



West Valley Patrol Division

# Neighborhood Watch Orientation

October 19, 2016

Deputy C. Garton



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Please Hold All Questions Until The  
End



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# Agenda

- History of Neighborhood Watch
- Neighborhood Watch Goals
- Neighborhood Watch Success Stories
- Crime Prevention Tips
- Neighborhood involvement



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# Neighborhood Watch History

- Started in Los Angeles in 1970's
  - Citizens realized that the police can't be everywhere
  - They became the extra eyes and ears for the beat officers
- Started locally in early 1980's
  - Saratoga beat deputies conduct presentations



# What Is Neighborhood Watch?

- A community working together & looking out for each other
- A supplement to police presence
- A community that is aware, observes and reports suspicious activity
  - Requires **no physical involvement** by you.
  - Observe and report only.



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# Neighborhood Watch Goals

- Reduce the likelihood of property crimes
- Bring citizens & law enforcement into a cooperative partnership
- Promote a spirit of community within a neighborhood



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# How to start a NHW Program

- The Neighborhood Watch program is created, run, and maintained by you and your neighbors
- Contact the City of Saratoga to obtain signs and request the signs be placed in your neighborhood after receiving an orientation from the Sheriff's Office (this presentation counts as an orientation)



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# Need Additional Information?

- Go to National Neighborhood Watch Institute website [www.nnwi.org](http://www.nnwi.org) or call (888) 669-4872
- Visit the City of Saratoga Website <http://www.saratoga.ca.us/>
- Contact the Sheriff's Office
  - [SO\\_SRO@sheriff.sccgov.org](mailto:SO_SRO@sheriff.sccgov.org), 408-425-6829





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# Neighborhood Watch Success Stories



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# Crime Prevention



# What should you look for?

- Suspicious vehicles or persons, not known to the neighborhood
  - Don't Assume they belong, call us and call your neighbors.
- Undocumented door to door solicitors
  - Profit organizations require a city permit
  - Non-Profit organizations do not
- Unknown persons entering backyards or side gates



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# What should you look for?

- Front doors, side gates, garage doors , car doors or trunks standing open.
- Anything else that makes you feel uneasy or unsure. Call us & call your neighbors.



# Who Should You Call?

- Call the Sheriff's Office and call your neighbors
- 9-1-1
  - If in doubt, always call 911. The dispatcher can identify location of call.
- Cellular phones
  - 911 may go to CHP in Vallejo; expect a transfer delay. Program (408) 299-2311 into your cell phones for Santa Clara County Communications



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# Residential Burglaries

- There are over 6 million homes burglarized every year. That's one every ten seconds.
- Nearly half of these occurred in homes with unlocked doors or windows.
- Lock all doors and windows when going out, even if it's for "just a minute."
- Never leave a door key under the mat, in flower pot, on a ledge, etc...



# Home Security

- **Doors**
  - Keep doors closed and locked even when at home
  - Doors should have a solid core
- **Windows**
  - Windows should only be open while you are at home
  - DO NOT leave windows open during the day to vent the house
- **Gates and Fences**
  - Should be locked to prevent easy access to the backyard



# Alarms

- Can be an effective deterrent-ONLY IF THEY ARE ON!
- Different types
  - Silent
  - Audible
  - Motion Detector
  - Entry





# Security Cameras



- Higher The Resolution, The Better
- 1080p will capture faces and license plates
- Digital or cloud storage is **VERY** useful
- Locations
  - At least one HD camera pointed towards the street
  - Front porch, Side gate, Rear door or back sliders



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# Home Security Check

- Home Security checks are conducted by Sheriff's Office deputies
- Deputies will conduct a “walk through” of your residence, answer questions, and provide you with guidance
- Call 408-868-6600 to schedule



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# Home Security

- Going on Vacation?
  - Stop your mail and newspaper service, or have a neighbor or relative pick it up daily.
  - Contact Sheriff's Operations and ask for a vacation patrol check at (408) 868-6600 during normal business hours (M~F, Between 8am and 5pm.) or
  - Visit the Sheriff's Office website at <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/sheriff/> to schedule



# Home Security

The screenshot shows the official website of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'SCCGov' logo, a search bar, and links for 'Contacts', 'Agencies & Departments', and 'Services'. Below this is a large banner with the text 'SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF' and a star-shaped logo. A secondary navigation menu includes 'About Us', 'Services', 'Divisions', 'Career Opportunities', 'Inmate Finder', 'Inmate Commissary', and 'Jail Reforms'. The 'Inmate Finder' menu item is expanded, showing options like 'Schedule an Inmate Visit', 'Fingerprinting Services', 'Records', 'Civil Division', 'Sheriff's Identification Unit (SIU)', 'Licensing & Permits', and 'Patrol Check Request'. A central image shows a line of uniformed officers standing in formation. Below the image is a 'Mission Statement' section with the text: 'The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office serves the communities of Cupertino, Los Altos Hills, Saratoga and the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County. The Sheriff's Office also maintains contracts with the Valley Transportation Authority and the Santa Clara County Parks Department for law enforcement services. The Sheriff's Office is also responsible for the safety and security of the Santa Clara County Superior Court system and all its staff. The Sheriff's Office also oversees the jail system for Santa Clara County which is the fifth largest jail system in California and responsible for the safety and security of over 4,000 inmates who are in custody.'

At the bottom of the page, there are two social media feeds. On the left is a Facebook feed for 'Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office' with a post from 13 hours ago that reads: '#SCCoSheriff is #belIEVEN in the #Giants #NLDS enjoy the game and be safe'. On the right is a Twitter feed for '@SCCoSheriff' with two tweets: one about the #NLDS game and another about a 'Bad call, but don't Panik! @JoePanik' during a game.



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# Vehicle Security

- ALWAYS Lock Your Car!
- Leave your windows rolled up
- Don't leave anything inside your car that is visible from the outside
- Take your cell phone, charging cord, removable stereo and lap top with you when leave the car or lock them in the trunk.



# Vehicle Security

- A thief will break your window on the chance that something of value is in that “unknown” bag, box, package or jacket pockets.
- Park in the well lighted areas of the parking lots
- Do not attach a tag with your address to your ring of keys. If you do, use a PO Box number only



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# Neighborhood Involvement

- Be an aware neighbor
  - An aware neighbor knows what goes on in the neighborhood
  - Communicate with your neighbors, if not in person, then by phone, email or fax
  - Get to know your child's friends. Know names addresses & phone numbers
- Call 9-1-1
  - Better to be safe than sorry



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Thank You

