

# MINUTES

## Area 1 Community Meeting

October 15, 2018 6:30pm | *Sierra Lakes Elementary School* Area Commander Lt. Robert Moritz

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### In Attendance

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Councilmember John Roberts, Councilmember Jesse Armendarez, City Treasurer Janet Kohler Brooks, School Board member Matt Slowick, Parks Community and Human Services Board member Germaine McClellan Key, Code Compliance Sandra Pelayo, Code Compliance Maria Gonzalez, Public Works Sergio Quiroz, Public Works Todd Heagstedt, Officer Hall

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### Lt. Robert Moritz

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- Thanked everyone for coming out tonight.
- Lt. Granillo, who used to be the Area Commander for Area 1 was moved to the Investigations division.
- Lt. Moritz advised he used to be the Area 2 Area Commander but has now been assigned to Area 1.
- Been a police officer for a total of 25 years, 22 of those in Fontana.
- Grew up in Mammoth Lakes.
- Growing up he always wanted to be a police officer, seeing a police officer he always had a sense of pride. So he started as a reserve officer for Mammoth Lake Police Department. Unfortunately they didn't have any paid position available so he looked at other police departments for openings.
- He was hired by Fontana Police Department and within 3 years became a k9 handler and fell in love with this community and has been here since.
- Fontana Police Department isn't an agency where we have a lot of laterals leaving to go to other departments. One reason for that is because the officers love the community and we do the best that we can to service this community.

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### Upcoming Events

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- October 16<sup>th</sup>- Planning Commission Meeting
- October 20<sup>th</sup>- Low Cost Vaccinations Clinic at Jesse Turner
- October 20<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Jesse Turner Center
- October 23<sup>rd</sup>- City Council Meeting
- October 27<sup>th</sup>- Household Waste Disposal event
- October 31<sup>st</sup>- Halloween Spooktacular Jesse Turner Center and Don Day Center

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### Fontana Police Department Internet Crimes against Children Task force

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- Fontana Police Department's ICAC Taskforce established in late 2015 in order to combat the exploitation of children over the internet.
- The taskforce is comprised of 4 detectives (3 ICAC and 1 PC 290), 3 forensic technicians (2 on scene and 1 FBI) and 1 crime analysis.
- The internet crime against children taskforce network consists of 61 separate taskforces across the nation.
  - This network contains over 3,500 federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies.

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).
  - Established in 1984 as a private non-profit organization.
  - Their mission is to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation, help find missing children and assist victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families and the professionals who serve them.
  - Receive reports/tips from electronic service providers (Verizon, google, Instagram etc) and the general public. The reports/tips are then forwarded to the law enforcement agency maintaining jurisdiction.
- Types of investigations ICAC does:
  - CyberTips-NCMEC
  - Patrol Follow-ups
  - Proactive Undercover Operations
  - Proactive P2P Investigations
- Law Enforcement programs identify individuals actively distributing files containing child pornography.
- Who collects child pornography?
  - Mark Salling (Actor from Glee TV series)
  - Mike Skupin (Survivor)
  - Jared Fogle (Subway Spokesperson)
  - But also people like Sex registrants
  - Teachers
  - Elected officials
- With the collaboration of the ICAC affiliates, the public's help, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and Law Enforcement we are able to put the bad guy behind bars.
- 1 in 7 kids receive some type of solicitation on the internet.
- 76% of kids their first time encounter is online
- 93% of juveniles that meet predators face to face have some type of sexual contact with that person.
- Kids don't always meet the perpetrator online. Only 18% meet the predator online and 25% are family, friends or neighbor of the child.
- Protecting Children Online:
  - Definitions:
    - Cyberbullying- use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.
    - Sexting- sending of sexually explicit photos, images, text messages, or emails by using a cellphone or other mobile device.
    - Sextortion- When someone demands something of value (typically images of a sexual nature, sexual favors, or money) from a person by threatening to release or distribute materials the victim seeks to keep private or (images, videos, emails, and text messages) threatens to harm family and/or friends by information obtained from the victim's computer unless they comply with demands.
  - What is illegal?
    - Anyone sending sexually explicit videos or images containing anyone under the age of 18 years old.
    - Recording or taking photos of anyone under the age of 18, engaging in sexual acts.
    - Uploading or downloading of sexually explicit images/videos to anywhere, even yourself.
    - Asking anyone under the age of 18 to engage in sexual intercourse or sex acts.
    - Asking anyone under the age of 18 to send images or videos of them engaged in sexual intercourse or sex acts.

