

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Mark Rigali, Captain

DATE: May 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Temecula Sheriff's Monthly Report (March 2025)

PREPARED BY: Jeret McClellan, Sergeant

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

The following report reflects the Temecula Sheriff's Station activity for March 2025.

PATROL SERVICES

Overall calls for police service	5,459
"Priority One" calls for service.....	58
Average response time for "Priority One" calls	6.55 minutes

VOLUNTEERS

Chaplain	95
Community Action Patrol (CAP) hours.....	496.55
Reserve officer hours (patrol)	0
Explorer.....	52
Station/Administration.....	49.50
Total Volunteer hours	683.55

OLD TOWN STOREFRONT

Total customers served.....	306
Fingerprints/Live Scan.....	105
Police reports filed.....	13
Citations signed off	4
Total receipts.....	\$7,147

CRIME PREVENTION

Crime prevention/Neighborhood watch meetings	4
Safety presentations/Training	1
Special events.....	4
Residential/Business security surveys conducted.....	0
Residences/Businesses visited for past crime follow-up	0
Station Tours	0
Planning Review Projects.....	2
Temp Outdoor Use Permits.....	4

SPECIAL TEAMS (CORE)

Reports Written.....	22
On sight felony arrests	1
On sight misdemeanor arrests.....	9
Felony arrest warrants served.....	0
Misdemeanor arrest warrants served	7
Area Checks.....	107
Camp Checks	7
Pedestrian Checks	74
Traffic Stops/Vehicle Checks... ..	4/2
Outreach attempts / Success.....	13/1

SPECIAL TEAMS (Metro District Team)

On sight, felony arrests	11
On sight, misdemeanor arrests.....	29
Felony arrest warrants served	11
Misdemeanor arrest warrants served	32
Bar/Business checks	90
D.U.I. Arrests... ..	14
Traffic/Parking citations... ..	125
Firearms Seized.....	0

SPECIAL TEAMS (Special Enforcement Team)

On sight felony arrests.....	9
On sight misdemeanor arrests.....	11
Felony arrest warrants served.....	2
Misdemeanor arrest warrants served.....	4
Follow-up investigations/search warrants.....	53
Parole/Probation Searches	20
Pedestrian Checks.....	6
Traffic Stops/Vehicle Checks.....	101
Marijuana Dispensary Checks	0

SPECIAL TEAMS (Robbery/ Burglary Suppression Team)

Beginning Caseload	78
Total Cases Assigned	13
Total Cases Closed	4
Search Warrants prepared/served	14
Arrests	6
Out of Custody Filings.....	0

TRAFFIC

Citations issued for hazardous violations	820
Non-hazardous citations.....	151
Parking citations.....	276

Stop Light Abuse/Intersection Program (S.L.A.P.) citations.....	82
Seatbelts	1
Cell Phone Cites.....	173
Injury collisions	19
D.U.I. Arrests	36
Grant-funded D.U.I. Traffic safety checkpoints/saturation enforcement	0
Grant-funded traffic click it or ticket/traffic enforcement	4

