

## **ACONA Meeting Notes**

November 20, 2019

After introductions the following topics were covered.

### **Robocalls and the "Do Not Call List"**

Robert Quigley, Attorney with the Federal Trade Commission L.A. Office

Played sample robocall re: Social Security scam

Regional offices here in LA

- Consumer education outreach

- Consumer protection

Defined robocalls

Violations can & have cost thousands of dollars. Agency has been very successful with cases

FCC handles technical end

1/2 of all calls placed in 2019 could be robocalls

Over 2 million folks registered on DNC list

Shared many examples of robocalls

- Chinese consulate scams

- "Spoof Calls"

"SHAKEN/STIR" tech method FTC has created to combat robocalls: both the FCC & FTC are urging carriers to implement this innovation. (See Resources page for a link.)

Shared points on how to recognize phone scam calls. (See PowerPoint slides.)

### **Homeless Issues in Altadena**

Deputy Rodney Gutierrez Homeless Outreach Services Team L.A. County

323-351-7018 (Community Partnerships Bureau)

Shared many stats re: homeless numbers in the U.S. In LA County:

- 56,342 homeless

- 44,214 unsheltered

- 3878 veterans

Shared many definitions of homelessness

If an encampment is 5 or more folk, his team is called to intervene rather than local law enforcement

Collaboration with other agencies

- Observe activity

- Map out camps/crime

- Shared points re: assisting removing

- 4TH admen

- Homeless set booby traps to ward off trespassers stealing from each other ~ canines

- Shared photos of traps

Shared photos of encampments/high fire risk

## Q&A

Robocalls & DNC:

- ~ **Q:** How do the Chinese get our phone numbers?
- ~ **A:** SHAKEN/STIR hopefully will help knock down the amount; could be area code or population driven.
- ~ **Statement:** There are really weird numbers on some incoming robocalls with letters preceding the numbers.
- ~ **Q:** One has to register every 5 years to be on the "Do Not Call" list, could an auto reminder be implemented?
- ~ **A:** Great idea will look into it
- ~ **Statement:** ATT has blockers
- ~ **Q:** What info does the FTC need when reporting these calls?
- ~ **A:** They need the number/who it is/why calling.

Homelessness”

- ~ **Q:** Concerns over "Corinne" and others living in Farnsworth Park, about 4 men using electricity in bathrooms for their laptops, one fellow super suspicious, folks are making calls to station but feel that there is no progress & residents are not going to the park to enjoy their neighborhood, what can be done?
- ~ **Statement:** Proposing going to Supervisor Barger and "camping out" in front of her office until this is handled.
- ~ **Statement:** How do we change attitudes towards homeless so communities are pro to assist.

**Deputy Gutierrez shared this:**

- ~ Gave numerous lawful approaches for assisting "51/50" (possible mental health) and how to ID these folks with a series of specific questions.
- ~ Non-Profit organizations that provide "Mobile Showers"
- ~ **Q:** What about the new law re: taking up sidewalk space for sleeping?
- ~ **A:** This is only in the city of Los Angeles, it involves allowing folks to sleep in a measured space on the sidewalk during a specific evening time.
- ~ **Q:** Attendee afraid to go to Eaton Canyon, one homeless person brings more homeless people, how to get nonprofits to bring showers into Altadena.
- ~ **A:** Contact them.
- ~ Captain Jacobs shared protocols and that it is not a felony to walk or hike in an area, if folks see or can identify crime happening then call the station, call her directly.

~ One attendee who has worked with the homeless for 30 years recommended everyone watch a documentary:

"The Advocates" (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8679160/>)

LA Times Review of the movie: <https://www.latimes.com/entertainment/movies/la-et-mn-mini-the-advocates-review-20181018-story.html>