



HUNTINGTON BEACH
**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH
NEWSLETTER**



Date: January 2010 Vol. 38 No. 1

POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY	911	Information Desk	714 960-8843
NON-EMERGENCY/DISPATCH	714 960-8825	Graffiti Hot Line	714 960-8861
POLICE Business Line	714 960-8811	Neighborhood Watch- Nilda Berndt	714 536-5933
Vacation House Checks (RSVP)	714 374-1507	Layout/Graphic Design	Tom Gaccione
Website	www.hbpd.org	E-mail	nberndt@hbpd.org

Compiled and edited by Nilda Patiño de Berndt, HBPD Community Relations Specialist

DECEMBER DONATION UPDATE

The Huntington Beach Neighborhood Watch Program (HBNW) **fiscal year** is from July 1 to June 30 each year. We have estimated we will need approximately \$25,000 this year to cover the various HBNW program expenses which include, but are not limited to, newsletter assembly, distribution costs, returned postage, mailing labels, etc. From the start of our fiscal year to now, we have received **\$8,549 in donations and newsletter advertisements-- we have \$16,451 to go** by June 30 2010. The HBNW Board thanks you and our advertisers for your support and generous donations. A \$6 donation pays for each subscriber's distribution costs; a \$10 donation helps with these costs and other needed expenses and puts your name in the Newsletter as a contributor; and a \$25 or more donation accomplishes the above, plus you will receive a HBNW sticker and a token of appreciation. Remember, HBNW is a non-profit organization; donations are tax deductible.

As a citizen of the city, we encourage you to review the HBNW program budget and expenses.

We strongly suggest you sign up to receive your Newsletter either electronically or through the mail. The Newsletter has valuable crime prevention information and crime statistics. Donations are not necessary to receive the Newsletter, but if you wish to make a donation, please make your check payable to:

HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

**Send to: HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
PO BOX 5667
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92615**

**Or: HB POLICE DEPARTMENT
Attn: NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
2000 MAIN ST.
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648**

For more information please call (714) 536-5933.

**PREPARATION
TIPS FOR 2010**



The holidays are over, and now is a good time to update your home inventory list. Take photos or a video of items and list descriptions and serial numbers when possible. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file. Make sure things like TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment and power tools are on the list. Remember to check it twice.

Be sure to send for a copy of your Credit Report (remember you are entitled to **one free** copy from **each credit reporting agency annually**). Check it thoroughly for any discrepancies. If you notice anything wrong or have questions do not hesitate to call the credit bureau to report it. The phone numbers and e-mail addresses are as follows:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285
www.equifax.com

Experian: 1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289
www.transunion.com

If you file a complaint about something on your credit report be sure to:

- Keep records of all communication related to your case.
- Follow up phone calls with letters (sent by certified mail) so there is a written record.



Petition Scams

Most of us would like to be the lucky person that wins a million dollars or an all expense paid trip to Hawaii.

When you see people in front of or inside movie theatres, retail, or grocery stores asking you to sign a petition for the opportunity to win a free all-expense paid trip, etc., do you really know what will happen to the information you've provided these strangers?

People regularly sign these forms that ask birth dates, your home address, telephone number, cell phone, income, where you work, etc. If you are not dealing with an organization you are familiar with, look them up in the phone book, on-line, or call information. Be sure they are recognized by the state and are tax exempt if you plan on writing off any donation you might make when you file your taxes. Remember, just as we urge you not to give any personal information out over the phone, also keep this in mind regardless of where you are and who approaches you.



Work at Home Scams

(from the US Postal Inspection Service)

The latest scam to hit the Internet has just arrived: Jobs for people seeking part-time positions- called "mail assistants"- for work done at home. Vacancies are posted on *Craigslist.com* under the name of ABS Consulting. Based in the country of Luxembourg, ABS purports to have facilities throughout Europe referred to as "Forward Luxembourg". It claims to be a leading global provider of risk-management services.

Job seekers- typically college students looking for summer work- are told they will provide mail forwarding services for expatriates, international travelers and seasonal workers from around the world. They are asked to perform simple tasks:

- Receive mail at home
- Scan the front of each envelope received
- E-mail scanned images to the company
- Ship accumulated mail bi-weekly, using prepaid UPS or FedEx postage labels provided via e-mail.

