



HUNTINGTON BEACH  
**NEIGHBORHOOD  
WATCH  
NEWSLETTER**



**TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
CRIME®**

Date: January 2017 Vol. 45 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	<a href="http://www.hbpd.org">www.hbpd.org</a>	E-mail	<a href="mailto:nberndt@hbpd.org">nberndt@hbpd.org</a>

Compiled 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 \$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 **\$8,542.00 in donations and newsletter advertisements- we have \$15,758.00 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.**



**WE NEED YOU!  
We're Looking for a few  
Good Retired Volunteers!**

The Huntington Beach Police Department's RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) is comprised of men and women over the age of 55 from all walks of life. Many people that want to join the program say they would like to give back to the community by sharing their time, talents, wisdom, and knowledge with the Police Department.

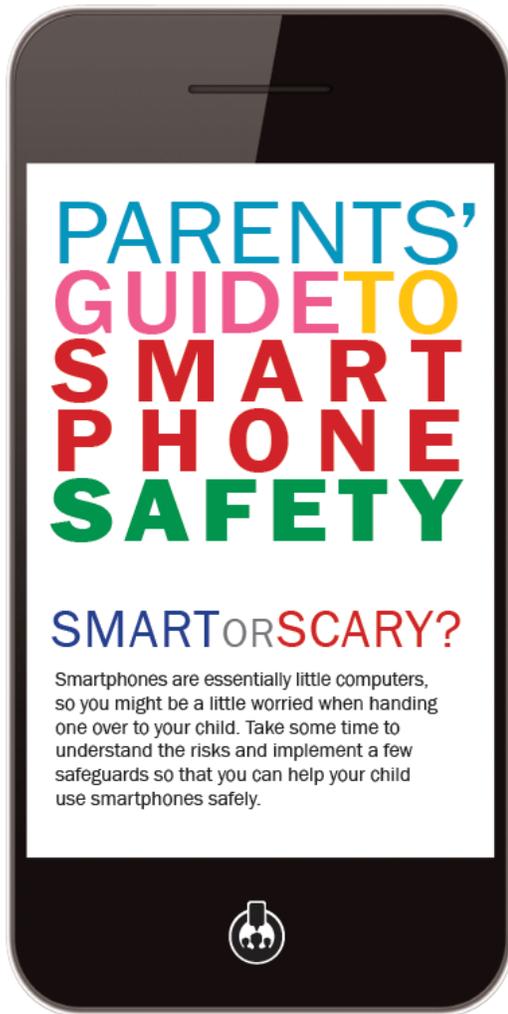
Some of the duties assigned to our RSVP's may include but are not limited to:

- Conduct Vacation House Checks
- Remove illegally posted signs
- Staff Substations and Police Dept Front Desk
- Work within the Department
- Be "Extra eyes and ears" for the Department
- Volunteer at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, National Night Out, Community Special Events, etc.
- Perform many other miscellaneous activities as needed

Prospective applicants are selected after passing an oral interview, background check, and a positive assessment of their suitability for the various duties performed by the Police Department.

Participants must live in Huntington Beach, have a valid driver's license, be in good physical health, and be able to volunteer a minimum of twenty-four hours a month.

Applications **will be accepted for the next RSVP academy through February 10, 2017.** For more information or to request an application, please contact Nilda Patiño de Berndt, Community Relations Specialist, at 714-536-5933, E-Mail [nberndt@hbpd.org](mailto:nberndt@hbpd.org)



## THE RISKS

- **CYBERBULLYING**  
With the constant connectivity of smartphones, your child may be more susceptible to cyberbullying or have more opportunities to cyberbully others.
- **GEOLOCATION**  
A GPS-enabled smartphone can reveal your child's location through online posts and uploaded photos.
- **INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
With smartphones, your child has mobile access to content you may consider inappropriate, such as pornography or violent videos.
- **SEXTING**  
Your child may use the Internet and social apps to send, receive, or forward revealing photos.
- **VIRUSES & MALWARE**  
Just like a computer, a smartphone is vulnerable to security attacks if your child accesses unsecured websites and apps.

## 5 WAYS TO BE SMARTER THAN THE SMARTPHONE!

- 1. Be a parent and a resource.**  
Establish clear guidelines, including time limits and consequences for inappropriate behavior, but be open so your child will come to you with any problems.
- 2. Set up password protection.**  
This will keep everyone but you and your child from accessing personal information stored on the phone.
- 3. Update the operating system.**  
New versions often contain important security fixes.
- 4. Approve apps before they are downloaded.**  
Make sure you understand their capabilities and approve their content.
- 5. Understand location services.**  
GPS features are useful when using maps, but you'll want to disable location-tagging when your child posts anything online.

