



Personal Safety

The City of Lafayette Police Department is providing information about a series of incidents that have recently occurred in the region. The purpose of this bulletin is to inform residents and increase awareness.

At the police department, we have a series of signs that encourage people to say something when they see something. The hope of the phrase is that we can prevent an incident from occurring, if we recognize it early. On our part, there is just as much of an obligation to do the exact same thing - if we see something that concerns us, we have to tell our neighbors - the people we are entrusted to protect. That's the purpose of this bulletin.

On Wednesday (9/28/16) just before midnight, LPD Officers became involved in a vehicle pursuit that traveled along Highway 24. A resident in unincorporated Danville reported their car had just been taken at gunpoint by two African-American Males. The resident reported the suspects fled the area in two vehicles - the stolen car and another vehicle. Sheriff's Deputies and Danville Officers responded to the scene, located the vehicles and pursuits were begun with both vehicles. The pursuit of one of the vehicles was cancelled by a supervisor, while the other continued north-bound on Interstate 680. The vehicle continued west-bound on Highway 24 with officers from the CHP placing spike strips across the mouths of the west-bound tunnels in an effort to stop the fleeing vehicle. The vehicle avoided the spike strips at the tunnel and the suspect vehicle was lost when the pursuit was transferred to another law enforcement agency.

While this incident in itself would not be of significant concern, this incident followed a Be On the Look Out (BOLO) broadcast by the Brentwood Police Department approximately an hour prior. The Brentwood Police Department broadcasted they were searching for two African-American Males who had robbed a woman while in the driveway of her home, taking her phone and wallet. The Brentwood Police broadcast was soon followed by a BOLO from the Antioch Police Department regarding a robbery in their city, which matched the description of the Brentwood robbers and their escape vehicle. In that case, a woman was also robbed in her driveway. A third robbery occurred in Pittsburg.

This followed incidents this week in Pinole and Orinda, where individuals were confronted by a pair of armed individuals demanding items of personal property. During both of those incidents, the suspects selected female victims and fired their weapons while performing the robbery.

Typically, law enforcement sees an increase in robberies as we transition to fall. Darkness arrives earlier, fewer people are out, and the presence of an individual in a mask is not completely odd. While we are unaware of anything that specifically connects these incidents, a relationship could exist between all of these incidents - which may include the Highway 24 corridor.

Prevention. The best defense to a robbery is for an individual to be fully aware of their surroundings. When driving your vehicle, be aware of where you are driving and if someone is following you. If you are being followed, don't go home or get out of the car. Call the police and drive to a public place where you can be met by officers. The most typical robbery is of an individual who has just been at a casino or a bank. The crooks see you with cash and know what they are going to get. When you get home, look around the driveway and make sure it is safe for you to exit your car. When you are exiting your car, don't become preoccupied with things in the trunk or back seat. If you have to spend time to remove something from the trunk, stop and take a look around once in a while. Remember, crooks love the dark, so you can't see them coming and you can't identify them later. Check the front porch light, the motion light in the driveway, and the decorative lighting that you may have in the front of your home to ensure that it is all working and aimed properly. Most cars have an emergency button on the key fob. When you get out of the car, have that in your hand with your finger on the button. If you feel something is wrong, press the button to alert other people. **Most importantly, Trust your instincts.** If you think something is out of place or is wrong, don't ignore your feelings - act upon them. If you see someone or something that is odd or out of place, please give us a call.

**IF YOU SEE
SOMETHING,
SAY
SOMETHING**

**REPORT
SUSPICIOUS
ACTIVITY**

LAFAYETTE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
(925) 284-5010
94549Tip@gmail.com



Remember:

- Trust your instincts
- Remain alert and observant
- Don't be afraid to call the police
- Keep outdoor lights on at night
- Keep your doors and windows locked
- If someone tries to get into your car while you are stopped, drive away quickly.

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If you are confronted by a robber, especially one that is armed, give them your purse, your wallet, your keys, anything that they demand. No piece of property is worth getting injured or killed over. In most cases the suspects are just as afraid as you are - don't force them into making a mistake. Once you are in a safe place, **call the police immediately.**

During a robbery

- Stay calm
- Follow the robber's directions
- Watch the robber as he/she leaves

E-Mail Alerts. If you are a resident of the City of Lafayette and are not currently receiving our email alerts, please contact Chief Christensen at echri@so.cccounty.us. Provide your name, street address and an email address. We want to make sure that all of our residents are aware of significant incidents and crime trends within our community.

Nixle Alerts. Residents who have not yet subscribed are urged to subscribe to our alerting system that we perform through the Nixle Alerting System. For significant incidents and disasters within the community, this is the primary system that will be used to provide our residents with information about incidents such as this one. You can subscribe to Nixle Alerts by visiting the Nixle Website (www.nixle.com) - a free service for our residents.

Emergency	911
Dispatch (Non-Emergency)	(925) 284-5010
Police Department Office	(925) 283-3680
Tip Line	94549Tip@gmail.com
Email	
SGT Shiells (Investigations)	HShie@so.cccounty.us
Det Dennison (Investigations)	JDenn@so.cccounty.us
Det Ones (Investigations)	VOnes@so.cccounty.us



PLEASE call us if you see suspicious individuals or vehicles in your business or neighborhood.

Good Neighbor Program

We have expanded our Vacation Home Check Program. If you tell us when you are going to be gone from your home, we will do our best to have a member of our team check your home every day and send you a text or an e-mail to let you know we were there and that everything looks fine. We still want you to have that other good neighbor check on your house as well, but having an officer check your home is a good idea. If you are leaving for a trip, please just give us a call at the office to let us know when you are going to be gone and who will be watching the house while you are away. Even if you are already on vacation and forgot to call before you left, we'd love to check on the house to make sure everything is in order. It's a free service we provide to our residents. **Contact the office at (925) 283-3680.**



Thinking About a Camera?

When it comes to improving the security of your own home or your neighborhood, there are few things that can beat the installation of a home camera system. Cameras today are reasonably priced, don't require a lot of work to install, and can easily be connected to your home Wi-Fi System. We have several camera models at the police department that you can come and borrow for a quick test-drive. We have several different makes and models that you can compare how they work before you buy. The image quality of these cameras is just amazing and can provide some excellent leads in helping us solve your case or the case of a neighbor. Give us a call to find out what cameras are available and to reserve the type you are the most interested in. Please contact the coordinator for this program, Cathy Surges-Moscato by email and she will give you some great advice and set you up with a loaner (CSurges@ci.lafayette.ca.us).

