

## In this issue >>>

Active Threat Citizen Defense  
Can First Responders Find Your Home?  
Beep It To Keep It  
School Resource Officers  
Take Back Program  
Playing It Safe on Halloween  
Upcoming Events



Fall  
2018

Chief James A. Cervera

Community Engagement Chronicles - Your Source for Crime Prevention Information!



## Community Engagement Unit



### ACTIVE THREAT CITIZENS DEFENSE

Having to face an armed individual with bad intentions is every person's worst nightmare. You can't stop crazy, you can only respond to it. The aggressor's actions are not your fault; failure to plan and failure to train, is. All persons can help prevent and prepare for potential active threat situations. Preparation can reduce the risk of one of these incidents and, if one occurs, can mitigate or reduce the number of potential victims. The Active Threat Citizen Defense workshop (ATCD) aims to enhance preparedness for citizens to "rise to the occasion" instead of "settle to the level of their training".

This teaching will show you how to:

- Recognize how the mind operates and how to better develop a survivor mentality.
- Realize how items in your office can be utilized to defend yourself and save your life.
- Understand how the body reacts during stressful situations.
- Perform a "no-skills needed" maneuver to combat a gunman.

In a time where violence is becoming more common, we can no longer stand by and hope this never happens to us. Learning how to respond if confronted with an active threat is not paranoia, ***it's preparedness.***

**FREE VBPD WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 10 AM - 2:30 PM. HOSTED BY SPRING BRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH, 1500 N. GREAT NECK ROAD, VIRGINIA BEACH.**

**OPEN TO EVERYONE - LIMITED SEATING - RSVP REQUIRED**

To RSVP or if you have any questions, please contact  
Master Police Officer David J. Nieves at [dnieves@vbgov.com](mailto:dnieves@vbgov.com)

DO NOT CONTACT SPRING BRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH FOR INFORMATION



## Can First Responders Find Your Home?

Who would have thought that placing some numbers on your house or mailbox could save your life or the life of a loved one?

Those simple numbers placed on the exterior of your home can make the difference of life-saving minutes in an emergency. Visible exterior numbers mean that first responders, Police/Fire/EMS, can find your house on the first pass without driving by. These minutes or even seconds saved could be the difference between life and death. Just displaying exterior numbers is not enough.

If we are going to do it, *let's do it right!*

### Placement:

- Make sure the numbers are visible from the roadway and from each direction.
- If the house is too far from the road, post them on the mailbox or the curb.



- Address signs can also be placed on the edge of property.
- Make sure the numbers are not obstructed by tree limbs, bushes, or decorations.
- Make sure the numbers are in close proximity to a light so they are visible at night. If not a light, then use reflective numbers that can be seen at night.
- Color is important. Make sure the numbers are in sharp contrast to the background.
- Brass or bronze should be avoided as they are harder to read at night.

## Design:

- Use Arabic numerals in an easy to read & bold font. Avoid numbers spelled out in word form.
- Display the numbers horizontally, not vertically, as they are easier to read.
- Numbers should be **big and bold**. The International Building Code recommends numbers be 4-inches in height and a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inches.

So get your house numbers out and display them **boldly**.

*It may just save your life or the life of someone you love.*



## Beep It to Keep It Contest \* *Enter for your chance to win admission tickets to the Virginia Aquarium*

The Virginia Beach Police Department is looking for new and creative ways to remind people to lock their vehicle doors or **Beep it to Keep It**. We are giving away five free admission tickets to the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Museum to people who submit their ideas and efforts on how to prevent larcenies from vehicles. The contest will begin September 3, 2018 and continues through October 1, 2018. Each week we will pick five lucky winners who will receive five free admission tickets by mail.

*You must provide the following information to be eligible:*

Full name, email, home address (no PO boxes), and a short description of how you are helping to prevent larcenies from vehicles. Please limit the submissions to less than 500 words. Only one entry per week per household and only five tickets per household for the duration of the contest. Any entry restrictions to the museum is up the facility and the Virginia Beach Police Department is not responsible.

Tickets expire December 31, 2018.

Please submit entries to MPO Jason Karangelen at [jkarange@vbgov.com](mailto:jkarange@vbgov.com)

**TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
CRIME**

**STOP  
THIEF!**



## School Resource Officers

During the 2017-18 school year, the Virginia Beach Police Department deployed **28** School Resource Officers (SRO) assigned to all **28** Virginia Beach City Public School's (VBCPS) middle, high and secondary alternative schools serving approximately **37,000** students. Each SRO is also assigned as a designated liaison with several of the **55** elementary schools to work with during the school year. These schools are feeder schools that are located nearby the middle and high schools to which they are assigned.

SRO are tasked with enforcement of laws and investigation of crimes on the public school campuses. SRO maintain open communication with detectives, precinct crime analysts, and members of the Community Engagement Unit. This collaborative effort maximizes productivity and improves the overall quality of these investigations.

SRO are a tremendous asset in a variety of ways. SRO conduct investigations and have direct access to information and crime tips. SRO nurture a relationship with administrators, faculty, staff and students on their individual campuses. Many of the SRO become mentors to students and build lasting relationships. SRO have become a valuable liaison between the school administration and the Police Department. This connection allows an exchange of information needed to solve crimes on campuses and in the community. It is clear that the presence of the SRO in each school has a positive impact on students and their behavior.

SRO are also responsible for presenting the Virginia Rules program to middle and high school students, assisting with the "Every 15 Minutes" anti-drunk driving and alcohol awareness program, and the Partners in Safe Teen Driving Program. SRO make presentations upon request, sponsor clubs at their respective schools, and support programs like the AAA School Safety Patrol by attending their meetings and providing resources upon request.



# Virginia Beach Police Department



## Prescription Medication Take-Back Program

### Why is this Program Needed?

It is unsafe to flush medications or dispose of them in the garbage because it can lead to the contamination of ground water. There is a growing epidemic of prescription medication and opiate abuse across the country and many households have unused and expired medications in the medicine cabinets. This program provides a safe and effective way for citizens to dispose of their unwanted and expired medications. All medications collected are disposed of by DEA-approved incineration. Virginia Beach residents can anonymously drop off medications at any police precinct. No paperwork is required!



#### Accepted

- All prescription and over-the-counter medications, vitamins and patches
- Veterinary medications
- Liquid medications and loose pills (must be sealed in containers or plastic bags)
- Needles, lancets and other sharps (must be deposited in the red sharps container)



#### Not Accepted

- Items from pharmaceutical representatives, medical offices and pharmacies
- Thermometers and other mercury items
- Empty containers
- Illegal drugs and paraphernalia
- Personal care items
- IV bags, bandages and other first aid items

### Collection Locations

1st Precinct:	2509 Princess Anne Road	(757) 385-4377	6:00 am—2:00 am
2nd Precinct:	820 Virginia Beach Blvd.	(757) 385-2700	Available 24 hours
3rd Precinct:	926 Independence Blvd.	(757) 385-2703	Available 24 hours
4th Precinct:	840 Kempsville Road	(757) 385-2800	Available 24 hours

# Playing It Safe On Halloween



## ***Making Safe Costumes***

- Make sure costumes are flame-retardant
- Keep them short to prevent tripping
- Consider makeup instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and obstruct vision.
- Dress kids in light colors or use reflective material or glow stick so they can be seen.

## ***Eating The Treats***

- Parents should inspect treats before allowing kids to dig in.
- Only consume unopened candies in their original wrappers.
- Thoroughly inspect homemade goodies and fruits.

## ***Preparing Kids for Tricks and Treats***

- Make sure older kids don't go out alone.
- Younger children should be accompanied by an adult.
- Set a time limit and map out a route in case kids get lost.
- Remind kids to never enter a strange house or car.
- Feed kids before going out to prevent them from eating treats before you can inspect it.

## Upcoming Events!

Sept 19-Dec 18: Citizens Police Academy

Municipal Center, Building 19

Oct 2-Nov 20: Senior Citizens Police Academy

Tranquility at the Lakes

Oct 6: Active Threat Citizen Defense

Spring Branch Community Church

Oct 20: Religious Institutions Security Training

First Presbyterian Church of Va Beach

Oct 23-Mar 12: Youth Police Academy

New St. John's AME

## CAC Meetings

All meetings are held at 7pm

### 1st Precinct

Municipal Center, Bldg 19

2424 Courthouse Drive

1st Tuesdays

Except July & August

### 2nd Precinct

2nd Police Precinct

820 Virginia Beach Blvd

2nd Wednesdays

Except December

### 3rd Precinct

Williams Farm Rec Center

5252 Learning Circle

3rd Thursdays

Except July & December

### 4th Precinct

Glenwood Community Center

2097 Round Hill Road

4th Thursdays

Except November & December

**BEEP IT  
TO  
KEEP IT.**



## Virginia Beach Business Watch ... Together We Can Reduce Crime

My friends and I at the Virginia Beach Police Department's Community Engagement Unit are excited to help you learn how you can reduce the opportunity for crime to strike you or your business. Watch for our advice and events to learn more each month. This month I would like to invite you to call now and sign up for Business Watch. We will make you an appointment to do a free security assessment of your business and even teach your staff how to "Take A Bite Out Of Crime".

### Business Watch

office: 757-385-1006

desk: 757-385-1371

fax: 757-385-1064

email: [vbbusinesswatch@vbgov.com](mailto:vbbusinesswatch@vbgov.com)



[www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/opsdiv/pages/ceu.aspx](http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/opsdiv/pages/ceu.aspx)



[www.facebook.com/VirginiaBeachPD/](http://www.facebook.com/VirginiaBeachPD/)



[www.twitter.com/VBPD](http://www.twitter.com/VBPD)



[www.youtube.com/user/VBPDPIO](http://www.youtube.com/user/VBPDPIO)

**For Additional Information Contact:**  
VBPD/Community Engagement Unit  
2441 Princess Anne Road, Bldg #15  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456  
Office: 757-385-1006  
Email: [PDCEU@vbgov.com](mailto:PDCEU@vbgov.com)