INVESTIGATIONS

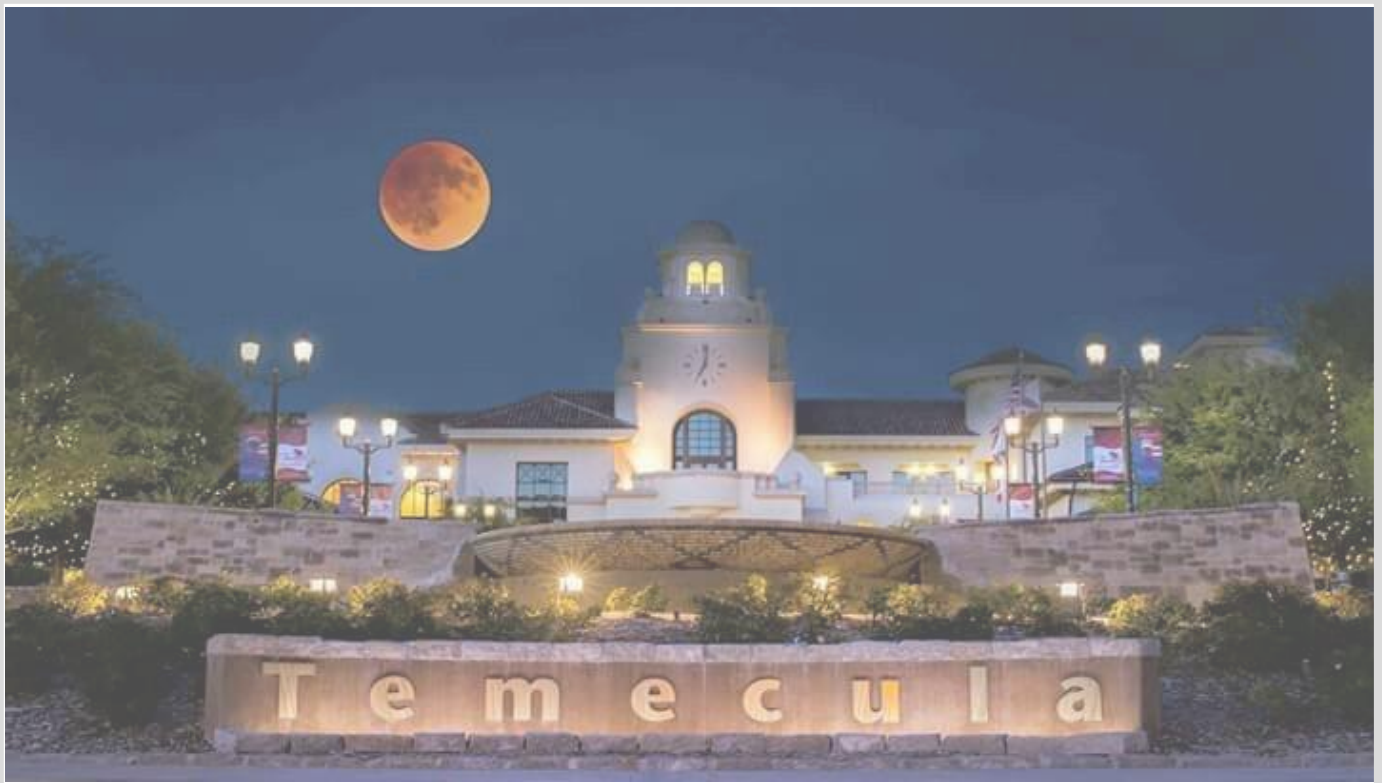
Beginning Caseload	111
Total Cases Assigned	29
Total Cases Closed	18
Search Warrants prepared/served	29
Arrests	7
Out of Custody Filings.....	5
Sex Offenders Processed/ Compliance Checks.....	16

PROMENADE MALL TEAM

Calls for service	116
Felony arrest/filings	2
Misdemeanor arrest/filings	13
Traffic Citations.....	1
Total customers served	700
Fingerprints/Live Scans	168
Total receipts	\$8,320.00

SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES

Felony arrest.....	1
Misdemeanor arrests	2
Reports	13
Citations	27
Meetings/Presentations	130



MONTHLY REPORT

CAPTAIN MARK RIGALI



APRIL 2025



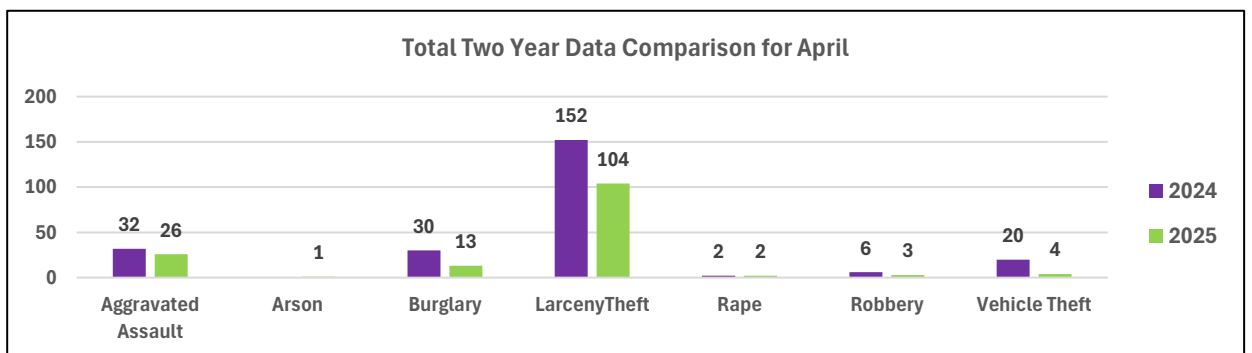
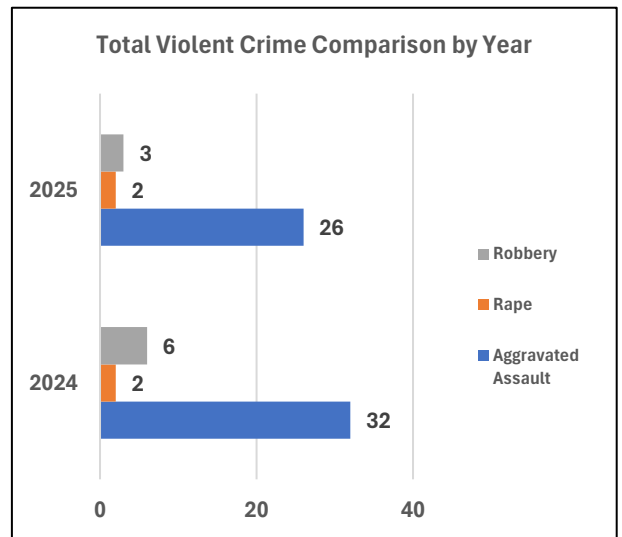
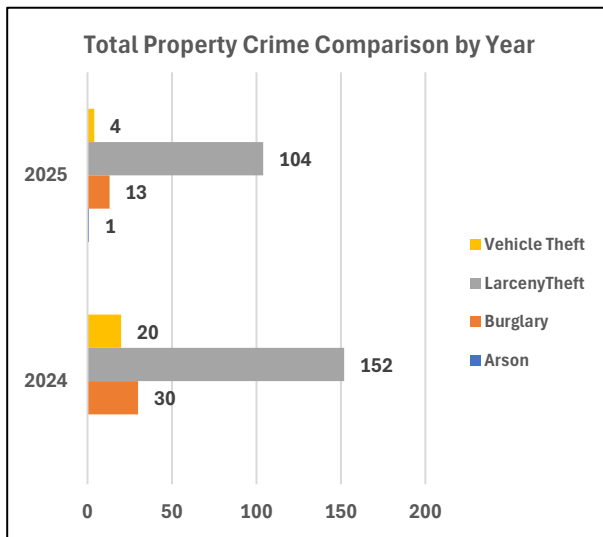
PART 1 CRIMES



