

# FLORISSANT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS

Volume 1, Issue 3

January 21, 2009

### THE CHIEF'S CORNER

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and welcome to the new year.

January 2009 sees us close out 2008. As you might be aware Florissant saw an increase in crime during 2008. This was not totally unexpected as criminologist predicted an rise in crime trends due to the increase of the population group of 12-20 year-olds. This age group is historically responsible for the majority of crimes committed. The recent economic trends may also influence an increase in crime.

We need your help to reverse this trend we've experienced over the past year. I am firmly committed to protecting our citizens by

allocating the necessary resources to combat this issue.

Mayor Lowery and the council have shown their support increasing our manpower by three officers. We also have officers assigned to a specialized anti-crime unit. They will patrol areas experiencing increases in crime in an effort to identify and apprehend offenders.

Officers on patrol are informed at all roll call meetings, prior to their shifts, of recent incidents and locations of criminal activity. They area advised of descriptions of possible suspects and/or vehicles wanted for investigations.

But we *still need your help.*



We need every citizen to watch out for each other, report suspicious activity, and actively participate in the Neighborhood Watch program to keep our city safe and reverse the crime increase into a decrease in criminal activity.

Sincerely,

William Karabas,  
Chief of Police

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### NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING SET FOR MARCH

Please note February's meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be Monday, March 16th, 6:30 P.M., at the Florissant Police Department.

A Florissant dispatcher will be present to explain the

responsibilities and duties of a dispatcher.

We're still looking for new Block Captains. The BC is responsible for recruiting members in their neighborhood, scheduling meetings, gather information for the

police department on neighbor's concerns and provide safety information to their members.

If interested please contact Sgt. Boschert at 830-6042 for more information.

# BLOCK CAPTAINS SET THE TONE

Block Captains serve in one of the most important capacities of the Neighborhood Watch Program. They are the ones responsible for organizing a neighborhood to "Take A Stand" against criminal activity.

Once a person has decided to take on the role of being a Block Captain they become the go between for their neighborhood and the Florissant Police Department.

Here are a few recommendations for a Block Captain to follow once they've committed to the position.

- Select the area you will cover, normally no more than 10-15 homes. Try to keep your group small. It will make your meetings more manageable to ensure their success.

- Make contact with the residents in your surrounding neighborhood. Preferable door-to-door.
- Explain the purpose of your visit and describe the purpose of the Neighborhood Watch program.
- Seek their commitment to be an active partner explaining the importance of neighbors watching out for each other.
- Make list of those residents willing to participate, Name, address, phone numbers (home and work), and if possible an email address.

Planning for your first meeting

The next step once you've completed your contact list of participants is to

schedule the first meeting for your group. It doesn't have to be fancy, a simple gathering in ones' home will work. This keeps the program in the neighborhood in a warm friendly setting. Remember, this is neighbor meeting neighbor, sometimes for the first time face to face.

Here are a few guidelines for setting up your meetings:

- Set a date and time that is favorable to the majority of your group and contact Sgt. Boschert at 314-830-6042 with your meeting information. We will make every effort to have a beat officer and supervisor show up during the meeting to introduce themselves and answer questions. (Officers will be provided depending on the work load at the time of the meeting.)
- Design a flyer or letter of invitation. You may contact Sgt. Boschert for assistance with this.
- Distribute the flyers at least 10-14 days out from the meeting date.
- A week out follow up each invitation with either a call or personal visit to serve as a reminder and encourage their attendance. Try to have at least one adult member from each household attend.
- Prepare a sign-in sheet for your group to sign with the date, time and signature of persons in attendance.