For more resources visit [NetSmartz.org/TipSheets](http://NetSmartz.org/TipSheets)

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## There's an App for that... (But it might be Fake)

By: Ari Lazarus, Consumer Education Specialist, FTC

As more and more consumers are shopping with mobile apps, fraudsters are following the money. There are fake phone apps popping up that impersonate well-known retailers in order to steal your personal information. Their names are similar to well-known brands, and their descriptions promise enticing deals or features.

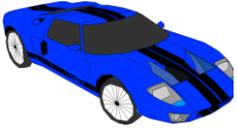
But these fraudulent apps can take your credit card or bank information. Some fake apps may even install malware onto your phone and demand money from you to unlock it.

Here are some tips to avoid downloading fraudulent apps:

- Not sure if a shopping app is legit? Go directly to the retailer's website and see if they promote it. If they do have an app, they will direct you to the app store where you can download it.
- On the web, you can search a brand name, plus "fake app" to see if the company has reported its brand being spoofed.
- Look for reviews of the app before you download – both in the app stores and on the web. If the app has no reviews, it was likely created recently, and could be a fake. Real apps for big retailers often have thousands of reviews.
- Don't download apps with misspelled words in their description. Many fake apps were created in a hurry. On the other hand, some fake apps look almost like the real thing.

If you're using apps for shopping, keep records of your transactions. Screenshot or save the product description and price, the online receipt, and the emails you send and receive from the seller.

Monitor your credit card statements frequently; be on the lookout for charges that you don't recognize.



## What Car Dealers Didn't Say About Their Inspections



Amy Hebert, Consumer Education Specialist, FTC

If you're doing business with a car dealer that advertises 100-plus-point inspections for its used cars, you'd expect the dealer to make it clear if some of those cars had open recalls for safety defects, right?

Dealers should make it clear. But in the case of CarMax, West-Herr Automotive Group, and Asbury Automotive Group, they didn't, the FTC alleges in complaints announced recently. The FTC settled similar allegations against GM and two other dealers earlier last year.

Used car dealers aren't required to — and sometimes can't or don't — fix manufacturer recalls on the cars they sell. But if they make claims touting their inspections, they need to clearly let people know about the possibility of recalls so people can get them fixed or decide to buy another car. Under the settlements, the companies must stop making misleading claims about their recall-repair practices and must notify recent customers who may have bought a used car subject to a recall.

Anytime you shop for a used car, make sure you check up on recalls:

- **Ask questions.** Ask the dealer if the car you're considering has a recall and whether the dealer can and will fix it before you take the car home.
- **Check for yourself.** Take down the VIN number of a car, and enter it at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's recall look-up website, [safercar.gov](http://safercar.gov). You also can get information to help you follow up with a manufacturer or dealer about a recall.
- **Check out the vehicle history report.** The report will tell you about a car's title, odometer, theft, or salvage history, and might also provide recall information. Ask the dealer — they'll often provide a vehicle history report for free. For links to companies that sell the reports, go to [vehiclehistory.gov](http://vehiclehistory.gov).



## Let's Review Our New Year's Checklist

1. Write down the serial numbers of all your new and old electronics, bicycles, etc. Also, walk through your home with a video camera to log all your personal belongings in case of a burglary. You should also take pictures of all your fine jewelry (place your items on a dark background with a yard stick next to them). Be sure to make two copies of your list and keep them in a safe place.
2. If you received outside video cameras, or door bells that allow you to see who is at your door, be sure to install them properly.
3. Get your first credit reports (you can obtain one free annually from each of the 3 credit reporting agencies and then the annual report). Request one, review it, and report any errors or discrepancies. Repeat this in about 3 months with one of the other agencies.
4. Be sure to request a copy of a credit report for any minor children you may have also.
5. Make a household emergency plan and update contact phone numbers. Be sure everyone in the household knows their role.
6. Be sure to shred any documents you do not need that may have personal information on it. If you don't own a shredder this would be a good time to go purchase one.
7. Be sure to review all the new laws for 2017 especially if they may pertain to you.

*(continued on page 6)*

**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**

22 reports 11/16/16- 12/15/16  
30 reports 10/16/16- 11/15/16

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

There were three garage entries.

There was one storage unit entry.

There were five attempted entries.