City of Temecula

Part 1 Crime	March	April
Homicide	0	0
Rape	1	2
Robbery	3	3
Aggravated Assault	39	26
Burglary	13	13
Vehicle Theft	7	4
Larceny Theft	142	104
Arson	1	1
Total	206	153

Two Year Data Comparison For April

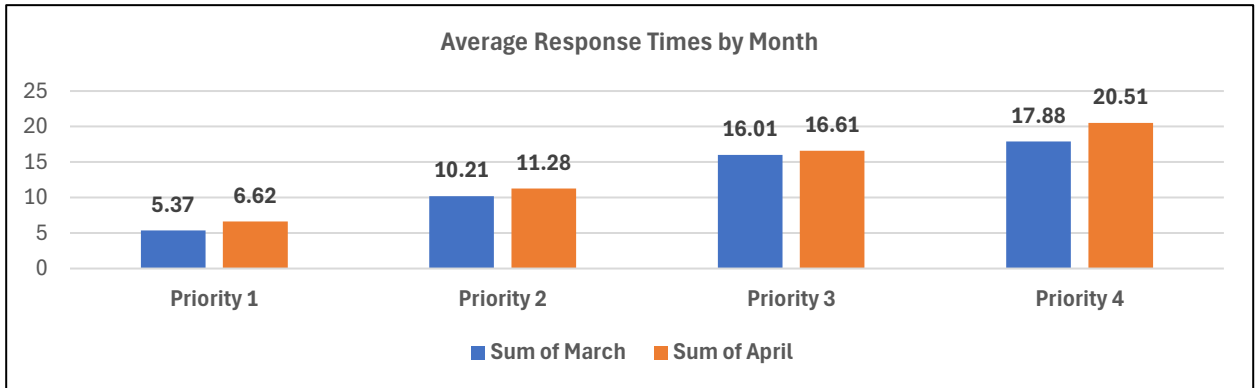


RESPONSE TIME



City of Temecula

Average Response Time **	March	April
Priority 1	5.37	6.62
Priority 2	10.21	11.28
Priority 3	16.01	16.61
Priority 4	17.88	20.51



Priority 1: Involved circumstances that pose, or did pose in the immediate past, a clearly defined threat to human life or property and which involve a high level of violence or the potential for serious injury.

Priority 2: Involve circumstances of an urgent, but not life-threatening nature. They are generally disturbances with a potential for violence, minor assaults and batteries, etc.

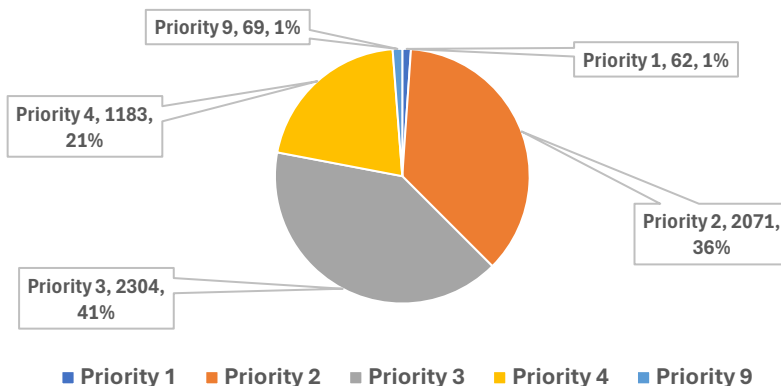
Priority 3: Involve circumstances which are neither urgent, nor life threatening.

