

How do I report a crime or suspicious activity?

Call the police. Dial 911 for emergencies. Identify yourself by your name and address. Relay the information. (Example: "I am Jane Smith of 16 Rose Street, a member of Community Watch. There is a suspicious person prowling around my neighbor's house at 14 Rose Street.")

Give the exact location of the crime or activity. Remain in contact with the dispatcher until all necessary information has been obtained.

Do not personally confront the situation. Await the arrival of a police officer.

In an emergency, when reporting an incident to your local police, you may be asked to repeat the address. This is to ensure the address is correct and understood. While the dispatcher is asking you questions which may seem indirectly related to the actual incidence of the crime, such as your name and address, a patrol car has already been dispatched to the scene of the emergency.

The additional information may be required in order to determine the need for more emergency equipment. All information that may identify the caller, the victim or the witness is kept confidential.

What type of response should I expect for dialing 911?

If the crime is in progress (e.g. the burglar is still in your home), police will be dispatched immediately.

If the crime has already been committed (e.g. you came home and found your home has been burglarized), a slower response should be expected.

The first priority in answering calls is for crimes in progress.

Once the first priority calls have been answered, the officer will go to the requested location.

CARE ENOUGH TO CALL

If you detect any suspicious activity in your neighborhood or anywhere, call 911.

Your call could prevent a crime from occurring, or help solve a crime.

Give this information the 911 dispatcher:

- **What happened**
- **Where**
- **When**
- **If anyone was injured**
- **License number of the vehicle**
- **Description of the vehicle**
- **Description of the person(s)**
- **Direction of flight**

Do not worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove to be unfounded.

"Partnering to fight crime for a safer Greensboro"

REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY



Emergency ~ Dial 911

Non-emergency ~ 336.373.2222

 City of Greensboro ~ 336.373.CITY (2489)

Website ~ www.gsopd.org

 @GSO_Police

 Greensboro Police Department

 Crime Stoppers ~ 336.373.1000
Text **BADBOYZ** to 274637 (CRIMES)

All calls and texts are confidential.

No names are used, and no calls are taped or traced.

Cash reward of up to \$2000.

SUSPICIOUS PERSONS

- Door-to-door canvassers in a residential area. This is especially suspicious if, after a few houses have been visited, one or more of the suspects go into the back or side yard. If one remains in the front yard while this occurs, the situation is even more suspicious. They could be “casing the house” for a burglary. There may be a burglary in progress—possibly a soliciting violation or trespass in progress.
- People waiting in front of a house where the occupants are absent, or loitering in front of a business establishment which is closed. There may be a burglary in progress.
- Someone forcing entrance to or tampering with a residence, business, vehicle, etc. This person is suspicious under almost any circumstance. There may be a burglary in progress.
- Person running—especially if he or she is carrying something of value. The person may be fleeing the scene of a crime.
- Person carrying property—suspicious depending on the circumstances. For example, if the person is observed at an unusual hour or in an unusual place, and if the property is not wrapped as if just purchased, the situation may indicate a crime in progress.
- A person exhibiting unusual mental or physical symptoms. The person may be injured, under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or in some kind of need of medical aid.

SUSPICIOUS SITUATIONS INVOLVING PROPERTY

- Large or unusual accumulations of property (such as several TV sets in a garage which are new and not being used). The property may be stolen.
- Property in a vehicle—not suspicious if the property is normally found in vehicles. This property may be stolen if you observe it at unusual hours, particularly TV sets, stereos, un-mounted tape decks or auto parts.
- Property carried by persons on foot—normally not suspicious unless at an unusual hour or in an unusual place. This situation is especially questionable if the person is running and/or the property is not wrapped as if just purchased.
- Property being removed from or being placed in vehicles or buildings. This situation is suspicious if odd hours or places are involved. Example: Property from closed businesses or residences whose owners are known to be absent.
- Continuous “repair” operations at a non-business location. It is possible that stolen property is being stripped, refinished or altered in some other way.
- Broken windows or doors at closed businesses or residences where the owners are absent.
- Unusual noises—gunshots, screaming, sounds of fighting, barking dogs—anything which suggests foul play or illegal activity.

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES

- Certain moving vehicles—slow-moving vehicles without lights which seem to be following no deliberate path. This is suspicious in any location, but especially in school areas, parks and playgrounds. The occupants of the car may be “casing” for sex offenses, drug pushing or for places to rob.
- Certain parked, occupied vehicles—may contain one or more persons. This situation is especially significant if observed at an unusual hour in a commercial area. The car may indicate a lookout for a burglary in progress.
- Vehicles being loaded with valuables—suspicious if parked in front of a closed business or vacant residence—even if the vehicle is a legitimate-looking commercial vehicle.
- Abandoned vehicle—possibly stolen.
- Vehicle containing weapons—suspicious under most circumstances—may be used for criminal activity.
- Person attempting forcibly to enter a vehicle, persons “stripping” a car, especially at night or in parking lots
- Apparent business transactions in a vehicle could be a possible drug sale, especially if around schools or parks involving juveniles
- Persons being forced into vehicles, especially if females or juveniles