**VEHICLE BURGLARIES**

34 reports 11/16/16- 12/15/16  
32 reports 10/16/16- 11/15/16

**GRAND THEFT AUTO**

37 reports 11/16/16- 12/15/16  
45 reports 10/16/16- 11/15/16

**BEAT 2**

**0 Residential Burglaries**  
**1 Vehicle Burglary**  
**4 Grand Theft Auto**

**Residential Burglaries**

**None**

**Vehicle Burglaries**

**RD 452-1**

**Grand Theft Auto**

**RD 463-1 RD 467-1**  
**RD 476-2**

**BEAT 3**

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

**Residential Burglaries**

**RD 425-1 RD 436-1**

Streets: Grand Dr. and Sidcup Ln.

In RD 425, Grand Dr., the resident noticed the interior blinds were broken and the exterior screens removed from the windows. The owner believes the attempted break-in was averted by the two large dogs which were kept inside. No loss was found.

In RD 436, Sidcup Ln., suspect is in custody.

There was one attempted entry.

**Vehicle Burglaries**

**RD 436-5**

**Grand Theft Auto**

**RD 423-1 RD 436-1**  
**RD 437-1 RD 442-3**

**BEAT 4**

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

**Residential Burglaries**

**RD 441-1 RD 451-1**

Streets: 12<sup>th</sup> St. and 7<sup>th</sup> St.

In RD 441, 12<sup>th</sup> St, it appears an unknown suspect(s) entered the residence via unknown means. Once inside the suspect(s) stole one of the keys to victim's vehicle (blue Audi) then fled taking the vehicle.

In RD 451, 7<sup>th</sup> St., the residence is divided into 4 units. The suspect entered two of the units and stole property. Suspect is known.

**Vehicle Burglaries**

**RD 339-1 RD 451-3**

**Grand Theft Auto**

**RD 337-1 RD 431-1**  
**RD 441-1**

**BEAT 5**

**0 Residential Burglaries**  
**3 Vehicle Burglaries**  
**5 Grand Theft Auto**

**Residential Burglaries**

**None**

**Vehicle Burglaries**

**RD 291-1 RD 413-2**

**Grand Theft Auto**

**RD 293-1 RD 411-1**  
**RD 412-1 RD 413-1**  
**RD 422-1**

In RD 413 and 422, vehicles were recovered.

**BEAT 6**

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

**Residential Burglaries**

**RD 272-2**

Streets: Ash Ln. and Keelson Ln.

In RD 272, Ash Ln., it appears the suspect entered the backyard and then attempted to open the locked back door of the residence. The suspect was described as: Male, possibly Hispanic, wearing black hooded sweater, black gloves, and black pants.

In RD 272, Keelson Ln., it appears unknown suspect(s) gained entry to the garage when it was left open approximately one foot. Various items were stolen and suspect(s) fled in an unknown direction.

There was one attempted entry.

There was one garage entry.

**Vehicle Burglaries**

**RD 272-1 RD 281-1**  
**RD 282-1**

**Grand Theft Auto**

**RD 272-1 RD 282-2**

**RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO**

In RD 272, vehicle was recovered.

**BEAT 7**

**10 Residential Burglaries**  
**2 Vehicle Burglaries**  
**8 Grand Theft Auto**

**Residential Burglaries**  
**RD 179-3 RD 261-2**  
**RD 262-5**

Streets: Goldenwest St., Whetmore Ln., Warner Ave., Bartlett Ln., Moonshadow Cir., Arbor Cir., Viewpoint Ln., and Northlake Dr.

In RD 179, Warner Ave., it appears suspect(s) used an unknown object to force entry into the residence. Point of entry was the bottom, east facing window and the point of exit was the front door. It was unknown if any items were removed.

In RD 261, Warner Ave., it is unknown how the suspect(s) gained entry into a storage unit, but various items were removed. Suspect(s) may be known.

In RD 262, Moonshadow Cir., it appears the unknown suspect entered the unlocked back patio fence to gain entry into the back patio door. Once inside he rummaged through things until he was interrupted by one of the residents. After being spotted he fled out the back door and out of sight. The suspect is described as: Male, mid-20's, wearing a blue hoodie, dark jeans, light colored tennis shoes and having a tattoo on his right ankle.

In RD 262, Viewpoint Ln., suspect is in custody.

In RD 262, Viewpoint Ln., the building was being fumigated so residents were asked to leave their garage doors up. Suspect entered the unlocked garage. Suspect is in custody.

