

COMMUNITY ALERT

Provided by: Tucker Crime Prevention Unit of the DeKalb Police Department

SAFETY NEWS AND MEETINGS

MAIL AND PACKAGE THEFT

As the holiday season approaches, mail and package theft incidents could increase. The following measures are suggested to deter this activity.

Proactive measures:

- * Use direct deposit whenever possible to eliminate checks in your mailbox.
- * Have your personal checks sent to your bank and pick them up there.
- * Look into the attributes of a locked mailbox on your property.
- * If you are frequently away from home, consider renting a post office box.
- * If you stop your mail while on vacation or away from your residence for an extended period of time, ask a neighbor to pick up any mail that was delivered in error.
- * Outgoing mail- take it to the Post Office or use a regulation postal box, do not leave mail your mailbox for the postal carrier to pick up.
- * If you are expecting a package delivery while you are away from home, ask a neighbor, friend, or relative to take possession of it and hold it for safekeeping.
NOTE: Inform your neighbors of this action, so they won't call police to report a theft.
- * If possible, have your package sent to a location, other than your residence, where you or a trusted acquaintance can take possession of it.
- * Inquire if the delivery person can leave your home delivery package where it is not highly visible from the street.
- * Don't hesitate to call 911 when you see suspicious persons, vehicles, or behavior.

Thieves are interested in your credit card statements, pre-approved credit card offers, Social Security checks, birthday cards, etc. either for the cash or the information contained within that can be used for Identity Theft.

Police and communities working together as a team can only improve the safety of our neighborhoods. Although we never want any citizen to put themselves in harm's

way, information that residents can provide regarding a crime in progress, suspicious persons/behavior/or vehicles, and, most importantly suspect descriptions, can be extremely helpful in identifying and apprehending suspects.

P.R.I.S.M.

Pride Rings In Stone Mountain (P.R.I.S.M.) is an organization that addresses topical issues and provides candidate forums. Many N/W Coordinators, residents, and elected and county officials attend these meetings, so the meetings are a good place to obtain information, share neighborhood news and concerns, and speak one on one with various officials.

These meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at St. Timothy's United Methodist Church, 5365 Memorial Drive, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083 at 7:00 P.M.

The October 9th meeting features Alan Essig of the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute, who will discuss the state of Georgia's budget shortfalls, DeKalb County's budget issues, and their impact on you and your family.

TUCKER PRECINCT'S ICP MEET AND GREET

This community event held on Saturday, September 20th was a great SUCCESS!! Police command staff, precinct staff, special units' personnel, various county agencies, Tucker's Interactive Community Police (ICP) and Public Education Specialist (PES) along with approximately 150-200 residents attended this function. Food, games, and prizes competed with police vehicles and equipment for the participants' attention. A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

Sharen Dorcon

Crime Prevention/Public Education Specialist
DKPD-Tucker Precinct
678.937.5339 or sldorcon@co.dekalb.ga.us