



A note from...

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Be the Busy Body...

Fortunately, Brentwood's violent crime, as compared with this same time last year, is down over 58%. Property crime is also down, by 2.6%. *However*, we've had ten more burglaries than we had at this same time last year. We don't want this trend to continue.

We tend to keep to ourselves. We 'stay in our lane.' We keep out of one another's business and we don't want to get involved because, as everybody knows, no good deed goes unpunished. We tend to stay within our comfort zone, safe within our homes, minding our own business and turning a blind eye. But I'm asking you, imploring you, to become a Brentwood Busy Body.

When there is a burglary, responding officers will talk to victim's neighbors for clues. Patrol officers will tell you that the neighbors they interview had often heard or seen something unusual around the time of the burglary: glass breaking, motion sensor lights turning on, dogs barking, wood splintering, etc. And yet they thought it best to mind their own business. We want to stop this kind of thinking and have folks get involved (you should all have your immediate neighbor's phone numbers for this very reason).

Think of it this way... Even if the unusual or suspicious activity is not occurring at your house or property, it still affects you. Successful burglaries and other property crimes can turn your neighborhood into a cherry patch for the bad guys. If they got away with it with little or no attention, and especially if they scored a major bounty, they're coming back to do it again. And again. And again. They're sharing the information and successes with their criminal friends.

But we're doing something right in Brentwood... I want to thank those of you who are making the effort to help. I'm getting tips, pictures, hunches and theories from those in the Brentwood community who detect when something in their neighborhood doesn't smell quite right. I'm sorry I can't give a disposition for all the tips, but rest assured, they're going to the right people (our detectives) who welcome the information.

We, as a community, are developing our instincts, learning, questioning, watching and getting involved. A car full of young people wearing hoodies? You're watching and staring them down. A rental car or a paper plated car with heavily tinted windows? You're taking a picture and sending it in to me. We are sending a message to the bad guys that there are just too many Brentwood Busy Bodies paying attention in our community and consequently, they should go elsewhere.

All the best,

Maria