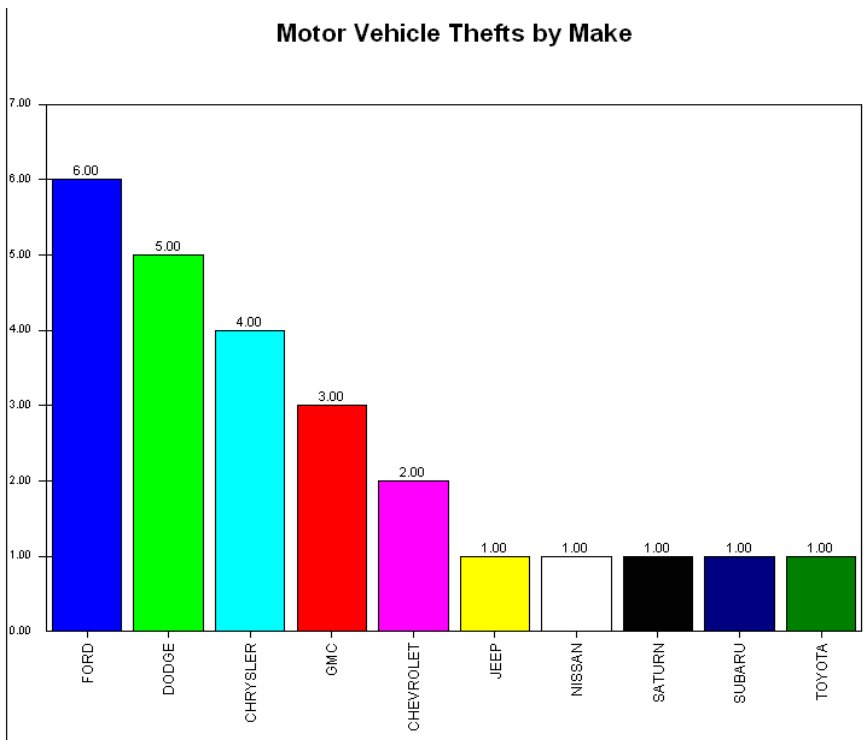
Your First Meeting:

Be ready prepared early for residents to arrive. Greet each individual as they arrive thanking them for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend. The meeting. Introduce them to others as people arrive.

- Name tags for those in attendance. (Simple file folder labels will work, or stick on type name tags.)

(cont. on page 4)

## Motor Vehicle Thefts - December 2008



## **December 2008 Crime Report**

**There have been no Homicides in the month of December.**

**There have been 11 Robberies in the month of December.**

12/05/08 2900 blk Santiago	12/06/08 500 blk Howdershell	12/07/08 1 <sup>st</sup> blk Grandview Plaza
12/13/08 300 blk Howdershell	12/17/08 100 blk Flower Valley	12/18/08 400 blk N Hwy 67
100 blk Waterford	12/22/08 3300 blk Cross Keys Dr	12/23/08 8200 blk Lindbergh Blvd N
12/24/08 3100 blk N Hwy 67	12/26/08 2100 blk N Waterford	

(6 Robberies were committed with a firearm/knife/other dangerous weapon was implied or displayed,  
5 Robberies were a Strong Arm type.)

