Sheriff Carlos G. Bolanos Recognizes Local Business for Crime Prevention Efforts

On January 24th, San Mateo County Sheriff Carlos G. Bolanos presented Best Buy in San Carlos with the first ever “Sheriff’s Crime Prevention Award” in recognition for its outstanding efforts and initiatives designed to prevent crime in the store and to keep customers from being victimized.

“Over the years, it has been clear to us that Best Buy takes crime prevention and the security of its customers very seriously,” said Sheriff Bolanos. “The sense of accountability and responsibility they have internally for their own security and that of their customers also contributes to overall public safety in the community because our patrol deputies are not being dispatched there to handle crimes that could have been prevented.”

The San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office decided to create this award as part of an on-going effort to increase community awareness about crime prevention and to help encourage others to protect themselves, their businesses, and their families from crime. “As the largest law enforcement agency in San Mateo County, we have a lot of resources at our disposal to help prevent and solve crimes,” said Detective Sal Zuno. “But we need the community to understand they have a critical role in crime prevention, and this much deserved award given to Best Buy helps illustrate that for us in a positive way.”
Violent Crime

By all standards, people in San Carlos can feel very safe when it comes to violent crime. We compare ourselves in this crime category with four other cities that also have low crime rates: Belmont; Burlingame; Foster City; and Los Gatos. Even amongst those four other very safe communities with virtually the same population, San Carlos fairs very favorably.
Violent Crime

By all standards, people in San Carlos can feel very safe when it comes to violent crime. We compare ourselves in this crime category with four other cities that also have low crime rates: Belmont; Burlingame; Foster City; and Los Gatos. Even amongst those four other very safe communities with virtually the same population, San Carlos fairs very favorably.

Q&A

Assistant Sheriff Greg Rothaus

WHAT IS THE NUMBER ONE CRIME PROBLEM IN OUR COMMUNITY RIGHT NOW?

Now that we’ve seemed to knock down our residential burglary rate, I’d have to say it would be auto burglary. San Carlos experienced a 57% increase in auto burglary last year and many neighboring cities saw similar increases.

SINCE WE DID SO WELL COMBATTING RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY, WHAT CAN WE DO TO FIGHT AUTO BURGLARY?

The good news here is that this is one of the easiest crimes to prevent and requires only one action on the part of a prospective victim: never, ever leave anything of value in your vehicle—not even for a moment. Because these crimes take only seconds to commit and are difficult to solve, criminals will take their chances virtually anywhere at any time. The loss of purses, wallets, passports, and computers with proprietary information can be devastating—it doesn’t have to happen.

GOING BACK TO RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY: WHAT IS ONE THING THAT IS MOST LIKELY TO SCARE OFF BURGLARS?

When interviewed, burglars have said that what scares them most of all is a watchful neighbor who is not afraid to immediately call the police when they see something suspicious. So, they are actually more afraid of you than they are of random police patrols.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF OUR FAMILIES, WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST RISKS WE HAVE IN SAN CARLOS?

Fortunately, our violent crime rates are extremely low in San Carlos. In fact, they are lower than those of many of the 50 safest cities in California. (Only our property crime numbers keep us off that list.) Your primary physical risks come from two areas: driving; and natural disasters such as earthquakes. Your risk of injury from an auto accident is greatly mitigated if you obey the speed limit, allow space between your vehicle and the one in front of you, and do not use your cellphone for any reason while driving. In terms of earthquakes, go to www.ready.gov to find out how to prepare yourself and your family.

IF THERE IS AN EARTHQUAKE OR OTHER DISASTER, HOW CAN I GET IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES?

If you have not already done so, please sign up for our alerts on emergencies and other public safety matters at www.smcalert.info. In the event of any kind of public safety emergency, this is the avenue we will use to communicate with the community.

SAN CARLOS

2017 VIOLENT CRIME

City #1  City #2  City #3  City #4  San Carlos

40  30  20  10  0

SAN CARLOS

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

80

60

40

20

0

2014 2015 2016 2017

Q&A

Assistant Sheriff Greg Rothaus

WHAT IS THE NUMBER ONE CRIME PROBLEM IN OUR COMMUNITY RIGHT NOW?

Now that we’ve seemed to knock down our residential burglary rate, I’d have to say it would be auto burglary. San Carlos experienced a 57% increase in auto burglary last year and many neighboring cities saw similar increases.

SINCE WE DID SO WELL COMBATTING RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY, WHAT CAN WE DO TO FIGHT AUTO BURGLARY?

The good news here is that this is one of the easiest crimes to prevent and requires only one action on the part of a prospective victim: never, ever leave anything of value in your vehicle—not even for a moment. Because these crimes take only seconds to commit and are difficult to solve, criminals will take their chances virtually anywhere at any time. The loss of purses, wallets, passports, and computers with proprietary information can be devastating—it doesn’t have to happen.

