

Community Watch is a crime prevention program that stresses education and common sense. It teaches us how to help ourselves by joining together to identify and report suspicious activity in our neighborhood. One of the most important strategies that we employ is promoting social interaction and "watching out for each other."

### IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING.

# **WAYS TO WATCH:**

- Passive observation—being on the lookout and paying attention to details as you are going about your daily routines (taking out the trash, sitting on the porch, walking the dog, driving to and from work, taking the kids to school, walking or jogging, etc.)
- Window watching
- Walking patrols
- Mobile patrols

# A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

- Watch with someone if available.
- Call the police if you suspect criminal activity.
- Drive slowly during mobile patrols and know where you are at all times.
- Change driving routes with each watch.

## **OTHER OPTIONS:**

- Mobile patrols with or without Community Watch signs on your vehicle
- Walking patrols
- Carry a cell phone to keep track of information or to record events.
- Consider watching during peak times B and E to autos (car burglaries) generally occur between 11p.m. and 3 a.m. Home burglaries occur generally during the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. while people are at work.

# **A FEW THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:**

# Please...

- **Do not** be confrontational.
- **Do not** attempt to apprehend anyone.
- **Do not** leave your vehicle while patrolling.
- Do not perform any investigative functions such as checking doors or searching areas on foot.

- **Do not** become involved in the high-speed pursuit of a vehicle.
- **Do not** shine a light at anyone, into the windows of any vehicles, or into an occupied dwelling.
- **Do not** violate traffic regulations.
- Do not patrol while under the influence of alcohol or prescription medication or drugs that may cause you to become impaired.
- Do not carry any weapons while representing yourself as a member of Community Watch.

## PLEASE REMAIN SAFE AT ALL TIMES

# **CONNECTING WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS**—

# Suggested Ways to Keep Your Watch Group Going

- <a href="http://www.nextdoor.com">http://www.nextdoor.com</a>, a private social network for your neighborhood.\*
- Create a neighborhood survey of assets, skills, and needs for use during crisis situations.
- Neighborhood game nights.
- Start a community garden.
- Host a coffee or dessert night.
- Have a neighborhood clean-up day.
- Start a community newsletter.
- Gather to watch a sporting event.
- Have a neighborhood block party.
- Have a ladies' creativity night.
- Start a book club or community lending.

# **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- National Night Out/ Safety Expo... First Tuesday in October...Jaycee's Building 5-7 p.m.
- Award's Night ...First Tuesday in April

## **OTHER:**

- Operation Identification (Engrave your driver's license number and state on televisions, stereos, computers and small electronic appliances. When available, engravers can be checked out at each precinct.) Photograph your valuables, especially jewelry and other items that cannot be engraved.
- No Soliciting Signs (Door-to-Door solicitors need a Solicitors License to operate in the City of Huntsville.)
- Ride Along Program (The application can be found at http://docs.huntsvilleal.gov/docs/police/CitizenObserverForm.pdf)
- Citizen's Police Academy (TBA)

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

# **NORTH**

Brian Hopkins... 256-746-4104... brian.hopkins@huntsvilleal.gov Kenny Adams...256-746-4105...kenny.adams@huntsvilleal.gov

# **SOUTH**

Steven Graham...256-213-4550...steven.graham@huntsvilleal.gov Michael C. Johnson... 256-213-4548...michaelc.johnson@huntsvilleal.gov

# **WEST**

Joel Stevens... 256-427-5496...joel.stevens@huntsvilleal.gov

Dwight Atkinson... 256-427-5209...dwight.atkinson@huntsvilleal.gov

# **SUPERVISOR**

Sgt. Tony McElyea... 256-427-7197...tony.mcelyea@huntsvilleal.gov

# HUNTSVILLE COMMUNITY WATCH HCWA2011 @Yahoo.com

Police Non-Emergency Number 256-722-7100

Remember: In an emergency, always call 911

<sup>\*</sup>The information provided on Next Door does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement. It is intended for information purposes only.

