



CITY OF PUNTA GORDA  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Road Patrol Lieutenants  
From: Captain Norman Nahra  
Date: October 15, 2018  
Subject: Traffic Crash Analysis – Third Quarter 2018

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Per the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) Standard 34.11, the department is required to provide annual traffic crash and enforcement analysis report. 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 third quarter of 2018 (July 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>) was reviewed and analyzed and indicated there were 117 total crashes within the City, with 44 occurring at intersections and another 27 occurring upon a roadway other than at an intersection. Parking lot crashes (46) 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 8 total crashes in the third quarter of 2018 from the third quarter of 2017 (this includes an increase of 12 parking lot crashes).

**Data Presentation**

Top Intersections		
Rank	Location	No. of Crashes
T-1	Cross Street at West Olympia Avenue East Olympia Avenue at Tamiami Trail West Marion Avenue at Cross Street	3



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T-2	Aqui Esta Drive at Vasco Street East Marion Avenue at Nesbit Street Tamiami Trail at Carmalita Street Tamiami Trail at West McKenzie Street West Charlotte Avenue at Taylor Street	2
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- It shall be noted that there were a total of 25 intersections in which 1 crash occurred at.

Injuries	Zone/Amount
Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes	Zone 1 - 10
<b>Total - 11</b>	Zone 3 - 0
	Zone 5 - 1

- It shall be noted that there was 1 fatality and 10 non-incapacitating injuries.

**Identification of Problem Areas**

Zone Breakdown (Including Parking Lot)	Number
Zone 1	90
Zone 3	15
Zone 5	12
<b>Total Crashes</b>	<b>117</b>

Zone 1 represents 76.9 percent of the 117 city-wide crashes.

**Response to 2018 Second Quarter Analysis**

Officer Joe Trufan was tasked with assessing and addressing the information contained within the second quarter of 2018 Traffic Crash Analysis report. In doing so, patrol focused enforcement on Tamiami Trail (northbound and southbound) primarily near the downtown Punta Gorda area but also near Carmalita Street and Aqui Esta Drive along with Shreve Street between West Retta Esplanade and Olympia Avenue. During the third quarter of 2018, Patrol conducted the following enforcement:

- A total of 194 Directed Traffic Patrols were conducted, 64 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 1,299 traffic stops were initiated, 489 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 214 Uniformed Traffic Citations and 1,235 Written Warnings were issued during the third quarter of 2018.
- The radar trailer was deployed at numerous locations throughout the city limits.

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- 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 third quarter of 2018 and during Special Events with an expected high traffic volume (i.e. July 4<sup>th</sup> event).
- The department participated in the 2018 “drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” National Enforcement Mobilization which occurred from August 17<sup>th</sup> through September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

It shall be noted that during the second quarter, 82.5 percent of the crashes occurred in zone 1. During the third quarter, 76.6 percent of all written warnings and citations were issued in zone 1. This information was documented in a memorandum composed by Officer Joe Trufan, 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 has been a significant decrease in the number of crashes within the City (a total decrease of 49 crashes) since the second quarter of 2018. Part of the decrease in the number of crashes is due to seasonal residents returning home for the summer and a decreased number of special events occurring within the city limits.

During the third quarter of 2017 there was a total of 109 crashes, which is 8 less than the third quarter of 2018. This can be attributed to the increase in population, the annexation of additional roadways and parking lots and the seasonal residents returning to Charlotte County earlier than normal.

In response to this analysis, supervisors are requested and encouraged to continue their diligent traffic enforcement related activities. Lieutenant Christopher Salsman and Bravo 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.

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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/2018/3<sup>rd</sup> 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

CAD Directed Patrol Traffic Report

CAD Traffic Stop Report

/s/

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