

**A.C.T.S. Security Meeting
Meeting Notes
April 28, 2018**

Number of attendees: ~85

Purpose of meeting:

At the request of the new Todos Santos Police Comandantes, A.C.T.S. hosted a community meeting for the State and Local police to share recent police department results, new Security policies and procedures, and to answer questions.

The following Officials presented information and answered security-related questions:

- Former President of ACTS and Meeting translator – Gloria Santoyo Ruenitz
- Delegado Municipal de Todos Santos – Jesús Beltrán Guluarte
- Ministerial Office Attorney (AMPFC Sede Todos Santos) – Maria Del La Cruz Ibarra
- Comandante of Ministerial Police – Roberto Aviles
- Director de Proximidad Social y Seguridad – Jesus Manuel Guzman Flores
- Comandante Operativo Delegacional – Luis Enrique Navarro Cordoba
- Comandante de Prevencion del Delito – Roberto Pacheco Pettit
- Comandante Municipal de la Delegación de Todos Santos – Francisco Encarnacion
- Policia Tercero (Policía Turística, assisted in Translation) – Antonio Agundez
- Comandante from the Marines Post in Todos Santos

Police department results for January-March 2018:

- The Police officials presented the results of the joint forces of Local, State, Army/Navy and Federal Police efforts focused in Todos Santos and Pescadero. The presentation included the following:
 - The number of calls received via 911 and directly to the department.
 - Number of arrests, and a breakout of the reasons for arrest such as robbery, car theft, fighting, drug sales, drunk driving, etc.
 - Mugshots of arrested persons, and reasons for their arrest. Note, their eyes are covered by a black bar as privacy protection, because in Mexico you are innocent until proven guilty.

Vecinos Vigilantes Neighborhood Watch program:

- The Police officials are in full support of the Vecinos Vigilantes neighborhood watch program, as these groups have helped the police to make arrests and reduce crime.
- To join the Vecinos Vigilantes group for your neighborhood, visit the ACTS Baja website for more information: www.actsbaja.org
- Comandante de Prevencion de Delito (Crime Prevention), Roberto Pacheco Pettit, is available to meet with your Neighborhood Watch group to provide tips on how to run it effectively.
- As a reminder, if you see someone or something odd in your neighborhood, notify the police to help prevent a crime from occurring. If you call, note that it is a non-emergency, and they will come to check it out.

Calling the Police and Reporting a Crime:

The following is a summary of new policies/procedures, and answers to questions:

How to call the police:

- The Police can now be contacted by four different ways:
 1. Dial 911 (this works universally from any phone, anywhere). This number is answered in La Paz 24/7. Then message is sent to Police here locally.
 2. Dial the local Police number 612-145-1052. This is a landline which is reportedly answered 24/7.

3. Use What's App to put out a call for help. ***In Spanish only.***
 - This requires a smart phone, which allows your location to be pinpointed by the responders via GPS.
 - This group, although for emergencies, represents Community. You will see many posts every day including greetings and introductions of who is on duty.
 - If you do not speak Spanish, use Google Translate to follow the posts.
 - Do not use English on this Whats App group, as most, if not all of the Police do not speak English.
 - Access is limited to those who have either been recommended by a current user or a Vecinos Vigilantes neighborhood watch captain. Visit the ACTS Baja website for more information: www.actsbaja.org
 4. Call the Delegado Carlos Jesús Beltrán Guluarte (Chuy) Beltran's personal cell in case of a true emergency 612-161-3590
- Be prepared.
 - If you do not speak Spanish, download the Spanish Emergency Contact scripts from the ACTS Baja website that help describe the reason you need Police: www.actsbaja.org
 - Learn how to describe the location of your home in Spanish with as simple directions as possible. Also, reference your location using the quadrant coordinates from the new Todos Santos map, to be posted to the ACTS Baja website soon (Expected Summer 2018).

How to report a crime:

- First, to report a crime, call any of the police numbers noted above to file an initial police report.
 - NEW: You can file a report with any Federal, State or Local police in town or by calling 911.
 - NEW: You do not have to be the victim of the crime to file the initial report. A witness or founder of a crime can file the initial report.
- The police will arrive at the scene to create a report and will give you a copy.
 - In the event of a home burglary, be sure to provide proof of home ownership and details of the items that were stolen at this time, such as pictures, serial numbers, descriptions and receipts.
 - If you think you know who might be responsible for the crime, share this with the police officer writing the report. Keep in mind, the officials must remain neutral in their investigation as evidence is collected, and the accused are innocent until proven guilty.
- The copy of the report must then be submitted to the Ministerial Police Office in Todos Santos, by the victim of the crime (not the witness or founder). This is called a Denuncia (it is not called a Demanda).
 - NEW: If the victim has a Power of Attorney, the lawyer can file the report on the victim's behalf.
- The Ministerial Police will submit the Denuncia and results of their investigation to the judge.
- A government official (Asesor Jurídico) can be assigned, free of charge, to help you track where your file is in the process. Once your file moves from Todos Santos to La Paz to continue proceedings the whole process will continue in La Paz. Todos Santos is part of the Municipality of La Paz.
- The time to process a file varies – it can take a few months or longer. The more information provided up front, the faster your file will move through the system.
- In the case of a robbery, if the items are found, they will be kept at the Procuraduría de Justicia, in La Paz until such time as the case is closed and the perpetrator has been found and charged. Then the items will be returned to the victim/owner.

Answers to questions asked during the meeting:

- Q: Where can I get the Emergency Contact scripts?
A: PDFs of Emergency Contact scripts for calling the police, are posted on the A.C.T.S. Website www.actsbaja.org
- Q: Where can I get the new map of Todos Santos?
A: A PDF of the new map of Todos Santos, with location reference quadrants, will be added to the A.C.T.S. Website www.actsbaja.org as soon as they are available, likely Summer 2018.
- Q: What happens if I am the victim of a crime, but I do not file the Denuncia in Todos Santos?
A: If you do not file your Denuncia with the Ministerial Police Office in Todos Santos, it's as if the crime didn't happen. You won't receive your stolen property if it gets found.
- Q: I filed a Denuncia awhile ago, but I do not know the status of my file, or whether they have found any of my stolen property. Is there a lost and found for items that haven't been connected to a Denuncia?

A: If you have filed a Denuncia in the past, but haven't received an update on where your file is in the process, go to the office where the report was filed to get more information. Or ask your Judicial Adviser to find out for you.

- Q: If I injure or kill a person who has entered my home to rob me, what are the laws or what are my rights?

A: It will depend on each incident. You have a right to defend your property and your safety. That said, if the perp has a knife but you use a gun, there will need to be a full investigation and you will both need lawyers. The courts will need to decide. If a dog attacks a home invader, you'll need to file a Denuncia, and investigators need to find proof of the situation, and then the courts will decide.

- Q: Will there be a Police substation in other locations such as Las Tunas or Elias Calles?

- A: This is under consideration every 2 months during the Community Needs assessment and budget meeting. If resources are not available, the police will apply the successful Bando Mixto approach, which is the creation of a short-term task force, when and where needed.

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