



## CRIMINALS ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS AS MUCH AS YOU DO

T'is the season for cool weather, shopping and spending time with your family & friends. The following tips and suggestions are offered to you in the hope that you will have a safe and joyful holiday season. This special time of year is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crimes. We can never be too careful. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors. The Winter Park Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season. When you are at home be

cautious about strangers coming to your home. Never let them inside no matter how sad their story may be. Instead, offer to call the police, a tow truck, etc for them. Remember to lock your doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes. Displaying holiday gifts may seem enticing to your family, but they are equally enticing to burglars. Gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home so keep them hidden from view.

When you go shopping carry your Driver License or Identification Card and

only enough cash, checks & the credit card you expect to use. Keep cash in your front pocket and eave the other cards and check book at home. Even though you are thinking about many different things, stay alert to your surroundings. Notify your credit card company immediately if your credit card is lost or stolen, and keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home. You should be able to see well to avoid mis-haps so don't overload yourself with packages.

## WHAT WORKS

The Police Department recognizes neighborhoods that have made a positive impact on their community. This impact can involve crime suppression efforts, assisting in apprehension of crimi-

nals or re-evaluating the neighborhood surroundings and making it less inviting to criminals. In this edition we would like to showcase the College Quarter area. This neighborhood is situated

near Rollins College, Winter Park 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center and Holt Avenue. Normally this is a quiet area with a mixture of full time residents and college students renting or leasing homes and apartments. Over the past year complaints from

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### Special Points

#### Of Interest

Remember to lock all of your doors and your windows. The vast majority of crimes are committed because someone left a door unlocked or a window open. Criminals look for an easy target and something they can get away with fairly quickly, usually under 5 minutes. Open garage doors are also a red carpet invitation for a criminal.

Many crimes are committed by someone in the neighborhood. Don't tempt them. Lock everything up.

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the neighbors about late night loud parties, loud verbal disturbances, open drinking of alcohol and indecent acts have increased several times over. The vast majority of these involve young adults. As a result the neighbors met with the Police Department and the Community Policing Unit became actively involved in helping find a solution to the problems. Neighbors were instructed on when to call the police and what constitutes a suspicious or criminal act. The noise ordinance was explained as well as what the definition of an open house party is under state law.

Officers from the Community Policing Unit were invited by Rollins Campus Safety to address incoming students in hopes that

they could enjoy a productive and fun year as long as they made positive choices concerning their behavior. Community Policing officers were also assigned to patrol the College Quarter very heavily with assistance from the Traffic Division. Anytime a complaint was called into the Police Department, whether any enforcement action was taken or not, a report was completed. These reports were used to track the types of problems in a given area including code enforcement violations and identify homes or apartments that required more intense monitoring than others.

As a result multiple parking and traffic tickets were issued and several arrests were made involving alcohol. Complaints to the Police Department about loud disturbances in the area have decreased at the time of this printing and fewer open house parties seem to be occurring with young people and underage drinking.

## OPEN HOUSE WAS GREAT

We would like to thank the many people who came to the Police Department for our Neighborhood Watch Open House. It was held in conjunction with National Night Out with crime prevention being the main focus of the program in keeping with the National Night Out theme. Numerous displays were set up with assistance from the Train Depot and Home Depot. These businesses partnered with the Police Department allowing us to showcase some of the most current crime prevention techniques & applications.

We want to say Thank You for being the extraordinary people who make up Neighborhood Watch. Part of the low crime rate in Winter Park is due to neighbors looking out after neighbors and you truly are the eyes and ears of the police.



## 911 CALLS & WHAT TO DO

9-1-1 should be used in emergency situations only, where immediate police, fire, or medical assistance is needed. Examples of this are crimes in progress, crashes with injuries or life threatening situations. All other calls for services should be done by using the non-emergency number, 407.644.1313. During the year 2005 the Winter Park Police



answered 20,776 calls for service from 9-1-1. As of this printing we have responded to over 13,505 calls from citizens using the 911 system.

Many people ask us about 911 hang-ups. Our policy is to respond to ALL 911 hang up calls. If you change your mind about needing assistance, **stay on the line** and explain that to the 911 Call Taker. Otherwise, an officer will be dispatched to your location to ensure that you are safe. Calling 911 when you do not need an officer puts those who need emergency assistance in danger and puts you in danger of being prosecuted for making a false 911 call.

When using a cell phone to make a 911 call you must give the dispatcher your location. Unlike a normal telephone in your home, a cell phone does not provide us with your address and phone number. However, to help overcome that obstacle the FCC enacted an enhancement to the 911 system. The Enhanced 911 System (E911) is a support technology for cellular and mobile phone users who dial 911, requesting help in an emergency.

