

Neighborhood Watch Program: Keeping Monta Loma Safe

The best way to keep our neighborhood safe is to know your neighbors, keep your home secure, remove valuables from your car, and report (but don't get involved in) any suspicious circumstances or crimes you witness. Here's more advice from the Mountain View Police Department:

To report incidents:

- **911** – For emergencies and in-progress incidents, using a land line or a cell phone. All cell towers are now equipped to transfer cell phone 911 calls to the nearest dispatch center, so almost all cell phone calls to 911 made from within our city limits go to the MVPD dispatch center. If you call near the border of a neighboring city, the call may go into its dispatch center. If you call from a highway or very close to a highway, the call will be routed to the Highway Patrol's dispatch center in Vallejo.
- **903-6395** – For non-emergencies, suspicious circumstances, service calls, or crimes that have already occurred, such as a vehicle break-in. Also good for emergency calls from cell phones to ensure that the call goes to the MVPD dispatch center. *The MVPD recommends programming this number into your cell phone and having it on speed dial or in your favorites.*
- **www.MVPD.gov** – For non-urgent crimes such as loss or theft of property, minor vandalism, and after-the-fact report of suspicious person or activity. Click on "Report a Crime or Incident" at left.

What to report:

Unusual foot traffic at a residence	Persons going door-to-door with no reason
Suspicious vehicles	Someone screaming, gun shots, breaking windows
Slow-moving vehicles with lights turned off	Person selling odd items from car or door-to-door
Parked, occupied vehicles at odd hours	Person removing vehicle accessories (e.g., plates)
Abandoned vehicles	Person(s) loitering whom you don't recognize
Persons making quick changes of vehicles	Anyone forcing entrance into building or vehicle
Business transactions conducted from vehicles	Person peering into parked vehicles
Person entering home of neighbor on vacation	Person moving household items at night
Person who knocks, then goes around back	Person running and carrying household items

**Remember: If what you hear, see, or smell makes you uncomfortable, it's okay to call it in.
Your safety comes first. It's better to observe and call than to confront.**

Contacts:

- **Jennifer Crist**, Police Assistant in the Community Action and Information Unit
903-6186 or Jennifer.crist@mountainview.gov
- **The beat officer** 903-6344 (voicemail) or police@mountainview.gov

Web resources:

- **iPhone/iPad/Android App** – Go to iTunes or Android Market Place, type in My Police Department, and the free app will appear. It lets you access PD contacts, tweets, website, and more.
- **Twitter** – The MVPD was the first police department in CA to begin micro-blogging to the community. Follow the PD to receive news and information @mountainviewpd.
- **Facebook** – The MVPD is now on Facebook. Just search "Mountain View Police Department".
- **Crime Reports** – A user-friendly, interactive crime mapping system utilizes Google maps and updates cases daily. You can sign up for crime alerts at www.crimereports.com or access it via the PD website at www.MVPD.gov.
- **mln** – The Monta Loma Neighborhood email list provides real-time information on neighborhood incidents. (Join via www.montaloma.org.)