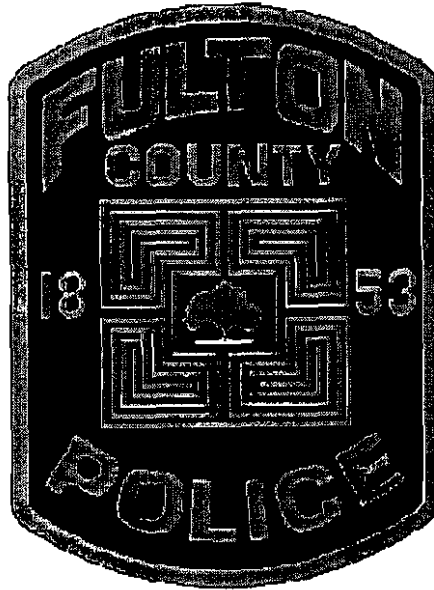


# **FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT**



COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICE SERVICES

C.O.P.S.

SOUTH PRECINCT

5600 STONEWALL TELL ROAD

ROOM 221

COLLEGE PARK, GA 30349

404-612-3001

(770) 306-3188 - FAX

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

CORPORAL T. BLACKMON

CORPORAL D. ROGERS

CORPORAL M. SMITH

FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

# **FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## WHAT IS A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Burglary, vandalism, and theft from vehicles are crimes that are of great concern to the homeowner in today's society. They are also the most difficult for police to prevent. Most law enforcement agencies do not have the time or manpower to patrol large residential areas thoroughly. Therefore, neighbors are joining together to prevent crime by helping each other protect their property and to promote law enforcement.

A "Neighborhood Watch" is an important way citizens can work together to prevent crime. In essence, it is an organized "to be a nosy neighbor" type program. All you have to do is organize a meeting of interested neighbors in your area or subdivision for a Neighborhood Watch organizational meeting. A Fulton County Police Officer will attend the meeting and bring all materials needed to start the program.

At the meeting, the attending officer will encourage all members involved in the program to have a "Security Survey" of their residence. During the Security Survey, the officer will observe the physical security of the home and make recommendations on how to increase security.

Additionally, all residents involved in the Neighborhood Watch program should participate in "Operation Identification". Under this program, participants' valuable personal items should be marked with an identifying number, (such as a driver's license number). Decals informing others that the residents are members of the "Operation Identification" program and that items marked for identification are given to the participants to display on the front and back of their residences. Electric engravers can be borrowed free of charge at the Special Services office. This effort by you serves as a deterrent to theft because stolen items bearing etched numbers are more difficult to sell, more easily recovered, and can be linked to specific burglaries.

At Neighborhood Watch meetings, blank charts are given to all the neighbors involved in the program. This chart is kept near the telephone and you and your neighbors will enter the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the immediate neighbors on all sides of your homes. If anything suspicious occurs at one of these homes (a prowler, open doors, etc.), the owner of that home should be called and advised of the situation. If the neighbor is not at home, a call should be placed to the Fulton County "911" Communication Center. The information the operators will need to dispatch an officer will have been previously listed on your chart.

The last step of implementing a "Neighborhood Watch" program is the placement of special "Neighborhood Watch" signs at the entrances of the neighborhoods. These signs advertise the neighborhood's commitment to community involvement in crime prevention.

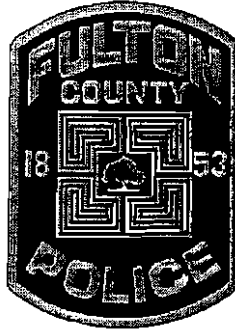
If you are interested in starting a "Neighborhood Watch" program, or would like more information, please contact the nearest Special Services Section of the Fulton County Police Department.

**FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION  
South Fulton – 770.306.3001**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-5700  
Fax: (404) 730-5701

**REPORTS SECTION**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-7501  
Fax: (404) 730-5757

**PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER**  
3025 Merk Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30349  
Telephone: (404) 346-7940



**NORTH PRECINCT**  
3155 Royal Dr #165  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
Telephone: (404) 612-1980  
Fax: (404) 770-740-2408

**SOUTH PRECINCT**  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd  
College Park, GA 30349  
Telephone: (770) 306-3005  
Fax (770) 306-3000

**MAJOR CASE DIVISION**  
4701 Fulton Industrial Blvd  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
Telephone: (404) 699-4210  
Fax: (404) 699-4246

