

TIP OF THE MONTH: BACK TO SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY TIPS

- 1. Slow Down.** Two-thirds of motorists exceeded the posted speed limit during the 30-minute period before and after school, according to a national observational survey. Whether in a school zone or residential neighborhood, motorists should keep their speed low and be prepared to stop quickly for increased vehicle or pedestrian traffic.
- 2. Obey Traffic Signs.** Obeying traffic signs is something all motorists should do no matter where they drive. However, a national observational survey found that many motorists violated stop signs in school zones and residential neighborhoods. Forty-five percent did not come to a complete stop with 37 percent rolling through and seven percent not even slowing down.
- 3. Stay Alert.** Motorists should always avoid distractions while driving, but it's particularly important in school zones and residential neighborhoods. Looking away from the roadway for just two seconds doubles the chance of being involved in a crash. Avoid talking on mobile phones, texting, adjusting the radio or any other activity that might take attention away from the roadway.
- 4. Scan Between Parked Cars.** According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly 40 percent of child pedestrian fatalities occurred in between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., mostly at non-intersection locations. Children can quickly dart out between parked cars or other objects along the roadway. Motorists should pay close attention not only at intersections, but also along any residential roadways where children could be present.
- 5. Look for Clues of Children Nearby.** Keep an eye out for clues that children are likely nearby such as crossing guards, bicycles and playgrounds.
- 6. Always Stop for Buses.** For 23 million students across the nation, the school day begins and/or ends with a trip on a school bus. The greatest risk they face is not riding the bus, but approaching or leaving it. Flashing yellow lights on a school bus indicate it is preparing to stop to load or unload children, and motorists should slow down and prepare to stop. Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped, and children are getting on and off. Motorists are required to stop their vehicles and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.
- 7. Allot Extra Travel Time.** Back to school often means increased congestion and longer commute times. Motorists should allot extra travel time when school is in session to avoid any temptation to speed or disobey traffic laws in an effort to "catch up" after being delayed.
- 8. Review Your Travel Route.** Motorists should consider modifying their travel route to avoid school zones and residential neighborhoods. A slightly longer route might actually be quicker by avoiding congestion and much lower speed limits in and around school zones.
- 9. Use Extra Caution in Bad Weather.** Whether in rain, snow, fog or any other inclement weather, motorists should use extra caution. Reduced visibility can make it difficult for motorists to see children and children to see vehicles. It also can make it difficult to perform quick stops, if needed.
- 10. Use Headlights.** Turn on the vehicle's daytime running lights or headlights--even during the day--so children and other drivers can see them more easily. But, don't forget to turn them off when you reach your destination to maintain your battery life.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

RD 14 15800 block of Overton on 08/20/09 @ 1428 hrs. Forced window. Loss was two watches. **Suspect descriptions obtained as well as a partial suspect vehicle license plate number.**

RD 15 10000 block of Stilbite on 08/13/09 @ 1250 hrs. Suspect entered through an unlocked window. Loss was a laptop. **Suspect and suspect vehicle descriptions obtained.**

RD 16 10600 block of Morning Glory between 08/05/09 @ 1100 and 08/09/09 @ 0800 hrs. Smashed rear door window. Unknown loss.

RD 16 10600 block of Morning Glory on 08/06/09 @ 1500 hrs. Smashed rear window. Loss was a camera.

RD 16 10500 block of Chinook on 08/10/09 between 0600 and 1625 hrs. Pried rear slider. Loss was a TV and a PS3.

RD 33 16500 block of Daisy between 08/04/09 @ 2145 and 08/05/09 @ 1640 hrs. Pry marks on the door to the guest room. No entry was made, and there was no loss.

RD 42 17400 block of Santa Maria on 08/04/09 between 1030 and 1420 hrs. Removed front screen. There was no loss.

RD 42 8500 block of La Baya between 08/25/09 @ 1800 and 08/26/09 @ 1400 hrs. Unknown force was used to enter through window. Loss was toilet paper and paper towels.

RD 44 17300 block of Buttonwood on 08/31/09 between 0730 and 1230 hrs. Cut screen with entry made through unlocked window. Loss was three rings, one rifle and one shotgun. **Suspect was taken into custody by Huntington Beach PD.**

VEHICLE BURGLARY

RD 15 15900 block of Brookhurst on 08/20/09 between 1300 and 1305 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was three checkbooks.

RD 16 Ward/Edinger on 08/09/09 between 1500 and 1530 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a GPS, two-way radios and two flashlights.

RD 18 11700 block of Lilac between 08/27/09 @ 1500 and 08/28/09 0730 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was jumper cables.

RD 19 Harbor/Lilac between 08/09/09 @ 1800 and 08/10/09 @ 0915 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a stereo.

RD 27 11400 block of Ivory between 08/01/09 @ 2100 and 08/02/09 @ 0716 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a purse, wallet, camera, cash and CDL.

RD 27 11300 block of Bluebell on 08/07/09 between 0536 and 0638 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a GPS.

RD 28 16200 block of Mt. Ackerman between 08/01/09 @ 1230 and 08/02/09 @ 0700 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a briefcase.

RD 28 11800 block of Lilac on 08/13/09 @ 0052 hrs. Smashed window. There was no loss. **Suspect description obtained.**

RD 28 16300 block of San Jacinto between 08/20/09 @ 2130 and 08/23/09 @ 1845hrs. Unknown entry into vehicle. Loss was coins.

RD 37 11100 block of Begonia between 08/01/09 @ 2100 and 08/02/09 @ 0524 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a laptop and medication.