# **City of Huntsville Numbers You Should Know**

# Who to Call About:

Trash Pick-Up	COH Sanitation	256-883-3964
Litter in the Streets and Gutters	COH Sanitation	256-883-3944
Ditch maintenance and Cleaning	COH Sanitation	256-883-3944
Dumpsters Over-Flowing	HPD	256-427-7197
Dumpsters Location	COH Sanitation	256-883-3964
Yard Waste Collection	COH Sanitation	256-883-3964
Standards for Litter/Garbage Containers	COH Sanitation	256-883-3964
Illegal Dump Sites	HPD	256-427-7197
Seeping Raw Sewage	HPD	256-427-7197
Building Permits	COH Inspection	256-427-5331 256-427-5332
Construction Debris/Demolition Debris	COH Inspection	256-427-5331
Inoperable Vehicles/Junk on Private Property	COH Community Development	256-427-5409 256-427-5400
Grass on Private Property	COH Community Development	256-427-5409
Grass on Public Property	COH Landscape Management	256-427-5226
Open Burning	COH Fire Department	256-722-7,120
18 Wheelers and Motor Homes Parking In Residential Areas	COH Zoning	256-564-8008
Operation of a Business in a Residential Area	COH Zoning	256-564-8008
Visibility Obstruction	COH Traffic Engineers	256-427-6850
Collection and Disposal of Dead Animals	COH Animal Control	256-883-3788
Noise Pollution	COH natural Resources	256-427-5750

Huntsville Police 256-722-7100

Huntsville Fire and Rescue 256-722-7120

**Municipal Court 256-427-7803** 

www.huntsvilleal.gov

# Residential Solicitation Ordinance



Sample Solicitor's Badge

Chapter 18 Section: 18-3 through 18-8

The city council finds that its citizens have the right to be secured from unwanted intrusion into their privacy and from criminal or fraudulent conduct or activity. The information taken from the ordinance listed below is the enforceable previsions. As a violation, these previsions can be enforced from the occurrence in the presence of an officer or by a citizen obtaining a warrant. The two most important sections are 18-3 & 18-8 for our citizens. 18-3 covers the placement of a "No Solicitation" or "No Trespass" sign. It is a violation for a solicitor to attempt to make contact once you properly post either sign. 18-8 covers the City of Huntsville issued ID card. The ID card will be required by any commercial solicitors, boy scouts and girl scouts will be exempt. Ask for this ID. They refuse tell them to leave and call the police at (256) 722-7100.

### Definitions.....Sec. 18-2

Soliciting or solicit or solicitation means residential advocacy, residential fundraising, or residential

selling.....ANY AND ALL RESIDENTIAL SOLICITATION

Solicitor means any person engaged in soliciting.

Enforcement sections: Sec. 18-3 through Sec. 18-8

Sec. 18-3. Notice regulating residential soliciting.

Informational: Acceptable notice is when visible and legible, posting signs (No Solicitation or No Trespassing) at the main entrance door, gate, or property lines.

Note: apartment's entrance is property line!

### **Enforcement:**

It is a violation for a solicitor to attempt to make contact when the residence is posted.

If the residence tells them to leave, the solicitor must leave.

# Sec. 18-4. Duty of solicitors

### Enforcement:

It is a violation to step inside a home without permission or refuse to leave at the residence request.

It is a violation to be deceitful or false statements.

It is a violation for the solicitor to make physical contact (without permission) with the residence.

It will be a violation to repeatedly solicit.

It will be a violation to engage in abusive, threating, harassing, intimidating, or coercive conduct.

### Sec. 18-5. Time limit on soliciting.

### **Enforcement:**

It is a violation to solicit between the hours of 8pm to 8am.

# Sec. 18-6. Age limitations for commercial solicitors.

Information: Commercial solicitors are the only solicitors required to have a City of Huntsville permit and can be cited under Sec. 18-6.

Definition of commercial solicitor is a person engaging in residential selling.

#### Enforcement

It is a violation to allow a solicitor to be under 16 years of age not to be accompanied by an employee 19 years or older.

### Sec. 18-7. Restrictions on methods of solicitation.

### **Enforcement:**

It is a violation for a solicitor to falsely represent their self or their company.

### Sec. 18-8. Permit required; exemption.

Information: Commercial solicitors are the only solicitors required to have a City of Huntsville permit and can be cited under Sec. 18-8.

Definition of commercial solicitor is a person engaging in residential selling.

### Enforcement:

It is a violation for any commercial solicitor to solicit without a permit issued by the City of Huntsville.