After two weeks on the job, assistants get an e-mail promising an \$800 paycheck, plus an extra \$200 bonus. But to test their "integrity", they're told they'll get a check for \$2,800- and must mail a check back to return the extra money.

The \$2,800 check may look legitimate but- big surprise- it's bogus. So instead of getting paid, the college student now has to pay the bank the full amount. Worse, the scammer now has access to the student's checking account. And, the student is committing a criminal violation by scanning victims' mail.

The Postal Inspection Service is working to quickly shut down this scheme by attacking the problem from several angles. If you have information on this or similar scams, report it on-line at <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/> or call 1-877-876-2455 option 3.



What Seniors Should Know Before Hiring a Contractor



(from the CA Contractors State License Board)

Read "**What You Should Know Before You Hire a Contractor**", available online at www.cslb.ca.gov or at (800) 321-CSLB.

- Take your time before you make a decision about hiring a contractor.
- Get at least three bids and check references.
- Hire only licensed contractors. Anyone performing home improvement work valued at \$500 or more must be licensed by the Contractors State License Board.
- Get the contractor's license number and verify it online at www.cslb.ca.gov or at (800) 321-CSLB.

What you should know about the contract

- Get your contract in writing and don't sign anything until you understand the terms.
- Ask a friend or relative to review the contract before you sign it.

(continued on page 3)

What Seniors Should Know Before Hiring a Contractor (cont)

- Include in your contract a specific description of work to be done, materials to be used, total cost of the project, and start and completion dates.

What you should know Unscrupulous Contractor Scams

⚠ Door-to-Door Solicitations

A solicitor offers to do roofing, painting or paving work at a reduced price. Once payment is made, little or no work is done and the project is abandoned.

⚠ High Pressure Sales

An unscrupulous contractor pushes for an immediate decision about work which makes it impossible for the homeowner to get competitive bids, check licenses or review references.

⚠ Scare Tactics

A deceitful contractor offers to perform a free inspection then claims that faulty wiring, bad plumbing, or a leaky roof put the homeowner in peril. The alarmed homeowner agrees to unnecessary and over-priced work.

⚠ Demand for Cash

A contractor demands cash payments, sometimes going so far as to drive the victim to the bank to withdraw funds. With money in hand, the unscrupulous operator takes the money and runs.

⚠ Illegally Large Down Payments

A dishonest contractor takes more for a down payment than is allowed by law, claiming to need instant cash for supplies and to pay workers. By law, a down payment cannot exceed 10 percent of the project price or \$1,000, whichever is less.

⚠ Verbal Agreements

A contractor states that a written contract is unnecessary—promising to deliver on the verbal agreement. The shady operator takes advantage of the situation to perform shoddy work—or none at all.

What you should know about payments

- Don't pay cash.
- Include a payment schedule in your written contract.
- Don't pay more than 10 percent of the job or \$1,000, whichever is less, as a down payment.
- Don't let payments get ahead of the work.

What you should know about the Contractors State License Board

- The CSLB provides information about a contractor's license, bond and workers' compensation insurance status, as well as pending and prior legal actions.
- Free consumer publications and [complaint forms](#) are available from the CSLB.
- Go to CSLB's Web site at www.cslb.ca.gov, call (800) 321-CSLB, or write to CSLB, P.O. Box 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826 for information.

You can do more to protect yourself before hiring a contractor than the Contractors State License Board can do to help after you've been harmed.

Before you sign a contract;

Before you hire a contractor; or

Before you pay for work and repairs to your home;

Get free information from the Contractors State

License Board at www.cslb.ca.gov.

***If you want to build a happy life, you have to give
careful thought to the foundations.***

-Author unknown

***The ungrateful feel that it is below them to show
any kind of appreciation.***

-Author unknown



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mail to nberndt@hbpd.org**



RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO

The police patrol areas are the north and south. The patrol beats are 2-13. Your RD (Reporting District) is the half-mile square surrounding your home.

To locate your Beat and RD, please check the map on the back inside page. In most cases, your BEAT/RD is identified on your address mailing label.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

(Due to year end city employee furlough days, December crime statistics only cover 24 days)

22 entries Nov. 15 – Dec. 10

37 entries Oct. 15 – Nov. 15

Eight of the entries were due to **OPEN OR UNLOCKED** windows or doors. Six of these burglaries were committed during the day; four were committed at night, and twelve were committed at an unknown time.

