



CHEVY CHASE  
VILLAGE  
POLICE  
DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER: 5-12 CRIME PREVENTION

DATE: 3/2/2017

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Police Chief: John M. Fitzgerald

**I. POLICY**

The *Chevy Chase Village Police* Department is committed, through its crime prevention efforts, to preserving the quality of life within Chevy Chase Village

Crime prevention is a primary function of the Department and is a fundamental responsibility of every employee. The primary goal of our crime prevention efforts is to encourage residents to incorporate habits into their daily lives that will reduce the likelihood that they will become a crime victim. The secondary goal is to increase the community's confidence in the Department, and to encourage broader participation by the community in our shared goals of crime prevention and effective, professional law enforcement.

**II. GENERAL PROCEDURES**

- A. All personnel are responsible for doing what they can to reduce crime within the Village.
- B. Every employee of the Department is responsible for:
  1. Being on the lookout for and identifying potential crime risk problems throughout the community;
  2. Seeking a solution to the problem by addressing it directly, or by notifying, and assisting as needed, the appropriate agency having the necessary resources and responsibility for the problem.
  3. Providing basic crime prevention information to victims at crime scenes;
  4. Pro-actively assessing possible crime prevention measures at every call for service and with every citizen or business contact;
  5. Informing citizens of the crime prevention/crime reduction programs available through the Department or any other relevant source and encouraging citizen participation in those programs;

- G. Being cognizant of and responding in an appropriate manner to, violations of the Chevy Chase Village Code of Ordinances that negatively impact the quality of life in the community.

**III. CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM FOCUS AND METHODS**

- A. Property crime—theft, specifically—is the most prevalent type of crime that occurs in the Village, so our crime prevention efforts will focus on reducing theft. If crime patterns change in the future, the focus of the Department's crime prevention program(s) will be modified accordingly.
- B. The Department will provide the citizens of Chevy Chase Village with accurate and timely information regarding crime patterns and specific crimes that impact the public safety through any appropriate media, including broadcast media, metropolitan area print media, brochures, and local Village Crier.
- C. Residential and commercial security surveys will be conducted at the request of residents and business owners by trained police officers.
- D. Upon request, Village police officers will provide house checks for Village residents when they are away from their homes for more than twenty-four (24) hours. See General Order 5-45.
- E. A "Bicycle Safety Program", to register bicycles and provide crime prevention tips is performed by all officers upon request. The Chief of Police and officers assigned to the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration in the Park will register bicycles and provide crime prevention materials to residents and visitors.
- E. The Chief will utilize the Public Safety Committee (PSC), comprised entirely of Village residents, as a source of information about community concerns. Additionally, the Chief will invite the PSC to provide recommendations regarding services, programming and policies.

**IV. EVALUATION OF CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

Any officer of the Department delegated by the Chief of Police the responsibility for developing or coordinating a crime prevention program or presentation shall submit a written *memorandum* to the Chief of Police, through the chain of command, *describing* the location, date, time, and nature of the presentation, the number of participants, how the presentation was received by the audience, *and* whether a program or presentation should be modified, left unchanged, or discontinued.

This directive voids the previous version dated 11/25/2009.