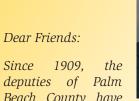
#### How To Report An Incident

- For emergencies call 9-1-1.
- For non emergencies call (561)-688-3400
- Give your name and address.
- Explain what happened.
- Briefly describe the suspect: sex, race, approximate age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, any distinctive characteristics such as a beard, mustache, scar, tattoo etc.
- Describe the vehicle if one was involved: make, model, color, year, license tag, any special features.





Beach County have

provided a safe environment for thousands of people who live, work and visit Palm Beach County. The Sheriff's Office is committed to improving awareness, and sharing the fundamentals of crime prevention in order to ensure our *community is safe and secure.* 

The goal of crime prevention is to reduce the risk of becoming a victim. In order to accomplish this effectively, it is important to remove opportunities for a criminal to take advantage of you and your property. You are attempting to prevent either victimization or criminalization by presenting an unattractive target to the criminal. This can be as complex as installing a high tech alarm system and lighting to something as simple as locking your doors.

*Crime prevention is using instinct, common* sense, and taking action to eliminate or greatly reduce the criminal's opportunity. We all have a personal part to play regarding crime prevention. A large share of the responsibility of reducing criminal opportunity lies with you.

Thank you for working with us to make Palm Beach County a safer place for all its citizens.

Sincerely,

Ric Bradshaw, Sheriff Palm Beach County

#### THE PALM BEACH COUNTY **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

For More Information Contact...

11498 Okeechobee Blvd.

□ COMMUNITY SERVICES □ DISTRICT 9

3228 Gun Club Road

	West Palm Beach, FL 33406 (561) 688-3805		Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 (561) 790-5180
	DISTRICT 1 3228 Gun Club Road West Palm Beach, FL 33406 (561) 688-3600		DISTRICT 10 700 - 6th Street Lake Park, FL 33403 (561) 881-3326
	DISTRICT 2 1755 E. Tiffany Drive Mangonia Park, FL 33407 (561) 848-2513		DISTRICT 11 335 S.W. 2nd Avenue South Bay, FL 33493 (561) 996-6511
	DISTRICT 3 8130 Jog Road West Palm Beach, FL 33412 (561) 776-2000		DISTRICT 12 115 E. Main Street Pahokee, FL 33476 (561) 924-3565
	DISTRICT 4 345 S. Congress Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33445 (561) 274-1075		DISTRICT 13 1224 S.W. Avenue E Place Belle Glade, FL 33430 (561) 996-7270
	DISTRICT 5 38840 State Road 80 Belle Glade, FL 33430 (561) 996-1670		DISTRICT 14 120 North G Street Lake Worth, FL 33460 (561) 586-1611
	DISTRICT 6 7894 S. Jog Road Lake Worth, FL 33467 (561) 357-7000		DISTRICT 15 200 Civic Center Way, Ste. 300 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 (561) 784-1302
	DISTRICT 7 17901 US Highway 441 Boca Raton, FL 33498 (561) 558-2700 DISTRICT 8 12794 Forest Hill Blvd. Suite 14A Wellington, FL 33414 (561) 688-5447		TRAFFIC DIVISION 2300 N. Jog Road Suite 1W25 West Palm Beach, FL 33411 (561) 681-4500
PBSO #0398 Rev. 08/10			



## **NEIGHBORHOOD** WATCH **INFORMATION**



### Citizens Working Together For A Safer Neighborhood

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Ric L. Bradshaw, Sheriff



# What is Neighborhood Watch?

Citizens participation is one of the most effective tools against crime because the job of stopping Burglary, Larceny or Criminal Activity is impossible for the Sheriff's Office to accomplish alone.

Neighborhood Watch is a network of neighbors trained by crime prevention officers in home security, recognition and identification of suspicious persons and/or activity.

Neighborhood Watch groups provide a way for good neighbors to help one another by keeping an eye on each others home and property. An email network is set up to enable neighbors to keep each other informed of any activity occurring in their neighborhood.

Neighborhood Watch is an observe and report type of program. Neighborhood Watch members are encouraged <u>**not**</u> to stop and question people, but to observe and report their observations to the Sheriff's Office and a trained officer will respond and investigate the incident.

#### Why Neighborhood Watch

It works. In communities that have an active Neighborhood Watch there is a decrease in burglaries and related offenses where members report incidents to the Sheriff's Office.

In today's society, many families have two working parents and have children involved in many activities that keep them away from home. It's important for us to know our neighbors to prevent the homes in our neighborhoods from being a prime target while its residents are at work or involved in children's activities.

Neighborhood Watch brings a community together and serves as a starting point for efforts that address other community concerns.

A criminals job gets a lot tougher in a neighborhood where people are watching out for each other

#### Getting Started

- Must have a motivated person within your community who is willing to take the lead as the primary contact person for the community
- Invite the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit to assist with starting your watch group
- Select a date, place and time for an initial meeting about Neighborhood Watch
- · Post meeting and/or distribute to residents

#### What Law Enforcement will do for you:

- Train members in home safety, personal safety and reporting skills
- Brief members on crime statistics and trends in the community
- Provide (2) Crime Watch signs for your community
- Provide safety information and safety tips via email to distribute to members

#### Community Involvement

Any resident of the community can join - young, old, single, married, renters and homeowners. Businesses can be an important part of Neighborhood Watch as well - they can keep a

close watch on neighbors as they come and go.

WARNING

COMMUNITY

**PROTECTED BY** 

PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# Major Components of Neighborhood Watch

- **Community Meetings.** Meetings are recommended to be set up on a regular basis such as monthly, quarterly, or bi-annually.
- **Citizens' Participation.** Citizens that walk or drive through the community that will alert the Sheriff's Office to crime and to suspicious activities are important.
- **Special Events.** These are important to keep the program going and growing. Host talks that focus on current issues such as crime in the area, crime in schools, teenage alcohol and drug abuse, or domestic violence. Sponsor a block party, holiday gathering, community picnic, or sponsor volleyball, softball games or golf tournaments that will provide neighbors a chance to get to know each other.

#### **Responsibilities As A** Neighborhood Watch Member

- Be alert!
- Know your neighbors and watch out for each other
- Report suspicious activities and crimes to the Sheriff's Office
- Get involved and learn how you can make yourself and your community safer

#### Kinds Of Activities To Be Aware Of As A Neighborhood Watch Member

- Someone screaming or shouting for help
- Someone looking in windows of houses and parked vehicles.
- Property being removed from houses where no one is at home or from a closed business.
- Vehicles moving slowly through the neighborhood or people sitting in parked vehicles near or at a residence.

#### **Examples of when to call 911**

- When you see smoke or fire
- When someone's life and/or property is in immediate danger
- When a crime is being committed
- When rescue or emergency medical assistance is needed
- When you are not sure, call and let trained personnel decide the appropriate response