There were two garage entries.

There was one storage unit entry

There was one attempted entry.

VEHICLE BURGLARIES

49 reported Nov. 15 - Dec. 10

76 reported Oct. 15 – Nov. 15

GRAND THEFT AUTO

22 reported Nov. 15 – Dec. 10

29 reported Oct. 15 – Nov. 15

BEAT 2

0 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
None reported

Vehicle Burglaries
RD 476-2

Grand Theft Auto
RD 474-1

BEAT 3

2 Residential Burglaries
0 Vehicle Burglaries
0 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
RD 446-1 RD 454-1

Streets: Bay Meadow Dr. and Modoc Cr.

Vehicle Burglaries
None reported

Grand Theft Auto
None reported

BEAT 4

3 Residential Burglaries
5 Vehicle Burglaries
5 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
RD 432-1 RD 443-1
RD 452-1

Streets: Alsuna Ln., Elmira Ave, and Cape coral Ln.

There was one garage burglary.

Vehicle Burglaries
RD 432-1 RD 442-3
RD 452-1

Grand Theft Auto
RD 432-3 RD 442-1
RD 463-1

BEAT 5

2 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
4 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
RD 425-1 RD 434-1

Streets: Velardo Dr. and Phoenix Ln.

Vehicle Burglaries
RD 436-2

Grand Theft Auto
RD 426-1 RD 435-2
RD 436-1

BEAT 6

4 Residential Burglaries
8 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
RD 339-1 RD 359-1
RD 441-1 RD 461-1

Streets: Quiet Bay Ln, 13th St., 14th St., and Lake St.

Vehicle Burglaries
RD 326-1 RD 348-3
RD 349-1 RD 359-1
RD 451-1 RD 461-1

Grand Theft Auto
RD 431-1

BEAT 7

1 Residential Burglary
2 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
RD 292-1

Streets: Parkview Dr.

Vehicle Burglaries
RD 293-1 RD 412-1

Grand Theft Auto
RD 292-1

BEAT 8

1 Residential Burglary
2 Vehicle Burglaries
2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries
RD 179-1

Streets: Goldenwest St.

In RD 179, Goldenwest St., Suspect is known. Description male, white, 19 yrs old, slim build, height 5'11" weight about 150 lbs., hazel eyes and brown hair.

Vehicle Burglaries
RD 179-1 RD 199-1

Grand Theft Auto
RD 178-1 RD 179-1

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO

BEAT 9

4 Residential Burglaries
5 Vehicle Burglaries
3 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 263-2 RD 264-1
RD 281-1

Streets: Tamaru Dr., Irby Ln.,
Viceroy Cr., and Gothard St.

There was one attempted entry.

There was one storage unit entry.

In RD 263 Irby Ln.; Victim believes
her audible alarm scared off the
suspects.

In RD 264 Viceroy Cr; Suspect was
described as male, black, 30 – 35
years old, 6’ 00”, 180 – 190 lbs.,
wearing a black hooded “jump suit”.

In RD 281 Gothard St., Suspect(s)
are possibly already in custody

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 263-2 RD 272-3

Grand Theft Auto

RD 271-1 RD 272-1
RD 273-1

BEAT 10

0 Residential Burglaries
9 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

None reported

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 153-1 RD 155-1
RD 164-2 RD 165-5

Grand Theft Auto

RD 151-1

BEAT 11

1 Residential Burglary
1 Vehicle Burglary
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 156-1

Streets: Santa Anita Ln.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 166-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 166-1

BEAT 12

3 Residential Burglaries
3 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 128-1 RD 138-1
RD 148-1

Streets: Glenwood Dr., La Salle Ln.,
and Willett Ln.

In RD 128, Glenwood Dr.; Suspect is
possibly known

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 126-1 RD 139-2

Grand Theft Auto

RD 126-1

BEAT 13

1 Residential Burglary
10 Vehicle Burglaries
2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 253-1

Streets: Edinger Ave.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 241-2 RD 242-2
RD 252-3 RD 253-1
RD 262-2

Grand Theft Auto

RD 242-1 RD 262-1

IF YOUR STREET WAS LISTED AS HAVING A RESIDENTIAL OR VEHICLE BURGLARY, IT WOULD BE WISE TO SCHEDULE A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING. REMEMBER, THE BEST DEFENSE IS A GOOD NEIGHBOR.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL NILDA PATIÑO de BERNDT, HBPD COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST AT (714) 536-5933.