In RD 262, Northlake Dr., suspect is in custody.

There were three attempted entries.

There was one storage unit entry.

**Vehicle Burglaries**  
**RD 169-1 RD 189-1**

**Grand Theft Auto**  
**RD 251-1 RD 252-1**  
**RD 253-3 RD 261-2**  
**RD 262-1**

**BEAT 8**

**4 Residential Burglaries**  
**10 Vehicle Burglaries**  
**4 Grand Theft Auto**

**Residential Burglaries**  
**RD 154-1 RD 155-1**  
**RD 171-1 RD 175-1**

Streets: Whitecap Ln., Heil Ave., S. Pacific Ave. (Sunset Beach) and Wareham Ln.

In RD 154, Whitecap Ln., this home is currently under construction. It appears suspects entered an open garage door and removed items from within and fled.

In RD 155, Heil Ave., it appears the suspect had made forced entry into the residence by breaking a glass sliding patio door with a metal patio umbrella stand. The suspect is known.

In RD 171, S. Pacific Ave., (Sunset Beach), it appears an unknown suspect stole a back pack from an open garage. Suspect #1 is described as: Male, Hispanic, medium complexion, short hair, wearing a black polo style shirt, and brown cargo shorts. Suspect fled in a black Mercedes with royal blue and white paper plates with dark window tint. Suspect #2 was driving.

In RD 175, Wareham Ln., it appears suspect(s) forced open

the front door by unknown means causing the door frame to break. Suspect(s) vehicles appears to be a light blue or silver minivan, with sliding doors on both sides, tinted rear windows, and custom rims. The rims appear to be chrome aftermarket five pointed star rims with black inserts and trim.

There were two garage entries.

**Vehicle Burglaries**  
**RD 156-1 RD 162-1**  
**RD 175-6 RD 176-1**  
**RD 177-1**

**Grand Theft Auto**  
**RD 152-1 RD 155-2**  
**RD 175-1**

In RD 175, vehicle was recovered.

**BEAT 9**

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

**Residential Burglaries**  
**RD 128-1 RD 149-1**

Streets: Trojan Cir, Sunburst Ln.

In RD 128, Trojan Cir., the home was being fumigated. It appears suspect(s) opened a part of the tent and removed a screen from a window in the rear of the residence to gain entry. Suspect(s) ransacked the home, removed various items, and fled.

In RD 149, Sunburst Ln., this residence was being fumigated at the time of the burglary. It appears suspect(s) opened the tent from the back side of the home and removed a window screen to gain entry. Once inside, suspect(s) stole various items and fled.

**Vehicle Burglaries**  
**RD 136-1 RD 138-1**  
**RD 148-1 RD 242-3**

**Grand Theft Auto**  
**RD 126-1 RD 146-1**  
**RD 232-1 RD 241-1**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS**  
**LISTED BELOW FOR THEIR**  
**DONATIONS**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Julie & Brian Clark**



\*\*\*\*\*

**David & Nobu Stillwell**



\*\*\*\*\*

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**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](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov)) by going to the "I Want To" link followed by the "Report" link.

To arrange a *Neighborhood Watch Block Meeting*, please call Nilda Patiño de Berndt at 714-536-5933.

**NEW YEAR'S CHECKLIST**

*(continued from page 3)*

8. If you don't already do these simple steps, make a promise to yourself to lock all doors and windows whenever you go out, even if it is just for 5 minutes. Also, keep your garage and the door that leads into your home from the garage locked when not being used.
9. When disposing of large boxes, be sure to break them down and place them inside the trash receptacle. Don't advertise to everyone the new items you have.
10. Check fire-walls and anti-virus protectors on your computers; be sure they are updated.
11. Be sure your home address is easily visible from the street in case of an emergency, day or night.
12. Use timers for inside lighting and a radio so your home will always have that lived in look.
13. Now that the holiday lights have been removed, check all outside lighting and motion detectors to be sure they are operating properly.
14. Always lock your vehicle even when it is parked inside your garage. Also remember to remove all items from inside the vehicle; place items in your trunk, out of sight.
15. Remember, the holidays may be over but we must not let our guard down. If you see something suspicious REPORT IT.
16. If you are planning to go out of town remember we provide Vacation House Check services **free** of charge. This service is provided by our HBPD RSVP's.
17. With all that has taken place globally this last year, this is the time to seriously think about planning a Neighborhood Watch Block Meeting. There is no charge for this service. We will discuss security tips, the importance of knowing your neighbors, what is suspicious, how to report crimes, and the crimes that are occurring in your neighborhood.

