



HUNTINGTON BEACH
**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH
NEWSLETTER**



**TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME®**

Date: December 2016 Vol. 44 No. 12

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 by Nilda Patiño de Berndt, HBPD Community Relations Specialist

NOVEMBER 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 \$24,300 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 **\$7,349.00 in donations and newsletter advertisements- we have \$16,951.00 to go by June 30, 2017.** The HBNW Board thanks you and our advertisers for your support and generous donations. An \$8 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 resident 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.



**BEWARE OF FAKE
SHOPPING WEBSITES**

Provided by Consumer-Action.org

The holidays are upon us and many consumers have encountered problems with online orders from shopping sites that look like they are based in the U.S. but are actually based overseas; out of reach of many legal protections for shoppers. In the cases we've seen, consumers either do not receive their orders or receive products that are poorly made, in the wrong size, or do not match the advertised product. Often, when the consumer tries to return the products, they learn that the shipping costs would be exorbitant.

Because these companies are overseas, there's very little recourse when something goes wrong so prevention is the best prescription. Here are some tips on spotting a fake site:

- Look for a physical address and phone number on the website.
- Before ordering, try to call any listed phone number to see if it works. Beware of post office box addresses, which may indicate that there is no physical address and that mail is forwarded elsewhere.
- Check where the products will be shipped from. If they are shipped from overseas, the order may take a long time arrive (or never arrive) or you could receive the wrong product.
- Find reviews (if any) about the company by entering its name in a search engine.
- Compare the prices on its products on other more well-known sites. It could be a red flag for fraud if its prices are a lot lower than at other sites.
- Review the terms and conditions of the site.

(continued on page 3)



Before Giving To a Charity *Provided by the Federal Trade Commission*

If you're considering a request for a donation to a charity, do some research before you give. By finding out as much as you can about the charity, you can avoid fraudsters who try to take advantage of your generosity. Here are some tips to help make sure your charitable contributions are put to good use. For more information, visit ftc.gov/charityfraud.

Signs of a Charity Scam

These days, charities and fundraisers (groups that solicit funds on behalf of organizations) use the phone, face-to-face contact, email, the internet (including social networking sites), and mobile devices to solicit and obtain donations. Naturally, scammers use these same methods to take advantage of your goodwill. Regardless of how they reach you, avoid any charity or fundraiser that:

- Refuses to provide detailed information about its identity, mission, costs, and how the donation will be used.
- Won't provide proof that a contribution is tax deductible.
- Uses a name that closely resembles that of a better-known, reputable organization.
- Thanks you for a pledge you don't remember making.
- Uses high-pressure tactics like trying to get you to donate immediately, without giving you time to think about it and do your research.
- Asks for donations in cash or asks you to wire money.
- Offers to send a courier or overnight delivery service to collect the donation immediately.
- Guarantees sweepstakes winnings in exchange for a contribution. By law, you never have to give a donation to be eligible to win a sweepstakes.

Charity Checklist

Take the following precautions to make sure your donation benefits the people and organizations you want to help.

- Ask for detailed information about the charity, including name, address, and telephone number.
- Get the exact name of the organization and do some research. Searching the name of the organization online — especially with the word “complaint(s)” or “scam”— is one way to learn about its reputation.
- Call the charity. Find out if the organization is aware of the solicitation and has authorized the use of its name. The organization's development staff should be able to help you.
- Find out if the charity or fundraiser must be registered in your state by contacting the [National Association of State Charity Officials](#).
- Check if the charity is trustworthy by contacting the [Better Business Bureau's \(BBB\) Wise Giving Alliance](#), [Charity Navigator](#), [Charity Watch](#), or [GuideStar](#).
- Ask if the caller is a paid fundraiser. If so, ask:
 - The name of the charity they represent.
 - The percentage of your donation that will go to the charity.
 - How much will go to the actual cause to which you're donating.
 - How much will go to the fundraiser.
- Keep a record of your donations.
- Make an annual donation plan. That way, you can decide which causes to support and which reputable charities should receive your donations.

