

## **FRESNO POLICE & NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**



# **COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

We are a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) corporation engaging in communities all over the city of Fresno to build better, safer neighborhoods for everyone.

# **EDUCATE \* EMPOWER \* ENGAGE**

# What happens when I call police dispatch?

#### **June 2023**

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3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

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works.

Calendar,
 Sign update, and
 NW for HOA or
 Apartments

When you call the Fresno Police Non-Emergency line at 559-621-7000 or 9-1-1 during an emergency, you speak with one of a handful of dispatchers for the Fresno Police Department tasked with the enormous and underrated job of answering almost one million calls for service per year in the City of Fresno. Our emergency services dispatchers, who were added to the ranks of First Responders on September 11, 2020, under Assembly Bill 1945, were officially recognized by the State of California with this distinction. These dispatchers are broken up into groups with specific duties of receiving and relaying information to the appropriate parties. When you make a non-emergency call for an issue, your issue is given a call priority based on the situation and several variables. Zero priority is reserved for emergencies with immediate need such as a threat to life or a crime in progress. The next stage is a one-priority meaning it is not an immediate emergency however it is a high-priority call. These calls are responded to after all zero-priority calls have been handled. Your situation might be the worst thing that has happened to you and will be handled as soon as possible. However, it may not fit the one or zero-priority criteria at the time of your call. For instance, if someone broke your car window and took something but has already left the scene and there is no immediate danger, this may be a two priority. Do not be deterred from calling because you feel that it will take too long or not be handled. You can guarantee that the problem will surely not be handled if you never call. The Fresno Police Department relies on citizens to report crime in their neighborhoods, and we all must work together to make Fresno safer!

#### Why does it take so long for dispatch to answer?

The current dispatch team is short approximately fifteen positions and despite their valiant efforts, the team works from a relatively small room in the basement of Police headquarters. The good news is the city is hiring more dispatchers and they were recently approved to receive higher pay. In addition, a new state-of-the-art dispatch center is in the



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#### **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

Fresno Police and Neighborhood Watch



Makefresnosafer.org

#### contactFPNW@gmail.com



#### Fresno Police Non-Emergency

559-621-7000

Online reporting www.fresno.gov/police



TIP HOTLINE 559-498-STOP CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A TIP

Emergency-Life threatening or crime in progress.

Dial – 9-1-1

**Code enforcement issues** 

Dial 3-1-1

#### Or use the FresGo App





Android

Apple

#### What if I call from my cell phone?

A few years ago, calling from your cell phone would have connected you with CHP (California Highway Patrol) but now the technology has adapted to work differently based on your location. If you do happen to get connected to CHP, they are able to quickly transfer you to a Fresno PD dispatcher if needed.

"Fresno PD communications center personnel strive to serve the citizens of Fresno daily with a professional and caring demeanor, as they process on average over 950,000 incoming emergency and non-emergency calls per year. Our Emergency Services Dispatchers work tirelessly to ensure the safety of the citizens and officers they serve in the City of Fresno, as the unseen First Responders at the Fresno Police Department."

Lt. Larry Bowlan,

# THE ROZ CLARK AWARD

In honor of Roz Clark



🖉 Gurdeep Singh Shergill

Gurdeep is an amazingly dedicated community member who is involved in many areas of community engagement. Gurdeep is a neighbor to many including our own Chief Marketing Officer Brandon Waters, but he is also a well-loved elementary school teacher, radio host on AM 900 Punjabi, A real estate agent, a Member of Mayor Dyer's One Fresno board, and much more. Gurdeep is the definition of service to the community and has organized and participated in countless community events not just for the Punjabi community at large, but for all of Fresno. Most recently he was the host of the GHG Academy community picnic event at the Jaswant Singh Khalra Park in Northwest Fresno. This event was sponsored by many generous persons and businesses in the local Punjabi community and even served free Indian food to a large crowd of visitors. Gurdeep is also a major supporter of the Fresno Police and Neighborhood Watch group making him our pick for the third edition Roz Clark Award honor.



THIS SECTION IS A HIGHLIGHT OF WHO IS WHO IN NEIGHBORHOODS ACROSS THE CITY OF FRESNO WHO EMBODY ROZ CLARK'S LEGACY



Talk to your neighbors and look out for each other. A Neighborhood Watch group is a fantastic way to build a strong relationship with your neighbors where you improve everyone's quality of life. Start by canvassing your immediate neighborhood and see if you can host a social event in a general location. The more the merrier. Food is a terrific way to bring people together!

Share your concerns and discuss ways neighbors can help each other.





If you have an upcoming event or would like to plan one, and have a Neighborhood Watch representative attend, let us know by emailing us at contactfpnw@gmail.com.

# **Identity Theft and Online Reporting**

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information (i.e., your name, address, and social security number) to open credit card accounts, loans, etc., in your name without your permission.

There are several ways in which thieves obtain your personal information, including:

- Stealing incoming or outgoing mail.
- Finding old bills or statements while rummaging through trash.
- Stealing computing equipment (laptops, personal computers, mobile devices, etc.) containing consumer information.
- Contacting you directly through social engineering or through e-mail (phishing).

The following three credit reporting bureaus offer products and services designed to help you manage your credit rating as well as your risk of identity theft:

- Equifax <u>www.equifax.com</u>
- Experian (formerly TRW) <u>www.experian.com</u>
- Trans Union <u>www.tuc.com</u>

Remember the FACT Act amendments to the Fair Credit Reporting Act entitles you to one free credit report in a 12-month period. You can learn more about this by visiting *www.annualcreditreport.com*.

If you believe you have been a victim of identity theft, file a report with the police as soon as possible.