FREE VACATION HOUSE CHECKS AVAILABLE

Do you wonder whom you should call to check on your home when you’re going to be away for an extended period of time? Your first thoughts usually go towards a family member or friend, but sometimes you may feel it might be a bother for them because they live a distance away or don’t really have the time.

The Huntington Beach Police Department provides House Vacation Checks courtesy of the HBPD Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

There’s absolutely NO fee for this service and it’s easy to sign up. You may call the HBPD RSVP office at 714-374-1507 to complete the form over the phone or you can check out the HBPD web page at www.hbpd.org and click on “Vacation House Check”. Please provide at least 1 week notice before you leave on your trip.



SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS LISTED BELOW FOR THEIR DONATIONS

Janice Adams
 Dorothy Alexander
 George Braun
 Col. J. Carranza, Jr.
 James and Loretta Collins
 Bob and Teresa Coronado
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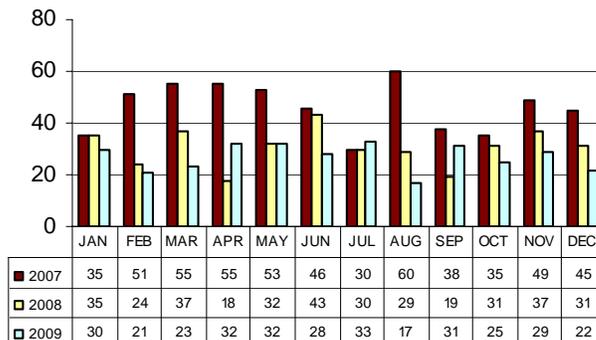
HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BOARD MEETING
 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010 AT 6:30 PM
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 714-536-5933



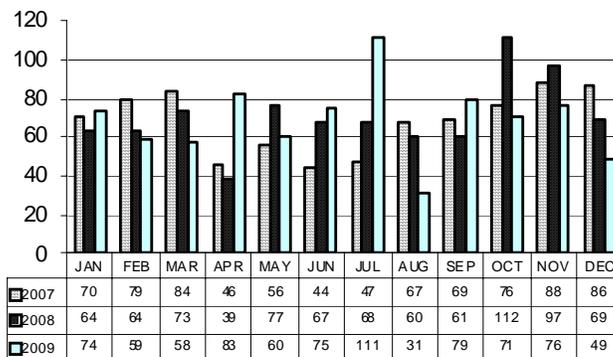
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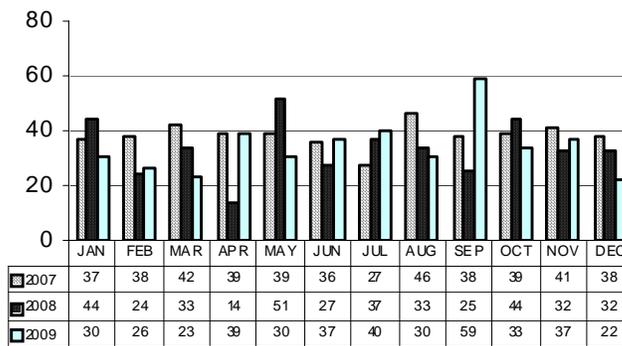
GRAND THEFT AUTO



