



The Watchdog

Fresno's Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

October is National Crime Prevention Month

October 2009

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

CHIEF JERRY DYER
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, etc... please contact your district Crime Prevention Officer.

Southwest-Michele Shockley
Ph: 621-6126 Email:
Michele.Shockley@fresno.gov

Central-Tony Casarez
Ph: 621-6226 Email:
Antonio.Casarez@fresno.gov

Southeast-Sandi Frost
Ph: 621-6330 Email:
Sandi.Frost@fresno.gov

Northeast-Ying Vang
Ph: 621-6410 Email:
Ying.Vang@fresno.gov

Northwest-Linda Sigler
Ph: 621-6537 Email:
Linda.Sigler@fresno.gov

For assistance with neighborhood problems that are not crime related please call the City of Fresno One Call Center.....621-2489

Crime Prevention Tip of the Month



BEWARE OF GHOST!



Most likely, no one would believe you if you posted a "Beware of Ghost" sign on your home. Other types of signs, however, DO make criminals think twice about entering your yard or home. Posting no trespassing, beware of dog, or alarm company signs are proven deterrents to crime. And let's not forget about NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH signs! Neighborhood Watch window decals, along with signs posted throughout your neighborhood, let criminals know that the people in your neighborhood look out for each other, and don't tolerate crime!

Crime Prevention Month

In honor of Crime Prevention Month, the Fresno Police Department has decided to expand The Watchdog. New segments will include The Briefing Room (an inside look at the personnel, policies, and procedures of the Fresno Police Department), Spotlight on Crime (current crime trends), plus feature articles by Crime Free Multi-Housing coordinator Paula Chute, and Elder Abuse Prevention specialist, Dennice McAlister.

Here are some suggestions on how YOU can celebrate Crime Prevention Month:

- 1) Has it been a while since you had a Neighborhood Watch meeting on your block? Plan a meeting for October! There may be new people in your neighborhood who don't know about Neighborhood Watch.
- 2) Plan a neighborhood clean-up. When you don't tolerate blight it sends a message that you have pride in your community, and won't turn a blind eye to crime either.
- 3) Do a home safety inspection to make your home a harder target for criminals. For a home safety checklist go to: www.usaonwatch.org/assets/publications/HomeSecurity.pdf . If you need assistance inspecting your home contact your district crime prevention officer.



Upcoming events and community meetings

Southwest District:

*Southwest Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting
 When: October 15th, 6:00pm
 Where: Carver School NRC
 2463 Martin Luther King ,Rm 27
 Contact-Michele Shockley 621-6126

*Block Party hosted by The Way Ministries & BBNBL(Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life)
 When: October 17th, 10am-2pm
 Where: 245 "U" St.
 Contact-Rev. Henry Oputa 250-6810

*Block Party hosted by Mt Pleasant Baptist Church & BBNBL
 When: October 31, 10-2:00
 Where: 207 E. San Joaquin
 Contact:Johnetta Carter 917-7619

Central District:

* "Pride in Your Neighborhood" community clean up-sponsored by Council President Cynthia Sterling's office, Caltrans and Planned Parenthood Mar Monte
 Where-Meet at the vacant lot across from 636 N. Van Ness
 When-October 3rd, 8-11:00am
 Contact: Pedro Elias 441-2739

*SAVE THE DATE
 Central Neighborhood Watch Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner
 Where-Ted C. Wills Community Ctr
 770 N. San Pablo
 When-November 10th, 7-9pm
 Contact: David Hamlin 227-1898

Southeast District:

*Home Depot Safety Fair
 Where-4864 E. Kings Canyon
 When-October 3rd, 9:30am-12:00pm

*Southeast Neighborhood Watch
 When-October 15th, 6pm
 Where-Butler Church
 4884 E. Butler
 Contact: Sandi Frost 621-6330

PREPARED TO BE SCARED

Everyone can have a safe and happy Halloween by taking a little extra time to prepare their children, themselves, and their home for the festivities.



CHILDREN

*Costumes are safest when they are light or bright colored, short (to avoid a tripping hazard), and flame-retardant. In addition, using face-paint instead of a mask increases a child's ability to see their surroundings.

*Attach reflector strips to costumes, and have them carry glow sticks or flashlights.

*Young children should ALWAYS be accompanied by an adult when trick-or-treating. Older children should go in groups.

*Review the trick-or-treating route in advance, and set a time when your kids should be home.

*Teach your children they are NEVER to enter strange homes or cars.

*Remind kids to wait until they get home before they eat any of their treats. Giving your kids a good meal before they trick-or-treat can help them follow this rule.

