## San Leandro Police Department

# CityDash Crime Map FAQ's

## Where does CityDash crime map data come from?

CityDash Crime Map data comes from service calls (incidents) reported to San Leandro Police and captured in our CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system. This data includes the originating reported incident type, address of reported incident, the date and time the incident was reported, identifying case and/or incident numbers and the disposition of the call.

This data includes case reports written to document criminal activity. When a case report is written, it may include one or more offenses that occurred. For reports containing more than one offense, the system will default to the original incident type as the primary offense. For example, if the case report contains a robbery and an assault, the system will default to original reported activity (either the robbery or the assault). Due the method in reporting data to the FBI, and how data is captured in our system, there will be differences in the crimes reported under the FBI UCR (Universal Crime Reporting) and what is reflected in the CityDash Crime Map.

## What can I search for in the CityDash Crime Map?

You will be able to search for police activity, including reported crimes, based on the type of offense, the location of occurrence, and the date of occurrence -the "What", "Where", and "When" of reports.

- Incident types (Service call): Alarms, Arson, Assault, Burglary, Disturbances, Drug/Alcohol Violations, DUI, Fraud, Homicide, Motor Vehicle Theft, Robbery, Theft/Larceny, Vandalism, Vehicle Break-in/Theft, and Weapon violations. Quality of life issues such as abandoned vehicles and proactive activity are also shown. Offenses other than these may not be released due to confidentiality and/or case sensitivity.
- Address: You can search within the city limits by clicking on the icons shown on the map, or by entering an address which will highlight the location in your search allowing you to search reported incidents around that location. The crime icons are intended to indicate the block in which a crime allegedly occurred, or where SLPD responded to a service call, and does not provide an exact representation of where the incident occurred on the map. This program also provides the ability to search by City Council District, Neighborhood and Zip code. Portions of San Leandro are located within Alameda County Sheriff's Jurisdiction and crime data for those areas will not be shown on this map.
- Dates of Occurrence (Date Range): Date range works best when selecting smaller time frames and/or areas. If you select a large time span the program will only allow a certain amount of records to upload at a time and may take longer to upload.
- **Disposition**: This provides details into how the incident was handled. There may be multiple dispositions for any given incident which is dependent upon what occurred during the service call. For example, if an arrest was made, and a report was written, the system may reflect more than one disposition per service call and/or case.
  - Unit Disposition: Disposition was provided by patrol unit
  - Call Disposition: Disposition was provided by dispatcher
  - Dispositions don't typically get captured by a patrol unit and a dispatcher on one incident. If there was no data captured, then it will show the disposition of "not set". This is normal.

#### How current is the data in the CityDash platform?

Report data is transferred into CityDash once a day from SLPD's records management software. Through this site, you can access information on police service calls and reports, made and entered into our computers as of yesterday, and as far back as the last 6 months. There may be delays in entering police reports. See below for details.

## Why do I get different results if I use CityDash today than when I used it last week?

The Department is constantly receiving police reports for both recent offenses as well as older ones. So, the reports shown for any date can vary, depending on when you query the platform. There are several reasons this happens:

- 1. Delays in *reporting* crimes. Citizens may discover a crime has occurred, but choose not to report it for days, weeks, months, or even years after the crime has occurred. We do our best to encourage reporting crimes as soon as they are discovered.
- 2. Delays in *releasing* reports to the general public due to confidentiality and/or case sensitivity.

As a result of all these delays, it may take a couple of weeks from the time an incident occurs to the time it shows up in CityDash.

#### Why can't I see an incident on my map?

CityDash uses GIS (geographic information system) software. GIS can only map those incidents with addresses it recognizes, or where the location was known to the victim. Thus, if a person's pocket was picked "somewhere by the BART Station", this will not be shown on the map, as there isn't a specific location and an alternative address may be used (such as the Police Department). The result is that several incidents may appear on a report generated by this site but won't show on the map. This includes incidents that occurred at intersections.

#### Why am I seeing incidents that occurred in areas outside of the city limits?

Occasionally our staff responds to incidents that need follow up or require action outside of the city limits. There are also other instances where our staff is asked to assist other agencies outside of our city.

#### Why can't I see incidents the way I heard about them in the media?

Offenses may be shown differently than what was described by the media. This is so because incidents may change in nature following the initial report. Thus, a homicide may appear on this site as a robbery, because when the incident was initially reported the victim was still alive and did not die from injuries suffered during the robbery until several days later.

## I am aware a significant crime occurred, why don't I see it on CityDash?

Reports may be delayed in releasing to the public so as not to compromise an open investigation.

## How can I see the police report for an incident shown on the map?

You may contact the San Leandro Police Department Records Bureau at 510-577-3217 for procedures on obtaining a case report or through a California Public Records Request. Link to form: https://www.sanleandro.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=31222

#### Where can I access the raw data?

You can find a link to download the raw data by looking at the top right portion of the screen. Under "Dataset: City PD Service Calls" you will find a link called "Access Raw Data". This can also be found at https://www.sanleandro.org/depts/pd/crime\_stats/dd.asp

## Why is the data different that what is reported under the FBI UCR Crime Statistics?

Crimes reported under the FBI UCR (Universal Crime Reporting) are subject to strict reporting guidelines and must meet standardized definitions of crimes. These crimes include: Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Robbery, Burglary, Larceny, Auto Theft and Arson.

These crimes are also subject to a hierarchy-based system of reporting which means that in instances where multiple crimes were committed during an event that only the most serious offense will be reported to the FBI under UCR and all other offenses are ignored for crime reporting purposes. This leads to there being differences between UCR Crime Statistics and the data shown on the CityDash platform.

More information regarding FBI UCR reporting can be found here:

https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr https://ucrdatatool.gov/offenses.cfm