

MAY 2018



## Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

The Raleigh Police Department is reminding everyone that National Safety Month is coming up. National Safety Month focuses on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road, and in our homes and communities. This edition of the RPD Community Newsletter features tips to keep you safe as well as reminders for when you need the Department's help. Please share this information with family, friends, and neighbors.

### **FIREARM SAFETY--RULES OF SAFE GUN HANDLING**

These basic rules apply to EVERYONE and they apply ALWAYS! No matter how experienced a shooter and no matter what the circumstances. ALWAYS.

1. Treat ALL firearms as if they are loaded.
2. DO NOT point at or cover anything with the muzzle until ready to shoot.
3. Keep your trigger finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot.
4. Be certain of your target and your line of fire.
5. Firearms should be unloaded when not in use.
6. Don't rely on your gun's safety. The safety on the gun is a mechanical device which, like any such device, can become inoperable at the worst possible times.
7. Safe and secure storage of your firearm is one of your most important responsibilities. It is a full-time responsibility. You must always secure your firearm and ammunition so that they are not accessible to children or other unauthorized persons.



There are a variety of locks and safe storage containers available in the marketplace which may be appropriate for your particular needs. By purchasing a firearm you have taken on the responsibility of safely securing the firearm at all times and preventing its unauthorized use. It is your personal responsibility to select and use whatever devices or practices that will enable you to safely secure your firearm AT ALL TIMES.

Please call 911 if you have experienced a crime or if you want to report any suspicious activity.

## HOW TO FILE A POLICE REPORT

By reporting crimes that occur in your community, you can help the police and the judicial system combat crime. It is critical that the police have as much information as possible about the crimes that are committed in our city. You can help by providing vital information that can be utilized to solve the crime you reported, solve crimes that may be related, conduct investigations, and build cases against criminals.



There are several ways to report a crime:

- calling 911
- calling the non-emergency number
- online reporting
- Raleigh Crimestoppers

**Call 911 to report emergency incidents that need immediate assistance including:**

- a crime that is in progress
- a crime that is about to happen
- life and death situations
- suspect who is still on scene
- traffic accidents
- missing persons

**Call (919) 831-6311 to report non-emergency incidents:**

- that do not involve serious personal injury, property damage or property loss
- where there is no possibility that the suspect is still at the scene or likely to return to the scene
- that do not require an immediate response

**Use online reporting for the following specific crimes:**

- communicating threats
- stolen property
- harassing phone call
- damage to property
- lost property
- theft from vehicle
- damage to vehicle

To use the online reporting system, you need to have a valid email address. Simply go to [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov), select "Police Department" then "Report a Crime," and follow the instructions. After you submit a report, you will immediately receive a temporary report. Use this temporary report number to refer to your report until you receive an official report number (within 5 business days of reporting).

**Call Raleigh CrimeStoppers to report anonymous tips at (919) 834-HELP. Crimestoppers pays cash rewards for tips that lead to arrests.**

## CAN YOU SEE YOUR HOUSE NUMBERS ON YOUR MAILBOX AND/OR HOUSE?

When you have lived at the same address for a number of years, you rarely pay attention to your house numbers (address).

For police officers, emergency medical services personnel, and firefighters that may be responding to your house in the event of an emergency, your house numbers are what they are looking for.

Make it a point to LOOK at your numbers to make sure:

- All of the numbers are still there
- Numbers are large enough to be seen easily from the street
- No landscape vegetation has grown over them, limiting visibility

If you can see them, so can we!