who would choose to harm others; we will continue to show the youth of our community that gangs are a road that goes nowhere; and we will continue to aggressively enforce our traffic laws to reduce the number of individuals injured or killed in traffic related incidents.

In 2012, we are also committed to further informing and educating the public in our fight against crime because we believe that a partnership with the community is vitally important to our success.

Our goal is simple: Reduce crime in 2012. With the community's help our chances of achieving this goal are better than ever.

To help us reach our goal this year the Los Banos Police Department is taking the following steps to inform and educate; to empower our community to protect and serve.

More than ever we are using technology to connect with the community to get our message out.

- ♥ In cooperation with our allied law enforcement agencies Los Banos is part of the Merced Area Crime Stoppers; an opportunity for members of our community to be paid for anonymous information that leads to the arrest of criminals. The website is: mercedareacrimestoppers.org. There's a smart phone app as well, named TipSubmit.
- ♥ We maintain an updated web page at losbanos.org where you can report certain crimes through Coplogic, our online reporting system. You can leave anonymous tips by email, by telephone, and you can find links to other criminal justice resources.
- ♥ We have created **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Nixle** accounts under the name "Los Banos Police Department" to help us get the word out about crime, our most wanted and other important Public Safety news.
- ♥ We will be hosting a Citizens Academy, to educate members of our community on the workings of our Police Department and the criminal justice system.
- ♥ We will be hosting a Security and Neighborhood Watch Forum to help show residents how they can reduce their chances of becoming victimized and what it takes to become part of the Neighborhood Watch program.

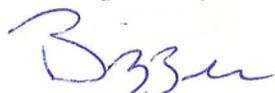
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- ♥ We will continue our informational program on gang prevention and intervention with the Spanish speaking community, the schools and anyone else who desires to learn about gangs.
- ♥ We continue to monitor our anonymous telephone tip line and our anonymous email account for information from the public on criminal activity
- ♥ Our Volunteers Interacting To Advance Law Enforcement (VITAL) continue their patrols to monitor those “quality of life issues” such as abandoned vehicles, garage sale signs, graffiti and other issues that help keep Los Banos beautiful, through our **Project Right of Way** program. **The Police Department is always looking for the right person to join our VITAL effort.**
- ♥ We’ll be incorporating a new patrol strategy using statistical data to direct officers to “hot spots” of criminal activity
- ♥ We continue our proud partnership with Valley Crisis Center, our resource for victims of domestic violence in Los Banos and Merced County
- ♥ We continue to provide the County’s best Police Activity League (PAL) program to provide a positive pastime for our youth.

This will not be an easy task. Los Banos Police Officers are trained and committed to fighting crime. In order to seek out criminal activity I ask that officers go out every day and patrol our community and that includes making contact with individuals in our community for a number of reasons.

Law abiding citizens have nothing to fear from a contact with a police officer. Keep this in mind if you encounter an officer Be courteous and cooperative with the officer and remember the men and women at the Los Banos Police Department want nothing more than to provide the residents of Los Banos the safest environment possible to raise our children and enjoy our lives. It is time for all of us to take a stand; for ourselves, our neighborhoods, and our community

Respectfully,



Gary Brizzee
Chief of Police

To leave an anonymous crime tip call **209-827-7070 Ext. 288**. If you have access to a computer and the internet you can also leave an anonymous tip at the Police Departments web page at www.losbanos.org. At the bottom of the “Contact” page simply click on the “report graffiti and other crime” link or visit the Merced Area Crime Stoppers by telephone at 1-855-725-2420, or at www.mercedareacrimestoppers.org