(continued on page 3)



Before Giving To a Charity

(continued from page 2)



- Visit this [Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\) webpage](#) to find out which organizations are eligible to receive tax deductible contributions.
- Know the difference between “tax exempt” and “tax deductible.” Tax exempt means the organization doesn’t have to pay taxes. Tax deductible means you can deduct your contribution on your federal income tax return.
- Never send cash donations. For security and tax purposes, it’s best to pay by check — made payable to the charity — or by credit card.
- Never wire money to someone claiming to be a charity. Scammers often request donations to be wired because wiring money is like sending cash: once you send it, you can’t get it back.
- Do not provide your credit or check card number, bank account number or any personal information until you’ve thoroughly researched the charity.
- Be wary of charities that spring up too suddenly in response to current events and natural disasters. Even if they are legitimate, they probably don’t have the infrastructure to get the donations to the affected area or people.
- If a donation request comes from a group claiming to help your local community (for example, local police or firefighters), ask the local agency if they have heard of the group and are getting financial support.
- What about texting? If you text to donate, the charge will show up on your mobile phone bill. If you’ve asked your mobile phone provider to block premium text messages — texts that cost extra — then you won’t be able to donate this way.

Charities and the Do Not Call Registry

The [National Do Not Call Registry](#) gives you a way to reduce telemarketing calls, but it exempts charities and political groups. However, if a fundraiser is calling on behalf of a charity, you may ask not to get any more calls from, or on behalf of, that specific charity. If those calls continue, the fundraiser may be subject to a fine.

Report Charity Scams

If you think you’ve been the victim of a charity scam or if a fundraiser has violated Do Not Call rules, [file a complaint](#) with the Federal Trade Commission. Your complaints can help detect patterns of wrong-doing and lead to investigations and prosecutions.

Beware of Fake Shopping Websites (from page 1)

- Look for its refund policy, average delivery times, and return shipping costs.
- Always use a credit card; Credit cards provide more protection than a debit or prepaid card if you need to dispute the purchase.

Report fraudulent shopping sites to:

- [Federal Trade Commission](#)
- [Your state attorney general](#)
- [Internet Crime Complaint Center](#)

Consumer Action empowers low- and moderate-income and limited-English-speaking consumers nationwide to financially prosper through education and advocacy. For help in knowing where to file your consumer complaints, contact our Hotline via our [website](#) or at 415-777-9635. English, [Spanish](#) and Chinese spoken.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO

HB police patrol areas are the North and the South. Patrol beats are 2-9. 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

30 reports 10/16/16- 11/15/16
37 reports 09/16/16- 10/15/16

Seven of the entries were due to **OPEN OR UNLOCKED** windows or doors. Eleven of these burglaries were committed during the day, nine were committed at night, and ten at an unknown time.

There were six garage entries.

There was one storage unit entry.

There were eight attempted entries.

VEHICLE BURGLARIES

32 reports 10/16/16- 11/15/16
54 reports 09/16/16- 10/15/16

GRAND THEFT AUTO

45 reports 10/16/16- 11/15/16
41 reports 09/16/16- 10/15/16

BEAT 2

4 Residential Burglaries
4 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 457-2 RD 473-1
RD 476-1

Streets: Cynthia Dr., Spindrift Ln., Newland St., and Rockpoint Dr.

In RD 457, Cynthia Dr., suspect may be known.

In RD 473, Newland St., suspect is in custody.

In RD 476, Rockpoint Dr., it appears suspect(s) attempted to gain entry into the garage by damaging the garage door locking mechanism.

There was one attempted entry.

There was one garage entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 452-1 RD 466-1
RD 476-1 RD 495-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 452-1

BEAT 3

2 Residential Burglaries
6 Vehicle Burglaries
10 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 442-1 RD 466-1

Streets: Portland Cir. and Mammoth Dr.

In RD 446, Mammoth Dr., it appears suspect gained entry to the garage by unknown means. The suspect is described as female, in her 40's, wearing a gray shirt and gray shorts. When the resident confronted the suspect, the suspect hopped on the stolen bike and rode away. After traveling a short distance, the suspect threw the bike in a yard and fled on foot. Owner then recovered their stolen bike.