Priority 4: With the exception of several felonies, most past incidents are considered Priority 4.

Priority 9: Those calls meeting the criteria for processing by the Telephone Report Unit (TRU).

All Calls for Service for City of Temecula: 5689

Total Calls For Service by Priority



Priority	Total
Priority 1	62
Priority 2	2071
Priority 3	2304
Priority 4	1183
Priority 9	69
Grand Total	5689

INVESTIGATIONS



Investigations Team

Activity	April
Beginning Caseload	122
Number of Assigned Cases	30
Number of Closed Cases	13
Number of Arrests	3
Number of Search Warrants Written	53
Out of Custody Filings	2
Phone Downloads	25
Supplemental Reports	22
Patrol Assist	0
Call Outs	3
Forensic Interviews (Sex & Physical Abuse)	5

Notable Cases



Marco Romanenko
Male adult

Investigators received information regarding a report of a past 288P.C. – Lewd or Lascivious act with a minor. They located the suspect's current residence using phone records, Flock, and surveillance. On 4/24 Investigations served a search warrant at Marco Romanenko's current location and arrested him for 288P.C. and 311P.C. – Possession of Child Pornography.

INVESTIGATIONS



Notable Cases



Zachary Belagasem
Male adult

On 4/11/25, Patrol deputies responded to the 42000 block of Moraga Road, for a stab victim. The suspect, Zachary Belagasem, was also apprehended near the scene. The scene was stabilized, and investigators were called to the scene. Investigators processed the crime scene with the Sheriff Forensic Services Bureau and numerous pieces of evidence were collected. Investigators collected nearby surveillance video and interviewed witnesses. The suspect was booked into custody for attempt murder charges. The investigation revealed the suspect stabbed his mother multiple times and she escaped the attack. The victim was treated at a local hospital and expected to survive. TE-251010044

Investigator Gasparini completed a complex fraud investigation involving a local car dealership victimized by two suspects. The suspects created a shell company and embezzled over \$500,000 from the dealership over the course of a year through false subcontract work. Through a series of search warrants, Investigator Gasparini was able to trace the funds back to the suspects. Over 659 counts of theft by false pretense were charged on the suspects. One suspect was apprehended returning from vacation from Mexico at the San Ysidro port of entry. The second suspect was apprehended in Escondido. TE243120173

INVESTIGATIONS



Sex Offenders | Arson Offenders – Southwest Station

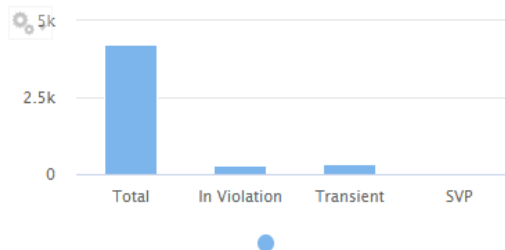
Sex Registrant Arson Registrant Team	April
Total # of Sex Registrants	136*
Total # of Arson Registrants	9
Total # of Sex Offenders processed	16
Total # of Transient Sex Arson Registrants	7
Total of Registration Events	
In Violation	0
Arrests	1
Criminal Filings	1
Patrol Assist	

*This total reflects all the registrants within the Southwest Station area of responsibility. Riverside County has over 4,200 sex registrants.

Sex Registrants Statistics

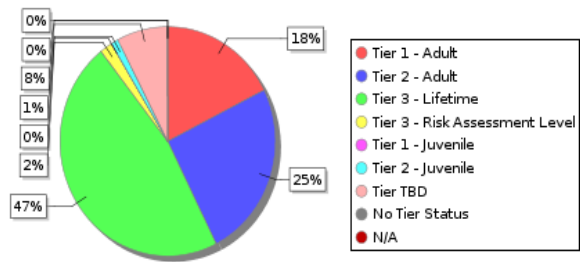
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Total: 4,237
In Violation: 267
Transient: 319
SVP: 1



Sex Registrant Tier Level

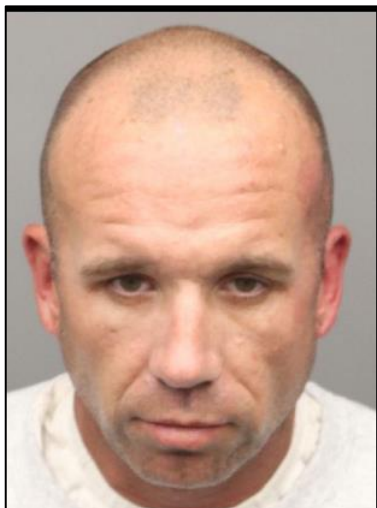
	Count	Percentage
Total	4,237	100 %
Tier 1 - Adult	747	18 %
Tier 2 - Adult	1,057	25 %
Tier 3 - Lifetime	1,982	47 %
Tier 3 - Risk Assessment Level	79	2 %
Tier 1 - Juvenile	1	0 %
Tier 2 - Juvenile	46	1 %
Tier TBD	324	8 %
No Tier Status	1	0 %
N/A	0	0 %



SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM

Team Activity	March
On-Sight Felony Arrests	25
On-Sight Misdemeanor Arrests	12
Felony Arrest Warrants Served	3
Misdemeanor Arrest Warrants Served	8
Follow – up Investigations / Search Warrants	29
Parole / Probation Searches	25
Pedestrian Checks	4
Traffic Stops / Vehicle Checks	14
Narcotics	
Marijuana Dispensary Checks	0

Notable Cases



Justin Hopkinson
Male adult

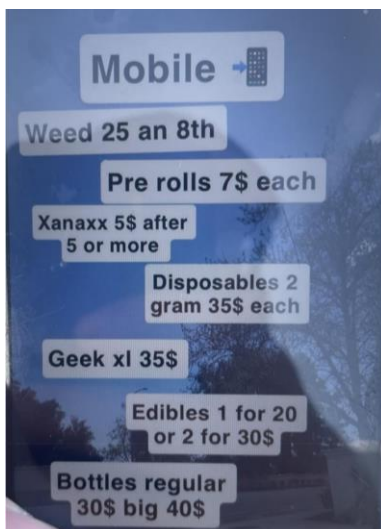
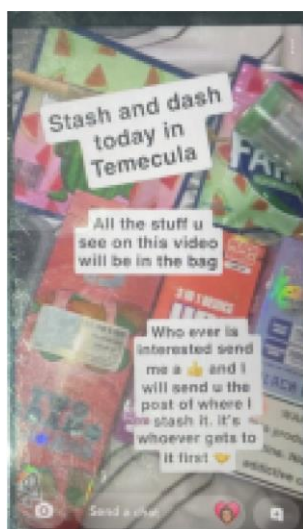
In March, Hopkinson was arrested for vehicle burglary, methamphetamine sales, and parole/probation violation. SET Deputies placed a GPS tracker on Hopkinson's vehicle which showed he was frequenting Home Depot and Lowe's stores in the areas of Riverside & San Bernardino counties.

On 4/28, SET Deputies contacted Home Depot and Lowes and learned Hopkinson was identified as a suspect who stole multiple items from different locations. SET authored a search warrant at his residence. They located a stolen vehicle, stolen merchandise from Home Depot, methamphetamine, and fentanyl. He was arrested for 3455P.C. Violation of Community Supervision, 459P.C. – Burglary, 487P.C. – Larceny Theft, 496P.C. – Possession of stolen property, and HS11395 – Possession of methamphetamines.

Notable Cases

On 4/10 SET Deputies received intel from a School Resource Deputy that a subject is selling marijuana to minors through a Snapchat account. SET identified the account operator as Luis Gomez Arcos. Surveillance and additional intel was gathered. SET Deputies served search warrants at his residence in Murrieta, and his girlfriend's residence in Temecula. They located Xanax pills, alcohol, marijuana, and tobacco vapes. He was arrested for HS11360(A) – Sale and Transportation of Marijuana, and HS11375(B) – Possession of Sedatives.

Below are posts from his Snapchat account and the recovered items.



Luis Gomez Arcos
Male adult

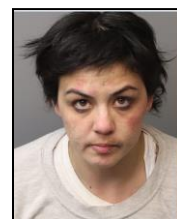


Notable Cases

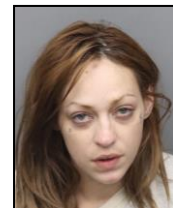
SET Deputies have been gathering intel of a subject suspected of narcotic sales and supplying drugs to dealers in the Temecula area. On 4/24 SET Deputies served a search warrant at the suspect's residence. They arrested 4 subjects connected to the suspect for multiple drug charges, parole violations, and outstanding warrants. Deputies located items consistent with drug sales, and \$8K in cash.



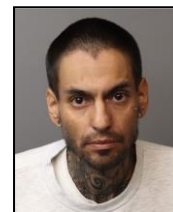
Victor Torres
Male adult



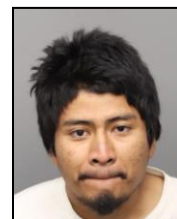
Jamie Laheist
Female adult



Angela Holt
Female adult



Oscar Gomez
Male adult



Alex Cogox-Ponce
Male adult



Team Activity	April
Beginning Caseload	94
Total Cases Assigned	10
Total Cases Closed	23
Search Warrants prepared / served	14
Total Arrests	7
Out of Custody Filings	7

Notable Cases



Andrew Fistonich
Male adult

On 4/02 a residential burglary occurred in the 28000 block of Savannah Dr., Temecula. Investigation revealed several juveniles were involved in the incident and had taken an E-bike, jewelry, money, alcohol, and a PlayStation 5.

