



Security Report for Homeowners of Crestmont: February 1-22, 2014

No crimes have been reported within Crestmont since implementation of Intervention Group security patrol services.

Intervention Group feels extremely confident in understanding the area, design and traffic patterns to effectively patrol Crestmont. To fully implement our successful strategic patrol model as well as benefit the Crestmont homeowners, IG officers will attempt to make contact with the neighborhood residents; we also encourage all Crestmont residents to take time to introduce themselves to IG officers. Familiarity has mutual benefits. Residents can build trusting and respectful relationships with the limited number of officers assigned to Crestmont and feel free to contact them with any suspicion or security concern. Officers can associate residents with their homes, families and vehicles and fine tune their acuity of neighborhood activity.

IG intervention includes “educating” non-residents that Crestmont is now patrolled by Intervention Group. In the process of introducing themselves to the community, an IG officer will stop person(s) walking the area and approach in a friendly manner. If the individual is not a resident, an offer of assistance is extended with an explanation of security patrol. This direct contact ensures they get the message we want them to have: Crestmont is not an area of easy opportunity and we are watching you. While there is no way to provide statistics of deterrence, each contact made is potentially unwanted activity moved to another area. **Five** non-residents were escorted out of the Crestmont community during February.

Area Alerts

Skyline High School schedule was changed last week with last-minute notice of closure due to a gas leak; they also had an earlier release without notice. IG increases patrol for the hill area, including Crestmont, during unusual activity at Skyline.

The kidnapping/carjacking event at Safeway was fortunately proven to be not the case. However, IG reminds all clients that crime can happen in an instant and we all need to continue to be aware of surroundings and protect personal belongings (i.e., purses or not leaving items visible in vehicles).

The Oakland Hill area experienced more than a dozen serious crimes during January –February including one home invasion, shootings, burglaries and physical attacks. Vehicles known to be involved in burglaries and robberies have been noted in adjacent neighborhoods. In Area 3, while Murder and Aggravated Assaults have declined, YTD Residential Robberies are up 14%, Carjacking up 67% and Robbery with Cutting Instrument up 50%; statistics for adjacent Areas are higher.

Home Alarms

IGI responded to three (3) alarm calls. There was no evidence of criminal activity, but rather alarms resulting from sensor malfunctions or user error. We encourage all homeowners to have alarm

systems inspected as recommended by their alarm company to ensure top functioning equipment. IGI will promptly respond to any home alarm in concern of person or property emergency, but also in hopes that you will avoid a City of Oakland false alarm fine.

If any homeowner sees suspicious activity or hears an alarm sounding, please call an IG officer immediately for assistance, (877) 272-8765.

Please contact Nathan Cook, IG General Manager, and (510) 502-9653 if you are not enrolled for Home Alarm Response but wish to be or require additional information.

Vacation Watch

IG received 5 requests for Vacation Watch during February. There were zero incidents of crime or attempts while registered homeowners were away.

Vacation Watch is an important benefit to IG members. 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.

Vendors

Please use extreme caution when anyone approaches your home as a “vendor”. IG officers are in process of learning repeat vendors, i.e., landscaping, but it is important you expect and know any vendor coming to your door.

Fair weather also brings out door-to-door solicitors. IG officers will make contact with these individuals and verify identification as well as City of Oakland permits to solicit. IG officers will educate these individuals regarding Crestmont being a patrolled area. In cases where no permit is produced, IG officers will inform them they cannot legally sell and request they move out of the area as well as escort them if needed.

Suspicious Vehicles/Persons

IGI maintains a list of suspicious vehicles in the area, including adjacent neighborhoods, to track patterns and trends of unwanted activity. All non-residents that were asked to leave have not been seen back in the Crestmont area.

Oakland Police Department

Maintaining an excellent working relationship with OPD is extremely important in delivery of service to Crestmont. IG will reach out to Captain Ricardo and the beat officer in continuation of our solid and respectful relationships.

There is a Townhall Meeting for Area 3 on Saturday, May 10 at Bret Harte Middle School, 3700 Coolidge Avenue, 10:00 to 12:30. Meet your Area Captain and other concerned residents.

If residents are in need of assistance for security concerns, please call 1-877-272-8765 for officer response.