

**BILL DIERUF**  
MAYOR



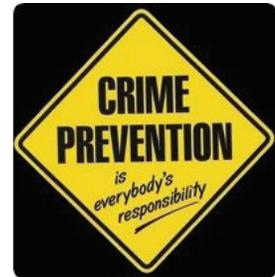
**KENNETH W. HATMAKER**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**JEFFERSONTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
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**BLOCK WATCH NEWSLETTER**  
**AUGUST 2017**

**Around the Neighborhood**

Like it or not, we are in the midst of a technological explosion. Technology has inundated every facet of our lives, and that includes the way we approach crime prevention. More and more people are opting for alarm systems that utilize camera feed straight to their smart phones, and the use of “smart home” technology. It allows for monitoring of “real time” in and around our homes. It has also made social media a vehicle for crime detection and crime prevention when used properly. And of course, there is an “app” for everything. Increasingly, people have become familiar with a neighborhood app called “Nextdoor.”

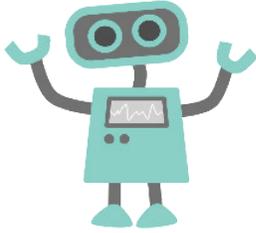


This app is a private network for neighbors, and according to its developer it is a “hyperlocal, private network” that is “founded by neighbors with mapped boundaries, and only members with a verified address may access the network.” I invite everyone to form your own opinion on this particular app, but the point is technology is prominent in the field of crime prevention and it will be apps like “Nextdoor” that will become the new “electronic block watch” of sorts. We need to look out for each other in our neighborhoods. It has become popular to post private video footage of criminal activity in order to warn our neighbors, and enhance identification of suspects. Criminals beware, everyone, it seems, has a camera, and they are ready and willing to post your image to every social media network including those of the police department. It is not exactly the “15 minutes of fame” that you hoped for. The Jeffersontown Police Department maintains a Facebook page, Twitter account, city webpage, and we have recently added Nextdoor. I would ask that anyone who is in need of police assistance to please call us directly at 502-267-0503, or 9-1-1 if it is an emergency.

Do not rely on social media of any type as a means of communication with us, but by all means, add these electronic tools to your tool belt.



## Scammers and Scoundrels



Almost daily I have at least one message on my desk phone voicemail from a pre-recorded robotic voice. If it is not the “IRS” making “threats,” it is the promise of better interest rates due to my “exceptional credit history.” According to an article by the AARP, at least one of every five phone calls now made is a robocall, and most of them are the work of scammers. They are uber annoying, but scammers love them. The Federal Trade Commission receives some 200,000 complaints about these calls every month. Why? It is because for the scammers it is easy, cheap, and far reaching. Think of a fisherman throwing out a wide net. He/she is bound to catch something.

***Just remember, nothing is free.***

Phone numbers are selected randomly and arbitrarily. And, have you noticed that suddenly you are receiving these types of calls from “local” numbers? That is because of a technology used by scammers to spoof local numbers. If you receive one of these robocalls, please, just hang up. Do not follow instructions to “opt out” or be transferred, and NEVER provide financial or private information. Unfortunately, there is not a lot we can do to prevent these calls. Asking your phone service provider to block these robocalls is not effective because scammers change the numbers they use for display on caller ID frequently. It is a never ending battle. Just hang up the phone.

### Areas of Concern

4300 block of Cara Way	Unlocked vehicles entered
9000 block of Wooded Glen Road	Unlocked vehicles entered
4500 block of Old Watterson Trail	Unlocked vehicles entered
9500 block of Corinthian Drive	Unlocked vehicles entered
9300 block of Talitha Drive	Unlocked vehicles entered
9800 block of Bluegrass Pkwy.	Attempted theft of vehicle (arrest made)
1600 block of Alliant Avenue	Theft of tools from vehicle
2700 block of Grassland Drive	Copper/metal scrap stolen from locked container

***Emergency call 911***

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

***Any questions concerning Block Watch programs, contact  
Community Resource Officer Felicia Burba  
at the Jeffersontown Police Department  
(502) 267-0505***

***Visit our website : [www.jeffersontown.gov](http://www.jeffersontown.gov)***