



Keeping Your Subdivision Safe

GUIDELINES FOR CALLING 911

- ❖ If you observe any suspicious or criminal activity **that is currently taking place call 911 immediately.**
- ❖ Utilize the Non-Emergency number (770-781-3087) if you need a Deputy for an issue **that is not currently taking place.**
- ❖ If you have an issue such as an ongoing traffic issue, possible drug activity, or juvenile issues, call your Crime Prevention Officer.
- ❖ The general administrative number for the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office (from 8am-5pm) is 770-781-2222.
- ❖ Try to remain calm
- ❖ Speak clearly
- ❖ Listen to all questions...then answer the questions:
 - **What is your emergency?**
 - **Is it currently taking place?**
 - **What is the physical description of the person(s)/vehicle etc.?**
 - **If you are reporting a fire: what type of structure, is anyone in the structure, size of fire etc.?**
 - **If you are reporting a medical emergency: what are the symptoms/complaint, age of person, any medical history etc.?**
- ❖ Don't hang up until the operator instructs you to
- ❖ When calling from a cell phone:
 - **Make sure you are speaking to the Forsyth County 911 Center.**
 - **Know your address / location**
 - **Leave your cell phone on after you make your call**

Traffic Concerns

- ❖ DO NOT CONFRONT THE DRIVER
- ❖ USUALLY CALLING 911 WILL NOT RESOLVE THE ISSUE IMMEDIATELY.
- ❖ CALL OR EMAIL YOUR CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER AND REPORT THE TRAFFIC COMPLAINT
 - ✓ SPECIFIC LOCATION AND TIME OF INCIDENT
 - ✓ FREQUENCY OF INCIDENT
 - ✓ LIKELY TIME AND LOCATION OF FUTURE INCIDENT
 - ✓ DESCRIPTION OF VEHICLE AND LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IF YOU CAN GET IT SAFELY

Dealing with Solicitors

- ❖ SOLICITOR DEFINED:

“Any person who goes door to door and solicits orders on behalf of a firm, corporation, or association for any goods, merchandise or other things of value shall be deemed a solicitor...”

“The term solicitor shall not mean an individual or field sales representative working on or behalf of a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization (i.e.. PTA, Boosters Clubs, Boy/Girl scouts, and religious organizations)”

- ❖ No solicitor shall be authorized to solicit orders until he/she files an application with the FCSO, and obtains a Forsyth County Sheriff's Office solicitation badge.
- ❖ This badge has to be displayed at all times!
- ❖ The solicitor is not to enter your home except at your express invitation.....AND PLEASE DON'T INVITE THEM IN!!!!

NO SOLICITOR SHALL GO DOOR TO DOOR OF A HOME OR SUBDIVISION IF A “NO SOLICITATION” SIGN IS POSTED EITHER AT THE RESIDENCE OR AT EACH ENTRANCE OF THE SUBDIVISION.

- ❖ IF A SOLICITOR COMES TO YOUR DOOR DO NOT OPEN IT. (If you do answer the door it is advisable not to buy anything.....and don't tell them you are going to call the Sheriff's Office).
- ❖ CALL 911 AND REPORT IT TO THE FORSYTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. TELL THE 911 OPERATOR THE FOLLOW INFORMATION:
 - The location, and direction the solicitor went.
 - A description of the person.
 - A vehicle description and direction of travel, if applicable.

- ❖ When the Deputy comes in contact with the individual he/she will check their ID and question them. If they are in violation of the solicitation ordinance they will:
 - Write them a citation and escort them off of the premises (report them to our permits section)
 - Or arrest them and take them to the Forsyth County Detention Center.

ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS ORDINANCE IS SUBJECT TO A FINE UP TO \$1000.00 AND OR SENTENCED TO JAIL FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 60 DAYS

Preventing Criminal Damage/Trespassing

- ❖ Most Criminal Damage/Trespass occurs at night. The **ENTIRE** commons area needs to be well-lit, including the parking area.
- ❖ Identify and ask any resident that can see the commons area to keep an eye out for any unusual activity and call 911.
- ❖ Advise all residents to make sure they lock their cars while utilizing the facility.
- ❖ Report any suspicious vehicles that may be parked in the lot.
- ❖ Ensure that the facility is locked and the alarm is set while not in use.
- ❖ Surveillance cameras provide a good deterrent.
- ❖ Report all incidents to the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office.

Deterring Entering Auto & Non-Forced Burglary

- ❖ Utilize your garage to secure your car if possible.
- ❖ Keep your garage door down and locked.
- ❖ Keep your car doors locked at all times.
- ❖ Park your car in a well lit area.
- ❖ Remove any valuable items from the car, including your garage door opener.

Motor Vehicles on the Street

Any person operating a vehicle (including dirt bikes, golf carts, low speed vehicle, etc.) without a valid driver's license on a *public* road is guilty of a misdemeanor (Ga. Code 40-5-20)

Call 911 if you need to report an incident that is occurring at the time. If it is an ongoing issue, contact your Crime Prevention Officer.

Parking Laws

The only laws that the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office can currently enforce are Georgia State laws.

- A car must be parked with the passenger wheels within 12" of the right hand curb. (Ga. 40-6-200)
- No person shall stop, park, or leave standing any vehicle upon the roadway when it is practical to stop, park, or leave the vehicle off the roadway. (Ga. 40-6-202)
- No vehicle shall not: (Ga. 40-6-203)
 - Block a public or private driveway
 - Obstruct traffic
 - Park within 15 feet of fire hydrant
 - Park within 30 feet of a stop sign, yield sign, or traffic control signal

Noise Ordinance

- ❖ **It is unlawful for any person to make, continue or cause any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise which unreasonably annoys, disrupts, or endangers the comfort, health, peace or safety of others (Sec. 34-152)**
- ❖ **As it relates to barking dogs: No owner or keeper of an animal shall allow an animal to annoy or disrupt any person by unreasonable barking. Unreasonable barking is defined as: barks, cries, or howls for a continuous period of 30 minutes OR an intermittent period of one hour. (Sec-35)**
- ❖ If the noise disturbance is currently taking place call 770-781-3087 and report it to the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office.
- ❖ If the noise disturbance is an ongoing issue but is not currently going on, contact your Crime Prevention Officer.

Curfew Law

The current curfew law that the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office enforces is O.C.G.A. 15.11-2 (E):

"A juvenile (under the age of 17) that wanders or loiters about the streets or public place between the hours of midnight and 5:00am is in violation of the States Curfew Law"

- ❖ If you see children that are **currently out** between the hours of midnight and 5am....Call 911 and report it to the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office.
- ❖ If you have observed an on going issue with juveniles loitering but it is **not currently going on** notify your Crime Prevention Officer

Actions Taken by the FCSO

When the responding Deputy arrives and determines that the juveniles involved are in fact in violation of the Curfew Law, they will:

- ✓ Call the parents of the juvenile to determine if they know where and what their kids are up to.
- ✓ Advise the parents to come pick up their children.
- ✓ Write a juvenile citation for Curfew Violation and then turn the children over to their parents.

Discharging of Firearms

- ❖ **There is no current local ordinance that address discharging of firearms in Forsyth County.**
- ❖ **The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office can only enforce the current Ga. State Laws (16-11-102,103 and 104) which pertain to the pointing or shooting of a firearm.**
- ✓ It is considered a misdemeanor when someone, without legal justification points or aims a firearm at another, whether the gun is loaded or unloaded. (Ga. 16-11-102)
- ✓ A person is guilty of a misdemeanor when, without legal justification, discharges a firearm on or within 50 yards of a public street. (Ga. 16-11-103)
- ✓ It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge a firearm on the property of another without having first obtain permission.

Sergeant Allan Frampton

Crime Prevention / Community Relations

Forsyth County Sheriff's Office

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