VEHICLE BURGLARIES



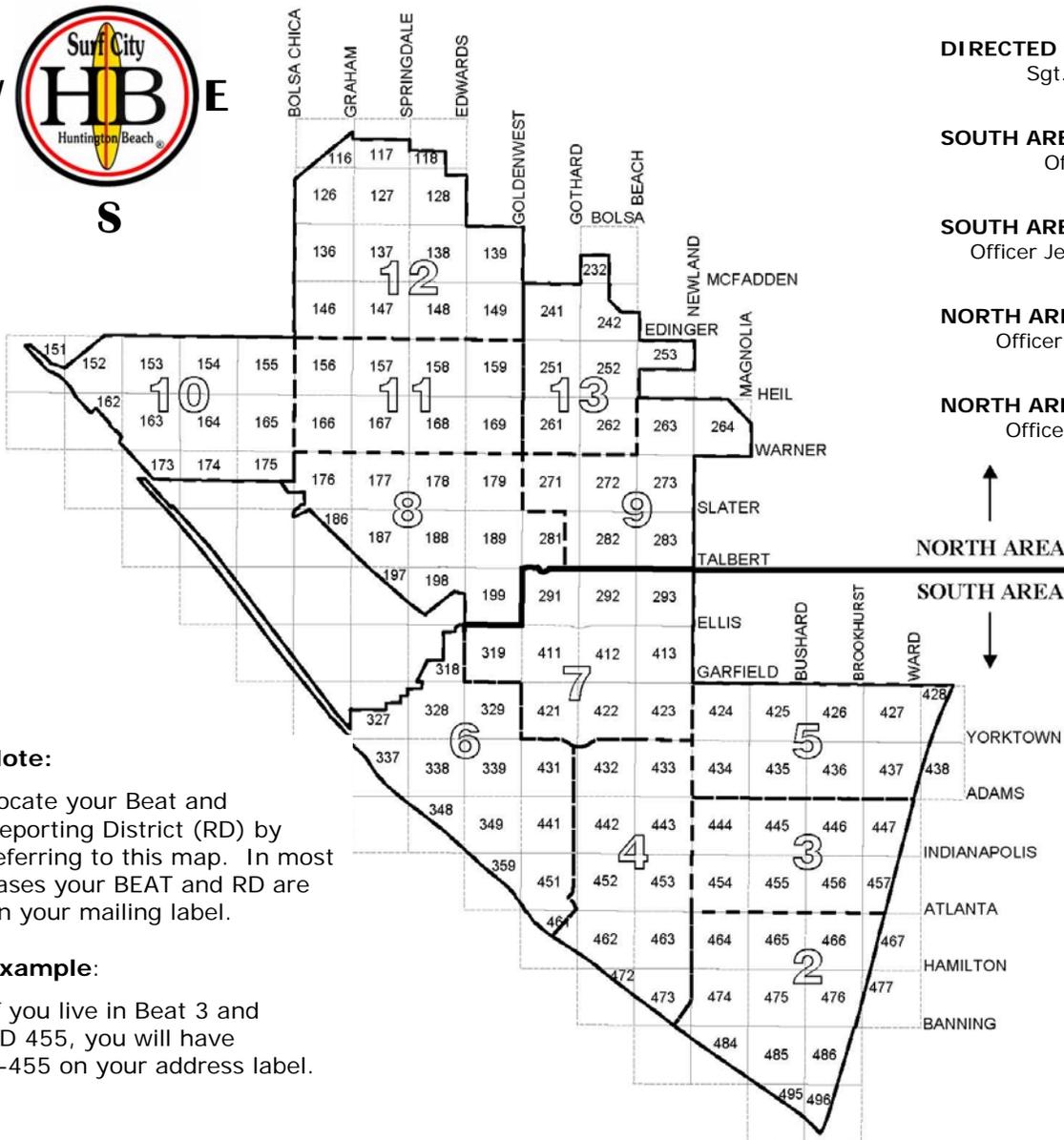
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES



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 e-mail: mobrien@hbpd.org

DIRECTED ENFORCEMENT TEAM (DET)
 Sgt. Mike Freeman (714) 374-1664
 e-mail: mjfreeman@hbpd.org

SOUTH AREA: BEATS 2, 3, & 5
 Officer Dan Boldt (714) 960-4540
 e-mail: dboldt@hbpd.org

SOUTH AREA: BEATS 4, 6, & 7
 Officer Jerry Goodspeed (714) 536-2942
 e-mail: jgoodspeed@hbpd.org

NORTH AREA: BEATS 8, 9, & 13
 Officer Dave Wiederin (714) 375-5095
 e-mail: dwiederin@hbpd.org

NORTH AREA: BEATS 10, 11, & 12
 Officer Rich Eidlhuber (714) 375-5140
 e-mail: reidlhuber@hbpd.org

Note:

Locate your Beat and Reporting District (RD) by referring to this map. In most cases your BEAT and RD are on your mailing label.

Example:

If you live in Beat 3 and RD 455, you will have 3-455 on your address label.

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