



Church Hill North / Command Staff and Community Walk at 29th & U Street September 2nd, 2015 5:30 pm

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Greetings,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself if we haven't already met. I am Lieutenant Jeremy Sayles with the Richmond Police Department, 1st Precinct. I am the Sector Lieutenant for Church Hill North. In 2015 Church Hill North is doing well at preventing and solving crimes. Violent crime is down 15% year to date while and property crime is down 14%. These numbers show we are headed in a positive direction however we still need your assistance to continue to reduce crime within Church Hill North. Below I have listed some basic crime prevention tips that will help you in doing your part to lower crime in Church Hill North.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

1. Report any suspicious activity or persons in your neighborhood to 911. As I always say, we would rather you call and it be nothing than to find out we could have prevented or stopped a crime from happening. You know better than anyone who belongs in your neighborhood. People who you don't recognize from your neighborhood wearing hooded sweatshirts during the heat of the day, and/or carrying backpacks are causes for concern.
2. Remove newspapers daily and put a hold on your mail service if you leave town even if just for a couple of days. Remove your trash cans from the curb the day they are emptied. If you are out of town, have a neighbor do it. Thieves look for these signs often before committing a crime.

3. Let a neighbor and the precinct know when you will be out of town. If you are leaving town, don't make it obvious to would be burglars. If you contact 1st Police Precinct or contact your Sector Lieutenant, that's me, we can assign officers to do residence checks on your property while you are away.
4. Inspect your home's door and window locks and make sure they are working properly.
5. Don't leave notes on your front door for anyone. That's an open invitation for a break-in if the wrong person finds it.
6. Make sure your landscaping does not provide a hiding place for burglars. Trim your hedges and keep large bushes away from windows and corners or alcoves.
7. Don't depend on your alarm system. Failure and false alarms are not uncommon.
8. In the event your home is broken into, don't reward the burglar. Don't keep large sums of cash in the home. Utilize a bulky safe for jewelry and firearms. Record all serial numbers, photograph your expensive items, and apply identifying numbers to items without them (not your social security number).
9. Don't forget to secure your shed with a heavy duty lock. This doesn't always stop thieves but it will slow them down, cause noise so your neighbors may hear and call the police and it can also be a deterrent.

If you follow these basic safety tips it will greatly reduce your probability of becoming a victim of property crime and if you are still victimized they will assist the officers and detectives that are investigating your case.

Join your neighbors at the next Church Hill Central meeting, held on Monday Oct 5th, at the Robinson Theater located at 2903 Q Street from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm