

CAPS Meeting July 12, 2011

311/911 Calls

- During the period 5/12 to 7/12, our beat (#1824) received 4,175 **311/911** calls, 50 calls less than the same period last year.

Issues Discussed

- Residents complained about people riding bikes and riding skateboards on the sidewalks - the police will look into putting up additional signs and speak to Latin School traffic/security monitors.
- Residents complained about double parking in the alley around Hang Ups and clogging this and a nearby alley - the police will look into this.
- Vendor selling socks/CD's at Clark and Division by Jewell - the police will look into, but also encouraged residents to call 911 if this is an issue.
- Responsiveness of 911 operators - they will be invited to the next CAPS meeting to speak with residents.

Court Advocacy

- This has been very effective. In a recent case, the public defender, the state's attorney and judges acknowledged the presence of 25 to 27 business owners and residents as advocates and did not release the defendants on bail, which normally would have happened.

Safety Tips

- Officer Schenk reminded people to be alert, as perpetrators like to hide in shrubbery. Property owners are asked to keep shrubbery low.
- They also like to hide near gates, which shields their presence
- They go from garage to garage with universal remotes
- They steal from cars by breaking glass, which doesn't set off some car alarms (specifically avoiding shaking the car or touching door handles).
- Perpetrators will sneak into buildings late at night with a crowd that may be entering at the same time.

Old Business

- The police have been active against aggressive panhandling. They have locked up more than 60 individuals since the last CAPS meeting. One of the residents complained that panhandlers have followed her into CVS and Walgreens. Officers urged all people to call 911 if they are approached by aggressive panhandlers - the police will speak with the managers at CVS and Walgreens to be more proactive within their stores.

- Parking violations on the 1200 block of North State - they have written 30 tickets since the last CAPS meeting for parking violations and stop sign violations.

New Business

Clark and Elm

- Residents mentioned a 6/27 ATM robbery at the Chase branch at 1122 N. Clark (Clark and Elm). The residents of the building, in which the branch is located said that their calls to 911 weren't handled in a professional manner and that the operators hung up.
- They also complained of 3 robberies (one armed) in the past 60 days and having issues with 911's response, as no one showed up.
- Officer Schenk will work with the President of the 1122 N. Clark building to become a "Vertical Block Club" that will work together with the police to help improve the situation at this building and in the area surrounding the building.

Beach Parking

- Another resident wanted to make residential Zone 74 subject to 24/7 enforcement. Thus, only those cars with a sticker would be permitted to park within the zone. This would eliminate parking for beach goers in the area. We were informed that this is an aldermanic and City Clerk issue. Contacts were provided for residents to pursue the matter further.

Next CAPS Meeting:

- September 13, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at the Ambassador East, 1301 N. State Parkway (for now, a new venue may be sought for the next meeting).