



## Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Jack Serier, Sheriff

## Neighborhood Watch

### Public Safety Services Division – Crime Prevention Unit

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[www.RamseyCountySheriff.us](http://www.RamseyCountySheriff.us)

Neighbors and Deputies working together for safer communities

## Block Captain News – July 2018

**Next Meeting Wednesday, August 1 – 6:00 pm**

Night to Unite Hosts / Block Captains Appreciation  
Shoreview Community Center – Shoreview Room  
4580 Victoria St N, Shoreview MN 55126  
Near intersection of Highway 96 and Victoria

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**Night to Unite registration deadline is July 20!**  
**Get your neighborhood event registered online**

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns and neighborhoods celebrate Night to Unite (National Night Out) with a variety of events and activities such as block parties, cookouts, visits from local police and fire departments.

This annual celebration occurs on the first Tuesday in August and gathers neighborhoods and public safety personnel together for an evening to promote safe communities. Register your event so that deputies, firefighters, and public safety can plan to stop by for a visit.

**2018 Night to Unite will take place on Tuesday, August 7, 2018.**

Night to Unite goals are to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.
- Generate support and participation in crime prevention and community policing programs.
- Strengthen neighborhood spirits and public safety-community partnerships.
- Let criminals know that you are committed to keeping your neighborhood safe.

Night to Unite has proven to be an effective, inexpensive, and enjoyable opportunity to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in pursuit of safer communities. Community benefits often extend beyond this single evening event as neighbors get to know each other and the public safety agencies that serve them.

Register your event online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTU2018>

Event planning tools are available on the Ramsey County Sheriff's [website](#). Materials and items for distribution at block parties will be distributed to Event Hosts at the combined Block Captains meeting on Wednesday, August 1. More details and rsvp information will be sent when you register your event.



## What is 'suspicious' – when is the right time to call the police

Have you ever seen someone in your neighborhood, and thought, "That person doesn't belong here..."? Have you thought about calling the police to investigate? Were you unsure if it would be appropriate to call?

There have been a lot of recent conversations surrounding 'suspicious activity', the changing demographics of our communities, and what is the difference between appearance and behavior.

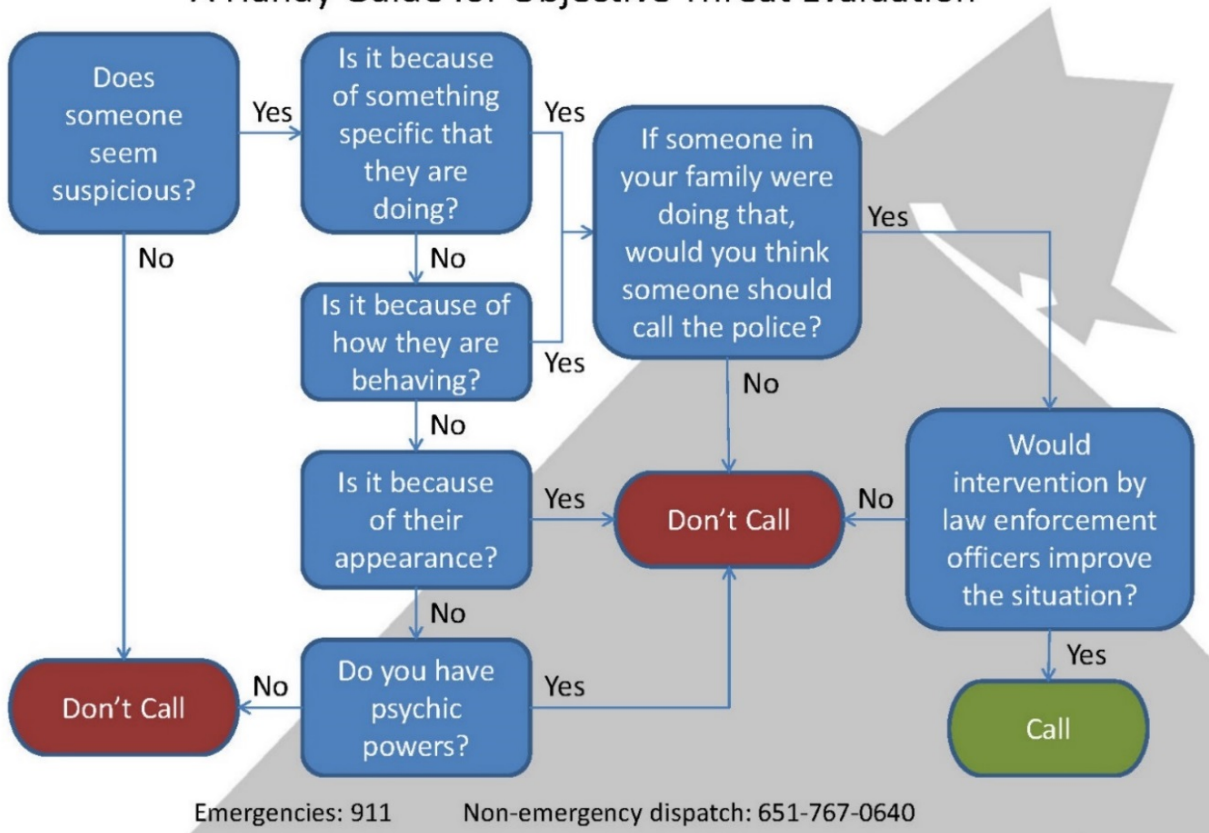
The Sheriff's Office, like all public safety agencies, cannot function without the assistance of responsible citizens. We need your help in reporting crimes, emergencies, and suspicious activity. Timely reporting leads to timely response. Deputies would rather find an innocent explanation, or prevent illegal activity, than be called to investigate a crime after it is committed. You are not bothering the police when you call; responding to your concerns and needs is why we are here.

