Date: July 8, 2016
To: Patrick H. West, City Manager
From: Robert G. Luna, Chief of Police
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: REPORT ON GUN VIOLENCE

The purpose of this memorandum is to respond to a May 17, 2016, Long Beach City Council directive to provide a report on gun violence in the City of Long Beach.

Below, please find statistical information to address the request, as well as many of the strategies the Police Department employs to address shootings. The data provided is for the period of January 1 through April 30, for each year noted.

TOTAL SHOOTINGS

- Higher in 2016 when compared to 2015 (102 v. 73)
- Higher than the prior five years’ average (102 v. 76)

GANG RELATED SHOOTINGS

- Higher in 2016 when compared to 2015 (39 v. 28)
- Higher than the prior five years’ average (39 v. 34.4)

NON-GANG RELATED SHOOTINGS

- Higher in 2016 when compared to 2015 (63 v. 45)
- Higher than the prior five years’ average (63 v. 41.6)

TOTAL MURDERS

- Higher in 2016 when compared to 2015 (10 v. 6)
- Lower than the prior five years’ average (10 v. 10.4)

GANG RELATED MURDERS

- Higher in 2016 when compared to 2015 (7 v. 3)
- Higher than the prior five years’ average (7 v. 4.6)

NON-GANG RELATED MURDERS

- Equal when compared to 2015 (3 v. 3)
- Lower than the prior five years’ average (3 v. 5.8)
GUNS SEIZED AS EVIDENCE IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

- Higher in 2016 compared to 2015 – Jan 1 through June 5 (209 v. 164)
- Higher in than the prior five years’ average (209 v. 192)

POLICE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIES TO IMPACT VIOLENT CRIME

- Focused data driven enforcement to include weekly updates from crime analysts to patrol commanders on when and where shootings are occurring, as well as staffing and assignments to coincide with times in which shootings are likely to occur
- Work with partner agencies such as CA DOJ, who assisted with a prohibited possessor operation in March 2016, resulting in the seizure of 23 firearms, nine arrests and nearly 4,000 rounds of ammunition in the hands of prohibited possessors
- Weekly updates from gang detectives to management and patrol officers on intelligence received as to potential or likely motives of gang shootings
- Utilizing overtime to enhance enforcement efforts by the Air Support Unit, Directed Enforcement Teams, Patrol Officers, Impact Motor Officers, and Post Release Community Supervision teams (PRCS), as well as the service and enforcement of gang court orders (gang injunctions)
- Local and regional narcotics enforcement to impact one of the common ways gangs finance their operations
- Two probation officers assigned full time to our department—one of them is assigned to the Gang Enforcement Section and the other to the Post Release Community Supervision team (AB109)
- Partnership with the City Prosecutor’s Office in the “Opt Out” program. This is a means for gang members to leave the gang life by undergoing a process to get removed from a gang court order. The process includes community endorsements and beginning employment or education. The program also provides assistance with free gang tattoo removal
- Registration of gang members pursuant to California Penal Code 186.30
- Focused enforcement in high shooting areas funded on an overtime basis
- Participation in the city’s violence prevention plan, commonly known as “Safe Long Beach”

If you have any questions, please contact me, or my Chief of Staff, Commander Wally Hebeish, at (562) 570-7301.
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cc: Charles Parkin, City Attorney
     Laura L. Doud, City Auditor
     Tom Modica, Assistant City Manager
     Arturo Sanchez, Deputy City Manager
     Rebecca Jimenez, Assistant to the City Manager