

LVHA Community Watch

LVHA encourages residents to help keep our community safe by observing and reporting suspicious activity to Marin County Sheriff's Office. Dog walkers, strollers, runners, bicyclists, bird watching – whatever your motivation to be out and about in our community, please be aware and prepared to help law enforcement.

Carry with you:

- Cell phone/mobile device
- Pen and paper
- Flashlight when out at night

Safety First

- If you see suspicious activity, identify the nearest safe location.
- If it is safe to do so, photograph the suspicious person, vehicle or situation, and make notes of the circumstances, time and location.
- If you sense danger, move to safety immediately and call 911 enroute.
- After calling 911, call a nearby friend or family member for assistance/transportation.
- Definitely **do NOT get physically involved** if you see a suspicious person.

What are Considered Suspicious and/or Unusual Activities?

- Does an individual(s) appear to have a destination or are they just wandering the neighborhood? Are solicitors canvassing the neighborhood? Note: A uniform and clipboard does not mean an individual is who they appear to be!
- Don't hesitate to ask for the identification required of vendors, contractors and service personnel, and report any reluctance, belligerence or refusal.
- Doors are often open in our community – is this accompanied by unusual activity such as unfamiliar persons, a vehicle backed into the driveway, unboxed household items loaded in an unfamiliar vehicle?
- Is an individual knocking on doors, claiming to be in the wrong location and/or asking for a nonexistent person(s)?
- Is an unfamiliar individual behaving aggressively; seem to be secretive, nervous, in a hurry or have a sense of urgency?
- Is an adult, juvenile or child resisting the advances of another person?
- Does an adult appear to be asking a child for help?
- Is an individual walking to the rear of a property?
- Is your gut feeling something is, or might be, wrong?
- Is a vehicle parked in an unusual location?
- Is there a vehicle that does not seem to belong?
- Is there an unoccupied idling vehicle?
- Is there property in a vehicle (television, laptop, pillow cases, etc.)?
- Is an individual(s) walking by or looking in parked vehicles with no apparent reason?
- Is a vehicle making repeated passes through a neighborhood?
- Is a vehicle traveling at an extremely low rate or high rate of speed in the neighborhood?
- Is a vehicle driving at night with no headlights or does the driver seem to be intoxicated?
- Is there an "apparent business transaction" being conducted from the vehicle?

When Should You Call 911

- Call **911** anytime you believe an immediate Sheriff response is required. Otherwise, call the 24/7 nonemergency number **415-479-2311**. Remember, it is easier to prevent a crime than it is to solve a crime!
- When you call 911, let the 911 operator ask the questions. Remain calm and speak clearly.
- Have the following information available:
 - Nature of the emergency and or call (what is going on, description of individual(s), are weapons involved, time of incident, license number and description of the suspicious vehicle).
 - Location of the incident (street address, cross street, landmarks, direction of travel).
 - Your information (name, phone number, your present location).

Note: If you have a fire or medical emergency, use 911 or 415-472-0911 for a fire department or paramedic response.