There was one attempted entry.

There was one garage entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 433-1 RD 434-1
RD 435-1 RD 436-1
RD 437-1 RD 446-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 424-1 RD 425-1
RD 436-5 RD 437-1
RD 442-1 RD 446-1

In RD 436, two vehicles were recovered. In RD 446 the vehicle was recovered.

BEAT 4

6 Residential Burglaries
5 Vehicle Burglaries
5 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 339-1 RD 348-1
RD 431-1 RD 441-2
RD 451-1

Streets: Quiet Bay Ln., Goldenwest St., Lake St., Palm Ave., and 9th St.

In RD 339, Quiet Bay Ln., it appears unknown suspect(s) gained entry by breaking a hole through the glass of a backyard French door. Suspect(s) then were able reach inside and unlock the door to gain entry.

In RD 441, Palm Ave., it appears suspect(s) used a pry tool to open the rear door of the garage. Suspect(s) removed several items from inside the garage and fled.

In RD 451, 9th St., it appears suspect(s) attempted to enter the residence by breaking a living room window. Suspect(s) did not gain entry.

There were two attempted entries.

There were two garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 431-1 RD 451-3
RD 461-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 339-1 RD 451-3
RD 461-1

In RD 451, one vehicle was recovered.

BEAT 5

5 Residential Burglaries
3 Vehicle Burglaries
4 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 319-1 RD 412-1
RD 421-1 RD 422-2

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO

Streets: Churchill Dr., Florida St., Yellowtail Dr., Yorktown Ave., and Sea Bluff Dr.

In Rd 319, Churchill Dr., it appears unknown suspect(s) shattered the rear glass door by unknown means to gain entry into the residence. Suspect(s) stole various items and fled.

In RD 412, Florida St., it appears two suspects gained entry by using their hands to force open an electronic door to this complex. Suspects entered the recreation room of the complex, stole various food items and fled. Suspect #1 is described as a male in his mid-20's and suspect #2 as a female in her early 20's.

In RD 421, Yellowtail Dr., suspect is in custody.

There was one garage entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

**RD 199-1 RD 421-1
RD 422-1**

Grand Theft Auto

RD 422-1 RD 432-3

BEAT 6

**0 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
4 Grand Theft Auto**

Residential Burglaries

None

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 263-1 RD 282-1

Grand Theft Auto

**RD 263-1 RD 272-2
RD 273-1**

BEAT 7

**3 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
6 Grand Theft Auto**

Residential Burglaries

**RD 158-1 RD 169-1
RD 252-1**

Streets: Christy Dr., Sylvia Dr., and Alhambra Dr.

In RD 158, Christy Dr., it appears suspect(s) gained entry by cutting the screen of a rear unlocked kitchen window of the residence. Various items were removed and the suspect(s) fled in an unknown direction.

There was one attempted entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 158-1 RD 252-1

Grand Theft Auto

**RD 179-2 RD 252-1
RD 261-1 RD 262-2**

BEAT 8

**6 Residential Burglaries
5 Vehicle Burglaries
7 Grand Theft Auto**

Residential Burglaries

**RD 152-1 RD 154-1
RD 164-1 RD 173-2
RD 175-1**

Streets: Bounty Cir., Monterey Cir., Pickwick Cir., Sirius Dr., Aladdin Dr., and Los Patos Ave.

In RD 164, Pickwick Cir., it appears the suspects used bolt cutters to remove the metal cable bicycle lock which secured three bicycles in the carport area. The owner observed these suspects, who then fled in a red Saturn. Both suspects are described as males, black or Hispanic wearing T-shirts and hats.

In RD 173, Sirius Dr., the residence is under construction and it appears suspect(s) entered the home through an unsecured area of the fence. Suspect(s) then were able to steal various items and flee.

In RD 173, Aladdin Dr., it appears suspect(s) entered the home through an unlocked sliding door located on the second floor. Once inside, the suspect(s) removed various items and fled.

There were two attempted entries.