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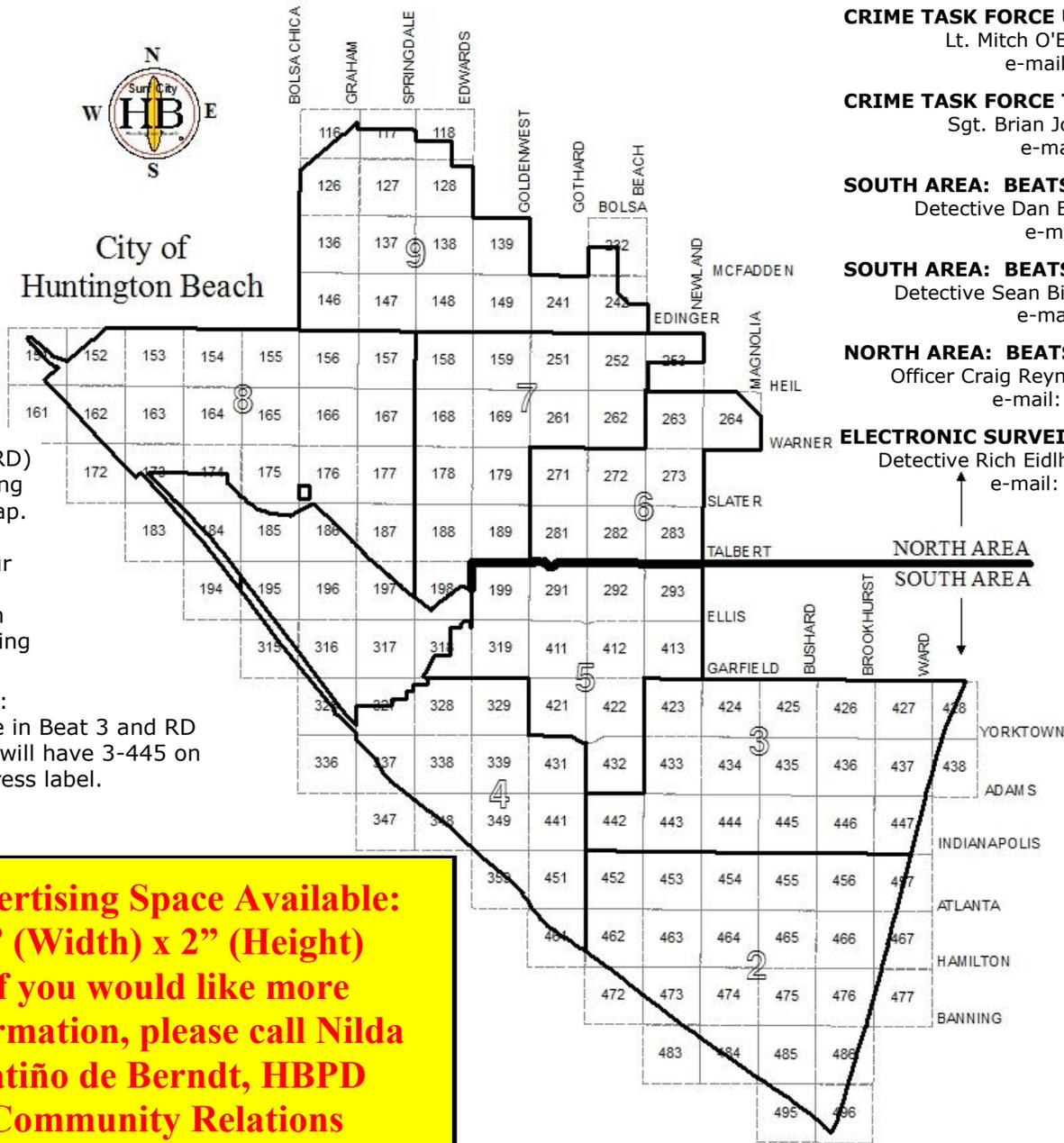
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City of Huntington Beach

**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. Brian Jones (714) 374-1664  
e-mail: bjones@hbpd.org

**SOUTH AREA: BEATS 2 & 3**

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

**SOUTH AREA: BEATS 4, 5, & 9**

Detective Sean Biggio (714) 960-8808  
e-mail: sbiggio@hbpd.org

**NORTH AREA: BEATS 6, 7, & 8**

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

**ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE DETECTIVE**

Detective Rich Eidhuber (714) 375-5140  
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