

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>