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Welcome to the February 2017 crime prevention newsletter! The newsletter will be evolving throughout the year, and we hope to include information that will continue to foster a partnership between the Jeffersontown Police Department and the community we serve.

The Introduction of the “Scammers and Scoundrels” Section



Knowledge is power. The best way to combat crime is to remove the opportunity for it to occur. February will begin a series of short articles that will highlight popular scams. Scams are exceptionally virulent, and very difficult to investigate due to changing technology and the propensity for these criminals and their networks to operate worldwide. Therefore, the best way to beat these scoundrels is to cut them off at the pass.

In the spirit of Valentine’s Day, let’s begin with the Online Dating scam. It is very easy to create a fake profile online, complete with fake or stolen photos. Nothing is as it seems. This brand of scammer poses as attractive men or women, and they attempt to cast a wide net. Once they hook you in, they will invent a crisis that requires you to send them money. Often they will send you a fraudulent check with instructions to cash it and wire back the money. Of course, you can “keep” some of the money for yourself. These checks will bounce, and the bank will take their money back from YOUR account. Don’t fall for these evil “Casanova’s,” they will prove costly to both your heart and your bank account. Trust your intuition! When in doubt, stop by and talk to one of our officers about the situation before taking any action.



TYPICAL PATTERNS OF ONLINE LOVE SCAMMERS

- Arrested
- Hospitalized
- Sick children
- Money/credit cards stolen
- Frozen bank accounts
- Shipwrecked
- Lost/ stolen passport
- Expired visa or passport
- Beaten up on way to airport
- Stuck in foreign country until taxes paid
- Attorney fees
- Widowed

Around the Neighborhood

Crime prevention is a shared responsibility, and we are counting on your assistance in making it as difficult as possible on those looking to commit crimes in our neighborhoods and businesses. Make sure you are utilizing light around your property. Criminal activity prefers darkness. Exterior lighting, motion lighting, and photoelectric cell lighting are excellent ways to provide light around your home or business.



Pay attention to vehicle or foot traffic in the neighborhood. Report any suspicious activity right away. Keep an eye on elderly neighbors, and any neighbors who are away from home. If something seems suspicious, call us, and we can check it out. There have been many occasions in which crime was interrupted thanks to the intervention of a watchful neighbor. Never be afraid to call!

The Month at a Glance

We are continuing to see incidents of petty crime and thefts of opportunity, such as getting into unlocked vehicles and rummaging through the passenger compartments. Please take the time to lock your vehicle and remove anything of value from inside the vehicle. Never leave purses or wallets inside your vehicle, even those parked in the garage. Many of us have garage door openers inside our vehicles, and leaving vehicles unlocked in the driveway gives a criminal access to your household. This becomes a safety issue. Always be mindful.

Crime Trends this Month

- The following streets all had thefts or attempted thefts from vehicles: Corinthian Drive, Villa Fair Court, Ferrer Way, Colonades Place, and Ridgemar Court.
- Burglaries or attempted burglaries: Vantage Road and Lantern Lite Parkway.
- Plantside Drive had a burglary to a shed.
- Cargo Court, theft of trailer and a backhoe.
- Kroger - Taylorsville Road, purse stolen from cart
- 9600 block Watterson Trail, several car break-ins and attempted break-ins.
- Wendell, thefts and criminal mischief to vehicles.
- Oakshire Drive, watch for drivers running stop signs.
- Watterson Woods, break-ins.
- Ridgemar Court and Bluegrass Parkway, thefts.
- Taylorsville Road, burglary to a gas station.

Emergency call 9-1-1

To report a crime, call (502) 267-0503

***Any questions concerning Block Watch Programs, contact
Jeffersontown Police Community Resource Officer Felicia Burba
at (502) 267-0503***

www.jeffersontownky.com