



# Columbia Heights Police Department

Scott Nadeau, Chief of Police



## How to Report Suspicious Activity

The CHPD has made many arrests and solved several crimes as a result of 911 calls from its citizens. Patrol officers count on residents' eyes and ears to help identify things that are out of place. Residents are encouraged to call 911 when they witness suspicious activity. It is okay for multiple households to call 911 if they witness suspicious activity because different perspectives can provide additional important details.

Suspicious activity is basically anything that looks out of place in your neighborhood. Some examples include:

- An injured or bloodied person
- Someone being forced in a vehicle
- People loitering
- Someone crawling through a window or forcing entry into a building
- A person looking in cars or pulling on door handles
- Someone walking through multiple yards
- A vehicle being driven at night without headlights on
- Noises including but not limited to:
  - Breaking glass
  - Gunfire
  - Loud banging noises at night (could be someone kicking in a door)

Note any license plates, which are often the most helpful detail.

Don't worry about obtaining a non-emergency number. Dispatch triage's 911 calls and will take a suspicious activity call. Speak calmly and answer all of the dispatcher's questions so she can assure the situation is dealt with properly and safely. It is okay if officers don't find anything criminal. Police would rather come investigate something than find out a crime occurred and someone witnessed it but did not call 911.

The CHPD has a strong Neighborhood Watch Program with over 160 organized blocks. The program offers resources for citizens to address things like suspicious activity. If you are interested in participating in that program, contact COP Coordinator Andy Museus at [amuseus@columbiaheightsmn.gov](mailto:amuseus@columbiaheightsmn.gov) or 763-706-8110.