



## Southwest Precinct Public Safety Newsletter

May 15, 2007

Dear Community Friends,

### West Seattle Meeting Regarding Sex Offenders

The Seattle Police Department will be conducting a community education meeting in West Seattle regarding sex offenders. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 7:00 PM in the Chief Sealth High School cafeteria/lunchroom located at 2600 SW Thistle St. in West Seattle. All West Seattle residents are invited and encouraged to attend. Due to the frank nature of the presentation, this meeting may not be appropriate for children under 12 years of age.

Detective Bob Shilling of the Special Victim's Unit, Sex and Kidnapping Offender Detail and the Interpol Specialists Group on Crimes Against Children will conduct the meeting. Detective Shilling is a 27-year veteran of the Seattle Police Department, and has appeared as a content expert regarding sex offenders on the "Montel Show" and most recently NBC Dateline's "To Catch A Predator" series. Detective Shilling's presentation will cover the following topics: Sex offender registration and community notification; Understanding what it means to have a sex offender living in your neighborhood; Separating sex offender fact from sex offender myth; What citizens can do to protect themselves and their loved ones from being the victim of sexual abuse.

This meeting is not being held in response to a particular sex offender release or other specific criminal activity in your neighborhood; rather it is part of an ongoing community education program to inform neighborhoods about registered sex and kidnapping offenders living in our communities.

### Drive Safely

The Seattle Police Department Traffic Section has begun a new tactic in traffic enforcement. The "Aggressive Drivers Response Team" uses plain Dodge Chargers with concealed red and blue lights in areas of Seattle that historically have high rates of aggressive and illegal driving. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> the Aggressive Drivers Response Team worked the hill on Highland Park Way SW for 90 minutes. They made 50 traffic stops, which resulted in 88 traffic citations being issued. 18 of the stops made were for over 50 mph. The highest speed was 56 mph in a 30 zone.

### PERSONAL SAFETY

Three simple rules of safety  
Stay alert and tuned into your surroundings. Be aware and be prepared.  
Stand tall and walk confidently. Do not show fear. Do not look like a victim.  
Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable, leave right away and get help if necessary.

#### On foot

Choose busy streets and avoid deserted areas.  
At night, walk in well-lighted areas.  
Walk or jog with a friend or neighbor.  
Get to know the neighbors where you live and work. Find out where stores, restaurants, police and fire stations are located.

#### In your car

Always lock your car and take the keys, even if you'll be gone only a short time.  
Keep your car in good running condition, and keep doors locked while driving.  
If your car breaks down, stay in the locked car. Ask helpers to call the police to come and help.  
Stay alert when using enclosed parking garages. Do not walk into an area if you feel uncomfortable.  
Leave only your ignition key with a parking attendant.  
Never pick up hitchhikers. *Never hitchhike.*

### KEEPING KIDS SAFE

Teach your children to distrust strangers and the common-sense rules that can help keep them safe—and build the self-confidence they need to handle emergencies.

Make sure your kids know:

Their full name, address and phone number.  
Teach your children your cell phone and your work phone numbers as well.  
To tell a trusted adult immediately if anyone touches them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable.  
How to call 911 in emergencies, and how to use a public phone. Help them practice making emergency phone calls. Be sure emergency numbers—police, fire, poison control, and emergency medical—are by all phones.  
How to walk confidently and stay alert to what's going on around them.  
To walk and play with friends, not alone.  
To refuse rides or gifts, unless it's someone both you and your child know and trust.

**Police Blotter, Megan Sheppard, West Seattle Herald**

<http://www.westseattleherald.com/news/police%20blotter/>

This web page is update every week on Wednesday.

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