

Describing and Reporting of Events,

Vehicles and Persons

Practicing to develop skill in providing quick, accurate descriptions is an excellent NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH meeting activity. In attempting to describe events, vehicles, or persons, write down the details of what you have observed while they are still fresh in your mind, so your descriptions to law enforcement officials will be as accurate as possible.

Describing Events

When describing events, write down:

- *What* happened;
- *When* it happened;
- *Where* it occurred (note the nearest cross street, home address, or landmark in relationship to the event);
- *Whether injuries* are involved (Be prepared to report visible or suspected personal injury. Be as specific as possible—this could save a life!);
- *Whether weapons* are involved (this information, whether observed or suspected, is vital to responding officers).

Describing Vehicles

When describing vehicles, write down:

- Vehicle license number and state, make and type of vehicle, color, and approximate age;
- Special designs or unusual features, such as vinyl top, mag-wheels, body damage, pin-stripes, etc.;
- Direction of travel.

Describing Persons

In preparing descriptions of persons, it is helpful to write down the following:

- Sex;
- Race;
- Age;
- Height (estimated from eye contact level measured against your height);
- Weight;
- Hair (color and length);
- Hat;
- Facial Hair (beard/mustache);
- Shirt/tie;
- Coat/jacket;

**Working together for a safer
community!**

**For information on how to start a
Neighborhood Watch in your neighbor-
hood—contact: the Lincoln Police De-
partment—(916) 645-4040.**



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM



Lincoln Police Deartment

770 7th Street
Lincoln, CA 95648
Telephone: (916) 645-4040
www.lincolnpd.org

What is Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is a national program established over 20 years ago under which residents organize to prevent crime in their neighborhood and to increase personal safety. It involves neighbors getting to know each other and working together in a program of mutual assistance; training in recognition and reporting of suspicious activities and implementation of crime prevention techniques such as home security.

Residents are organized into groups which might include all who receive mail at the same mailbox cluster or the homes located in close proximity (same street block). A block captain passes on security and crime related information and arranges for periodic meetings. Each member of a group receives a copy of a group roster. The roster includes the name, address and

telephone number of other group members; emergency contact numbers (usually a relative or close friend) and a neighbor to be contacted to deal with security or other problems in their absence. In this way neighbors can “look out for each other”.

Why a Neighborhood Watch?

There can not be a police officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime. By cooperating with each other and the police, people can help fight crime in their neighborhoods. They can be extra “eyes and ears” for the police.

Other Benefits of Neighborhood Watch!



Getting to know your neighbors.

It creates a greater sense of security, well being and reduction of fear of crime by knowing that you and your neighbors will be

looking out for each other.

It provides information and training on how to observe suspicious activities and sounds, evaluate them and then how to properly report them.



More secure neighborhoods!

It teaches participants how to make their homes more secure.

Posting Neighborhood signs on the street and/or decals in windows tells a criminals that you are not an easy target; they are probably being watched; and you have taken the steps to deter crime in your neighborhood.

It provides a way to address issues of mutual interest/concern not necessarily related to crime.