- Protecting your children online:
  - Set ground rules-Establish basic guidelines like when your kids can go online, what sites they can visit, and how many texts they can send a month, so everyone is on the same page.
  - Know what you're buying- Research before you buy. Did you know that handheld games can connect to the internet or that many laptops have built-in webcams? Understand what technology you're bringing home.
  - Report incidents-If your kids are dealing with cyberbullies or potential predators, report them to the website, cellphone service and law enforcement. ([www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com))
  - Monitor:
    - Supervise Internet use. If you can see what your kids are doing, they're less likely to get in trouble
    - Safeguard doesn't always mean safe kids. Installing CIA level monitoring software on your kids' computer doesn't guarantee they'll be safe online. Technology can't replace your time and attention as a parent or guardian.
    - Don't go overboard. It's smart to keep an eye on your kids' social networking profiles, but it is never cool when you post embarrassing messages or pictures to their page.
  - Communication:
    - Talk to your kids; they're not as mysterious as you think. Your kids might not tell you everything, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't ask. Get involved.
    - Challenge them to a duel. If you have kids who like to play video games or computer games, ask if you can play too. When you respect their interest, they're more likely to respect your rules.
    - Don't pull the plug. Taking away your kids' internet access because they've done something wrong doesn't solve the problem. Talk to them about protecting themselves and respecting others online.
- Resources:
  - NetSmartz411 is a parents' and guardians' premier, online resource for answering questions about internet safety, computers and the web.
  - Monitoring Applications for cell phones:
    - TeenSafe
    - Uknowkids
    - WebWatchers
    - @net nanny
  - Monitoring programs for computers
    - SpyAgent
    - WebWatcher
    - SniperSpy
    - Elite Key Logger
- Cyberbullying and sexting example:
  - Hope Witsell was a 13 year old who grew up in Florida. She forwarded a nude photo of herself to a boy she liked. Another girl borrowed the boy's phone and found the image and forwarded it to other students. The image was shared over and over again even to students from other schools. This resulted in Hope being taunted and bullied from her peers at her school. Hope wrote in her journal "Tons of people talk about me behind my back and I hate it because they call me a whore! I can't be a whore I'm too inexperienced."

So secretly TONS of people hate me..." When the school found out about the image, Hope was suspended for the first week of her 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. When she returned to school a counselor observed cuts on Hope's legs and had her sign a "no-harm" contract, in which Hope agreed to tell an adult if she felt inclined to hurt herself. The next day Hope hung herself in her bedroom. On September 12, 2009 Hope wrote in her journal: "I'm done for sure now. I can feel it in my stomach. I'm going to try and strangle myself. I hope it works."

- Report it 24 hour hotline: 1800-THE-LOST (1800-843-5678)

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## Questions

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- **Are these child pornography cases a registerable offense?** Cpl. Hale advised yes if someone is arrested for child pornography just depending on their terms upon release, they are usually required to register as a sex offender.
- **Can child pornography and exploitation of children be a federal offense?** Cpl. Hale advised the only way it would be a federal offense is if the feds pick them up and usually for that to happen it has to be a major or large operation.
- **Since the unit started has Megan's law been updated to include these offenses?** Yes it has.
- **Is the community not advised of these sex offender registrants when they live in our community?** Cpl. Hale advised the perpetrator has rights as well. Anytime we arrest one we put out a press release for a couple of reasons, 1. To see if there are any other victims out there and 2. To make the public aware. We suggest everyone check out Offender Watch which can be accessed through our police department's website or you can also check out the Megan's law website to see if there are any sex offenders who live near you so you are aware of who is in your neighborhood.
- **Is the police department worried about how people will perceive the city with all these predators we are arresting?** Cpl. Hale advised if you live in the city you know how Fontana is and it isn't all about that. In fact a lot of our arrests don't even happen in Fontana. We had one arrest where he was distributing child pornography as he was driving on the 10 freeway, through our city, since the crime occurred as he was passing through it is technically our jurisdiction and we will arrest them even if they don't live in our city.
- **With the recent proposal to do away with the bail system, how is that going to affect the arrests your unit is doing?** Cpl. Hale advised it will ultimately be up to the judge to make that decision but we will continue to arrest these predators.
- **Does the Fontana Police Department offer the ICAC presentation to school to educate students on the laws on what they can and cannot send?** Cpl. Hale advised yes we can come out to schools to do a presentation for the kids, of course it wouldn't be the same one that was presented tonight at this meeting but it will be geared more towards the students. We can also do a presentation on internet safety for parents.
- **Does the city of Fontana have any restrictions for houses that rent out on Airbnb?** Lt. Morris advised he is not aware of anything but if there are code violations Code Compliance would handle that. Code Compliance Inspector Sandra Pelayo advised as of right now the city does not have any restrictions on short term rental properties. Homeowners are allowed to rent out 2 bedrooms, however if they are running it as a business they would need to have a business license. Usually the short term rental issues happen in cities where there are attractions we don't have many near Fontana. As of January 1<sup>st</sup> here in California anyone can have a dwelling unit on their property, which means people can turn their garage into an apartment and the city cannot restrict them from doing so. They would still need a permit to do the construction however as a city we will no longer be able to prohibit them from living in a garage unless it is not permitted and/or there are safety issues. According to Councilmember Armendarez the

city council just passed an ordinance which will charge anyone who wants to convert their garage into an apartment the max which is \$5000 just for the permit.

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## Next Meeting

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January 10, 2019 @ 6:30 pm, at **Summit High School (15551 Summit Ave)**