

First Precinct - Sector 111 Community Report January 2011

Lieutenant James J. Laino

During the month of January, Sector 111 experienced a 38% increase in Major Crime; a 50% increase in violent crime (4 incidents in 2010 compared to 6 in 2011) and a 38% increase in property crime (36 incidents compared to 49 in 2011). This increase can be attributed to the rise in the following crime categories; individual robberies (1 in 2010 compared to 4 in 2011), residential burglaries (11/14), theft from buildings (4/7) and thefts related to motor vehicles (5/9). See below for information and crime trends for your neighborhood:

The current trend for the <u>Church Hill Neighborhood</u> is residential burglaries. During January, there were 3 reported at the following locations; 2900 block of E. Franklin Street, 2900 block of E. Marshall Street and the 300 block of N 32nd Street. All 3 of these incidents occurred during the day, in two they entered through the rear window and the third they entered through the front window. The suspect(s) removed electronics, cameras and jewelry. Information about these incidents was sent out through the Church Hill Crime Watch. We have increased patrols in the Church Hill Neighborhood and the surrounding areas during the daytime hours and urge residents who are home during the day to be on the alert for any suspicious activity, especially in the alleys.

The <u>Church Hill North Neighborhood</u> also experienced an increase in residential burglaries; there were 3 reported during the month of January; 1100 block of N 27th Street, 1100 block of N 29th Street and 1500 block of N 30th Street. The point of entry for the three incidents included the backdoor, side window and window which contained a portable air conditioner. It should also be noted that two of the three homes were vacant at the time of the break-in. There was also an increase in the number of thefts related to motor vehicles, there were two reported, in one the window was smashed and a phone charger removed and in the other the vehicle was left unlocked and a firearm stolen. We have increased patrols in the Church Hill North Neighborhood during the early morning hours since the majority of the noted crime above occurred overnight.

There is currently no crime trend for the <u>Chimborazo Neighborhood</u>. However information was received that there is an apartment being used on the weekends to host illegal gambling. The Environmental Officer, Harold Ford, is following up on this information and I will provide results in next months report. We have included the Chimborazo Neighborhood in our increased daytime patrols in an attempt to deter the suspects from moving to your neighborhood.

The <u>Oakwood Neighborhood</u> has also experienced two residential burglaries, one in the 3400 block of S Street and the other in the 1100 block of Oakwood Avenue. Both residents had the backdoor kicked in and money, electronics and jewelry stolen. We have included the Oakwood Neighborhood with the patrols being conducted in Church Hill North since the incidents occurred during the evening hours.

Like some of the other neighborhoods, <u>Fulton</u> is also experiencing a rise in residential burglaries, there were 5 reported in January. Of the 5 reported, 4 occurred in the Woodcroft Village Apartments located on Jennie Scher Road during the day. During these 4 incidents suspects were able to gain entry through a window, which was either broken out or forced open. The 5th incident occurred in the 1300 block of Garber Street; a known male forced his way in the front door and then asked the home owner for money. The suspect left the area before police arrived and a warrant was obtained for his arrest. As a result of these incidents officers have increased patrols in the Woodcroft Apts during the day and the off-duty officers that work the property have been updated.

At this time there is no current trend in property crime in <u>Union Hill</u>, however there was a robbery reported in the 700 block of Mosby Street on Friday January 21st at approximately 6:20 pm. The victim and her grandson had exited the bus and were approached by an unknown male who produced a firearm and demanded her bag. The suspect was last seen running towards the 1900 block of Cedar Street. The suspect was described as a black male 20 to 30 years of age and medium build.

During the month of February the dayshift officers will focus on the residential burglaries in Church Hill and Fulton. The evening shift officers will focus on violent crime in Fulton, Church Hill North and Union Hill. And the midnight shift officers will focus on residential burglaries in Church Hill North and Oakwood. We will also continue to watch for trends in thefts related to motor vehicles in the neighborhoods of Church Hill, Church Hill North and Union Hill.

For those of you who have not had a chance to attend a Community Meeting I wanted to introduce you to Colette Wallace McEachin who is the Sector Prosecutor for Sector 111. She is a Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney and has worked in the CA's office for over 15 years. In addition to attending civic association meetings and events, she works with the police to keep track of Sector targets to make sure

that they are properly prosecuted, and is available to consult with officers regarding charging decisions at crime scenes or afterwards. If you have any legal questions regarding a suspect or criminal case, she will be happy to talk with you. Please call 646-4845 during business hours.

Sincerely, Lt. James Laino First Precinct - Sector 111 2501 Q St. (O) 646-0572 james.laino@richmondgov.com

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

First Precinct - 646-3602 Non-emergency number 646-5100 Truancy Hotline - 646-ABCD (2223) Drug Complaints 646-8123

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Burglaries:

- Ouring the winter months remove portable air conditioners from your windows; this has been a point of entry in recent burglaries.
- OMake sure you always lock your doors and windows when you leave home.
- oIf you are working in the rear yard, be sure to lock your front door.
- Obon't leave items out that can be used to gain entry through a window, such as ladders.
- Keep shrubs and trees trimmed.
- OMake sure sheds and outbuildings are always locked.
- Get to know your neighbors -keep a watch on each others property and exchange contact numbers in case there is an emergency.
- ODOn't leave items unsecured in your yard such as bikes and lawn mowers; this sometimes invites criminals onto your property.
- Notify the Police Dept if you are going on vacation or out of town on business. Motor Vehicle Theft:
- ONever leave your car running unattended (don't warm up your car)
- ONever leave a spare set of keys in your vehicle
- Keep your vehicle locked

Theft of a moped / bicycle:

- OAlways secure to a permanent structure at your home.
- ODocument the vehicle identification number VIN or serial number.
- Take a photo and document any unique characteristics (ex. stickers or damage).
- •If possible store in a shed or garage.

Thefts from motor vehicles:

- OAlways keep your vehicle locked.
- Obon't leave your car running or spare keys inside.
- Take personal items in your home/apartment or secure in the trunk especially IPod's, GPS's and change.
- •Inform your guests about leaving items in the interior of their vehicles.

o To prevent theft of license plates, purchase anti-theft license plate screws ranging from \$3 to \$10 at your local hardware or auto parts store. You should also cut an "X" in your license plate decals once they are affixed.