One juvenile came forward and named the other juveniles. Further investigation revealed one the juvenile's residence came back to a subject (parent) who is on mandatory supervision.

On 4/16 RBST Deputies served a search warrant at the residence of one of the suspects. Several items of evidence were seized. The parent of the suspect, Andrew Fistonich, is on mandatory supervision with RASP. They located 9.4 grams of methamphetamine in the parent's bedroom. Fistonich was arrested for HS11395 – Possession of Marijuana for Sale, HS11377 – Possession of narcotics, HS11364 – Possession of unlawful paraphernalia, 1203.2P.C. – Violation of Probation, and 273aP.C. – Child Endangerment. The juvenile was arrested for 459P.C. – Residential burglary.

Notable Cases

In January, RBST was investigating a series of residential burglaries that took place in the city and surrounding. They identified the vehicle used during the burglary was a rental car. A search warrant was conducted and identified three phone numbers connected to the vehicle's infotainment system, during the time frame of the burglaries. The phones belonged to Solomon Johnson, Ricky Sykes, and Aaron Anderson.

On 4/8 RBST Deputies conducted search warrants at their residences. All 3 suspects were arrested for 459P.C. – Burglary, and 182P.C. – Conspiracy to commit crime.



Rickey Sykes
Male adult



Solomon Johnson Jr.
Male adult



Aaron Anderson
Male adult

Prop 36 arrest:

On 04/29 RBST Deputies arrested **Eric Cohn (Male adult)** after identifying him as the suspect in multiple cases of theft dating back from December 2024. It was discovered he was selling stolen merchandise through OfferUp. The items included Home Depot merchandise pictured below.

He was arrested for 487(e)P.C. - Grand Theft, 496(a)P.C. – Receiving known stolen property, and 666.1P.C. – Petty Theft with priors.



CORE TEAM



Community Outreach Resource & Engagement Team

Team Activity	April
Reports Written	13
On-Sight Felony Arrests	1
On-Sight Misdemeanor Arrests	4
Felony Arrest Warrants Served	2
Misdemeanor Arrest Warrants Served	5
Area Checks	72
Camp Checks	6
Pedestrian Checks	14
Traffic / Vehicle Checks	9
Outreach Attempts / Success	25 / 0
Licensed Massage Parlors	3

Notable Cases

On 4/2 CORE Deputies coordinated a buy/walk operation in which a UC officer brokered a deal for sex at Young Spa. After the operation, Deputy Barbula authored a search warrant. During the search, items related to prostitution and \$13,369.25 in cash were seized and 1 female was arrested for 266(h)(a)P.C. – Pimping, and 315P.C. – managing a brothel.

On 4/2 CORE Deputies coordinated a buy/walk operation in which a UC officer brokered a deal for sex at Garden Spa.

On 4/9 CORE Deputies coordinated a second buy/walk operation in which a UC officer brokered a deal for sex at Garden Spa.

On 4/18 CORE Deputies coordinated a buy/walk operation in which a UC officer brokered a deal for sex at Garden Spa. After the operation, Deputy D. Hernandez authored a search warrant. During the search, items related to prostitution and \$6,596.00 in cash were seized and 3 females were arrested. SUS #1 was determined to be in violation of 315 PC - Managing a Brothel, Sus #2 and Sus #3 were arrested for 647(b) P.C. Prostitution.

CORE TEAM



Notable Cases

On 4/29 CORE Deputies coordinated a buy/walk operation in which a UC officer brokered a deal for sex at Happy Spa. After the operation, Deputy Punzalan authored a search warrant. During the search, items related to prostitution and \$1,998.00 in cash were seized and 1 female was arrested for 647(b) P.C. Prostitution.

Outreach Efforts

In collaboration with the City H.O.T and Social Workers Action Group (S.W.A.G.) the following / accepted or denied resources:

4/2 - R. Byrd (Female adult), A. Avalos (Female adult), A. Reynoso (Female adult), F. Avena (Male adult) J. Dinwiddle (Male adult) -declined

4/9 – D. Shull (Male adult) B. Groom (Female adult) – declined

4/10 – R. Toscano (Male adult), P. Watz (Male adult), G. Wilson (Male adult), M. Farner (Male adult) – declined

4/16 – J. Velasquez (Male adult), Y. Espinoza (Female adult) – declined

4/17 – J. Phillips (Male adult), R. Byrd (Female adult), A. Stiles (Male adult), M. Priesing (Male adult), M. Villafane (Male adult), A. Arroza (Female adult) – declined

4/30 – J. Parton (Male adult), C. Coelo (Male adult), B. Hall (Male adult)– declined

METRO DISTRICT TEAM



METRO TEAM

Team Activity	April
On-Sight Felony Arrests	6
On-Sight Misdemeanor Arrests	25
Felony Arrest Warrants Served	7
Misdemeanor Arrest Warrants Served	45
Bar / Business Check	80
D.U.I. Arrests	14
Traffic / Parking Citations	147
Firearms Seized	1