GOING BACK TO RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY: WHAT IS ONE THING THAT IS MOST LIKELY TO SCARE OFF BURGLARS?

When interviewed, burglars have said that what scares them most of all is a watchful neighbor who is not afraid to immediately call the police when they see something suspicious. So, they are actually more afraid of you than they are of random police patrols.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF OUR FAMILIES, WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST RISKS WE HAVE IN SAN CARLOS?

Fortunately, our violent crime rates are extremely low in San Carlos. In fact, they are lower than those of many of the 50 safest cities in California. (Only our property crime numbers keep us off that list.) Your primary physical risks come from two areas: driving; and natural disasters such as earthquakes. Your risk of injury from an auto accident is greatly mitigated if you obey the speed limit, allow space between your vehicle and the one in front of you, and do not use your cellphone for any reason while driving. In terms of earthquakes, go to www.ready.gov to find out how to prepare yourself and your family.

IF THERE IS AN EARTHQUAKE OR OTHER DISASTER, HOW CAN I GET IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES?

If you have not already done so, please sign up for our alerts on emergencies and other public safety matters at www.smcalert.info. In the event of any kind of public safety emergency, this is the avenue we will use to communicate with the community.

Q&A

Assistant Sheriff Greg Rothaus

WHAT IS THE NUMBER ONE CRIME PROBLEM IN OUR COMMUNITY RIGHT NOW?

Now that we’ve seemed to knock down our residential burglary rate, I’d have to say it would be auto burglary. San Carlos experienced a 57% increase in auto burglary last year and many neighboring cities saw similar increases.

SINCE WE DID SO WELL COMBATTING RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY, WHAT CAN WE DO TO FIGHT AUTO BURGLARY?

The good news here is that this is one of the easiest crimes to prevent and requires only one action on the part of a prospective victim: never, ever leave anything of value in your vehicle—not even for a moment. Because these crimes take only seconds to commit and are difficult to solve, criminals will take their chances virtually anywhere at any time. The loss of purses, wallets, passports, and computers with proprietary information can be devastating—it doesn’t have to happen.

GOING BACK TO RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY: WHAT IS ONE THING THAT IS MOST LIKELY TO SCARE OFF BURGLARS?

When interviewed, burglars have said that what scares them most of all is a watchful neighbor who is not afraid to immediately call the police when they see something suspicious. So, they are actually more afraid of you than they are of random police patrols.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF OUR FAMILIES, WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST RISKS WE HAVE IN SAN CARLOS?

Fortunately, our violent crime rates are extremely low in San Carlos. In fact, they are lower than those of many of the 50 safest cities in California. (Only our property crime numbers keep us off that list.) Your primary physical risks come from two areas: driving; and natural disasters such as earthquakes. Your risk of injury from an auto accident is greatly mitigated if you obey the speed limit, allow space between your vehicle and the one in front of you, and do not use your cellphone for any reason while driving. In terms of earthquakes, go to www.ready.gov to find out how to prepare yourself and your family.

IF THERE IS AN EARTHQUAKE OR OTHER DISASTER, HOW CAN I GET IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES?

If you have not already done so, please sign up for our alerts on emergencies and other public safety matters at www.smcalert.info. In the event of any kind of public safety emergency, this is the avenue we will use to communicate with the community.
A Message from Assistant Sheriff Greg Rothaus

After 13 years as your Police Chief, I'm excited to take on a new challenge as Assistant Sheriff with the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office. In that capacity, I will preside over all of our operational areas, patrol teams, and investigations units. I will be working out of the Hall of Justice and I, along with many others, will continue working to support the public safety needs of this community.

Having worked in other cities besides San Carlos, I've learned that each community is different in terms of how they interface with their police and how they react to public safety matters. San Carlos residents have a high bar and high expectations when it comes to public safety in their city. That is certainly good because it keeps us focused on doing our best at all times. But, I’ve noticed that you are also simultaneously very appreciative. I've received so many cards and letters from you over the years expressing your gratitude for something we've done. Numerous deputies have come into my office telling me how you have approached them on the street just to say thank you for what they do. I have consistently felt nothing but the utmost support from you, our City Manager, and our City Council. For that, I am extremely grateful.

Your new Police Chief, Mark Duri, is an experienced, committed, law enforcement professional who has earned an outstanding reputation in the region. Like you, I am a resident of this City and I know we are all in good hands with Mark as our Police Chief.

Thank you again for the best 13 years of my career. Remember to keep an eye out for each other; always call us for anything suspicious; and be safe!