

MEMORIAL VILLAGES POLICE

CRIME ANALYSIS SUMMARY

November 22nd through November 28th, 2013

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/mvpdtx>

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For quick reference in reporting crimes or suspicious activity, program our dispatch number into the speed dial of your home and cellular telephone:

713-365-3700

CRIME ANALYSIS SUMMARY

BUNKER HILL

On November 25th an officer responded to the 11700 block of Forest Glen in reference to some possibly stolen jewelry. The victim is missing a ring from the residence. There were no signs of forced entry and nothing else was missing from the residence. This case is currently under investigation.

On November 27th an officer responded to the 11900 block of Broken Bough in reference to an identity theft. Unknown suspect attempted to obtain an online loan, but was denied the loan. There was no monetary loss for the victim.

PINEY POINT

On November 22nd, an officer responded to the 300 block of Piney Point in reference to an identity theft. Unknown suspect had opened online accounts in the victim's name. This case is currently under investigation.

On November 23rd an officer responded to the 200 block of Blalock Road in reference to an identity theft. Unknown suspect had accessed the victim's credit card information. This case is currently under investigation.

On November 25th an officer responded to the 200 block of Merrie Way in reference to a theft. This case is currently under investigation.

HUNTERS CREEK

No Activity to Report

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Prevention of Identity Theft

From The National Crime Prevention Council

According to the U.S. Postal Service, there were almost ten million incidents of identity theft in the United States in 2010 at a cost of \$5 billion to consumers. Victims report spending 30 hours, on average, cleaning up after an identity crime at an average cost of \$500.

It's in the newspapers every day and on the news every night. People worry that someone will run up charges on their credit card or fleece their bank account while their back is turned. There is reason to worry. All a thief needs is your Social Security number to commit identity theft. This crime is relatively easy to commit, but investigating and prosecuting it is complex and time-consuming. But once you know the facts and some preventive measures you can take, you can win the fight against identity theft!

Identity thieves commit their crime in several ways:

- They steal credit card payments and other outgoing mail from private, curbside mailboxes.
- They dig through garbage cans or communal dumpsters in search of cancelled checks, credit card and bank statements, and preapproved credit card offers.
- They hack into computers that contain personal records and steal the data.
- They file a change of address form in the victim's name to divert mail and gather personal and financial data.

Tips

- To guard against identity theft, never give out your Social Security number. Treat it as confidential information.
- Commit all passwords to memory. Never write them down or carry them with you.
- When using an ATM machine, make sure no one is hovering over you and can see you enter your password.
- When participating in an online auction, try to pay the seller directly with a credit card so you can dispute the charges if the merchandise does not arrive or was misrepresented. If possible, avoid paying by check or money order.
- Adopt an attitude of healthy skepticism toward websites that offer prizes or giveaways. Chances are, all that's been "won" is the opportunity to buy something you didn't want in the first place.
- Choose a commercial online service that offers parental control features.
- Tell your children never to give out their address telephone number password school name or any other personal information.
- Make sure your children know to never agree to meet face-to-face with someone they've met online without discussing it with you. Only if you decide that it's okay to meet their "cyber-friend" should they arrange to meet this person, and then the meeting should be in a familiar public place in the presence of a trusted adult.
- Tell your children never to respond to messages that have bad words, are scary, or just seem weird.
- Tell your children never to enter an area that charges for services without asking you first.
- Tell children never send a picture of themselves to anyone without your permission.
- Make sure that access to the Internet at your children's school is monitored by adults.

Mark Stokes

Detective

Memorial Villages Police Department