Notable Cases

TRAFFIC TEAM



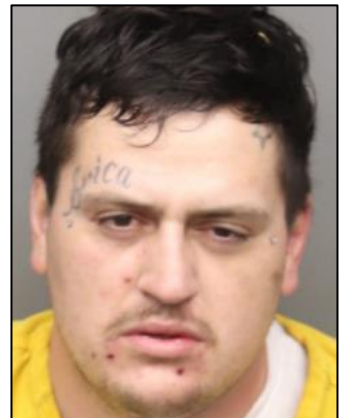
Traffic

Traffic	April
Citations issued for Hazardous Violations	1394
Non-Hazardous Citations	256
Parking Citations	196
Stop Light Abuse / Intersection Program (S.L.A.P.) Citations	81
Seatbelt Citations	22
Hit & Run Investigations	16
Cell Phone Citations	435
Injury Collisions	16
D.U.I. Arrests	32
OTS / City Funded Special Operations	3
Commercial Enforcement Citations	0
Written Warnings Issued	480

Notable Cases

On 4/12 Traffic Deputies attempted to pull over a subject for speeding on Temecula Parkway. The subject failed to yield, and a pursuit ensued. The subject drove into a residential area of Meadows Parkway, where he foot bailed from the vehicle. Deputies located the suspect hiding in the bushes.

Andrew Romero is a career criminal and had an active warrant. He was arrested for VC2800.2 – Evading Peace Officers / Reckless Driving, 148(A)(1)P.C. – Resisting Arrest, obstructing an Officer, and 3455P.C. – Violation of Community Supervision.



Andrew Romero
Male adult

PROMENADE MALL



Promenade Mall Police Storefront

Team Activity	April
Total Calls For Service	191
Felony / Arrest Filings	5
Misdemeanor Arrest / Filings	6
Traffic Citations	5
Total Customers Served	624
Fingerprints / Live Scans	123
VICR Releases	13
Total Receipts	5,866.00

Notable Cases



Aaron Navies
Male adult

On 4/22 Mall Deputies arrested a sex registrant after he exposed himself to a customer at JC Penney and later exposed himself while masturbating to an employee at Macy's. He was arrested for 314(1)P.C. – Indecent Exposure.

OLD TOWN STOREFRONT



Old Town Police Storefront

Team Activity	April
Total Customers Served	595
Fingerprints / Live Scan	111
Police Reports Filed	0
VICR Releases	10
Citations signed off	16
Total receipts	\$5,314.00

Events in Old Town

Special Events, Rallies, Protests, Meetings

- 4/2 – Sheriff’ Family Festival Meeting @ BCTC (CSO Hicks & SSO Carrera)
- 4/2 – Explorer Meeting (Dep. Hernandez & Dep. Punzalan)
- 4/5 – Expressive Activity @ Duck Pond (CORE Deputies)
- 4/9 – Explorer Meeting (Dep. Hernandez & Dep. Punzalan)
- 4/9 – E-Bike Presentation (Dep. Punzalan & Dep. Barbula)
- 4/11 – Special Olympics @ Dorothy McElhinney Middle School (CORE Team)
- 4/16 – 4th of July Traffic Plan Meeting (CORE Team & Traffic)
- 4/16 – Explorer Meeting (Dep. Hernandez & Dep. Punzalan)
- 4/17 – Deputy Sheriff Trainee Orientation @ SWS (Dep. Hernandez, CSO Hicks, Sgt. Hernandez & SSO Carrera)
- 4/18 – Student Venture Ministry Cross Walk (CORE Team)
- 4/20 – Reliance Church Easter Egg Hunt (Dep. Rincon)
- 4/23 – Explorer Meeting (Dep. Hernandez & Dep. Punzalan)
- 4/25 – Temecula Valley Balloon & Wine Festival Meeting (CORE Team)
- 4/26 – Community Services Expo (Dep. Rincon & Dep. Punzalan)
- 4/26 – National Take Back Prescription (CSO Nunez, Dep. Shehata Dep. Barbula & Dep. Au)
- 4/26 – Old Navy Safety Event (Dep. Kenitzer & CSO Hicks)
- 4/27 – Vail Headquarters Earth Day Event

SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES

Team Activity	April
Felony Arrest	2
Misdemeanor Arrests	3
Reports	14
School Violence Threat Investigations	5
Citations	15
Meetings / Presentations	187

Notable Cases

On 4/1 SRD's received intel from FBI/LA regarding an SVT targeting Chaparral High School. FBI received a threat from Snapchat that a user posted a photo of a Google Map showing the high school with a text overlay "5 ss I'll shoot up this school next week". The user lives in Oklahoma. FBI/OK worked with Broken Arrow PD, contacted the user, interviewed her, and determined the threat to be unfounded (April Fool's prank).