Examples of when to call:

- ♦ A crime has occurred
- ♦ Someone is in imminent danger or needs help
- ♦ You have been in or witnessed an accident
- ♦ You see evidence of wrongdoing
- ♦ Alarms sounding or glass being broken
- ♦ Someone is loitering around cars, or peering into them
- ♦ Slow moving vehicles at night without lights driving aimlessly
- ♦ Abandoned vehicle parked on your street
- ♦ Someone seen with a weapon

When you call, you will be asked about the specific behavior that concerns you. Deputies typically respond to all calls, so, before traumatizing an innocent neighbor or guest, please carefully consider the reason for your suspicions. An Irving, California neighborhood group developed this flow chart to help their residents with the decision on when to call:

### Before Calling the Police: A Handy Guide for Objective Threat Evaluation



## Youth Safety – Nine APPs parents should know about

In Florida, in response to #OperationInterceptSCSO which led to the arrest of 21 men engaging in illicit, criminal behavior with children online, the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office developed this graphic to inform parents of nine mobile applications they should know about.

Know the dangers to help protect our next generation.

# NINE APPS

## PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Courtesy of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office



- BUMBLE**  
BUMBLE is similar to the popular dating app "Tinder" however, it requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to use BUMBLE to create fake accounts and falsify their age.
- SNAPCHAT**  
SNAPCHAT is one of the most popular apps of 2018. While the app promises users can take a photo/video and it will disappear, recent features including "stories" allows users to view content for up to 24 hours. Snapchat also allows users to see your location.
- KIK**  
KIK allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. KIK gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.
- LIVEME**  
LIVE.ME is a live-streaming video app that uses geolocation to share videos so users can find out a broadcaster's exact location. Users can earn "coins" as a way to "pay" minors for photos.
- HOLLA**  
HOLLA is a self-proclaimed "addicting" video chat app that allows users to meet people all over the world in just seconds. Reviewers say they have been confronted with racial slurs, explicit content, and more.
- WHISPER**  
WHISPER is an anonymous social network that promotes sharing secrets with strangers. It also reveals a user's location so people can meet up.
- ASK.FM**  
ASK.FM is known for cyber bullying. The app encourages users to allow anonymous people to ask them questions.
- CALCULATOR%**  
CALCULATOR% is only one of SEVERAL secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files, and browser history.
- HOT OR NOT**  
HOT OR NOT encourages users to rate your profile, check out people in their area, and chat with strangers. The goal of this app is to hook up.

## Speed Enforcement: extra patrol efforts scheduled for July 6 – 22

White-knuckle winter driving may be a distant memory for Minnesotans in July, but the dangers of speeding should be top-of-mind during the 100 deadliest days of summer. A statewide extra speed enforcement and awareness campaign from July 6 – 22 will remind Minnesotans to slow down and drive safely.

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety (DPS-OTS) coordinates the campaign with more than 300 law enforcement agencies (police, sheriff and state patrol) stepping up enforcement efforts through overtime funding provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

**Drive Fast. Pay Up.** Cost of a speeding violation will vary by county, but it will typically cost a driver more than \$110 with court fees for traveling 10 mph over the limit. Fines double for those traveling 20 mph over the limit, and fines for speeding in a work zone are more than \$300. A driver can lose their license for six months for going 100 mph or more.



## Unlocked vehicles are easy targets for thieves

Thieves continue to find easy pickings in several of our neighborhoods this summer. Common theme in the reports are unlocked cars with valuables left inside parked on the street or driveway.

Even if you are parked in front of your house, in your driveway or inside your garage, lock your doors. Criminals like to walk down the street and see if a car is unlocked, if it is they open the door and take whatever is visible and move on to the next target. However, if the door is locked, they are more likely to move on.

## Hot Dog with a Deputy 2018

Hot Dog with a Deputy continues to build community relations with the citizens we serve. We have 800 hot dogs for each event. Bring the family out to the park for free hot dogs, equipment demonstrations, and conversation with deputies. "Hot Dog with a Deputy" will take place from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on the following nights:

- Wed, 7/11, Perry Park, 3700 New Brighton Road, Arden Hills - *\*NOTE new date & place*
- Tue, 7/17, West Rec Center, 14 West Pleasant Lake Rd, North Oaks
- Thurs, 7/19, Community Park, 2050 Roselawn Ave W, Falcon Heights
- Wed, 7/25, Commons Pavilion, 4580 Victoria St, Shoreview



Staff and equipment at these events could include Patrol Deputies, K-9, Water Patrol, SWAT, Mobile Field Force, Reserve Deputies, Mounted Unit and volunteers.



## Mark your calendars for 2018 Block Captain events:

**Wednesday, August 1** – 6:00 pm – Night to Unite Hosts / Captains Appreciation Dinner

**Tuesday, August 7** – Night to Unite events in neighborhoods throughout the community

**Tuesday, November 13** – 6:30 pm – Captains Meeting, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills

**Thank you for working for safer neighborhoods!**



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**Remember – when you See Something, Say Something, Call 9-1-1**