



COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION * 925 HARBOR PLAZA * P.O. BOX 570 * LONG BEACH CA 90801

HARBOR CRIME RATE REMAINS LOW Number of Crimes Half a Percent of City Total

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The number of crimes reported in the Long Beach Harbor District -- which includes the 3,000 acres of the Port of Long Beach and represents about 10 percent of all the land in Long Beach -- was only half of 1 percent of the city's total of 34,540 reported crimes in 2002.

"With our added cargo security since Sept. 11, the port remains a very low crime area," said port Executive Director Richard D. Steinke. "The port's Harbor Patrol officers, other law enforcement agencies and our terminal operators are working together and doing a great job in deterring crime in the Harbor District."

Of the few crimes reported within the Harbor District, slightly more than half were property related. The number of all crimes reported in the Harbor District declined 13.3 percent from a year ago to a total of 188 incidents in 2002.

In the crimes-against-property category, there were 100 reported incidents including two reported residential burglaries, 12 commercial burglaries, 18 auto burglaries, 13 grand thefts, 12 petty thefts, 41 auto thefts, and two arsons. The grand theft category, which includes cargo thefts, increased by one over last year's 12 incidents.

"Cargo thefts occur largely outside the Harbor District," said William Ellis, the port's interim director of security.

In the crimes-against-persons category, there were 12 reported incidents including one reported murder,

two robberies and nine assaults. The murder, which may have been committed outside the Harbor District, is under investigation.

The Harbor District is bounded by the Los Angeles River, Anaheim Street, Long Beach's western border and the Long Beach breakwater.

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