

**BILL DIERUF**  
MAYOR



**KENNETH W. HATMAKER**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**JEFFERSONTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
10410 TAYLORSVILLE ROAD  
JEFFERSONTOWN, KENTUCKY 40299  
502/267-0503 · FAX 502/267-5936

## CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER MARCH 2018



Technology is ever changing, and many people are opting to have various security alarms installed in their homes. They can be installed either by a professional alarm installer or by the home owner (DIY). Having the security alarm (intrusion detection) system installed by a professional alarm installer is recommended. There are numerous installers, and it can be a bit overwhelming to narrow your choices. Here are some questions that you need to consider:

- > Is the alarm installation company a local business?
- > What is their history, and performance record?

You might consider getting references from friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers who are familiar with the company, and from the company's current clients.

- > Check out consumer complaints with the Better Business Bureau and/or local consumer protection agency a about the installer.
- > Do a "Google" search. Read about other people's experiences with the installer or company.
- > Is the alarm company/installer a member of any local business organizations, such as a local burglar and fire alarm association?
- > As always, request written estimates from multiple companies. A reputable alarm installation company should complete a professional assessment of your needs according to the layout of your home or business.
  - > Who will perform the installation and monitor the system?
  - > How long is the contract period for monitoring? One year? More? Are there penalties for early termination? What happens if you move before the contract period is up?
  - > What is the cost of monitoring? What is the billing cycle?
  - > Check with your property insurance provider. Some policies provide a discount for installing a security alarm system – sometimes up to 10 percent. Will the alarm installation company assist you in obtaining reduced insurance rates if you install one of their systems?
  - > In order to minimize the occurrences of false alarms, periodic maintenance is recommended (annually). Is periodic alarm system maintenance included in the monthly monitoring fee?
  - > Was an alarm system instruction manual provided?
  - > Does the installer provide training on the alarm system upon installation?
  - > Is free refresher training provided?
  - > What are the notification procedures if an alarm is activated? What happens if the monitoring company can't reach you when the alarm has been activated? Is law enforcement called?
  - > Is the security alarm hard wired or battery operated?
  - > If hard wired, in the event of a power failure does the alarm system switch automatically to battery power without activating the alarm?

What does the alarm system contract include? Such as, installation price, monthly or quarterly monitoring fee, contract period, written warranty, owner's manual, process for the right to cancel the contract, and contract cancellation forms

Does the installation company offer 24-hour service in case of false alarms or malfunctioning alarm equipment? The city of Jeffersontown has an alarm ordinance which requires a resident or business to register their alarm system. DO NOT assume that the alarm company or installer will take care of this for you. You can very easily register your alarm by going to the city website "Forms" page. Look for the form under the "Police Department" section. Or, you can stop by the Jeffersontown Police Department to request a form. There is NO CHARGE to register your alarm, however if the alarm is not registered it could lead to a fine under the ordinance. This ordinance includes any type of security alarm systems even if they are audible only or self-installed. Also, please provide a complete list of emergency contacts. These are the people we would call in the event that someone is needed to respond to your property in the event of an emergency. If you have any questions about the ordinance you can contact Officer Burba of the Jeffersontown Police, 502-267-0503.

### MAR



It's tax season again, and many have already filed or are getting ready to file their returns. The following excerpt comes directly from the IRS website. This is a great resource to check for the latest scams involving tax returns. "Scam Alert: IRS Urges Taxpayers to Watch Out for Erroneous Refunds; Beware of Fake Calls to Return Money to a Collection Agency

The Internal Revenue Service today warned taxpayers of a quickly growing scam involving erroneous tax refunds being deposited into their bank accounts. The IRS also offered a step-by-step explanation for how to return the funds and avoid being scammed.

Following up on a Security Summit alert issued Feb. 2, the IRS issued this additional warning about the new scheme after discovering more tax practitioners' computer files have been breached. In addition, the number of potential taxpayer victims jumped from a few hundred to several thousand in just days. The IRS Criminal Investigation division continues its investigation into the scope and breadth of this scheme.

These criminals have a new twist on an old scam. After stealing client data from tax professionals and filing fraudulent tax returns, these criminals use the taxpayers' real bank accounts for the deposit.

Thieves are then using various tactics to reclaim the refund from the taxpayers, and their versions of the scam may continue to evolve.

> See IR-2018-27"

> <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>

***Stay savvy!!***

## Areas of Concern

Thefts/attempted thefts from vehicles:

2800 block of Diode  
2700 block of Grassland Drive  
10801 Electron Drive (vehicle batteries)  
8600 block of Longborough Way  
8600 block of Chipstone Court  
9100 block of Pine Lake Drive  
2900 block of Six Mile Lane  
8900 block of Reinhart Way

Theft of vehicle:

11012 St. Rene Road  
9800 block of Galene Drive (attempted theft)

Theft of Trailer:

11866 Capital Way (also had a Bobcat bucket sitting on trailer)  
2013 Watterson Trail North

Theft from Construction Site:

200 Stony Brook Drive

*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)*