



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Road Patrol Lieutenants
 From: Captain Norman Nahra
 Date: January 17, 2019
 Subject: Traffic Crash Analysis – Fourth Quarter 2018

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 fourth quarter of 2018 (October 1st through December 31st) was reviewed and analyzed and indicated there were 145 total crashes within the City, with 61 occurring at intersections and another 48 occurring upon a roadway other than at an intersection. Parking lot crashes (36) 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 a decrease of 13 total crashes in the fourth quarter of 2018 from the fourth quarter of 2017 (this includes a decrease of 10 parking lot crashes).

Data Presentation

Top Intersections		
Rank	Location	No. of Crashes
T-1	Cross Street at West Marion Avenue Tamiami Trail at East Retta Esplanade Taylor Street at West Charlotte Avenue	4
T-2	Tamiami Trail at East Olympia Avenue West Olympia Avenue at Cross Street	3
T-3	Cooper Street at Carmalita Street	2

Tamiami Trail at Aqui Esta Drive Tamiami Trail at East Virginia Avenue Tamiami Trail at West Marion Avenue Tamiami Trail at West Retta Esplanade	
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- It shall be noted that there were a total of 33 intersections in which 1 crash occurred at.

Injuries	Zone/Amount
Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes	Zone 1 - 12
Total -18	Zone 3 - 3
	Zone 5 - 3

- It shall be noted that there was 1 fatality (crashed caused by a medical episode), 2 incapacitating injuries and 15 non-incapacitating injuries.

Identification of Problem Areas

Zone Breakdown (Including Parking Lot)	Number
Zone 1	109
Zone 3	23
Zone 5	13
Total Crashes	145

Zone 1 represents 75.1 percent of the 145 city-wide crashes.

Response to 2018 Third Quarter Analysis

Lieutenant Christopher Salsman was tasked with assessing and addressing the information contained within the third 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 fourth quarter of 2018, Patrol conducted the following enforcement:

- A total of 228 Directed Traffic Patrols were conducted, 88 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 1,023 traffic stops were initiated, 440 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 77 Uniformed Traffic Citations and 944 Written Warnings were issued during the third quarter of 2018.
- The radar trailer was deployed at numerous locations throughout the city limits.
- A "Dummy" car was deployed, when available, at problematic intersections.

- The message board/radar trailer was also utilized throughout the city limits to assist with traffic complaints received during the fourth quarter of 2018 and during Special Events with an expected high traffic volume (i.e. Historic District Halloween event).
- The department participated in the 2018 Holiday Season “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” National Enforcement Mobilization which occurred from December 14, 2018 through January 1, 2019.

It shall be noted that during the third quarter, 76.9 percent of the crashes occurred in zone 1. During the fourth quarter, 86.4 percent of all written warnings and citations were issued in zone 1. This information was documented in a memorandum composed by Lieutenant Christopher Salsman, 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/radar trailer 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 decrease of 28 crashes) since the third 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 fourth quarter of 2017 there was a total of 158 crashes, which is 13 more than the fourth quarter of 2018.

In response to this analysis, supervisors are requested and encouraged to continue their diligent traffic enforcement related activities. Lieutenant Shane Chodakowsky and Charlie 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/2018/4th 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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