



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

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Sergeant Frank Avila

Log onto www.lapdonline.org today! You can view information on crime in your neighborhood; you can get the monthly newsletter and sign up for e-policing, a real-time way to get information from LAPD to you!

“SAVE THE DATE”– AUGUST 3, 2010



 Target
National Sponsor

The West Valley Communities of:
ENCINO ★ LAKE BALBOA ★ RESEDA ★ TARZANA
Will Join with the West Valley L.A.P.D.

**FREE
EVENT**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
RANDAL D. SIMMONS PARK
Corner of Vanowen & Wilbur

**NEW
LOCATION**

ENTERTAINMENT: DJ

HOT DOGS & CHILI DOGS
POLICE & FIRE VEHICLES
L.A.P.D. SPECIALIZED UNITS
INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS
PRIZES
RACE CARS

KID'S ZONE
BALLOON MAKERS
FACE PAINTING
CHILD FINGERPRINTING
BOUNCERS & SLIDES
POPCORN & COTTON CANDY

and MUCH MORE.....ALL FREE

**PICNIC WITH YOUR FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS
LEARN HOW TO FIGHT CRIME**

Additional Information - (818) 374-7636 www.encinowatch.com

Supported by Councilmembers Dennis Zine, Greig Smith, Tony Cardenas, Paul Koretz
Neighborhood Councils of: Encino Lake Balboa Reseda Tarzana

Recognizing Suspicious Activities

What is suspicious and when do you call the police?

Suspicious activity is anything that looks like it could be connected with criminal behavior – someone casing a neighborhood, forcing open a door, grabbing a child; screaming or pounding coming from a nearby residence or apartment; strong chemical odors coming from an inappropriate building, are a few examples. If the activity is or appears to be threatening to property or people, **immediately** report the suspicious activity by calling the police. Time is critical in apprehending criminals. It is better to be overly-suspicious than to let a criminal get away.

Following is a list of suspicious activities and the criminal activity that might be occurring:

- **A person, persons , groups of young people, adult(s) or gang(s) gathering (loitering) for an extended or unusual period of time.**
Possible burglary, arson, or drug dealing
- **Behaving strangely.**
Possibly on drugs or preparing to do some illegal activity
- **With any sort of weapon(s).**
Possibly planning any number of crimes
- **Carrying, concealing or transporting anything unusual.**
Possible burglar carrying stolen property
- **Looking into cars.**
Possibly casing cars for theft of car or its contents
- **Wearing clothing, bandanas, caps, or other attire that could spell trouble.**
Possible gang activity
- **Running, especially if carrying something valuable.**
Possible suspect fleeing scene of the crime
- **Creating any type of disturbance.**
Disturbing the peace or covering up noise of some other activity
- **Going door to door, especially if someone goes to the rear of the residence.**
Possibly casing the neighborhood
- **Loiterers around schools, parks or on the street.**
Possible burglar, sex offense, drugs or arson
- **Create much foot traffic to and from a particular place, short visits.**
Possible drugs, vice or fencing operation
- **Screams for help.**
Possible rape, medical emergency, robbery, assault or fire
- **Offering items for sale at extremely low prices.**
Possibly trying to sell stolen property
- **An older man with young females or teenagers in an unusual place or for an unusual period of time.**
Possible sex crimes of seeking sex or pimping (soliciting customers) for the youngsters.

The list is endless. Trust your instincts. Anyone observed engaging in suspicious activity should be reported to the police. For emergencies call **9-1-1**. For non-emergencies call **(877) 275-5273**.

ENCINO:

Senior Lead Officer Robert Trulik Office (818) 374-7637
32325@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2572

Contact Officer Trulik for information on the next Encino Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

We Look Out For Each Other

Looking out for each other is the key to Neighborhood Watch success. Observation is a skill, honed through diligent practice. Watching includes both seeing suspicious activity and listening for suspicious sounds.

By knowing who lives or works in each residence in your neighborhood, their hours of work, their automobiles and helpers who regularly come to their home, you should become suspicious of anything that does not fit into your neighbors regular habits.

Look out for your neighbor – be the eyes and ears for the police department. But remember, you are only the eyes and ears, NOT law enforcement. Don't confront a suspect – CALL THE POLICE! For emergencies call **9-1-1**; for non-emergencies call **(877) 275-5273**.



“BE SAFE”

LAKE BALBOA:

Senior Lead Officer David Ham Office (818) 374-7634
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Senior Lead Officer Saul Paredes Office (818) 374-7635
35275@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2554

Suspicious Sounds

Using your ears to detect suspicious activities is very helpful in combating crime. Sounds may only last a few seconds and may go undetected. Here are some sounds which require close attention, and reporting:

- Screams for Help
- Continuous Screaming
- Screaming and Cursing
- Gun Shot Sounds
- Alarm Activation
- Breaking Glass
- Loud Music
- Forcing, Prying or Pounding Sounds
- Continuous Dog Barking

RESEDA:

Senior Lead Officer Isela Parra Office (818) 374-7631
34488@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2574
Senior Lead Officer Royal Barber Office (818) 374-7629
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Next Neighborhood Watch Meeting – Thursday, June 10 – 7:00 p.m.
L.A.P.D. Community Room

Suspect Identification

You must be able to give law enforcement officers the best possible description of a suspicious person or suspect. In identifying a suspect, work down from their head to their feet. The most important identification features are: sex, height, eye color, race, weight, glasses, tattoos or scars, and approximate age; these are the least likely to be altered by the suspect. Also observe nationality, complexion, facial hair, shape of nose and lips, build, posture, type of walk, any physical disabilities, voice, language, accent, lisp or other speech characteristics. What did they wear?... color or type of clothing and anything else that might seem unusual.

TARZANA:

Senior Lead Officer Daryl Scoggins Office (818) 374-7632
35828@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2573

Contact Officer Scoggins for information on the next Tarzana Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

Directions and Locations

In order to give the police an accurate report of a crime or suspicious activity, you must be able to give an accurate description of the location. The description includes the directions; north, south, east or west. If you have trouble with directions, always remember the sun sets in the west. If you are facing west, east is behind you, north is to your right and south to your left. Learn the directions in which your streets run; north and south or east and west - perhaps even northwest or southeast. It is important to know directions for reporting information because saying the suspect went right or left is of little help and causes confusion. A location description is best given by (1) using the specific address, (2) stating the location of the incident, (3) describing how the incident occurred.

Remember: WHAT, WHEN, WHO, HOW, AND WHY are what the police need to know.

Preceding information provided by National Neighborhood Watch Institute. For more information visit www.nnwi.org

Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) is Looking for New Members

We are currently recruiting community members for our Community Police Advisory Board. If you are a community member who would like to be involved in this panel which works closely with the police department and assists with community relations, please contact your Senior Lead Officer, or call (818) 374-7690.

C-PAB members meet the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.