



# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



Issue 297

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## How to avoid becoming a victim of a robbery

Street robberies and other violent crimes are still comparatively rare and account for a very small part of the crime reported in San Gabriel; however, because of the large number of popular shopping centers and restaurants in the area, it is important for the public to be aware of some basic safeguards to avoid being victims.

The best way to reduce the risk of being a victim is by taking sensible precautions. Most people already do this as part of their everyday lives, often without realizing it. Here are a few safety tips:

- Project confidence and an awareness of your surroundings. Make eye contact and look at the people around you. Let them know you see them.
- If possible, travel with a companion; this is especially important when it is dark outside.
- At night, walk in well-lighted parking lots and well-traveled areas. Avoid being distracted such as talking on a cell phone and looking downward.
- Don't overburden yourself with shopping bags or a purse, carrying too much marks you as a victim. Place your purse in a shopping bag, not on your shoulder where criminals see it and make it easier to steal. This also leaves both hands free and makes any items difficult to steal.
- If you suspect you're being followed, turn and walk quickly in the opposite direction, and go to a well-lighted and well-populated area.
- Don't carry more cash than you actually need and don't flash large sums of money at restaurants, bars, retail stores or banks. You never know who is watching. Don't carry credit cards if you aren't planning to use them.
- Walk on the side of the street facing oncoming traffic. This will prevent a car from "sneaking" up on you.
- Be aware of locations and situations that would make you vulnerable to crime, such as alleys and dark parking lots.
- Avoid using ATM's on the street or behind buildings. Go to one located inside a mall where better security is provided.
- If you carry a purse, carry it securely between your arm and your body. Although a purse snatcher's intent is to steal the purse, your personal safety may depend on not clinging to it.
- Do not make yourself an obvious target. When practical, avoid wearing expensive, noticeable clothing or jewelry if you are going to be on the street.

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). If you would like more information on personal safety contact the Community Engagement Bureau.



**Saturday, April 24, 2021**  
**At 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**  
**DEATakeBack.com**

**TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

*At the San Gabriel Police Department - 625 S. Del Mar Ave., San Gabriel, CA 91776*

## Let's talk about Domestic Violence

### WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically.

### ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.
- On a typical day, local domestic violence hotlines receive approximately 19,159 calls, approximately 13 calls every minute.
- Abusers' access to firearms increases the risk of intimate partner femicide at least five-fold. When firearms have been used in the most severe abuse incident, the risk increases 41-fold.
- 65% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner; 96% of the victims of these crimes are female.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED FIREARMS LAWS IN CALIFORNIA

- Domestic violence, dating violence and stalking misdemeanants are prohibited from possessing firearms in California.
- Respondents to ex parte and final protective orders, including dating partners, are prohibited from possessing firearms.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

- Let them know they are not to blame for the abuse; they are not responsible for it and do not deserve it.
- Take the time to talk with victim privately and ask about suspicious bruises or fights that you know about. Their needs to tell victims story in her own time and at her own pace.
- Help them make safety plans for themselves and her children. It could save their lives.
- Validate their feelings; they may feel hurt, angry, afraid, ashamed or trapped. They may love the abuser.
- If you suspect that abuse is actively occurring, call 911.
- Make strong statements against violence in your social circles and in support of victims building violence-free, autonomous lives.
- Give them information about local resources (see the resources below).
- Offer to assist the victim by keeping them safe by letting them stay with you, only if it does not put you in harm's way.
- Help them keep documents, money, and a packed suitcase. Establish an identifying code word that they can use to signal the need to call the police on her behalf.

#### TOLL-FREE HOTLINES

Aids Hotline 800-922-2437

Child Abuse Hotline 800-540-4000

Child Help U.S.A. Child Abuse Hotline

800-4-A-CHILD

Domestic Violence (Info-Line) 2-1-1

Elder Abuse Hotline 800-992-1660

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children 800-843-5678

National Child Abuse Hotline 800-422-4453

Victims of Crime Resource Center

800-842-8467

\*\*\* Note that domestic violence reports are not included in the monthly crime statistics due to Public Records Privacy.