

LAGUNA HILLS POLICE SERVICES

NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2026

RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A HOME SECURITY CHECK

The New Year is the perfect time to make sure your home is safe and secure. Small issues can go unnoticed over time, but a quick assessment can help protect your family and belongings.

- Check locks and keys – Ensure all doors and windows lock properly and review your spare keys.
- Inspect doors and windows – Make sure they close and secure correctly and repair any damage.
- Test security systems – Confirm cameras and alarms are working and online.
- Update passwords – Change codes for alarms, smart locks, and cameras.
- Secure valuables – Keep important items in a bolted-down safe.
- Boost outdoor safety – Make sure exterior lights work and consider motion-activated lighting.
- Check smoke & CO detectors – Replace batteries and confirm functionality.
- Trim landscaping – Keep shrubs and trees away from entry points.
- Notify trusted contacts – Let neighbors or local police know if you'll be away.

Starting the year with these simple steps gives you peace of mind and helps keep your home and neighborhood secure.

DAILY LOCK-UP CHECKLIST

Criminals often look for quick, unguarded targets. A simple daily routine can help make sure your home and vehicles are secure and everything is accounted for.

5-Step Daily Home & Vehicle Security Routine

- Lock all doors and windows
- Check gates, garages, and outbuildings
- Activate security systems
- Secure valuables
- Turn on exterior and vehicle lights



NEW YEAR REMINDER: STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

As we start the New Year, Laguna Hills Police Services encourages residents to stay in touch with their Neighborhood Watch group if you are already involved. This is also a great time to host a meeting, refresh safety topics, or request support for a specific concern in your neighborhood.

If you are interested in additional resources, training, or hosting a meeting focused on a special topic, please reach out to Laguna Hills Police Services (Crimeprevention@lagunahillsCA.gov). We are here to support you and your neighbors in keeping our community safe.

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QUICK TIP - VACATION CHECK!

Laguna Hills Police Services offers patrol checks of your home while you're away on vacation. To take advantage of this service:

- Submit the Vacation Patrol Check Form at least one week before your travel date (form available online).
- Email the completed form to Crimeprevention@lagunahillsCA.gov.
- Contact Laguna Hills Police Services with any questions at (949) 707-2641.

This simple step helps keep your home safe and gives you peace of mind while you're away.



COMMUNITY CAMERA REGISTRY

SHARE YOUR SECURITY CAMERA LOCATIONS WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Enhance community safety by partnering with the Orange County Sheriff's Department. By sharing your security camera locations, you can assist deputies in solving crimes and keeping neighborhoods secure. Working together, we can make Orange County safer for everyone. To learn more and get started, visit OCSheriff.gov/Connect.

VALENTINE'S DAY ALERT: WATCH OUT FOR ROMANCE SCAMS

Valentine's Day is a time for connection, but it's also a time when scammers target people online. Romance scammers often build trust through dating apps, social media, or messaging platforms, then ask for money or gift cards, claiming it's for emergencies or special occasions.

Never send gift cards, money, or personal financial information to someone you haven't met in person. Be cautious if someone pressures you, avoids meeting in person, or asks you to keep your interactions secret.

If you suspect a scam, report it to Laguna Hills Police Services and the Federal Trade Commission. Staying informed and vigilant can help you avoid becoming a victim of online scams.

PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFO:

QUICK SAFETY CHECKLIST

- Verify identities
- Never send money, gift cards, or financial info.
- Keep personal details private (address, birthdate, banking info).
- Use strong passwords and enable two-factor authentication.
- Be cautious with links, attachments, and suspicious messages.
- Monitor accounts for unusual activity.
- Trust your gut!
 - pause if something feels off.

NEED DEPUTY ASSISTANCE?

If you require emergency services, please call 911, for nonemergency services please call (949) 770-6011.

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START THE YEAR READY & PREPARED

January is the perfect time for residents to take a few simple steps to prepare for emergencies at home. Winter storms, power outages, and unexpected events can happen without warning, and being prepared helps protect you, your family, and your property.

GRAB AND GO:

ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS FOR EMERGENCIES

In an emergency, you may need to evacuate quickly or access services right away. Having your important documents organized and ready to go can save time & reduce stress. These documents are often required to verify identity, obtain medical care, file insurance claims, or apply for disaster assistance.

PREPAREDNESS TIP

Store copies in a waterproof folder or secure digital location, and keep them in an easy-to-grab spot. Review and update your documents at least once a year.

Being prepared with the right documents can make all the difference when every minute counts.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS TO GATHER:

- Photo ID (driver's license or state ID)
- Passports and birth certificates
- Health insurance cards and medical information
- Prescription lists and pharmacy details
- Insurance policies (home, renters, auto)
- Bank and financial account information
- Property deeds or rental agreements
- Emergency contact list
- Pet records and licenses

BE READY FOR RAINY WEATHER

The last few weeks have brought stormy weather to Laguna Hills as we are in winter season. Heavy rain can lead to flooding, slippery roads, and power outages. Prepare now by clearing drains, securing outdoor items, and keeping an emergency kit on hand. Stay informed through local alerts, and avoid fallen debris and flooded areas.

STAY INFORMED: SIGN UP FOR ALERT OC

Alert OC is Orange County's official emergency notification system. It sends alerts about wildfires, severe weather, evacuations, road closures, and other public safety incidents. You can receive notifications by phone call, text message, or email wherever you are.

WHY IT MATTERS:

Accurate, official information helps you act quickly and stay safe during emergencies. Sign up today to stay informed when it counts!

VISIT WWW.ALERTOC.ORG AND CREATE AN ACCOUNT TO SIGN UP.



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HOT CALL HIGHLIGHT

DECEMBER 15, 2025

Deputies contacted an individual who exited a disabled vehicle on Alicia Parkway, north of Moulton Parkway. The individual was identified through a California driver's license, and a records check revealed the individual was on probation with search and seizure terms related to previous narcotics convictions.

Deputies conducted a search of the vehicle and located baggies containing a white crystalline substance. The individual was arrested and booked into the Orange County Jail on charges related to illegal narcotics possession.



DECEMBER 15, 2025

Happy Holidays from all of us at Laguna Hills Police Services! We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Thank you for your continued support. We're proud to serve our community. Wishing you safety throughout the season and into the New Year.

DECEMBER 31, 2025

Over the holiday weekend, deputies remained proactive and vigilant while patrolling the community. What began as a routine traffic stop for a vehicle code violation resulted in the recovery of a loaded "ghost gun" and marijuana.

Thanks to our deputies' vigilance, a dangerous weapon is now off the streets. As we close out 2025 and head into the new year, we encourage everyone to make safe choices and help us keep Laguna Hills a safe community.

