ABOUT US

In January 1990, the Los Angeles, County Sheriff's Department started a new cargo theft investigative unit named Cargo CATs, the Cargo Criminal Apprehension Team. Cargo CATs is assigned to the Major Crimes Bureau of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Detective Division.

The pro-active team approach the Sheriff's Department has taken in the past, to impact the transient career criminal, is the same approach that is now being applied to the ever increasing cargo theft problem throughout Los Angeles County and Southern California. The success demonstrated by Cargo CATs is proof of our proficiency in the field. Since Cargo CATs began, it has recovered over 485 million in stolen property and made 1486 arrests, through August 2018.



CONTACTS

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CARGO THEFT (CARGO CRIMINAL APPREHENSION TEAM)

Information and Resources



REPORTING CARGO THEFT

First, always report the crime to the law enforcement agency which has jurisdiction. Follow this with the submission of a Cargo CATs Loss Form.

Cargo CATs is one of two cargo theft investigative units in the greater Los Angeles area. The Port of Los Angeles is home to the California Highway Patrol - "Cargo Theft Interdiction Program" – CTIP.

CargoNet and CTIP both operate databases supported by information supplied in the LASD and CHP agency's Loss Forms. It is important to file a loss report with both Cargo CATs and CTIP to ensure maximum coverage and therefore receive the maximum benefit.

Remember to supply the name and up-to-date contact information for your representative. This person will be the liaison between law enforcement and your company in the event your property and/or vehicles are recovered.



LOSS FORM

The Cargo CATs "Loss Form" is used as a statistical, informational and investigative tool. The information provided on the "Loss Form" is shared with both CargoNet and CTIP. This information is used by the Cargo CATs detail, other Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department investigative units, and distributed to Law Enforcement agencies throughout the country. When filling out the form, please be accurate and complete. The information supplied will aid in the recovery of your property. This information is considered confidential and for law enforcement use only.

Submission of the Loss Form is not a substitute for reporting the crime to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction.

You can access the form on our website **LASD.org/CargoTheft/**. You may use the PDF format which opens a new browser window. Simply print the PDF form and fax it to us at (323) 415-4541, or you can send it to us via email at **mcbcargocats@lasd.org**.

For more information, visit please visit our website at LASD.org/CargoTheft/

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Increase arrest, prosecution and conviction of cargo thieves and their receivers. Establish a close working relationship with the cargo, transportation, warehousing, and insurance industries.
- Recover and return stolen cargo to the owners.
- Reduce cargo theft property crimes.
- Reduce court costs and time by gathering quality evidence to ensure guilty pleas.
- Develop intelligence information about the stolen cargo redistribution system.
- Act as a resource for cargo theft prevention information.
- Establish a statistical reporting system to accurately reflect the cargo theft problem.
- Enhance coordination and cooperation among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, as well as that between prosecutors, law enforcement, and victims.
- Support the enactment of mandatory cargo theft reporting laws, along with development of a statewide cargo theft database.