**CASSANDRA JONES  
CHIEF OF POLICE**

---

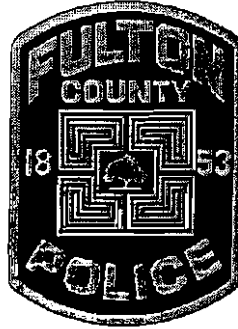
**SAFETY TIPS:**

- Keep lights on while you are away at night. Use timers on lights if you are going to be gone overnight;
- Do not stop your mail or paper – have a neighbor pick it up for you while you are away;
- Install motion sensor floodlights around the outside of your house;
- Install a motion sensor floodlight outside of your garage or in your carport so that it will turn on as you drive into your driveway;
- Do not open your door for anyone unless you know who it is;
- Do not open your door for a solicitor or let a solicitor inside your home;
- Do not enter your home if it appears that someone has either tried to break in or has broken in. Call the police immediately and let them check your house;
- If you have an alarm system, turn it on when you leave home and use it at night;
- Pay attention to your surroundings as you come and go from home, work and stores;
- Do not stop and talk to strangers in parking lots while you are out shopping;
- If someone stops you in a parking lot while you are out shopping and states that they need help, tell them you will call the police or mall security for them. Do not get out to help them;
- Keep any items that you purchase in the trunk as you go from location to location.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-5700  
Fax: (404) 730-5701

**REPORTS SECTION**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-7501  
Fax: (404) 730-5757

**PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER**  
3025 Merk Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30349  
Telephone: (404) 346-7940



**NORTH PRECINCT**  
3155 Royal Dr #165  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
Telephone: (404) 612-1980  
Fax: (404) 770-740-2408

**SOUTH PRECINCT**  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd  
College Park, GA 30349  
Telephone: (770) 306-3005  
Fax (770) 306-3000

**MAJOR CASE DIVISION**  
4701 Fulton Industrial Blvd  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
Telephone: (404) 699-4210  
Fax: (404) 699-4246

**CASSANDRA JONES  
CHIEF OF POLICE**

---

**PARKING LOT SAFETY GUIDE**

**HOW SAFE ARE YOU?**

As public awareness of parking lot crime increases, so does the concern about personal safety. For instance, have you ever walked through a public parking lot alone at night? Do you always have the keys to your vehicle firmly in your hand as you approach your vehicle?

Parking lots are prime locations for crime because they are large and often unguarded. Many lots have insufficient lighting. Not only that, but parking lots are isolated from the buildings for which they are constructed.

Furthermore, many of us tend to be distracted in parking lots. While at a mall or grocery store, for example, shoppers are thinking about the shopping they need to do or the purchases they have made. As they walk back to their cars, they are loaded down with packages and struggling to find the car keys. THIS DISTRACTION MAKES THEM EASY CRIME TARGETS.

Surprisingly, city streets may, in some ways, be safer than suburban parking lots. The city streets are busier than parking lots and there is no formal surveillance in many parking lots.

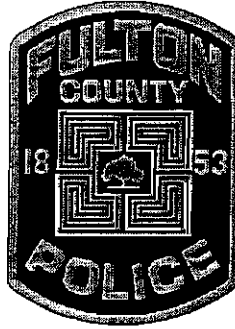
For the criminals, parking lots are the ideal locations to commit crimes. They can hide behind and under vehicles and take their time in picking out the perfect "I'm too busy" victim. Since most shopping centers are located near major interstate highways, they are perfect for a "quick" getaway.

The best way to ensure that you will not be the victim of a parking lot crime is to keep yourself from looking like an easy "target". Most of us tend to become complacent about safety because of where we live and work; we think crime will not happen to us until it's too late...

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-5700  
Fax: (404) 730-5701

**REPORTS SECTION**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-7501  
Fax: (404) 730-5757

**PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER**  
3025 Merk Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30349  
Telephone: (404) 346-7940



**NORTH PRECINCT**  
3155 Royal Dr #165  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
Telephone: (404) 612-1980  
Fax: (404) 770-740-2408

**SOUTH PRECINCT**  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd  
College Park, GA 30349  
Telephone: (770) 306-3005  
Fax (770) 306-3000

**MAJOR CASE DIVISION**  
4701 Fulton Industrial Blvd  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
Telephone: (404) 699-4210  
Fax: (404) 699-4246

**CASSANDRA JONES  
CHIEF OF POLICE**

---

**SELECTING AN ALARM COMPANY**

THE FOLLOWING ARE MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR A RESIDENTIAL SECURITY SYSTEM:

- A) Sensors for all exterior doors, interior garage doors and interior basement doors;
- B) Sensors on all windows that can be reached without the aid of a ladder and all other windows deemed "high risk";
- C) Dual technology interior motion sensors;
- D) Interior and exterior sirens;
- E) SMOKE AND FIRE sensors;
- F) Portable panic button;
- G) Central station monitoring.

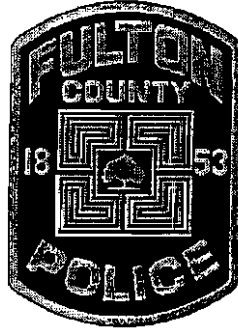
When shopping for an alarm company, look for the following:

1. Contact the *Georgia Burglar & Fire Alarm Association* (770.447.6229) for record of membership and complaints;
2. Ask the company about their hiring procedures. How do they guard against hiring employees with criminal records, particularly those with histories of BURGLARY or VIOLENT CRIMES?
3. The company is not a franchise or distributor, but are locally owned and managed;
4. Are the system's components considered leased or purchased? In part or in whole? If you move or cancel monitoring, will the company remove your system?
5. Is another company able to service the system and/or provide monitoring? Would you be able to change companies if you so desired?
6. What kind of maintenance service is provided? Does the company include, at NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE, a minimum of 12 months warranty on equipment, installation and use instruction? If there is a problem with your system, how quickly does the company guarantee a response? Does the company charge for service calls at all during the first year, and if so, under what circumstances?
7. Is a written guarantee of all services provided? (Do not take the salesman's word for what services and equipment you will receive; GET IT IN WRITING!)
8. How long is the monitoring contract for? What if you move before your contract is up or decide to change companies? Be sure to take these considerations to mind before signing any more than a 12-month contract.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-5700  
Fax: (404) 730-5701

**REPORTS SECTION**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-7501  
Fax: (404) 730-5757

**PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER**  
3025 Merk Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30349  
Telephone: (404) 346-7940



**NORTH PRECINCT**  
3155 Royal Dr #165  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
Telephone: (404) 612-1980  
Fax: (404) 770-740-2408

**SOUTH PRECINCT**  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd  
College Park, GA 30349  
Telephone: (770) 306-3005  
Fax (770) 306-3000

**MAJOR CASE DIVISION**  
4701 Fulton Industrial Blvd  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
Telephone: (404) 699-4210  
Fax: (404) 699-4246

**CASSANDRA JONES**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**

---

## **FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT** **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO CRIME PREVENTION

FIRST OF ALL, NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAMS WORK! HERE'S HOW:

Neighborhood Watch Programs were created to obtain citizen involvement in discouraging and preventing residential crime. The program utilizes citizen's involvement to secure their home and personal property and to report any suspicious activity to the police. \*\* This program has resulted in a dramatic drop in the residential crime rate.\*\*

Why does some Neighborhood Watch Programs thrive and others die? Typically, Neighborhood Watch groups organize to respond to an immediate threat such as a sharp increase in burglaries or rising rate of street crime. We often see when the crisis is resolved, membership and commitment to the Watch start to fade away. After all, why keep looking out for criminals if they've been arrested or gone elsewhere?

This shortsighted attitude ignores key benefits of the contemporary Neighborhood Watch – a watch group empowers people to prevent crime, forges bonds between law enforcement and the communities they serve and builds a foundation for broader community involvement. Neighborhood Watch is far more than a quick fix for an immediate crisis – it can be a moving force for positive changes that tackle the root of crime.

### Neighborhood Crime Facts

- Burglaries, auto theft, rape, child molestation, and arson are the most prevalent neighborhood crimes;
- Household burglary is one of the easiest crimes to commit and one of the hardest to solve;
- Over half of police time is spent investigating burglaries;
- Household burglary is one of the most rapidly increasing major crimes in the nation;
- Most home burglars are young amateurs looking for easy targets;
- Statistics show that in over ½ of household burglaries, there was no forced entry;
- The majority of household burglaries occur during the daylight hours;
- Household burglary has a high potential for death or injury when the homeowner surprises the burglar.

**\*\* THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM DOES NOT CONDONE VIGILANTE ACTIONS. \*\***

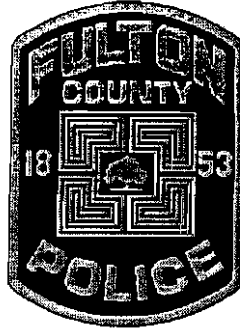
**\*\* NO ONE SHOULD TAKE PERSONAL RISKS OR ATTEMPT TO BE A HERO. \*\***

FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-5700  
Fax: (404) 730-5701

**REPORTS SECTION**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-7501  
Fax: (404) 730-5757

**PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER**  
3025 Merk Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30349  
Telephone: (404) 346-7940



**NORTH PRECINCT**  
3155 Royal Dr #165  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
Telephone: (404) 612-1980  
Fax: (404) 770-740-2408

**SOUTH PRECINCT**  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd  
College Park, GA 30349  
Telephone: (770) 306-3005  
Fax (770) 306-3000

**MAJOR CASE DIVISION**  
4701 Fulton Industrial Blvd  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
Telephone: (404) 699-4210  
Fax: (404) 699-4246

## **CASSANDRA JONES CHIEF OF POLICE**

---

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

Neighborhood Watch operates to educate the participants in the principles of deterrence, delay, and detection. The program depends on a communication network organized with the following level of participants:

