

# Seattle Police Email Community Newsletter

## April 27, 2012



Dear Community Friends,

### **Highlighted Activity**

From time to time, we like to highlight the work our officers are doing in the community. It is important you know about the arrests that have been made and the work officers are doing to close cases. Our aim is to give you a sense of how much effort it really takes to get offenders off the street. More than just acknowledging the officers, we also want to acknowledge those members of the community that make the work of the officers possible. It is the diligence of the community, the willingness to call 911, the willingness to say something when something doesn't seem right that enables us to do what we do. It is your determination to see a problem solved, regardless of how frustrating it can be or how much time it may take, that makes it possible for that problem to be solved. Here are some recent examples that illustrate these points.

### [Narcotics Location Taken Down](#)

On the evening of March 30, 2012, Seattle Police Anti-Crime teams from the several Precincts as well as Narcotics detectives and the K9 Unit served a search warrant at a residence on the 3000 Block of S Dawson Street. The warrant resulted in the arrest of five suspects, including the individual who had been selling narcotics out of the house for years. The warrant led to the discovery of cocaine, crack cocaine cooking paraphernalia, numerous scales, cash and weapons.

This location has been a source of community complaints for several years. While frustrated, neighbors never stopped reporting the activity they saw and officers never gave up on trying to resolve this problem. While it took some time and effort, the successful result was this location has ceased to be a problem for the neighborhood. We want to express our gratitude to those officers who kept working this issue. The greater accolades go to the neighbors who supported each other, reported the activity, and hung with us to see this successful end.

### [Residential Burglary Arrests](#)

On 20-Apr-12, a neighbor called in a residential burglary. The neighbor reported seeing a vehicle he knew did not belong to his neighbors and two male suspects associated with the vehicle trying doorknobs of various homes before disappearing behind a neighbor's home. The two suspects were seen returning to the car with a flat screen TV and left the area before officers could arrive. A description of the suspects and their vehicle was broadcast out to area officers. Several miles from the scene of the burglary, Officer D. Lindner spotted a vehicle and individuals that matched the description of the information that had been broadcast; clearly visible in the back seat of the vehicle was a flat screen TV. Both suspects were detained until the witness came to positively identify the vehicle and the two suspects associated with the vehicle as the ones who had carried the flat screen to the car. The two suspects were booked in to King County jail for Investigation of burglary and the stolen property was returned to its rightful owner. We want to acknowledge officers G. Barreto, E. Beseler, C. Caron and V. McDonald for their diligence, and Officer Lindner for his acute awareness to spot the suspect vehicle miles away from the actual crime scene. We also have to express much thanks to the neighbor who witnessed the burglary and called it in at that moment. Without the detailed description of the vehicle, the individuals and their clothing, such a quick identification of suspects and burglary arrests would not have been possible.

On April 26, 2012, officers responded to a burglary-in-progress call on the 5600 block of S Augusta Street. A witness called 911 to report that two suspects were kicking in the front door of a house. As officers were enroute, the witness provided updates on the location of the suspects, their physical descriptions, a description of the suspect vehicle and its direction of travel. Officers located and stopped the suspect vehicle and contacted the three suspects, two adult males and one juvenile female. All three suspects were positively identified by the witness. Officers obtained a signed consent to search the suspect's vehicle. The stolen property was recovered and returned to the rightful owner. All three suspects were placed under arrest. The 17-year-old female suspect was booked into the Youth Service Center (juvenile detention) for Investigation of Burglary. Both adult male suspects, 19 and 20 years old, were booked into the King County

Jail for Investigation of Burglary. We commend the following officers their work in locating and apprehending the suspects, processing the crime scene, safeguarding the evidence and returning the stolen property to the rightful owner: G. Barreto, R. Bournes, B. Caille, C. Caron, D. Clouse, R. Howard, S. Martinell, V. McDonald, M. Powell, and J. Stone. Again, we have to extend our deepest gratitude to the witness who called this in. To quote the supervising sergeant, *"If not for the willingness of the witness to get involved, this would have been just 'another paper call',"* meaning officers would have written up a burglary report that would have had little chance of ever being solved.

### [Theft Arrest and More](#)

On April 22, 2012, a concerned citizen had contacted police about information regarding a high value theft. The information provided and the subsequent follow-up by South Precinct patrol officers and the South Precinct Anti-Crime Team led to the location of a stolen vehicle, the recovery and return of stolen property, and information regarding a stolen gun and a shooting suspect. We want to commend officers G. Barreto, T. Horning V. McDonald, S. Parker, & South Precinct Anti Crime Team officers for their great work and thoroughness. Special thanks to the concerned citizen who made the call and set the wheels in motion, making these outcomes possible.

### **Engaged Communities Send A Message**

When I look at the above examples, a few things come to mind. First, there is the partnership between community and police. Police cannot be effective without community involvement and certain community concerns cannot be addressed without engaging police. Secondly, communities are increasingly sending a strong message. Through the community safety walks that have already happened and those that are still to come, the increased vigilance and reporting of suspicious activity, and your willingness to engage with your community, a message is being sent: *"We refuse to be victims. We have the right to live without fear and without worry about our safety or our property. We have the right to be safe and secure in our homes and our community. We will have these rights honored."*

These rights are not something that can be written into law, but they are rights engaged members of the community can make a reality. We start by coming together, getting to know one another, and agreeing to keep watch for each other. I look out for you, I care about what happens to you, and I don't sit by and ignore or choose not to get involved when I see something happening that could negatively impact you. If I see someone breaking in to your car, I say something; if I see someone breaking in to your home, I say something; if I see you being accosted or assaulted, I say something. I would hope that you would do the same for me.

This is the essence of Block Watch. This is what our efforts to bring neighbors together are all about. Through communication with each other, we build community. Through building strong communities, through neighbors watching out for neighbors, crime decrease. It may sound simplistic, but it works; you are proving it every day through your efforts.

Thank you for all you do for your neighborhoods. Until next time, Take Care and Stay Safe!

Mark Solomon, Crime Prevention Coordinator, [mark.solomon@seattle.gov](mailto:mark.solomon@seattle.gov), 206.386.9766