

# Fort Jones Police Department Monthly Report

## September 2020

Happy Fall everyone. September continued to be busy as reflected below but as we approach fall and winter we hope to see activity levels fall especially related to mutual aid and fire response. I have been very proud of our Scott Valley first responders with their willingness to sacrifice and provide professional expertise not only locally but throughout the county and state. The police department is very proud to work along side our brothers and sisters in these very unprecedented times.

**Traffic-** Multiple traffic enforcement details have been performed throughout the month in the effort to continue to educate our community in safe driving practices and to hold the repeat offenders accountable. During the month of September during these vehicle stops several DUI's and suspended drivers were taken off the road. Additionally traffic stops resulted in the detection and confiscation of illegal drugs. One DUI taken was also the result of a vehicle collision due to the intoxication of the driver. I believe our presents has helped reduce the number of violations we are seeing but still need the communities eyes and ears in the effort to continue the decline.

**Schools-** As the school year continues we have seen an influx of calls pertaining to school related activities. While this is a normal occurrence it makes us appreciate our partnership with the Scott valley unified school district and has proven to be instrumental in the guidance given to our children. We had one incident resulting in a soft closing of the elementary school due to internet based threats being made. While it was determined to be gorilla ware we made a conscious effort to be at the school during the departure of the children for home. We also continue to provide assistance to children and their parents to get them to and from school preventing truancy and provide a better learning environment.

**Animal Control-** Animal control in the month of September was active while still seeing a decline in calls. Most of the animal related calls were a result of one household being unable to contain their animals. This is an on going effort to gain compliance but some progress has been made. We hope to see full compliance within the next couple weeks. We have also had to dispatch several injured deer in the recent weeks so be on the lookout especially at night when deer are migrating through town.

**Reports/Cases-** This last month ended with approximately 80 written cases in the additional of several in custody arrests. Most arrests were alcohol and drug related. We are seeing a slow down of written cases mostly due to what I believe is a result of proactive law enforcement. It is our goal to continue to see less arrests and cases throughout the year while seeing and increase in good productive contacts.

**Calls for Service/Mutual Aid-** As always calls for service continue to be at a high volume but with a steady increase in positive interactions. Mutual aid especially with fire activity was very high as we helped in the fight with local and county fires. We are just now seeing activity slow and the police department get back to some normal scheduling. Again it has been great to work with our local first responders throughout the season.

**Ordinance Enforcement-** The big news in the world of ordinance enforcement this past month was of course the closer of Marble View Motel. It has been a lengthy project with many hours being put in to develop and execute this case. Many thanks to Kelly for the exceptional hard work she put in to have this finally materialize. We will continue to proceed with the project in the hopes full compliance is brought to the property. If unable to the next steps will be taken to ensure that the property is brought to a safe acceptable level. Additional properties throughout town are in several different stages of enforcement and will be brought to council shortly for disposition.

**PAL-** Etna PAL has been successfully providing a soccer program this past month and shows we can provide essential programs to our youth even through these difficult times. The mentor program also continue to be successful and we look forward to providing activities such as trunk or treat and flag football in the near future. I was also successful in writing a grant through the Ford family in the effort to provide another PAL holiday gathering. Each of these programs have been adapted to provide the safest environment possible and to comply with all covid related precautions. We also developed a scale pertaining to smoke in the area to postpone events if the air quality is determined to be hazardous.

**Training-** While we still provide hands on perishable skills training we have been able to provide additional training via remote access. We recently had our annual POST audit which resulted in positive feedback with the department maintaining compliance with mandated training. We were also recently able to update and adapt our policy and procedures manual to current law. In some exciting news our policy and procedures are now available in electronic form which gives our officers quick access while providing on the go training.

**Patrol Hours-** In the month of September the Town of Fort Jones continued to receive the equivalent of more than 600 hours of police services. Many of these hours our proactive efforts to ensure crimes are reduced or eliminated in many capacities. Again that consistent presence of law enforcement has shown to be very productive in the reduction of criminal activity with the increase of positive law enforcement interaction and service to our community. Thank you for being our eyes and ears out there and we look forward to hearing from you in the future.