



## **Security Report for Homeowners of Crestmont: May, 2014**

IGI shifted patrol strategy in May (as a result of the two attempted break-ins in April) to include a dominant presence during daytime hours. Officers continue to note increased traffic (foot and vehicle) into the area, hanging out and “looking at the view”. To evaluate those looking at the view vs. those casing the area, officers made contact with these individuals and/or groups. As a result, **12 non-residents** were escorted away from Crestmont.

IGI responded to **20** calls from Crestmont residents regarding security issues.

### **Criminal Activity**

Two auto break-ins were reported to IGI. One occurred after midnight and was a forced entry with no window breakage and no loss. The second occurred during the day; the vehicle was parked on the street and unlocked.

There was no other criminal activity observed or reported to IGI during May.

### **Home Alarms**

IGI responded to 9 alarm calls. There was no evidence of criminal activity, but rather alarms resulting from sensor malfunctions or user error. IGI response time was within 10 minutes of each alarm.

Intervention Group encourages all homeowners with alarms to register for IGI Alarm Response. Contact Nate Cook (502-9653) with any question regarding this service.

### **Vacation Watch**

IG received 12 requests for Vacation Watch during March. There were zero incidents of crime or attempts while registered homeowners were away.

Vacation Watch is an important benefit and you are encouraged to use the Vacation Watch service if leaving for more than 48 hours. If you are in need of a Vacation Request Form, please refer to your community website.

### **Garage Doors**

Open and unattended garage doors continue to be a concern even with a reduced number of occurrences. IGI officers contacted 5 homeowners unaware of having left garage doors open.

### **Vendors**

IGI received two calls regarding unknown vendors in the area. IGI officers responded to make contact with each and verified proper identification. We continue to encourage homeowners to stay aware of unknown vendors or vehicles and call IGI if you or your neighbors are not expecting service.

There are a number of vendor scams in surrounding areas including men posing as PG&E workers when in fact there is a PG&E truck in the area. Be sure to request official ID before opening your door or responding to any questions by alleged (any) utility worker.

### **Area Alerts:**

#### **Crownridge:**

No crimes reported to IGI.

#### **Upper Ridgemont:**

No crimes reported to IGI.

#### **Skyline/Hillcrest:**

No crimes reported to IGI.

#### **Parkridge:**

No crimes reported to IGI.

#### **Lincoln Square:**

Vehicle break-ins, assault and armed robbery.

### **Oakland Police Department**

IG attended the May 15 NCPC meeting with both Area Commander Captain Tull and PSO Festag as guest speakers. Captain Tull reported that while Area 4 residential burglaries are down 26% YTD, carjacking is up YTD 11% and residential robberies YTD up 225%! OPD suspects a "very sophisticated" gang and are in process of gathering enough evidence to make arrests. Be aware of the two current MO's: following vehicles home and then rushing the occupant or waiting/hiding in the yard for occupant arrival. If there are more family members, they will wait at the home until others arrive. They are also violent and have pistol-whipped numerous victims.

Officer Festag reports his frustration at continuing to see open, unattended garage doors. Criminals can fit into very small openings under a garage door. Leave nothing visible and lock your vehicles wherever you are parked...even phone chargers are enough invitation for a vehicle break-in. Also be aware that these criminals will return to any area they deem "easy"; they will move on if they don't find easy-pickens!

**Please call IGI 1-877-272-8765...**

**report any concern or suspicious activity**