- Residents
- Block Captains and Co-Captains
- Local Law Enforcement Representatives

### **ORGANIZING A PROGRAM**

1. Talk with your neighbors and tell them you are interested in discouraging crime in the neighborhood. Ask for assistance in furthering the effort.
2. Organize a neighborhood meeting. Contact us at the Fulton County Police Department to meet, address, and take questions from the group.
3. If the group decides to organize a Neighborhood Watch Program, block captains and co-captains should be elected.
4. Block Captains should prepare a watch map listing names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, license plate numbers, and vehicle description for residents on their block. Copies should be distributed to each household.
5. Residential security surveys are available.
6. Once the police department requirements are met, street signs will be erected at no cost to the community. These signs should be at each entrance to the neighborhood or block. Contact me at 770.306.5321 when it's time to order the signs.

### **PROGRAM DUTIES**

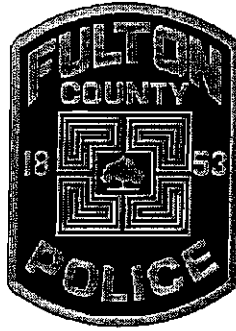
#### **BLOCK CAPTAIN AND CO-CAPTAINS**

- Schedule periodic group meetings [at least every six months] and encourage each homeowner to attend;
- Act as liaison between homeowners and the Fulton County Police;
- Schedule one of our officers to address your meeting on current criminal trends that affect your community. Topics include home security, personal security, crimes against children, crimes against the elderly, identity theft, property crimes, and vandalism;
- Coordinate home security surveys;
- Contact new neighbors about the program;
- Keep the watch map data current;
- Disseminate any special information to the group such as crime patterns in the area, homeowners who are on vacation or business;
- Create and maintain a neighborhood newsletter and/or e-mail information letter. The use of e-mail has greatly enhanced the communication gap between the residents and the police departments. Crime alerts and other information are regularly distributed back and forth.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-5700  
Fax: (404) 730-5701

**REPORTS SECTION**  
130 Peachtree St., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 730-7501  
Fax: (404) 730-5757

**PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER**  
3025 Merk Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30349  
Telephone: (404) 346-7940



**NORTH PRECINCT**  
3155 Royal Dr #165  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
Telephone: (404) 612-1980  
Fax: (404) 770-740-2408

**SOUTH PRECINCT**  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd  
College Park, GA 30349  
Telephone: (770) 306-3005  
Fax (770) 306-3000

**MAJOR CASE DIVISION**  
4701 Fulton Industrial Blvd  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
Telephone: (404) 699-4210  
Fax: (404) 699-4246

## **CASSANDRA JONES CHIEF OF POLICE**

---

### **RISK VS. OPPORTUNITY**

Most veteran police officers as well as veteran career criminals will agree on certain facts pertaining to crime. One of the basics or absolutes for criminals to operate without detection is the RISK vs. OPPORTUNITY formula. Risk vs. Opportunity exists in every form of crime.

THINK LIKE THE CRIMINAL - put yourself in the shoes of someone who would like to enter your neighborhood and walk away with something of value. What are you looking for? You're looking for the easiest target.

#### **What Constitutes An Easy Target?**

- The house without deadbolts?
- Without an alarm system or posted sign for an alarm system?
- Without a dog or dog sign?
- Without cars in the driveway?
- Without a neighbor's cars in the driveway?

Successful criminal activity is not rocket science but it does involve some common sense and street sense. What most criminals call STREET SENSE is nothing more than their philosophy on how to operate without going to jail. The higher the risk, the lower the opportunity. One affects the other.

Realistically, we don't expect crime to disappear. Criminal activity will be around for centuries. Don't be unrealistic. Set achievable goals. What are they?

1. Make your house, your neighbor's house, your street, your block, and your neighborhood *unattractive* to a criminal, such as a burglar;
2. Remember that the criminal has a *choice* of targets. That choice is based on Risk vs. Opportunity. Your goal then, is to make the potential burglar or thief think "*This place has too many risks for me; I'm going to keep looking.*" That is an achievable goal.
3. Start from the ground up. The Neighborhood Watch Program is a great place to start. Once the program is in place, the signs will be posted. That is the first deterrent offered to the would-be burglar or thief.
4. Be consistent. Keep the program active by communication. Stay in touch with your police liaison and other members of the NWP. Again, e-mail is a great communication tool for the program.
5. Don't be afraid to ask questions or to be suspicious. Most police related calls based on a complainant's call are unfounded. The one call that results in the arrest of a potential burglar or thief is well worth the calls that were unfounded. We encourage people to call if they have concerns or are suspicious of someone's actions in the neighborhood. Most arrests for criminal activity are based on a call from someone who saw something suspicious.