There was one storage unit entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

**RD 166-1 RD 173-1
RD 174-1 RD 175-1
RD 252-1**

Grand Theft Auto

**RD 155-1 RD 156-1
RD 166-1 RD 171-1
RD 173-1 RD 176-1
RD 187-1**

In RD 176, vehicle was recovered.

BEAT 9

**4 Residential Burglaries
5 Vehicle Burglaries
8 Grand Theft Auto**

Residential Burglaries

**RD 117-1 RD 128-2
RD 242-1**

Streets: Spa Dr., Cortez Dr., Chalet Ln., and Edinger Ave.

In RD 117, Spa Dr., it appears unknown suspect(s) used a pry tool on the front door to gain entry. Once inside, suspect(s) ransacked the home. Suspect #1 described as black male, large build, with a limp. He wore light colored clothing. Suspect #2 described as black male, tall, medium build. Suspect vehicle described as a light colored blue/silver Toyota Sienna mini-van.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 149-1 RD 242-4

Grand Theft Auto

**RD 117-2 RD 126-1
RD 146-1 RD 148-1
RD 149-1 RD 241-1
RD 242-1**

In RD 146, vehicle was recovered.

SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS
LISTED BELOW FOR THEIR
DONATIONS

Larry & Karen Smith



- Anonymous Donors**
- Patricia Ash**
- Nikolas Bastas**
- Elsa Bender**
- Norbert Bunt**
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- Larry Densberger**
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- Sandy Zamora**

**COYOTE INCIDENT REPORTER-
ON-LINE REPORTING NOW AVAILABLE**

The on-line Coyote Incident Reporter reporting form can be accessed via the City's website (www.huntingtonbeachca.gov) by going to the "I Want To" link followed by the "Report" link.

H.B. Neighborhood Watch Board members provide speakers and materials for *Neighborhood Watch Block Meetings*. To arrange a meeting, please call Nilda Patiño de Berndt at 714-536-5933.

**SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**

We want you to be safe this holiday season, and as you ring in the New Year, many will be attending family get-togethers and parties. Here are a few safety reminders about drinking alcohol and driving safely:

- 1) Choose a **designated driver**, and be sure they know their responsibilities. If you find you will be celebrating on the water, you will still need a designated driver. Remember, the person navigating the boat or water craft needs to be cautious. If you drink, drink sensibly, or better yet, don't drink and drive at all.
- 2) Always be alert and aware of your surroundings. Don't let your friends drink and drive. You should always watch out for one another.
- 3) If you attend a party with friends, make a pact to keep an eye on one another and be sure you all leave together.
- 4) Remember talking on your phone or texting should not be done while driving or you may be cited.
- 5) We all want to have a memorable time, and you can do that just by exercising some common sense.
- 6) If you are the host, be sure to provide plenty of food and non-alcoholic drinks. You may even think about allowing your guests to spend the night if needed.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS, MERRY CHRISTMAS,
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

On behalf of your HB Neighborhood Watch Board, your Community Relations Specialist, and the HBPD, we want to wish you and your families a Very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanza, and a Peaceful, Successful, and Healthy New Year.

Warmest Wishes,

*Tony, Jess, Feng, Tuesday, Gudelia,
Jim, Irv, Bichloan, Joan, Christine,
Laura, and Nilda*

