



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Road Patrol Lieutenants
 From: Captain Norman Nahra
 Date: January 11, 2019
 Subject: Traffic Crash Analysis – First Quarter 2019

In order to be pro-active with reducing the number of crashes that occur yearly, the Punta Gorda Police Department conducts a quarterly crash analysis. Therefore, the Accident Report by Intersection report, Accident Report by Zone report, Injury and Property Damage Analysis report, Accident Report by Parking Lot report and the Accident Report by Non-Intersection report generated in the OSSI accident module along with Monthly Activity Reports, CAD Directed Patrol Traffic Report and CAD Traffic Stop Report are utilized as resources for data presentation in the identification of problem areas (if any), and recommendations toward public education and/or enforcement action(s).

The data for the first quarter of 2019 (January 1st through March 31st) was reviewed and analyzed and indicated there were 224 total crashes within the City, with 99 occurring at intersections and another 74 occurring upon a roadway other than at an intersection. Parking lot crashes (51) are included in the total crash number, however, are not broken down by location, due to these crashes being attributed to design issues related to the parking lots themselves.

There was an increase of 20 total crashes in the first quarter of 2019 from the first quarter of 2018 (this includes an increase of 1 parking lot crash).

Data Presentation

Top Intersections		
Rank	Location	No. of Crashes
1	Maud Street at West Marion Avenue	7
T-2	Airport Road at Cooper Street Cross Street at West Retta Esplanade East Olympia Avenue at Nesbit Street Tamiami Trail at Carmalita Street West Retta Esplanade at Tamiami Trail	4

T-3	Aqui Esta Drive at Baynard Drive Aqui Esta Drive at Tamiami Trail Tamiami Trail at East Marion Avenue Tamiami Trail at East Olympia Avenue	3
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- It shall be noted that there were a total of 9 intersections in which 2 crashes occurred at and a total of 42 intersections in which 1 crash occurred at.

Injuries	Zone/Amount
Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes	Zone 1 - 32
Total - 38	Zone 3 - 3
	Zone 5 - 3

- It shall be noted that there were 6 incapacitating injuries and 32 non-incapacitating injuries.

Identification of Problem Areas

Zone Breakdown (Including Parking Lot)	Number
Zone 1	167
Zone 3	36
Zone 5	21
Total Crashes	224

Zone 1 represents 74.5 percent of the 224 city-wide crashes.

Response to 2018 Fourth Quarter Analysis

Lieutenant Shane Chodakowsky was tasked with assessing and addressing the information contained within the fourth quarter of 2018 Traffic Crash Analysis report. Patrol focused enforcement on Tamiami Trail (northbound and southbound) primarily near the downtown Punta Gorda area but also near Carmalita Street, Aqui Esta Drive, along with West Charlotte Avenue at Taylor Street. During the first quarter of 2019, Patrol conducted the following enforcement:

- A total of 247 Directed Traffic Patrols were conducted, 74 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 999 traffic stops were initiated, 251 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 180 Uniformed Traffic Citations and 877 Written Warnings were issued during the first quarter of 2019.
- The radar trailer was deployed at numerous locations throughout the city limits.

- A “Dummy” car was deployed at problematic intersections. Although due to a lack of spare vehicles this vehicle was deployed less than in years past.
- The message board (when available) was also utilized throughout the city limits to assist with traffic complaints received and special events that occurred during the first quarter of 2019 . It should be noted that the radar portion of this equipment was non-functional for much of the first quarter of 2019.

It shall be noted that during the fourth quarter of 2018, 75.1 percent of the crashes occurred in zone 1. During the first quarter of 2019, 76.5 percent of all written warnings and citations were issued in zone 1.

This information was documented in a memorandum composed by Lieutenant Shane Chodakowsky, which was filed in the source file.

Recommendations toward Public Education and/or Enforcement Action(s)

The information contained within the memorandum is meant to be used as a tool, not only for enforcement related activity but for educational purposes as well. As it is the objective to gain voluntary compliance of Florida State Statutes from the motoring public, members of the agency have a number of resources at their disposal to help the agency meet the aforementioned goal. Included in the resources available to members of the agency are: the uses of unmanned line vehicles, unmarked patrol units, the speed radar trailer, the message board and directed traffic patrols.

The information contained within this analysis identifies that there was an increase in the number of crashes within the City (a total increase of 79 crashes) since the fourth quarter of 2018. Part of the increase in the number of crashes is due to seasonal residents returning to Florida for the winter and an increased number of special events occurring within the city limits. During the first quarter of 2018 there was a total of 204 crashes, which is 20 less than the first quarter of 2019.

In response to this analysis, supervisors are requested and encouraged to continue their diligent traffic enforcement related activities. Lieutenant Kelvin Jimenez and Delta Squad will lead up the response to this quarter’s analysis and the subsequent completion of the SCARS report.

Please use this data for the appropriate education and enforcement by you and your squads as you target the areas mentioned above. Feel free to use the full resources of the department. Remember, the objective is for enforcement action taken to correlate with a reduction of overall crashes for the next quarter and at the above listed locations.

Finally, the raw data reports used for this analysis can be viewed via the ‘P’ drive under Operations/Uniform Patrol Section/Traffic/Traffic Analysis Report/2019/1st Quarter.

Resources:

Injury and Property Damage Analysis Report
Accident Report by Intersection Report
Accident Report by Zone Report
Accident Report by Parking Lot Report
Accident Report by Non-Intersection Report
Monthly Activity Reports

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