

T O R R A N C E



FOR RELEASE

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City of Torrance Interactive Crime Pin Map and Weekly Crime Log

Torrance, Calif., May 19, 2011 – The City of Torrance provides residents with a variety of methods to find out what's happening in their community with a primary goal of ensuring residents' safety. This information reporting methodology was developed as a result of citizen involvement through our Strategic Planning process. Based on community's involvement, the City recently developed and published an **Interactive Crime Pin Map and the Interactive Weekly Crime Log**. **In addition**, we also provide the standard monthly Uniform Crimes Reporting in a format determined by the United States Department of Justice

The Crime Pin Map provides the community information that assist residents in tracking crimes and monitoring trends and activity related to personal safety in their neighborhoods. The Interactive **Weekly Crime Log** brings detailed information to the citizen in an easy to use format.

Mayor Frank Scotto said "...personal safety is paramount to our community, and *this map gives our residents access to information that previously required them to go to the station to obtain, now they can get it at their finger tips, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*"

The Crime Pin Map was designed to provide information for specific incidents reported throughout the City. The most recent information posted is a minimum of four days old which allows time for preliminary investigations and possible re-coding of crimes. The map only retains the last 45 days of reported incidents.

–more information–

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The map is to aid residents in tracking crimes, and identifying trends. The map includes most crimes, with the exception of crimes such as sex crimes and shoplifting. Sex crimes usually take more than four days to accurately categorize; therefore, re-coding is almost always necessary. Additionally, there has not been a "stranger rape" crime in the City since 2002. For mapping purposes, this information would be misleading due to re-coding necessary to present accurate information. In addition, the details of each case contain sensitive materials that the City has determined inappropriate to publish. Shoplifting cases do not meet Torrance's criteria of being related to personal safety. In addition, the City of Torrance does not have adequate staffing levels to include this information.

Upon using the pin map, residents will notice more details provided than many other mapping systems; if shoplifting were included, there would be insufficient time to include that useful detailed information.

The map and other crime trends and prevention information can be easily found online at <http://www.TorranceCA.Gov/TPD/8992.htm>

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