

## School Shootings

Dear Parents and Community Members,

As many of you already know, an evil and criminal act occurred Friday, December 14 at an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut. In the aftermath of this felonious act, many may wonder what the Police Department has done to prepare for and minimize the likelihood of such wanton destruction finding its way to San Marino. Please rest assured, the Department regularly and diligently trains its officers to handle "active-shooter" situations, like the one that transpired today in Connecticut. In fact, the Department has worked closely with the school district to establish protocols and procedures for responding to active-shooter incidents and other criminal acts concerning mass violence, such as bomb threats. In cooperation with the district, the Department has conducted full-scale active-shooter response exercises at the high school and has made arrangements for rapid response **deployments at all district school sites. In addition to ensuring first responders are prepared**, the Police Department provides each school with a School Liaison Officer. All officers so assigned have been instructed to maintain close ties with school staff and student body, and visit their respective schools regularly. I want to make certain that the community understands that the Police Department considers school safety one of its utmost priorities. In response to today's events, the Department will be increasing its presence at the school campuses and will continue to work closely with the San Marino School District to ensure the safety of your children and this community.

Timothy M. Harrigan  
Chief of Police