



# The Watchdog

Fresno's Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

May 2009

Presented by the FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
2323 Mariposa Street, Fresno CA 93721

CHIEF JERRY DYER  
[www.fresno.gov/police](http://www.fresno.gov/police)

## Contact Numbers

### Report Crime:

Police Emergency.....9-1-1  
Non-Emergency.....621-7000  
Crime Stoppers.....498-STOP  
Graffiti Hotline.....621-TAGS

### Policing Districts:

Southwest District...621-6100  
Central District.....621-6200  
Southeast District...621-6300  
Northeast District...621-6400  
Northwest District...621-6500

### Crime Prevention:

If you need information about securing your home and property, personal safety, starting a Neighborhood Watch, Operation Identification, etc... please contact your district Crime Prevention Officer.

Southwest-Michele Shockley  
.....621-6126  
Central-Tony Casarez  
.....621-6226  
Southeast-Sandi Frost  
.....621-6330  
Northeast-Ying Vang  
.....621-6410  
Northwest-Linda Sigler  
.....621-6537

### Report Neighborhood Problem:

For neighborhood concerns such as abandoned vehicles in yard or street, burned out street lights, standing water, tall weeds, City of Fresno owned trees in need of pruning, damaged/missing street signs, etc...contact the City of Fresno One Call Center at.....621-2489

## Crime Prevention Tip of the Month



### Is your answering machine giving away too much information?

Making statements such as "I'm not home right now" or "We're off having fun in Hawaii" can give someone the impression that your home is unoccupied. Whereas a message like "We can't come to the phone right now..." or "Sorry we missed your call..." may leave them wondering. Also, if you live alone it is better to say "We" instead of "I" when you create your message. This gives the impression that you are not alone.

## Premier Edition of "The Watchdog"

Welcome to the Fresno Police Department's newest crime fighting tool. This letter will be sent to all Neighborhood Watch members in the City of Fresno. Although traditional, postal mailings will still be available upon request, the Crime Prevention Unit is encouraging as many members as possible to receive the newsletter via email. The newsletter will also be posted online at the Fresno Police Department's website, [www.fresno.gov/police](http://www.fresno.gov/police). The goal of The Watchdog is to provide timely news and tips related to crime prevention. In addition, we will post crime statistics, upcoming events and meetings, contact numbers, a message from The Chief, and more. The Fresno Police Department greatly appreciates everything that our Neighborhood Watch groups do. We recognize that we could not be effective as a law enforcement agency, without your ongoing assistance and support. Our hope is that this publication will help you in your efforts to reduce crime in our city.



## Upcoming meetings and community events...

### Southwest District:

\*Southwest Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting  
When-May 21st, 6:00pm  
Where-Carver Academy NRC  
2463 Martin Luther King,Rm 27  
Contact: Michele Shockley 621-6126

\*Block Party hosted by Carter Memorial Church  
When-May 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm  
Where-2385 S. Fairview  
Contact: Anne Gaston 621-6145

\*Block Party hosted by Westside Church of God  
When-May 23th, 10am-2pm  
Where-1425 W. California  
Contact: Anne Gaston 621-6145

\*Block Party/Job Fair hosted by Westcare  
When-May 29th, 10am-2pm  
Where-2772 Martin Luther King  
Contact: Anne Gaston 621-6145

### Central District:

\*Central Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting  
When-May 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm  
Where-Ted C. Wills Center  
770 N. San Pablo  
Contact: Tony Casarez 621-6126

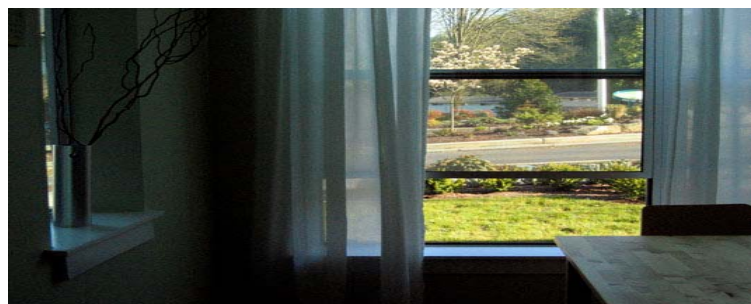
\*Block Party hosted by Fresno Police Dept-Central District  
When-May 8<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm  
Where-Lafayette Park  
1516 E. Princeton  
Contact: Tony Casarez 621-6126

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## Window of Opportunity

Now that warm, spring weather has arrived many of you want to air out your homes, by leaving windows open. For this reason, it is prudent to remind everyone about the importance of properly securing the windows on your home, and vehicle. Leaving your windows open can invite in more than just fresh air. Windows are a criminal's favorite target.

- 1) Remember, a criminal always looks for the easiest target. Climbing through an open window provides a quick and quiet way to enter your home, or vehicle.
- 2) Do not think that a screen over your window will deter a burglar. Screens are easily cut, or removed from the window frame.
- 3) If you must leave a window open for ventilation, only open it a few inches. Be sure that the window is secured in that position, so someone can't slide it all the way open. You can secure your window with a locking pin, a screw on window slide stop, or a wooden dowel that is laid in the frame of the window, or sliding glass door. Go to your local hardware store, and ask about the options for locking the type of windows you have on your home.
- 4) Do not allow criminals to window shop. Keep valuables out of site by using blinds or curtains, especially on front facing windows. In vehicles, reduce temptation by removing valuables whenever you get out of your vehicle. If you must leave an item of value in your vehicle, hide it in your trunk, glove box, or under your seat.
- 5) Use the same safety precautions whether you are home, or away from home. Burglars have been known to break into homes while the occupants are sleeping, or even working out in their yard.



## Community meetings and events cont...

### Southeast District:

\*Southeast Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting  
 When-May 21<sup>st</sup>, 6pm  
 Where-Butler Church  
 4884 E. Butler  
 Contact: Sandi Frost 621-6330

### Northeast District:

\*Northeast Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting  
 When-May 27<sup>th</sup>, 6pm  
 Where-NE Police Substation  
 1450 E. Teague  
 Contact: Ying Vang 621-6410

### Northwest District:

\*Northwest Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting  
 When-May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm  
 Where-3789 N. Hughes  
 Contact: Linda Sigler 621-6537

## Message from the Chief



Welcome to the first edition of "The Watchdog". I would like to thank Michele Shockley for the extra work, creativity and coordination involved in this project.

As you all know, community trust is absolutely necessary for a police department to optimally interact with the citizens it serves. When this trust is firmly established, people have confidence that department members are doing the "right thing" when proactively enforcing laws, arresting lawbreakers and maintaining order. My hope is that through this newsletter, citizens will become more informed on neighborhood issues and essential trust is strengthened.

## Crime Statistics within the City of Fresno March 20, 2009-April 17, 2009

Part One Crimes	Southwest District	Central District	Southeast District	Northeast District	Northwest District	City Totals
Homicide	0	0	0	0	2	2
Robbery	18	10	14	7	13	62
Rape	1	1	2	1	0	5
Aggravated Assault	42	25	40	31	17	155
Burglary	45	37	68	55	68	273
Larceny	124	117	146	350	318	889
Vehicle Burglary	33	37	36	130	152	388
Vehicle Theft	42	55	56	64	62	279



*Fresno Police Dept/SW  
Crime Prevention Unit  
1211 Fresno St.  
Fresno, CA 93706*



Neighborhood Watch member's name  
Street Address  
City, State Zip Code