



# Reporting Suspicious Activity

## What is Suspicious

Basically, anything that appears even slightly “out of place” for the area or time of day in which it is occurring, may be criminal activity. **If You See Something – Say Something!**

**Help the Police Help You** – No police department can function effectively without the concerned assistance of responsible citizens. They are depending on you to call and tell them whenever you observe suspicious persons or activity. Don't assume someone else called 911; **do it yourself**. Police want you to call. Do not worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove unfounded. Think instead about what could happen if you do not act.

## Information Needed by Police

- What happened?
- When?
- Where?
- Is anyone injured?
- Vehicle license number
- Last direction of travel
- Description of persons (including clothing)
- When describing suspects, notice age, race, sex, height, and weight. Compare your weight and height with the suspect(s). Pick out some unique characteristics that will help you identify the suspect in the future.

## Report “SUSPICIOUS” Activity

Not every stranger who comes into your neighborhood is a criminal by any means. There are many perfectly, legitimate door-to-door salespersons, repair and service technicians moving around our neighborhoods all the time. However, criminals do take advantage of this by assuming the disguise of legitimate business representatives. After all, if a criminal looks like a criminal, no one would have any trouble spotting him. If any activity seems suspicious, contact police. Below are some important reminders:

- For campus repairs, you will be notified by your housing manager and scheduling arrangements will be made prior to any repairs.
- Unusual noises such as gunshots, screaming, sounds of combat, abnormally barking dogs, anything suggestive of foul play, danger, or illegal activity should be reported.
- A stranger entering your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied may be a burglar.
- Anyone removing accessories, license plates, or gasoline from a car should be reported.
- Anyone peering into parked cars may be looking for a car to steal or for valuables left displayed in the car.
- Someone is going door to door in your neighborhood, watch for a while. If, after a few houses are visited, one or more persons tries a door to see if it is locked, or goes into a back or side yard, it could be a burglar. Such action is even more suspicious if one person remains in the front when this occurs, or if there is a car following a few houses away.
- Door-to-door salesmen are required to wear visible credentials and have a business license.

## Things to Watch for Involving Vehicles

- Any vehicle moving slowly and without lights, or following a course that appears aimless or repetitive is suspicious in any location but particularly so in areas of schools, parks, and playgrounds.
- Parked, occupied vehicles containing one or more persons are especially significant if observed at an unusual hour.
- More and more professional thieves are taking the time and trouble to “customize” their vehicles with special signs in order to move more freely without suspicion.
- Anyone being forced in to a vehicle.
- The abandoned vehicle parked on your block maybe a stolen car.

While some of the suspicious situations describe could have innocent explanations, our police department would rather investigate a possible crime situation than be called when it is too late. Your call could save a life, prevent an injury, or stop a criminal act. Help the BYU Police Department PREVENT CRIME! **IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS, SAY SOMETHING!**

Report suspicious activity to:

BYU Police

**801-422-2222 or 911**

Email: [crimeprevention@byu.edu](mailto:crimeprevention@byu.edu)

Anonymous Report: [police.byu.edu/anonymous](https://police.byu.edu/anonymous)