



Washtenaw County

Sheriff's Office

Scio Township, MI

Neighborhood Watch

Deputy Jon Voelkner



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- Introduction and Goals
- Sheriff's staff present tonight
- Overview of law enforcement systems protecting your community
- When, how and why to activate your system
- Neighborhood Watch
 - Roles of Neighborhood Watch in your community
 - Role of the Block Captain



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- Law Enforcement Systems in Scio Township
 - Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office
 - Collaborative Effort with Scio and Lodi Townships
 - Scio provides 7.0 PSU's (Police Service Units)
 - Lodi provides 3.0 PSU's (Police Service Units)
 - One area lieutenant and one sergeant
 - Basic total is two deputies on duty 24/7 for both townships



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- Reactive Law Enforcement System
- Scio Township-Growing!
- Not enough deputies to be proactive
- Scio Township Citizens are the key link to activating this system



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- Activating your law enforcement system
 - Call 911
 - Do not hesitate to call in these situations
 - Anything you see that you think is suspicious
 - Result: Law Enforcement on your street or neighborhood
 - What to tell 911-Basics. Who, what, where, when, why, and how if known
 - Goal is to function as a good witness and recorder



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- Neighborhood Watch
 - Key to community safety and response
 - Neighbors and stakeholders in the community looking out for each other
 - Basic grass roots organizing
 - Block Captain is similar to a police supervisor
 - Provides leadership and linkage in a specific geographic or demographic area
 - Assures information flow
 - Involves these groups: elderly, working parents and young people



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- **Block Captains Role, contd.**
 - Maintains records of participants
 - Provides liaison between residents and neighborhood watch coordinators
 - Welcomes new residents to the neighborhood
 - Periodic checks with residents to determine any concerns
 - Observes the neighborhood and notes unusual activities



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- What Neighborhood Watch is not
 - The police
 - Functions best as eyes, ears and as a good witness
 - NOT Vigilantes! Do not take any enforcement activities into your own hands



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- A good police witness
 - Detail Oriented and answers these basic questions
 - Organized and prepares to present pertinent information
 - Date, Time Place
 - Takes an organized “mental snapshot” of the event
 - Vehicles-Color, manufacturer, model, year, number of occupants
 - » GET THE LICENSE NUMBER!!! However, need the above because the plate may be improper or stolen



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- A good police witness, contd.
 - Takes a mental snapshot of suspects
 - From head to toe
 - NOTE ANY DISTINCTIVE MARKINGS ESPECIALLY TATTOS, BIRTHMARKS, ETC.
 - Weapons description
 - Any distinctive speech patterns or accent



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- Conclusion
- Law Enforcement Cannot Stand Alone
- Requires a partnership with the community
- Community groups such as neighborhood watch serve as the vital link to assure community safety