

## HOW TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch does not require frequent meetings, nor does it ask anyone to take personal risks

Nothing will keep you from being the victim of a crime 100% of the time, however practicing these crime prevention habits will lessen your odds.

- LOCK THE DOORS AND WINDOWS OF YOUR RESIDENCE WHEN YOU LEAVE; EVEN IF YOU ARE ONLY GOING TO BE GONE FOR A FEW MINUTES, AND ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE IN YOUR BACK YARD.
- ➤ LOCK YOUR VEHICLE; EVEN IF IT IS PARKED IN YOUR DRIVEWAY, IN FRONT OF YOUR RESIDENCE, OR IN YOUR GARAGE. MAKE SURE TO KEEP YOUR GARAGE LOCKED.
- NEVER LEAVE ITEMS OF VALUE (PURSES, WALLETS, iPHONES, CAMERAS, LAPTOPS, ETC) INSIDE YOUR VEHICLE.
- > GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS & WHAT VEHICLES THEY DRIVE
  - KNOW WHO BELONGS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND WHO DOESN'T
- ➢ BE THE EYES/EARS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT & REPORT TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE:
  - ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
  - ANY SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
  - ANY CRIMES THAT OCCUR: (Burglaries to your residence, vehicle break-in's, vandalisms, etc.)
- ➢ IF YOU CAN OBTAIN A LICENSE PLATE NUMBER OF ANY SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, PLEASE DO. BUT DO NOT PUT YOURSELF IN JEOPARDY TO DO SO.
- ➤ DIAL 9-1-1 IN AN EMERGENCY
  - TO REPORT A CRIME IN PROGRESS OR ANYTIME LIFE OR PROPERTY ARE THREATENED
  - IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY

- ➤ USE THE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR <u>PAST TENSE SITUATIONS</u> THAT DO NOT REQUIRE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE: 647-7911
- ▶ IF YOU ARRIVE HOME TO FIND YOUR RESIDENCE BURGLARIZED, STOP.
  DO NOT GO INSIDE. IMMEDIATELY GO TO A NEIGHBOR'S RESIDENCE AND DIAL 9-1-1. OR CALL 9-1-1 FROM YOUR CELL PHONE,
  BUT NEVER STAY IN THE RESIDENCE. THE BURGLAR(S) MAY STILL BE INSIDE.
- KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR NEIGHBOR'S RESIDENCE WHILE THEY'RE ON VACATION
- > ASK A TRUSTED NEIGHBOR TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR RESIDENCE/PROPERTY WHEN YOU ARE ON VACATION
- > DO NOT STOP DELIVERY OF YOUR PAPER OR MAIL. THIS ALERTS BURGLARS YOU ARE NOT HOME. ASK A TRUSTED NEIGHBOR TO PICK IT UP FOR YOU.
- DO NOT ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PLANS ON FACEBOOK OR OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA/NETWORKING SITES. MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDREN DO NOT EITHER.
- > IF YOU HAVE A BURGLAR ALARM; USE IT ANYTIME YOU LEAVE YOUR RESIDENCE, EVEN IF YOU WILL ONLY BE AWAY FOR A SHORT TIME.
- > HELP PREVENT FALSE BURGLAR ALARM ACTIVATIONS
- ➤ USE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP MEETINGS TO LEARN OTHER VITAL INFORMATION: (CPR, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR EARTHQUAKES/FIRES/FLOODING, ETC.)
- > YOU CAN HAVE AN EFFECTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (N/W) WITH OR WITHOUT N/W SIGNS. IT JUST TAKES NEIGHBORS TO CALL THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE WHEN THEY SEE SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.
- MAKE SURE YOUR LIGHTING AND LANDSCAPING DON'T INVITE BURGLARS
  - MOTION LIGHTS ARE A GOOD DETERRENT.
  - MAKE SURE BUSHES/SHRUBS DON'T GIVE BURGLARS A PLACE TO HIDE.
- OPERATION ID-USE AN ENGRAVING TOOL TO MARK VALUABLE ITEMS WITH YOUR CADRIVERS LICENSE #