



YOUR Community, YOUR Neighbors
OUR RESPONSIBILITY
 get involved today

Columbia Neighborhood Watch

March , 2019

Board of Directors

- Irwin Schneider, President
- Elaine Heckenkamp, Vice President
- Jeff Hempstead, Secretary
- Sandy Perley, Treasurer
- Ron Bartels
- Herb Watchinski Jr
- Marc Lammy
- Jacob Novak
- Officer Jason McClintic , Police Liaison
- Vacant

.. Since the Annual Meeting, two of your Board Members resigned. Both cited health reasons and we wish them both the best. At our January monthly meeting the Board voted Marc Lammy as a new Board Member. We feel he will be a great addition, as he organized Neighborhood Watch in the Broadway Farm's subdivision. His efforts resulted in over 100 new members.

Columbia Home Builders Association with KMOS Create

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Friday, March 15, 2019
4pm-8pm
Saturday, March 16, 2019
10am-6pm
 Parkade Plaza, Columbia

This is a free event.

Come stop by our booth and say Hi, Let us know that you are a member.



Highlights from Officer McClintic

Identity theft is a growing trend that frequently involves related crimes in multiple jurisdictions. These crimes sometimes increase during the Spring, specifically during the tax filing season.

Upon request from a victim, officers shall complete a report for identity theft crimes occurring in the City of Columbia and for victims who either reside or are present in the City of Columbia regardless of where the crime occurred (§ 570.222, RSMo).

If the identity theft crime did not occur in the City of Columbia or the victim is not a resident, the officer may complete a courtesy report to be forwarded to the agency where the crime was committed or, if the location is unknown, to the victim's residence agency.

While the crime of identity theft should be reported to the law enforcement agency where the victim resides, officers of this department should investigate and report crimes occurring within this jurisdiction that have resulted from the original identity theft (e.g., the identity theft occurred elsewhere but the fraud, usage of services or receipt of goods were acquired or occurred in this jurisdiction).

The victim should be advised how to place a security freeze on his/her consumer report with the three major credit bureaus.

The victim may file an identity theft complaint with the Missouri Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Unit.

Tax-related identity theft occurs when someone uses your stolen Social Security number (SSN) to file a tax return claiming a fraudulent refund. You are likely unaware this has happened until you try to file your income tax return and cannot because someone else has already filed a return under your identity. You can also receive a letter from the IRS indicating the IRS has received a suspicious income tax return under your social security number.

If you are a victim of tax-related identity theft and do not have any suspect information, a police report is not required. Victims are asked to complete an Identity Theft Affidavit (Form 14039) on the IRS website. Victims should then mail the Identity Theft Affidavit and their income tax return using the most appropriate IRS income tax return forms.

If you are a victim of tax-related identity theft and have suspect information, contact your local law enforcement to make a report.

For more information on general Identity Theft, visit the [IRS website](#).

Prevent Identity Theft

Take steps to protect yourself from identity theft:

- Secure your Social Security number (SSN). Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet. Only give out your SSN when absolutely necessary.
- Don't share personal information (birthdate, Social Security number, or bank account number) just because someone asks for it.
- Collect mail every day. Place a hold on your mail when you are away from home for several days.
- Pay attention to your billing cycles. If bills or financial statements are late, contact the sender.
- Use the security features on your mobile phone.
- Update sharing and firewall settings when you're on a public wi-fi network. Use a virtual private network, if you use public wi-fi.
- Review your credit card and bank account statements. Compare receipts with account statements. Watch for unauthorized transactions.
- Shred receipts, credit offers, account statements, and expired credit cards, to prevent "dumpster divers" from getting your personal information.
- Store personal information in a safe place.
- Install firewalls and virus-detection software on your home computer.
- Create complex passwords that identity thieves cannot guess. Change your passwords if a company that you do business with has a breach of its databases
- Review your credit reports once a year. Be certain that they don't include accounts that you have not opened. You can order it for free from Annualcreditreport.com.

Freeze your credit files with Equifax, Experian, Innovis, TransUnion, and the National Consumer Telecommunications and Utilities Exchange, for free. Credit freezes prevent someone from applying for and getting approval for credit account or utility services in your name.

Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Watch—Two Great Things That Go Great Together!

Neighborhood Watch members are on the lookout for suspicious and criminal activity. Just as important may be the code violations in a neighborhood. When a neighborhood is cared for and well maintained, it sends a message to criminals that you care and that your neighborhood will not put up with violators of the law. Code violations can also reduce property values and reduce neighborhood morale. In the City of Columbia, the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) handles many residential code violations.

We welcome the reports from residents about concerns but also want you to know we as staff are working to be proactive to care for our neighborhoods, too.

ONS also regulates rental property. All residential rental property in the City must be registered and inspected by the City. This helps to ensure a safe and healthy living environment both for the tenants and the neighboring properties. There are currently more than 25,838 rental units and 9,650 buildings registered with the City. If there is a problem in your neighborhood, we appreciate you reporting it to us.

If a problem is important to you it is also a problem worthy of our investigation. Issues can be reported to Neighborhood Services by calling us at 817-5050 or by completing an online format:

<https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/CMS/WebForms/form.php?formid=10>.

Complaints can be reported anonymously.

Joke: Forty Over

An officer conducting speed enforcement stops a young man for traveling in excess of 40 mph over the speed limit. The officer approaches the driver and says, "Well, 40 over...I been waiting for you to come along all day." Without pause, the young man replies, "I got here as fast as I could!"

Spring Crime Prevention Tips..

With Spring comes an increase in crime.

- Always keep your home's doors and windows locked when you leave your home, even if you leave for a short period.
- "Secure all lawn and gardening equipment in a locked shed or garage.
- "Take the time to secure your bicycles.
- "Keep your garage doors closed and locked anytime you are not using them.
- "Install motion-activated lights in your front and back yards.
- DO NOT allow solicitors into your home.
- "Be aware of home improvements scams. Some solicitors or contractors who offer

CPD Mobile APP

- Gives citizens direct access to police services at the tap of a button.
- You will have access to the latest CPD news, notifications and crime reporting options.
- You will also connect with the CPD on social media
- Features include: Press Releases, Crime Reporting, Notifications, Events, Most Wanted, Missing Persons, Videos and Helpful Links.

Training Dates:

March - 19th in Cafe at Derby Ridge Elementary School 4000 Derby Ridge Dr

April 16th - 9 in Cafe at Fairview Elementary School 909 Fairview Rd

(Registration at 6:45, Training starts at 7 pm)
