



**CRIME PREVENTION**  
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Frank Kosman  
 Chief of Police

# CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

**SENIOR CITIZEN VERSION**  
**Observe Hear Report**  
**Dial 9-1-1**

JUNE 2016

Joel Vargas,  
 Crime Prevention Coordinator



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### HOW DO YOU STORE YOUR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS?

One of the biggest ways for teens to get cash or exchange for other drugs is to steal prescription medications and sell them or exchange them. There are even "pharm parties" where they get together and use and exchange or sell what they have. There are a number of things you can do to keep your teen from selling your prescription drugs: 1. Take inventory. Pain killers are the number one. Know how many pills you are taking and safeguard them as well as count them. 2. Safeguard your medications. Lock them and dispose of them when you are not taking them. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE SHOULD YOU LEAVE THEM IN A CABINET EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE. 3. The word gets out that you or your spouse is taking pain medication teens and even addicted adults will try to get them from you. Be aware that people may not know what you take, but if you had a serious accident or operation and know that you are in pain, there is a likelihood you are using prescription meds to lessen the pain. 4. If you find that someone is stealing your medications, report it to the police and talk to everyone in the house. **AT THE MOMENT, THE BEST WAY TO DISPOSE OF THESE MEDICATIONS IS TO BRING THEM TO PLACES SUCH AS THE WOOD DALE PD AND OTHER PLACES THAT HAVE THE RX BOX. IF FUNDING IS SECURED, THE BENSENVILLE PD WILL HAVE A BOX.**

### ANNUAL CREDIT REPORT & DETECT ANY IDENTITY THEFT ISSUES

Free credit report once every 12 months.  
 Request by Phone: 1-877-322-8228

### BUYING A CAR FROM CRAIGSLIST?

More people than ever are using places like Craigslist to purchase a car. Unsuspecting victims, are also getting scammed there. Here are some of the crimes: 1. Stolen car at a great price. 2. Stolen checks used to purchase your car. 3. People stationed overseas selling their car. 4. Car in another state and requires shipment so you buy it without seeing it. 5. Seller demands payment or wire transfer. **MANY FLAGS ARE COMING OUT BUT YOU STILL FALL FOR IT. SELLING A CAR, USE THE PD A PLACE TO FINISH UP THE DEAL.**

### GET ALERTS BY TEXT

Text to 888777 your zip code

### REGISTER YOUR PHONE NUMBERS IN THE DO NOT CALL

Many of you still have landlines at home and you are getting a lot of telemarketing calls. You now can register your landlines and cell phones in the do not call list. The Bensenville Public Library can guide you.

[www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov)

### FAKE BILLS AND INVOICES

Criminals are exploiting new ways to scam large and mid-size companies by sending fake bills. They are also going after people by sending bills that may at times be in collection. When you call the number, they are able to scam you. There is also an electronic version of this scam. They are able to put a virus in your computer when you click on an alert that looks like legit from Microsoft or Apple. Your computer encrypts and you are told to make a call and make a payment in order to fix your computer. Make sure your anti-virus is active updated. **DO NOT CLICK ON SUSPICIOUS EMAILS AND DON'T PAY FAKE BILLS.**

### RUSE ENTRY BURGLARY/ SCAMS ALERT

Recent cases of Ruse Entries have prompted the police to send out a community alert as autumn is the season for scam artists. What is a Ruse Entry Burglary? The results can vary after the fact:

1. Residential Burglary. *If something is stolen.*
2. Criminal Trespass to Residence. *If the police arrive and the criminals simply entered the house OR property lot.*
3. Home Invasion. *While rare, situations involving gang members can turn violent.*

The criminals can use a number of ruses to make the resident allow access to the house. Here are some top ones:

1. Pretend to be a utility worker or Village employee.
2. Ask for assistance such as water, car broke & need help, etc.
3. Offer home repairs: Driveway seal coating, tree trimming, roof repair, chimney repair, and tuck pointing, etc.

The criminals work in groups of two or three. The primary targets are the elderly. They stay in areas parked until they identify a target. They are smooth talkers.

**CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY AND LET THE POLICE IDENTIFY THEM. DIAL 9-1-1**

**Solicitors are required to have a permit.**

### MAILBOX SECURITY

Criminals are still taking your mail from your mailbox. Even with the technological advances, where the criminals can buy information online from people in the US, the old trick of stealing your mail is still a big business for criminals.

You can prevent them from accessing your mail by installing a mailbox with a lock.

**There are many options in the market and this allows the mail person to put the mail in but only a person with the key can open the box.**