

Fort Jones Police Department Monthly Report

June 2020

Well it's been over six months since the inception of the Fort Jones Police Department and to say the least, it's been an interesting one. We have made so much progress over a short time and it's been such a positive experience. Add in the Covid issue along with everything else and it definitely has created interesting times. I would like to commend everyone involved with the town in helping create a positive creative atmosphere that has enabled the police department to identify and create solutions in making the town a great place to live. The cooperation we have received from our residence in both towns, council, and employees has been an overall great experience and we are excited in continuing our efforts and seeing the positive outcomes resulting from everyone's hard work.

Traffic- As the weather warms and we see our communities reopen during this Covid crisis we see and uptick in presents in public. This also has a major factor in traffic. As traffic increases so do violations. We have made a conscious approach to this by providing extra patrol especially in problematic areas. Main street continues to be a main focus where several stops have been made some resulting in citations. We also had a few concerns regarding speed on side streets including Newton. Extra patrol was done and the speed sign was deployed in the attempt to educate drivers and residence on the speeds they are experiencing. The solutions seem to be working however this is an ongoing challenge that we will continue to meet as issues arise.

Schools- Our local schools finish off the year under work from home conditions and for the most part have resulted in a very successful school year especially under these unusual conditions. Our partnership with the schools has continued to be a strong one and we have helped contact students who may be having difficulties working from home. Following the school year we were contacted by school staff and administration thanking us for partnership and willingness to work together in accomplishing tasks we have throughout the community.

Animal Control- Animal violations continue to be on the forefront with several warnings and citations being issued. We have also taken several dogs into custody resulting in owners paying an impound fee to bail out their animals. With the continued enforcement and education, it seems the calls for service continue to decline. There is still a ways to go but seeing progress is always a good indicator that we are taking the right approach and it is working. We have also been working with Paula in getting out reminders to citizens to register their dogs. Officers went door to door speaking with individuals who were out of compliance and it seems we have had several come in and register.

Reports/Cases- Several Cases and arrest have been made in the past couple weeks in response to the town's needs. We currently have pulled 57 written cases involving arrests

and or investigations. Numerous search warrants were also served resulting in the recovery of stolen items and illegal narcotics. Arrests also resulted from these search warrants. Our Officers continue to take a hands-on diligent approach to the issues the town is facing resulting in many historical ongoing problems being rectified. Thank you to our officers for putting in the many long hours it takes to solve these issues that have plagued our community for some time.

Calls for Service- Our calls for service continue to be at a high volume during these times however we have seen a swing towards positive calls. As time passes, we hope to turn most of our calls for service into positive ones. Again, this swing towards the positive shows us that our approach is working and provides positive feedback to our officers on the front lines.

Ordinance Enforcement- Code Enforcement officers continue to follow up on issues facing the town and have been successful in working with our residence in fixing problems at hand. Again, we always work towards voluntary compliance and look forward to working with people in fixing the problem rather than issue citations which often don't help solve the problem at hand. Letters continue to be sent out to effected residence and with Covid restrictions lifting we are able to add to our enforcement and education.

PAL- PAL has been able to start opening programs recently as Covid restrictions lighten. For example, the pool was able to open enabling the PAL swim team to start practice. This will help them to get ready for potential swim meets this summer. We also opened the teen center which includes our new fishing program. We are anticipating taking interested youth fishing once a week to different locations county wide. We have had a lot of interest in the program which also includes learning your equipment and fly tying.

Training- Covid has slowed our ability to receive many trainings we are accustom to however we have been able to maintain and receive training in unconventional ways. On line and local in-house training has given us the ability to maintain a high level of training and experience to our officers and staff. As training opportunities begin to come available, we will be able to get back to a somewhat normal way of doing business. We also continue to work with POST (peace officer standards and training) during these unprecedented times to ensure the department is receiving all updated training opportunities and to make sure we are always in compliance with the ever-changing laws.

CSO- Kelly has been very busy with all the elements of a community service officer. She is participating in several groups which are helping address issues around town. These groups will help in the beautification of town while bringing us up to current law and guidance. Several problematic issues in town have now been rectified. Kelly continues to look forward to your participation and guidance throughout her workday so please don't hesitate to call her with any information you may receive or witness.

Patrol Hours- In the month of June the Town of Fort Jones again received the equivalent to more than 550 hours of police services. These services come in many forms besides the regular patrol hours from officers. We have our investigator detective, reserves, and CSO's putting in hours to make sure the town receives the services it deserves. We continue to benefit from our partnership with our federal allies and task force teams. This has given us the ability to bring more specialized hands on deck without an additional cost to the town. During these patrol hours the town benefits from the continual security checks and proactive presence. From my observations it appears this proactive approach is working and we continue to see a reduction in crime while giving our constituents the feeling of being safe and protected.

I would also like to thank our community in the partnership and support they have provided over these unprecedented times. The outpouring of support on a daily basis has made our jobs and lives better and positive. We couldn't do it without the continued help and support of our community and dedicated officers.