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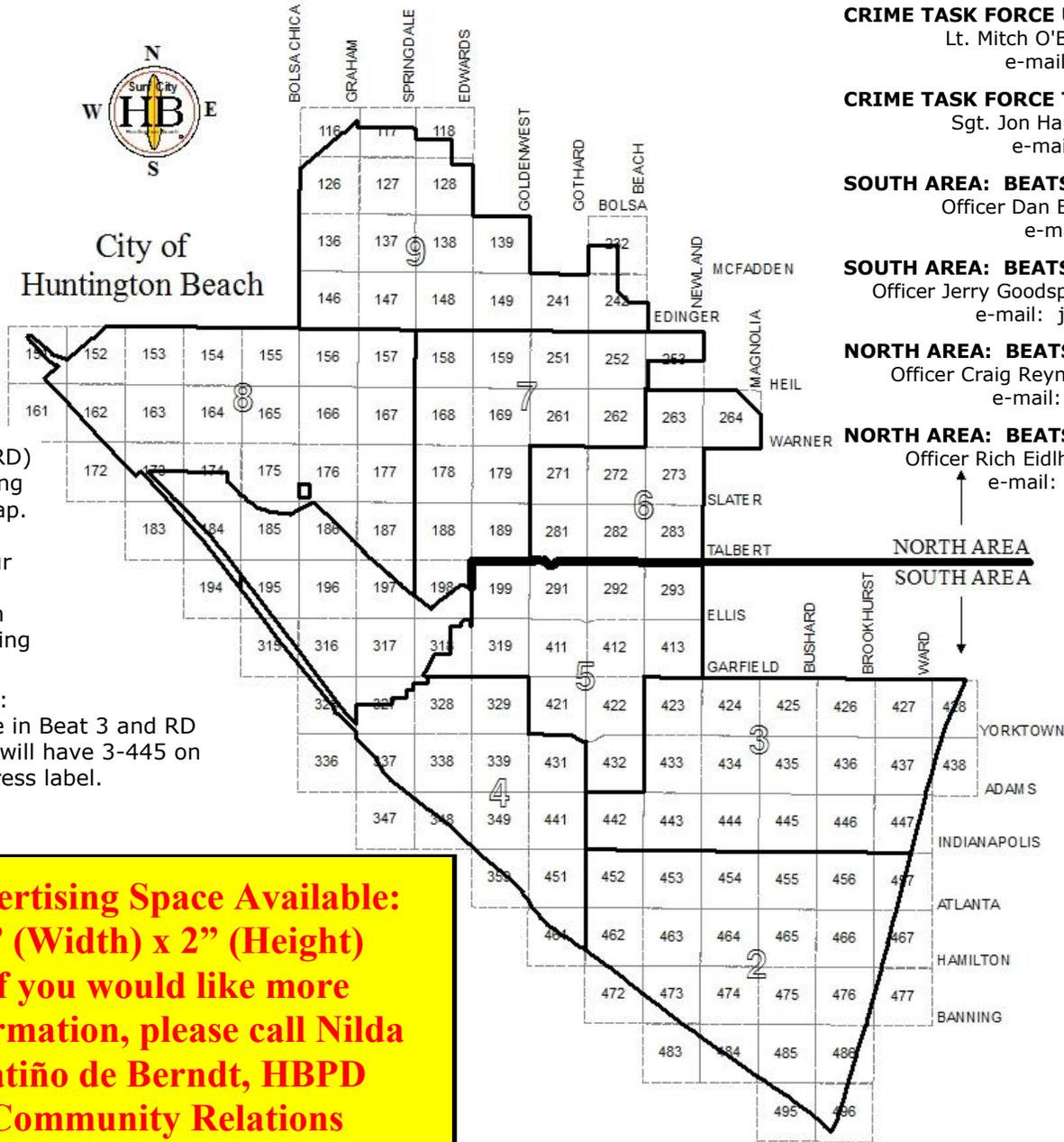
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City of Huntington Beach

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 445, you will have 3-445 on your address label.



CRIME TASK FORCE UNIT

Lt. Mitch O'Brien (714) 536-5588
e-mail: mobrien@hbpd.org

CRIME TASK FORCE TEAM (CTF)

Sgt. Jon Haught (714) 374-1664
e-mail: jhaught@hbpd.org

SOUTH AREA: BEATS 2 & 3

Officer Dan Boldt (714) 960-8810
e-mail: dboldt@hbpd.org

SOUTH AREA: BEATS 4 & 5

Officer Jerry Goodspeed (714) 960-8808
e-mail: jgoodspeed@hbpd.org

NORTH AREA: BEATS 6 & 7

Officer Craig Reynolds (714) 375-5095
e-mail: creynolds@hbpd.org

NORTH AREA: BEATS 8 & 9

Officer Rich Eidhuber (714) 375-5140
e-mail: reidhuber@hbpd.org

**Advertising Space Available:
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If you would like more
information, please call Nilda
Patiño de Berndt, HBPD
Community Relations
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