How to Report a Crime online - <a href="https://www.fresno.gov/police/police-online-reporting-system/">https://www.fresno.gov/police/police-online-reporting-system/</a>

Please confirm the following to find out if online filing is right for you:

- 1. This is not an emergency.
- 2. This incident occurred within the Fresno City limits.
- 3. This did not occur on a state freeway.
- 4. This does not involve a motor vehicle and/or license plate theft.
- 5. This does not involve theft from someone unlawfully entering your home.

If all the statements above apply to your case, you are ready to file your report online.

For emergencies, please call <u>9-1-1</u>.

For non-emergencies, you may also call (559) 621-7000.

Types of incidents that can be reported online:

- Custody Order Violation
- Fraud and Identity Theft
- Harassing Phone Calls excluding threats of imminent harm or death
- Hit & Run Property damage only.
- Lost Property
- Theft Except motor vehicles and license plates
- Supplemental Property Form Add additional property to your original case number.
- Vandalism Excluding graffiti.
- Vehicle Burglary

Upon completion of this process, you will: See the words: "Your report has been submitted" showing that your report is complete. You will also be given a temporary case number and be able to print a copy of the report to keep for your records. Please Note: All cases filed online will be reviewed. Upon review, if further investigation of your case is needed, you may be contacted. **Filing a false police report is a crime.** \*Source: Fresno Police Website



# **CAPTAIN'S CORNER**



Captain Michael Landon SW District Commander

Who can improve your neighborhood? YOU can! Who can make your neighborhood a great community? WE ALL can!

Too often in today's world our neighborhoods are just a place we drive or walk through to get home. We may see a streetlight out, an overgrown lawn or some graffiti on a fence. After passing through a few times, we may grow accustomed to seeing those things and think of it as someone else's problem. Once we are home our contact with others living nearby may be limited. Our attention may be drawn to our daily household responsibilities or all too often, our cell phones. As time goes on another streetlight fails, more graffiti is added to the fence and there is an increase in crime in the area.

One must ask, what if one person (you) made a simple change to that routine? What if that one person arrived home and took just a minute to access the FresGo App to report the failed streetlight and the graffiti on the fence? The answer is that one person just improved their neighborhood!

What if that one person took it a step further? That person decided once a week or so, they would take advantage of the opportunity of seeing a neighbor out and introduce themselves. The following week they seize another opportunity to meet another neighbor and introduce them to the first neighbor. In speaking with their neighbors, they begin to learn about shared interests, struggles, and concerns. They might also learn the person with the overgrown lawn is elderly, lives alone, has no family in town, and is struggling with health issues. That person (you) and their newfound partners in the neighborhood decide to pitch in and help this person with their lawn and any other way they can.

That person and their neighbors felt a collective sense of accomplishment with relatively little effort and decided to partner with Fresno Police Neighborhood Watch to see what else was possible. In doing so, they held a block party, met more neighbors, shared stories, shared concerns, and learned about the different cultures represented in their neighborhood. They were joined by representatives from Fresno Police Neighborhood Watch who shared information about crime prevention and connected them with multiple City and County resources to help them in the future. As a group, they decided to take a few short hours on a weekend, pick up some trash and plant a few donated trees. Who improved this neighborhood? YOU did! Who made this neighborhood a great community? WE ALL did!

#### Southwest

### **Captain Landon**

Michael.landon@fresno.gov

# Central

### **Captain Beckwith**

Robert.Beckwith@fresno.gov

# Southeast

## **Captain Ramos**

David.Ramos@fresno.gov

## Northeast

## **Captain Horsford**

Jennifer.Horsford@fresno.gov

# Northwest Captain Martinez

Anthony.Martinez@fresno.gov

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**MARY HASKIN** 

### YOUR FPNW EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER** 

**BRANDON WATERS** 

#### YOUR FPD CRIME PREVENTION OFFICERS

Central: CSO Danny Guzman Danny.Guzman@fresno.gov 559-621-6244

Northwest: CSO Marily Rendon Marily.Rendon@fresno.gov 559-621-6530

Northeast: CSO Kendall Cardoza <u>kendallann.cardoza@fresno.gov</u> 559-621-6425

Southeast: CSO Beth Wicklander Elizabeth.wicklander@fresno.gov 559-621-6308

Southwest: CSO Christina Hoemberg <u>Christina.hoemberg@fresno.gov</u> 559-621-6110

#### Fresno Police and Neighborhood Watch Community Calendar







Illegal Firework Activity Code Violations on Private Property Graffiti Parking Meter Boat, Trailer, RV, Semi: On street storage A vehicle parked on street over 72 hours Water Operation – Leaks of city lines or fire hydrants Water Conservation Services- By appt. Report Water Waste Water Quality Inquiry Street Lighting Street Sweeping

The city has begun installing the new neighborhood watch signs in neighborhoods across Fresno that have established Neighborhood Watch groups. Do you want one? Sign up at makefresnosafer.org!

 Traffic Signs and Roadway Striping

 Pothole

 Blocked Roadway/Sidewalk

 Concrete – Sidewalk and Curb/Gutter

 City Maintained Landscape

 Illegal Dumping\Litter

 Missed Pickup

 Broken Container

 Operation Cleanup

 Parks and Recreation

 Bus Stop/Shelter Issue

 Sewer/Collection System Maintenance

 Traffic Signal

 Street Trees

#### "SEE SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!"

Do you live in an apartment complex or HOA and wonder if you could have a neighborhood watch? Of course, you can, and we would love to talk to you and your property managers about how to make it work. Neighborhood Watch is for all neighborhoods, big and small.



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