Since cellular users are often mobile, some sort of enhancement was needed to 911 service that would allow for the location of the caller to be known to the dispatchers. This program was mandated by the FCC so that emergency services could be able to determine the location of the cellular caller if the caller is unable to speak or if the call is suddenly disconnected.

E911 was implemented in two phases. Phase I (which began in 1996) required the telephone number calling 911 and the location of the cell tower receiving the call, within a mile. While this was a step in the right direction, it still made it difficult to find the location of the caller in an emergency situation. Phase II of the program requires that more precise information about the caller's location, within 150 - 1000 feet in most cases, be provided. This phase of the program was to be completed by the end of 2005. The City of Winter Park's Emergency Communications Section has been fully compliant with the Phase II requirements since 2004.

# 911- Use It

## CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

It is time to announce our 20<sup>th</sup> Citizen's Police Academy. The Academy will begin Tuesday January 23, 2007. The Academy will consist of 12 weeks of learning combined with a fun and casual atmosphere. Each class will run from 6:30pm to 9:30pm each consecutive Tuesday. There is no physical fitness requirement.

After completing the academy, you will come away with a new understanding of the officers who protect you. Each class will highlight a different division or unit in the department and is instructed by a member of that division. There will be plenty of hands on activities as they relate to each particular instructional session.

The Citizens Academy allows you to venture inside the Winter Park Police Department and experience the day to day operation. Citizens will have direct contact with the officers who are devoted to upholding the integrity and laws within the city. Participants will be taught how to properly handle handguns and will actually have the opportunity to shoot department firearms if they so choose. Part of this program will also include a ride-along with sworn police officers during an actual patrol shift. It is the next best thing to being an actual sworn officer.

The Academy is open to all residents of the city of Winter Park, citizens who work in the city, and city employees. You must be at least 21 years of age and pass a criminal history check. The Police Department maintains the right to refuse acceptance to anyone.

## Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

### Published Quarterly by

The Winter Park Police Department

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*"We're always there when you need us"*

The men and women of the Winter Park Police Department would like to wish all of you the best during this holiday season and a prosperous New Year in 2007.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Ball".

Chief of Police

## Community Policing Services & Programs

**C.A.T. Program:** Enroll your vehicle in this free anti-theft program. This program allows police to stop a vehicle with a C.A.T. sticker on it if the vehicle is being driven between 1:00 am and 5:00 am, the time when most car thefts happen.

**Business Watch:** Business owners are offered anti-theft ideas, information regarding fraud, workplace violence & robbery issues, and become aware of current criminal trends.

**House Check Program:** If you are out of town more than a few days the Police Department will stop by your home (work load permitting) and check the exterior of it to ensure it is secure. If any problems are found, your emergency contact will be notified. This service is free. Contact the Police Communications Center at (407) 644-1313.

**Ride-Along Program:** Ride with an officer on a tour of duty. Riders must be at least 18 yrs. old and of good moral character. Contact Officer McDaniel @ (407) 599-3455. Riding is at the discretion of the Police Department.

**Security Surveys:** Officers of the Community Policing Unit will be glad to meet you at your home to offer advice for crime-proofing your home. Just call Officer McDaniel at 407-599-3455 to set it up.

We're on the web!

[www.wppd.org](http://www.wppd.org)

Find out what crime is doing in your area. Log onto the web for residential crime statistics

## MEET YOUR OFFICERS

Please help us welcome Officer Shuvon Franklin who was sworn in on June 20, 2005. Officer Franklin comes to us from Sanford Police Department where she served as a full time officer for three years receiving numerous law enforcement training certificates. Shuvon decided after extensive research, to join the ranks of the Winter Park Police Department because of the benefits and the city being well rounded. She is impressed with the cultural diversity of the community, its unique atmosphere and environment and its focus on the family through all the parks and organized activities. She felt our agency

would allow her to be proactive in solving crimes and issues that conflict with the betterment of the community.

Officer Franklin is interested in pursuing a position with our vice unit and ultimately would like to be assigned to the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation or D.E.A. Taskforce. She feels as if she just embarked on her career and is ready for the challenges.

Shuvon enjoys exercising and staying fit, bike riding and spending time with her family when she is not on duty. In addition, Shuvon is dedicated to being a role model and reaching out to the youth she makes contact with

everyday. She volunteers at a local community center and has publicly spoken at local churches and community centers to further that goal.

If you see Shuvon out there, please stop her and say hello.