Adults

*Clear your yard and sidewalk of any obstacles that may be hard to see in the dark, lest someone go bump in the night.

*Keep your house well lighted, particularly your walkways and porch area.

*Use artificial LED candles when decorating, to avoid creating a fire hazard.

*Organize Neighborhood Watch members to haunt (patrol) your community.

*Report any suspicious activity to your police department.



Upcoming events and community meetings cont...

Northeast District:

*6th Annual Child Safety Day

The City is partnering with Pacific Service Credit Union to provide this FREE event. Parents can bring their children and receive the following FREE services:

- Free 10-digit fingerprint profile
- Free high-resolution, full-color photograph of your child
- Free child safety journal
- Free home DNA kit with instructions

Child safety tips, fire safety, First aid, and nutrition information will be provided by various city and county agencies.

Where-Pacific Service Credit Union
102 E. Nees (next to Claim Jumper)
When-Saturday, Oct. 3, 10am-2pm
Contact: Ben Kmetz 925-296-6203

Message from the Chief



As the Chief, I recognize the importance of having a clear and concise vision and mission statement. They serve as an organizational compass for all of the members of our agency, both civilian and sworn. Sometimes we can all get caught up in the details of our jobs and lose focus on the importance of what we do. They are only six words: Honesty, Compassion, Respect, Safety, Service and Trust. Yet they encompass all that a police agency should strive for. The first three: Honesty, Compassion and Respect, are our Vision. They not only exemplify how we treat the community but how we all want to be treated. The last three: Safety, Service and Trust, are our mission. They are what we strive to provide our community every day. Our new Vision and Mission Statements embody those things that we are dedicating ourselves to every day. Do we know where we are headed? Yes, in six words.

SANTA'S VILLAGE



This year, as in the past seven years, Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life (a collaborative involving the Southwest Policing District, Neighborhood Watch, many churches, non-profit organizations, and other service providers) will bring SANTA'S VILLAGE back to Southwest Fresno. This event provides FREE pictures with Santa, food, hot chocolate, candy canes and presents from Santa, plus free clothing to children in need. In order to insure that the event is a success, we are asking for donations of new or lightly used children's WINTER CLOTHING , along with new or lightly used TOYS.

Please bring all donations to the Southwest Policing District, located at 1211 Fresno St. For more information please call Audrey at 621-6100.



The Briefing Room

The Fresno Police Department has a new vision and mission statement which reads as follows:

Vision

To serve our community with honesty, compassion and respect.

Mission

The mission of the Fresno Police Department is to enhance safety, service, and trust with our community.

! Keep our community safe by preventing citizens from becoming victims of crime or from being injured in traffic collisions. This is our highest priority.

! Provide excellent service to the numerous requests we receive from the community. Our principal duty is to serve.

! Maintain the trust of our community. This trust provides every department member with the foundation required to carry out our duties. Without trust we simply do not have the authority to serve our public.

The phrase "with our community" is included to reflect our desire to work side by side, in partnership with our community as we collectively fulfill our mission.

Spotlight on Crime

New Crime Trend



Craig's List Capers

Over the years, thieves have targeted many different auto parts including tires, rims, license plates, stereos, and more. A new type of crime has emerged, however, over the last several months. Truck tailgates have now become a favorite of some thieves in the Fresno area. These tailgates can cost around \$1,000 to replace! If your tailgate has a locking device, please remember to use it. If not, consider purchasing and installing an after market locking kit. If you can't do either of these things, back your truck up to a wall or garage, so that the tailgate can't be lowered. Better yet, clean out your garage and park your vehicle inside to remove temptation altogether.

Please be very cautious when buying or selling anything on Craig's list, or any other internet site that allows you to post free ads. Many people have been victimized when they agree to meet a potential buyer, or seller, from one of these sites. In Fresno, there was a recent series of robberies where items such as iPhones, or other electronic devices were offered for sale on Craig's List. The buyers ended up being robbed when they arrived at the meeting place. In other cities, sexual assaults, even murders, have occurred during these arranged meetings. If you do use Craig's List, never agree to meet anyone in a private setting, and don't go alone.

Crime Statistics within the City of Fresno August 27, 2009-September 24, 2009

Part One Crimes	Southwest District	Central District	Southeast District	Northeast District	Northwest District	City Totals
Homicide	0	1	0	0	0	1
Robbery	19	14	11	8	15	67
Rape	1	1	2	0	0	4
Aggravated Assault	38	25	31	17	23	134
Burglary	50	71	51	72	67	311
Larceny	114	105	100	219	185	723
Vehicle Burglary	18	15	23	43	56	155
Vehicle Theft	37	47	42	54	37	217