RD 37 16600 block of Mt. Acoma between 08/01/09 @ 2100 and 08/02/09 @ 0700 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a purse, wallet and miscellaneous papers.

RD 38 11800 block of Geode between 08/17/09 @ 2000 and 08/18/09 @ 0625 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a laptop.

RD 38 11900 block of Galena between 08/17/09 @ 2200 and 08/18/09 and 0758 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a purse, two MP3 players, camera and credit cards.

RD 45 17200 block of San Mateo between 08/24/09 @ 2030 and 08/25/09 0620 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a laptop.

RD 55 10100 block of Talbert on 08/03/09 between 1155 and 1310 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was a purse, wallet, credit cards, CDL, cellphone and cash.

RD 58 17900 block of Newhope on 08/17/09 between 1145 and 1200 hrs. Entry made through partially open window. Loss was a computer, computer bag, printer, cords, and miscellaneous paperwork.

RD 62 8700 block of Ottawa River on 08/13/09 between 0100 and 0600 hrs. Forced door locks. Unknown loss.

RD 63 9300 block of Toucan between 08/26/09 @ 1530 and 08/27/09 @ 1130 hrs. Unknown entry. Loss was a purse, wallet, Nintendo DS, credit cards and keys.

RD 64 18400 Brookhurst on 08/06/09 @ 0941 hrs. Pulled passenger window. Loss was a GPS and laptop.

RD 64 9500 block of Toucan between 08/23/09 @ 2200 and 08/24/09 @ 1315 hrs. Unknown entry. Loss was coins.

RD 64 18400 block of Brookhurst on 08/26/09 between 1845 and 2045 hrs. Smashed window. Loss was clothing, a gym bag and a suitcase.

RD 72 8600 block of Woodpecker between 08/15/09 @ 2030 and 08/16/09 @ 1820 hrs. Unknown entry. Loss was a camera, cellphone and knife.

RD 75 10300 block of Cardinal on 08/09/09 between 0030 and 0430 hrs. Attempt to pry trunk. No loss.

STOLEN VEHICLE

RD 37 16700 block of Mt Darwin between 08/24/09 @ 2300 and 08/25/09 @ 0600 hrs. Vehicle was recovered by Santa Ana PD.

RD 45 17000 block of San Bruno between 08/01/09 @ 2030 and 08/04/09 @ 0000 hrs. Not recovered as of yet.

RD 55 17600 block of Los Alamos on 08/10/09 between 2100 and 2116 hrs. Vehicle was recovered by LAPD.

RD 73 9300 block of Warbler on 08/11/09 between 0130 and 0645 hrs. Vehicle was recovered by CHP - Riverside.

RD 75 10000 block of San Miguel on 08/16/09 @ 1600 hrs. Vehicle was recovered by CHP – Santa Fe Springs.

RECOVERED VEHICLES STOLEN FROM OTHER CITIES

RD 64 9800 block of Peters on 08/08/09 @ 0840 hrs. Vehicle was originally stolen from Santa Fe Springs. No one in custody.

RD 65 Antelope River/Elk River on 08/01/09 @ 1344 hrs. Vehicle was originally stolen from Huntington Beach. No one in custody.

GRAFFITI

There were 144 incidents of graffiti in August. The increase in reported incidents is due to our improved method for locating, documenting and removing graffiti from your neighborhoods. The following is a three week snapshot of the most recent graffiti reports.

| RD | # | LOCATION | CREW/MONIKER |
|----|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 18 | 3 | Lilac | Wezel |
| 19 | 1 | Mt. Matterhorn | |
| 27 | 8 | Heil/Mt. Islip/Mt. Tricia/Edinger | IDK, RTB |
| 28 | 3 | Heil | BSO, BAD |
| 29 | 6 | Edinger/Elbert/Harbor | IBB, SBC, Inter SME-- |
| 33 | 3 | Heil/Warner/405 Fwy | 2GPP, SAPS, EXT29 |
| 34 | 3 | Petunia/Mariposa | EXT29 |
| 37 | 6 | Euclid/Stonecress/Heil/Warner | DTF, REKS, Mers One |
| 39 | 1 | Harbor Blvd. | |
| 42 | 2 | La Stella/El Rancho | RIP |
| 43 | 6 | Oak/Magnolia/La Paloma | CABK, GFC, CR4D, RAUEN CRYP, JSK |
| 45 | 7 | Calle Independencia/ Calle Zaragoza/Brookhurst/ | Mers |

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|----|---|--|-------------|
| | | La Hacienda | |
| 46 | 4 | Los Jardines/Los Modelos/ Warner/Euclid | 452, Mers 1 |
| 47 | 4 | Euclid | Mers 1, BST |
| 55 | 4 | Los Alamos | SBC |
| 62 | 1 | Ellis/Edison Easement | |
| 64 | 1 | Bushard/Toucan | TP2K |
| 73 | 9 | Tanager | SBC |
| 74 | 1 | Robin | TP2K |
| 75 | 1 | Brookhurst | |

WE WANT TO KNOW!!

Do you have any questions for us? The functions of a police department and the procedures it follows may be a mystery to some. If you have a general question about our policies, procedures, general information, tips, etc., please email it to us at: crimewatch@fountainvalley.org.

Your question and its answer may get featured in one of our upcoming newsletters. We just ask that you please make your question general in nature and do not get into specific events that may have occurred. That way we will be able to answer it completely without issues of confidentiality arising.

THE FOUNTAIN VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT