



VOLUNTEERS

Visit us on the web at www.sanfordpolice.org

DECEMBER 2008

MAIN NUMBER

407.688.5070

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407.688.5075

DEPUTY CHIEF

Darrel Presley

407.688.5076

CAPTAIN-SUPPORT SERVICES

Coolidge Hargrett

407.688.5077

CAPTAIN-PRIMARY OPERATIONS

David Del Rosso

407.688.5078

13TH STREET COMMUNITY SERVICE

CENTER

407.688.5073

COMMUNITY POLICING

Lieutenant Willie Harden

407.688.5070 ext. 6012

CRIME PREVENTION

Cynthia Littles

407.688.5070 ext. 6042

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Wendy Dorival

407.688.5070 ext. 6008

RECORDS

407.688.5070

EMERGENCY

911

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

407.688.5199

ELDER ABUSE

This holiday season, you might be visiting elderly relatives or friends you haven't seen in a while. If so, it is often a time of laughter and fun. But amid the light conversation, be aware of some dark possibilities. According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, relatives commit 90 percent of all elder abuse. So if your friend or loved one lives with a spouse or adult child, be on the lookout for tense relationships and constant arguments.



Some of the warning signs of elder abuse are easy to spot, such as black-and-blue marks and abrasions. Other signs are less apparent. While risk factors do not necessarily indicate abuse, some signs that there could be a problem are:

- ◆ The person reports feeling afraid or hurt.
- ◆ Unexplained withdrawal from normal activities, a sudden change in alertness, and unusual depression may be indicators of emotional abuse.
- ◆ Bruises, pressure marks, broken bones, abrasions, and burns may be an indication of physical abuse, neglect, or mistreatment.
- ◆ Strained or tense relationships, frequent arguments between the caregiver and elderly person are also signs.
- ◆ Sudden changes in financial situations may be the result of exploitation.
- ◆ If you suspect elder abuse, call Adult Protective Services at 1-800-96ABUSE (1-800-962-2873), or the Florida Elder Affairs Hotline at 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337), or your local law enforcement agency.

In many cases, your intuition will be telling you that something is amiss and will give you a sense of situations that may warrant a second look. It is important to be alert. The suffering of elder abuse victims is often borne in silence.

More information on elder abuse can be found on <http://www.ncea.aoa.gov>

ALCOHOL

Thousands of law enforcement agencies in all 50 states will hit the roads to stop drunk drivers during the dangerous holiday season. The [Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.](#) campaign, lets the public know: If you drive drunk, you will be arrested.

- Between the 2007 Thanksgiving and New Year's holidays, 1,293 people were killed in crashes involving drivers or motorcycle operators with an illegal blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher.

The massive holiday crackdown, supported by an \$8-million national TV and radio ad campaign from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), aims to deter drunk driving and reduce the fatalities and injuries it causes through stepped-up, high-visibility law enforcement, using saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoints to help protect the millions of Americans traveling from now through the New Year's holiday.



If you are hosting a party this holiday season, be careful if you are serving alcohol. There can be a downside if your guests do not drink responsibly.

Some hosts who provide alcohol at their social events aren't always aware of their personal responsibility to look out for their guests' safety when they are ready to go home. Although each of us is responsible for our own actions, and although we cannot control the actions of others, we can plan ahead and take practical steps to prevent friends from driving under the influence of alcohol. What if one of your guests became impaired from drinking alcohol that you provided at an event and then caused a fatal accident? Not only would you feel awful, but you could also be held liable for the impaired or drunken guest's alcohol-related offense(s).

