

Crime Watch Program

Crime Watch – Background

We've welcomed a number of new residents to our neighborhood in recent years and thought it might be helpful to give a brief overview of our Crime Watch program.

Whiffletree Neighborhood Association (WNA) designates a resident to serve as Crime Watch Coordinator.

The Plano Police Department operates a Crime Watch Hotline Voice Mail system, which is sponsored by a local business (Frito Lay). This system can be called 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to listen to a recorded message of any crimes or criminal activity reported in the geographical area referred to as "Sector C" which encompasses our neighborhood and also covers the area from Highway 121 to George Bush Parkway and Coit Road to Custer Road.

The Crime Watch hotline phone number is 972-334-8430 and appears on the front page of each issue of the neighborhood newsletter (which gets published quarterly). If you call this number, you will hear a recorded message by a Police Officer who will give a report on ALL incidents that occurred in "Sector C". Note that the Crime Watch hotline is simply a recorded message; it is NOT a direct line to the police department.

In the event that residents need to be notified immediately of criminal activity in the area, the Crime Watch Coordinator will initiate an email to those residents who have provided their email address for inclusion on the neighborhood email distribution list. Note that emails get issued only to residents who support the neighborhood association by paying the annual neighborhood association fee. If you have paid the annual neighborhood association fee but your email address does not appear on the neighborhood email distribution list, you can request to have your email address added by contacting Connie Kouba (connie@graphicservices.com).

Since Sector C is such a large geographical area, the neighborhood newsletter will usually recap only criminal activity that directly involves our neighborhood or a neighborhood close by.

To report a crime or suspicious activity to the police, you will want to call the Plano Police Department directly at 972-424-5678 or dial 911 for the emergency response dispatcher. .

How Can YOU Help Prevent Crime?

There are a number of steps that residents can take to help prevent crime.

(1) Get to know your neighbors and help one another by "keeping an eye out" for anything or anyone who looks suspicious or who has no business being in or around a home of a neighbor. It is better to call the police whenever something doesn't look or feel right ... even if you later learn that there was nothing wrong ... than to assume that everything is OK and later discover that a burglary or other criminal act just occurred.

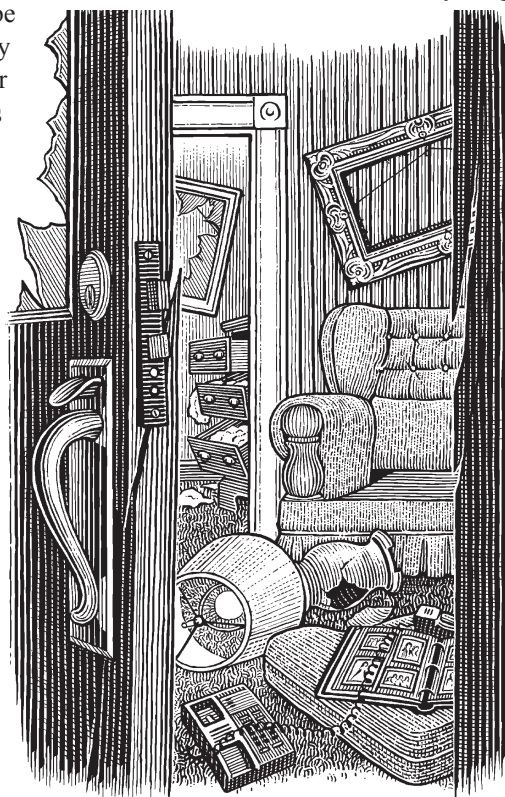
(2) If you see a suspicious vehicle, write down the license tag number and a brief description of the vehicle; and call the police. Do not approach a vehicle to question the occupants. This could be very dangerous and should be left up to the police to handle.

(3) Do not leave your garage door open for any length of time. This is an open invitation to crime and "unwanted visitors." It only takes a couple of seconds for someone to step into your garage, grab tools, golf clubs, or anything else that is visible and of interest to the perpetrator.

(4) Let a neighbor know if you plan to be out of town for any period of time and ensure that your mail and newspapers are temporarily stopped or picked up by friend or neighbor while you are gone.

(5) Keep informed by calling the Crime Watch hotline regularly. Remember, you can call this hotline at any time during the day or night.

(6) Be aware of your surroundings, whether at home or at a shopping mall. And once again, always be on the lookout for anything suspicious and do not hesitate to contact the police or 911.☺



Crime Watch 24-Hour Hotline: 972-334-8430