



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Crime Prevention Unit

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

SHERIFF'S OFFICE EYES AND EARS WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Neighborhood Watch groups serve as extra eyes and ears for the Sheriff's Office and for their neighbors.

Their goal is to create an environment where people care about each other and their community.

You, as a member of a Neighborhood Watch group, can improve the quality of life in your community. You can reduce opportunities for crime by looking out for your neighbors and acting as extra eyes and ears for law enforcement.

Another important responsibility is to report anything suspicious to the Sheriff's Office.

If you have any questions, call the Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit, (805)781-4483.

THINGS THAT MIGHT SIGNAL A CRIME

Watch out for these signs in your neighborhood and community:

- ◆ Someone running from a car or home.
- ◆ Someone screaming. If you can't explain the screams, call the Sheriff's Office and report them.
- ◆ Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood or looking into windows and parked cars.
- ◆ Someone asking about past residents.
- ◆ Someone who appears to have no purpose wandering through your neighborhood.
- ◆ Unusual or suspicious noises that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.

- ◆ Vehicles moving slowly without lights or without an apparent destination.
- ◆ Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- ◆ Offers of merchandise available for ridiculously low prices. The merchandise might be stolen.
- ◆ Someone walking or running while carrying property at an unusual time or place.
- ◆ Someone removing property from a closed business or unoccupied residences.
- ◆ A stranger entering a neighbor's home, which appears to be unoccupied.
- ◆ A stranger in a car who stops to talk to a child.
- ◆ A child resisting the advances of an adult.

HOW TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OR A CRIME IN PROGRESS

The Sheriff's Office needs fast, accurate information about suspicious activities or crimes in progress. Here's how you can help:

- ◆ Know when and how to call the Sheriff's Office.
- ◆ Describe the event briefly and answer questions about what, where, when and how it happened and any suspects or vehicles.
- ◆ State if the crime is in progress or if it has just occurred.
- ◆ Describe the suspect's sex, race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, accent, beard or mustache, and any distinctive characteristics like scars or tattoos.
- ◆ If there is a vehicle involved, describe its color, make, model, year, license plate, special markings, dents and the direction it went.
- ◆ Give your name and telephone number.