Consider what you can do

- ◆ Limit the amount of alcohol available.
- ◆ If an event is held at a city-owned facility, some municipalities have mandated that only licensed caterers, nonprofit organizations, and onsite retailers are allowed to provide alcoholic beverages on public property. It is often against the law for the guests to bring alcohol to such locations. Know the law and communicate it to your guests.
- ◆ Assign a responsible individual to serve alcohol.
- ◆ If you have a cash bar, check with the server regularly for potential problems.
- ◆ As the host, set a personal example of modest alcohol consumption.
- ◆ It is against the law in *every state* to provide alcohol to anyone under 21.
- ◆ Guests need to be vigilant about where half-empty drinking glasses with alcoholic beverages are placed when there are young, curious children at the event.
- ◆ Offer a wide variety of non-alcoholic drinks, other than just different brands of soft drinks, bottled waters, and coffee. Serve such drinks as fruit shakes and smoothies, milk shakes, fruit punches, and herbal teas.
- ◆ Create an atmosphere where no one is pressured to drink. Just one drink can cause disaster for some individuals.
- ◆ Smaller gatherings allow the host(s) to be more aware of what's taking place at their home or at the event location. Also, guests who are parents can better monitor minor children.

Some individuals may not like your decision to control how the alcohol flows at your event. Still others may be disappointed if you decide not to have alcohol at all at your happy event. That's okay. Be a true friend and look out for your friends. Whatever you decide, you want to be able to look back with delight and not regret.



MAIL THEFT

To make it harder for thieves to steal your mail, consider the following:

- Never send cash or coins in the mail. Use checks, money orders or pay by phone transfers.
- Make sure your mailbox is secured and in good condition.
- Promptly remove mail from your mailbox after delivery, especially if you are expecting checks, credit cards, food coupons, and other negotiable items. If you will not be home when valuable items are expected, ask a trusted friend or neighbor to pick up your mail.
- Have your local post office hold your mail while you are on vacation or absent from your home for a long period of time.
- If you do not receive a check, food coupon or other valuable mail you are expecting, contact the issuing agency immediately.
- Immediately notify your post office and the people you do business with through the mail if you change your address.
- Address your mail legibly and properly. Include complete return address, including street and apartment numbers, and nine-digit ZIP Code.
- Always deposit your mail in a Postal Service mail collection box or mail slot at your local post office or hand your mail to your letter carrier. Never place your outgoing mail for your carrier to pick up in an unprotected mailbox or area where it can be easily stolen.



Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch Program. By exchanging work and vacation schedules with trusted friends and neighbors, you can watch each other's mailboxes (as well as homes). If you observe a mail thief at work, you can call the local police immediately and then the nearest postal inspector.

If you believe your mail has been stolen, report it immediately to your local postmaster or nearest Postal Inspector. You will be asked to complete PS Form 2016, Mail Theft and Vandalism Complaint. Analysis of Forms 2016 helps Postal Inspectors in determining if the theft of your mail is isolated or part of a larger mail theft problem in your neighborhood, and in locating and apprehending mail thieves.

DUMB CRIMINALS



How well do you know the criminal mind?

In Indianapolis, Indiana, Bobby Swope broke into his neighbor's house and stole a gun. Was he caught because. . .

- A. He was arrested for DUI and the weapon found under the seat was traced to the rightful owner?
- B. The gun didn't work, so he broke back into the house to return it? Or
- C. The phony gun dealer he tried to sell it to was an undercover cop?

The correct answer is B. Believe it or not, when Swope discovered that the weapon didn't work, he broke back into the house to return it. That's when he was caught by the police!

EVENTS

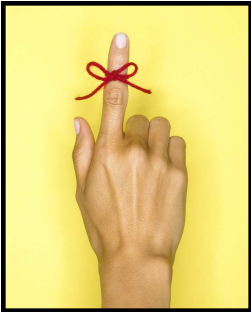
We need your help!

- January 19th, Martin Luther King Parade: 10 am.



Happy Holidays

REMINDERS



- Volunteer meetings are every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 P.M. (for all volunteers).
Next meeting January 21st, 2008
- Volunteer Chaplain meetings are every 3rd Thursday of the month at 3:30 P.M.
Next meeting January 15th
- Volunteer time sheets are all due by 8AM every 1st of the month.
- Deadline for Newsletter articles every 15th of the month

Have a story to share about your experience as a volunteer? Have ideas for future articles for the volunteer newsletter? Email your story to dorivalw@sanfordfl.gov.



SANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