On 4/14 SRD's responded to an SVT at Rancho Christian School. A student made a threat about a student to a classmate during school hours. The VP located a pocketknife in his backpack. Deputies contacted the subject and searched the residence. There was no credible threat to any student during the investigation.

On 4/21 SRD's investigated an SVT at the Shine Charter Schol. The principle stated a student made statements to another student that she hated all teachers and was gong to shoot up the school. Deputies contacted the subject and the parent. She denied making any statements. No threat to the school, employees, or students was found.



Notable Cases

On 4/22, Deputies investigated a possible threat made via Instagram account "TVHSConfessions2025". A student posted they had always wanted to shoot up the school, but did not have the means to do it. SRD's & Investigators located the student, contacted the parents, and confirmed there were no weapons at the residence. There was no credible threat to the school.

On 4/23 Deputies investigated a suspicious circs / SVT reference a student at James Day Middle School. The student drew a picture of an assault rifle in class. He also made a joke he was going to use it to shoot up the school. Deputies contacted the parent of the student and confirmed firearms were secured at the residence, and no credible threat to the school.

Programs / Presentations

- Youth Court
- Caught with Your Helmet On
- School Assemblies
- Traffic education and enforcement during pick up/drop off times
- Tobacco minor decoy operations

CRIME PREVENTION



Team Activity

Team Activity	April
Crime Prevention / Neighborhood watch meetings	3
Safety Presentations / Trainings	2
Special Events	4
Residential / Business security surveys conducted	0
Residences / Businesses visited for past crime follow-up	0
Station Tours	0
Planning Review Projects	1
Temp Outdoor Use Permits	9

Special Events

VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers

Team Activity	April
Chaplain Hours	106.50
Community Action Patrol (CAP) hours	708.30
Reserve Officer hours (patrol)	0
Explorer	117.00
Station / Administration	8.50
Total Volunteer hours	967.30

Events / Pictures



Riverside Sheriff's Volunteer Mounted Posse

VOLUNTEERS



Events / Pictures

Temecula Mounted Posse looking for dedicated volunteers!



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
SHERIFF

VOLUNTEER MOUNTED POSSE

JOIN THE SHERIFF'S VOLUNTEER MOUNTED POSSE

The **Mounted Posse** is a non-profit group of volunteers who dedicate their time to their communities and the Riverside County Sheriff's Office. The Troops are comprised of both ground support and mounted volunteers who use their personal horses for duties such as the following:

- Patrol
- Parades
- Search and Rescue
- Public Relations
- Charity Events

The **Temecula Troop** is now accepting applications for both mounted and ground support volunteers. We are active throughout the Temecula Valley. Volunteers (and their horses) must pass an annual qualification test, undergo regular training, and attend monthly meetings.

TO APPLY YOU MUST:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be physically able to perform required activities
- Submit a complete application (including basic background check, fingerprinting, and interview)

In addition, mounted volunteers must:

- Have access to a healthy, well-trained horse
- Have access to a trailer and tow vehicle

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: enunez@riversidesheriff.org

VOLUNTEER HERE



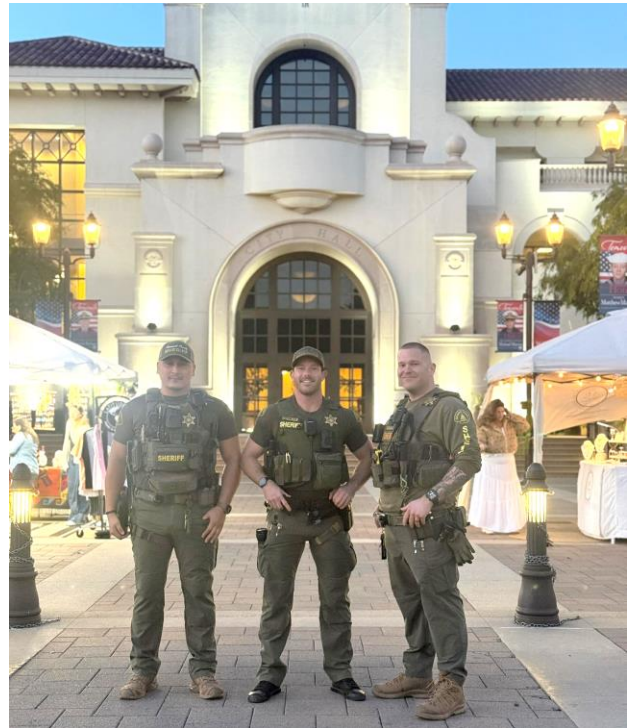
SPECIAL EVENTS



EVENTS IN PICTURES



April 26
National Prescription Drug
Take Back Day was a success!



Temecula Sheriff Deputies keeping the
citizens of Temecula safe during the
Sunset Market in Old Town Temecula!