

## A Guide to Using Nextdoor For Community and Apartment Watch Groups

## What is Nextdoor?

Nextdoor is a social networking service for neighborhoods. Individuals who live near each other can communicate privately and safely because users must verify that they reside in the neighborhood upon joining the app. Neighbors can interact, have discussions, share recommendations, organize events, and join private groups based on common interests or experiences. Community watch groups can utilize. Many neighborhood/apartment watch groups across the country use Nextdoor to help keep their communities safe.

## **Getting Started:**

- 1. Visit <a href="www.nextdoor.com">www.nextdoor.com</a> and enter your information to "find your neighborhood". If a neighborhood already exists, you will automatically be assigned to that neighborhood. If there is not yet a site for your neighborhood, you will be prompted to create one.
- 2. Enter your information and click "Sign up".
- 3. You will need to verify your address (this ensures that every user lives in the neighborhood they ask to join). Nextdoor will list choices for verifying your address.
- 4. Confirm your email address.
- 5. Download Nextdoor on your phone for easy access and introduce yourself to your neighbors! For additional help visit <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Creating a Group in Nextdoor**

Your community watch will want to create a group within your neighborhood. Creating a group will make it easy for members and residents to read updates from community watch and see posts and discussions all in one place. You can make a public group and/or private group.

- 1. Visit the groups page on the left side of the app. Click on "create group" in the top right corner (creating a group must be done on the Nextdoor site, as this is not supported by the mobile site yet).
- 2. Choose public or private. Groups may use both, public to alert general residents about concerns and private for watch group members or block captains.
- 3. Find additional help about using Nextdoor for crime prevention <u>here</u>.

