



## Season's Greetings

# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

San Gabriel Police Department • 625 S. Del Mar Avenue • San Gabriel, CA 91776 • (626) 308-2828 • Issue No. 282

### To all our Neighborhood Watch Members

On behalf of the San Gabriel Police Department, we would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous Holiday Season. Even though this is a special time of celebration and good cheer, for many it is also a time when thieves may strike to make you a victim of a burglary, robbery, scam, auto theft, etc.

Here are a few helpful reminders that can help prevent you from being their target this holiday season:

#### **Strangers at Your Door**

- Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts.
- Ask for identification. If they represent a charity, find out how the donated funds will be used. If you are not satisfied, do not donate.
- Donate to a recognized charitable organization.

#### **Children**

- If possible, leave small children at home with a trusted babysitter.
  - Teach children to stay close to you at all times while shopping.
  - Never allow children to make unaccompanied trips to the restroom.
  - Children should never be allowed to go to the car alone and they should never be left alone in the car.
  - Teach children their full name, address and telephone number to give to police officers or mall security.
- Teach children to immediately inform you if a stranger is bothering them.

#### **Automated Teller Machine (ATM)**

- If you must use an ATM, choose one that is located inside a police station, mall, or well-lighted location. Withdraw only the amount of cash you need.
- Protect your PIN by shielding the ATM keypad from anyone who is standing near you.
- Do not throw your ATM receipt away at the ATM location.

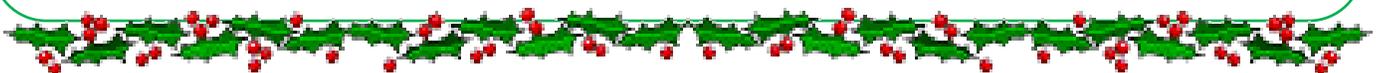
Remember, joining the Neighborhood Watch Program with your neighbors may be the best deterrent against crime in your area. To arrange a meeting call (626) 451-5455.

**Choose your ride.**  
Drink. Drive. Go to Jail.



**If you notice anything suspicious or out of place call the San Gabriel Police Department at  
(626) 308-2828 (non-emergency) 9-1-1 (emergency)**

**Receive alerts from the City of San Gabriel at <https://local.nixle.com/register/> or text your zip code to 888777 for mobile alerts.**





## *Holiday Safety Tips:*

The following Holiday Safety Tips were compiled to contribute to the safety and security of residents during the holiday season. The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday related crimes. We can never be too careful, too prepared, or too aware. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors.

### ***At Home***

- Be extra caution about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving your home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspaper and mail.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house appears occupied.
- Large displays or holiday gifts should not be visible through windows or doors of your home.
- When setting up a Christmas tree or other holiday displays, make sure doors and passageways are clear.
- Place your Christmas tree in water or wet sand to keep it green.
- Never place wrapping paper in your fireplace.

### ***Driving***

- Avoid driving alone, or at night.
- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car. Set your alarm or use an anti-theft device.
- If you must shop at night, park in a well-illuminated area.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels. Do not put these items down or on top of your car in order to open the door.
- When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.

### ***Shopping***

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your California Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen, or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other public transit systems.

### ***Identification of property***

• The goal is to deter property related crimes and to assist law enforcement in their efforts to find and return stolen or lost property to its rightful owner.

Remember the following:

- Mark items with your California Driver License or Identification Card number.
- Do not use your Social Security Number.
- For items that cannot be marked with an engraver, photograph or videotape the items.

