When To Call the Police

Call the Police whenever you have been the victim of a crime or when you see a crime in progress, or when you see something suspicious that you would like the Police to investigate.

Why Call the Police

Don’t be afraid to call the Police. We want our community to be safe – FOR EVERYONE.

The Police can not be everywhere all of the time.

We count on everyone to be our ears and eyes and to call us when a crime has occurred, or whenever there is trouble.

Important Numbers

District Community Service Officers
1st District...........................................240-773-6070
2nd District...........................................240-773-6700
3rd District...........................................240-773-6800
4th District...........................................240-773-5500
5th District...........................................240-773-6200
6th District...........................................240-773-5700
Central Auto Theft...........................240-773-6370
Police Emergency...............................911
Non-Emergency.................................301-279-8000
CERTAIN TYPES OF INFORMATION ARE NEEDED AND WILL BE REQUESTED

Please be prepared to tell the call taker:

1. The type of crime
2. Location of crime
3. If any weapons and/or drugs are involved
4. The number of people injured and type of injury
5. Any vehicle information
6. Suspect information including:
   - Race
   - Gender
   - Age
   - Height
   - Weight
   - Hair Color
   - Facial Hair
   - Clothing Type and Color
   - Eye Color
   - Any Other Characteristics You Notice

IMMIGRATION STATUS WILL NOT BE REQUESTED

Police Officers are trained not to ask for this information if you are a victim or witness to a crime.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO GIVE YOUR NAME

. . . when calling the Police. You can remain anonymous. However, oftentimes it is helpful to the police to know your name to assist with a follow-up investigation. You may request that your name NOT be given over the police radio, and you may request that an officer NOT come to your door.

How To Call the Police

FOR EMERGENCY, CALL 911

Call whenever you see a crime in progress, feel that a crime is taking place – or whenever you feel you (or your property) are in danger. If there is a language barrier, we have a phone bank to access any language to provide immediate assistance, however, this may take a few minutes. It is important to teach your children how to call 911 correctly.

FOR NON-EMERGENCY, CALL 301-279-8000

Call whenever you want to report a crime that occurred earlier or any suspicious activity or situations that do not require an immediate, urgent response. If there is any doubt as to which number to call, please dial 911.