**There has been 1 Rape-Attempt reported in the month of December.**

3200 blk Cross Keys Dr

**There have been 45 Burglaries during the month of December.**

**(Includes 1 Attempt Burglaries)**

### **42 Residential Burglaries**

12/01/08 500 blk Merechal	Forced entry	12/02/08 2200 blk Flordawn	Forced entry
12/02/08 2200 blk Flordawn	Forced entry	12/02/08 2200 blk Flordawn	Forced entry
12/02/08 2200 blk Flordawn	Forced entry	12/03/08 2200 blk Flordawn	Forced entry
12/08/08 1000 blk Robinwood	Forced entry	12/08/08 1 <sup>st</sup> blk Rissant	Unlawful entry
12/08/08 800 blk Keeven	Unlawful entry	12/08/08 1700 blk Woodridge	Forced entry
12/08/08 2800 blk Nottinghill Row	Forced entry	12/09/08 2800 blk Nottinghill Row	Forced entry
12/09/08 1500 blk Canter	Forced entry	12/10/08 1000 blk Pennhurst	Forced entry
12/10/08 13800 blk New Halls Ferry	Forced entry	12/11/08 1400 blk Thoroughbred	Forced entry
12/11/08 3600 blk Hambletonian	Unlawful entry	12/11/08 400 St. Marie	Unlawful entry
12/13/08 700 blk Loekes	Forced entry	12/13/08 900 blk St. Anthony	Forced entry
12/13/08 800 blk Manresa Ln	Forced entry	12/14/08 100 blk Florisota	Forced entry
12/14/08 700 blk Paddock Dr	Forced entry	12/15/08 1100 Penhurst Dr	Forced entry
12/16/08 2700 blk Nottinghill Row	Forced entry	12/18/08 2500 Pheasant Dr	Forced entry
12/18/08 13800 blk New Halls Ferry	Forced entry	12/18/08 1100 Penhurst Dr	Forced entry
12/20/08 200 blk S New Florissant Rd	Forced entry	12/20/08 3200 blk Cross Keys Dr	Forced entry
12/22/08 1000 blk Hallwood Dr	Unlawful entry	12/22/08 400 blk Hundley Dr	Unlawful entry
12/24/08 2700 blk Monfort	Unlawful entry	12/24/08 1800 blk Nottinghill Row	Unlawful entry
12/26/08 900 blk Jackson Ln	Unlawful entry	12/27/08 3600 blk St. Catherine	Forced entry
12/27/08 3200 blk Cross Keys Dr	Forced entry	12/27/08 2400 blk Teakwood Dr	Attempt only
12/28/08 700 blk Mendocina Ct	Forced entry	12/29/08 1400 blk Boulder Dr	Forced entry
12/30/08 1 <sup>st</sup> blk Pueblo Dr	Forced entry	12/30/08 1500 blk Washington	Unlawful entry

### **3 Business Burglaries**

12/13/08 1700 blk N. New Florissant	Forced entry	12/16/08 8100 blk Lindbergh Blvd N	Forced Entry
12/16/08 2700 blk Derhake	Forced entry		

(These number may not reflect the final numbers for the entire month )



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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*"The mission of the Florissant Police Department is to provide the highest quality police services to the people of the City of Florissant, by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction, with an emphasis on integrity, fairness, and professionalism."*

### **Citizen Interaction**

*We recognize our community-policing role as a partnership with the Citizens of Florissant. We need and encourage the participation of every citizen in solving problems and improving the quality of life for our community.*

### **Integrity**

*In order to achieve public trust and build upon our community partnership, we demand the highest level of integrity in ourselves. Integrity is defined as being honest, moral, upright, and sincere*

### **Fairness**

*We are committed to upholding the law in an ethical, impartial, courteous, and professional manner. We serve every member of our community equally, regardless of race, sex, creed, national origin, or social status.*

### **Professionalism**

*In order to insure the highest level of service to our community, we pledge to continually evaluate our programs and our performance. We promote organizational and individual standards of excellence. We encourage continuing education and training.*

## **BLOCK CAPTAINS SET THE TONE (CONT.)**

(cont. from page 2)

- Introduce people to each other as they arrive.
- Begin the meeting by introducing yourself, purpose of the meeting and the importance of keeping you neighborhood safe.
- Introduce any other guest speakers you may have invited along with any law enforcement personnel present.
- Review crime trends in your neighborhood provided by Sgt. Boschert.
- Review the "How to Report a Crime or Suspicious Activity" brochure provided by the police department.
- Ask others about their concerns they have for the neighborhood

and record their answers. (Forward the information to Sgt. Boschert.)

- Explain how the Neighborhood Watch Program can effectively reduce crime.
- Review the three elements of a crime;
  - Desire
  - Motive
  - Opportunity
- Emphasize the major element they have control over is "Opportunity." If they remove/reduce the opportunity they can prevent the crime.
- Set up the next meeting date and time for the group.

As you close, the thank the group for

attending. Encourage them to be vigilant in looking for and immediately reporting suspicious activity to the police department and to you so you can alert other group members.

The Neighborhood Watch Program, initiated in 1972 by the National Sheriff's Association, continues to be one of the most effective programs in controlling and reducing crime in neighborhoods.

This program takes on more importance in these difficult financial times. History has shown crime tends to increase as the economy experiences a downward spiral.

Neighborhood Watch helps us get back to the basics of "Neighbors Watching out for neighbors." Remember, you are our first line of defense against criminal activity. Thank you for choosing to be a Block Captain.