Notes:
I live in zone ________, sub sector ________.
My zone commander is __________________________.
My sub-station is located at_____________________.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

501 E Bay Street
Jacksonville, Fl 32202
Phone: 904-630-0500
Web Address: www.coj.net/jso

June 2007
Sheriff’s Message

Since becoming Sheriff in 2003, I have had the opportunity to meet many Jacksonville citizens through my regular neighborhood walks, “ride alongs” and civic activities. I have enjoyed hearing your comments and concerns about the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office and the work we do.

Many of you have given me your thoughts on how we can better serve the needs of the public. Rest assured, I take each of your ideas seriously, and often look for ways to incorporate them into our efforts. As an Agency dedicated to community policing, we rely on the citizens to assist us in our work. This means you are an important element in keeping this community safe and secure. Fostering good working relationships with you in your neighborhood and at your place of business is how we meet this objective.

Our 17 Sheriff’s Advisory Councils (ShAdCos) have added an important dimension to the interactions between citizens and the police. During regularly scheduled meetings, we share valuable information regarding crime and crime prevention, and ShAdCo members give us their feedback and input on specific problems in their neighborhoods. This partnership is truly community policing at its finest, and I encourage you to become an active participant by joining your local ShAdCo. Please call 630-2160 or your substation for information.

Likewise, our Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch and newly formed River Watch programs; all providing a valuable “connection” between the crime prevention experts of the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office and the concerned citizens who want to identify and report criminal activity and preserve their quality of life. To learn more, call 630-2160.
Important Numbers
Non-emergency cases 630-0500

1. Burglary 630-2175
2. Robbery 630-2179
3. Homicide 630-2172
4. Community Affairs Div. 630-2160
5. Economic Crimes / Forgery 630-2177
6. Auto theft 630-2173
7. Police Information 630-7600
8. Jail Information 630-5747
9. Fire Rescue (non-emergency) 630-0529
10. Poison Control 244-4480

Miscellaneous Public Services
1. City of Jacksonville’s One Call Center – to report or request services from City of Jacksonville regulated agencies (garbage complaints, JEA, Parks and Recreation, etc.) 904 630-CITY (2489)
2. Jacksonville Transportation Authority (public mass transit) – bus, skyway, or trolley information. 743-3582
3. English as a second language – Florida Community College at Jacksonville (Downtown campus) 101 W. State Street 904-633-8100

Web Sites
Florida Department of Law Enforcement - www.fdle.state.fl.us
Offender Watch - www.coj.net/Departments/Sheriffs+Office/Offender+Watch.htm
Missing Children— http://www3.fdle.state.fl.us/MCICSearch/

Citizen Academy
For a broader understanding of how the police department “really works” you can attend the Citizen’s Police Academy.

You can apply online at www.coj.net/jso, then click on the Community Affairs link followed by the Citizen Academy link or call us at 904-713-4899.

In the past couple of years, we have implemented several programs and initiatives designed to address specific crime issues. Operation Showdown, an intensive enforcement and maintenance program, has been an effective tool in improving the quality of life for several neighborhoods in Jacksonville, all faced with serious criminal activity. This very important effort would not have been successful without the enormous support of the residents in these areas. With each Operation Showdown, we are strengthening our ties to law abiding citizens who want to keep their neighborhoods safe from drugs, prostitution, and guns.

Our local program diverting repeat misdemeanor offenders with drug and alcohol programs into treatment has been very successful. Based on its success helping these people stay out of jail and addressing the root cause of their criminal actions, I lobbied for passage of a statewide Habitual Misdemeanor Offender (HMO) law. In the one year since the passage of the Statute, not only has our own program continued to show great results, but our program has become a model throughout Florida, and beyond. We are decreasing the number of people who go back to committing crime after receiving treatment and case management for alcohol and drug addiction. The program was recognized in 2005 for its effectiveness in a study conducted by the University of North Florida, and received an award from JCCI for creating positive change in the community.

I have said many times that I am committed to building the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office into the premier law enforcement agency in the nation. To achieve that goal, we will continue to find new and innovative ways to address crime issues, create opportunities for community interaction and input, and improve public trust through the professionalism of each member of this agency.

We are working to earn the public’s trust by demonstrating that we are men and women of character, well equipped, properly deployed, and skillfully managed. Visit our website at www.coj.net/sheriff and learn more about us and the many ways you can become involved.

Johns Rutherford, Sheriff
Bicycle Safety (continued)

Don’t Flip Your Bike.
Wheels should be securely fastened. Check wheels before every ride, after every fall, or after transporting your bicycle to be sure that they are fastened and secure. Make sure that tires are properly inflated.

Protecting your bicycle against THEFT
A bicycle can be stolen from just about any place, but simple precautions can deter would-be bike thieves. Remember, most bikes that are stolen were not locked!

Always lock your bicycle securely, whether you’re gone for a few minutes or a few hours. Use a U-Lock, securing both wheels and the frame to a stationary object such as a post, fence, tree, or bike rack. For extra security, add a chain or a cable with a good padlock.

Operation Identification

Operation Identification is a crime prevention program where electric engraving pencils are loaned to the public free of charge so that they may engrave an identifying number on selected valuables for identification purposes in case the property is stolen. The program is designed to discourage the theft of valuables. Participating in this program will lessen the likelihood of the property being stolen, but in the event of this happening, the chances of the property being recovered by the police and returned to the owner, will increase.

The property should be engraved in a prominent place where the marking will be both readily visible and difficult to cover or remove without the attempt being obvious.

Valuable property should be marked with an electric engraver or any sharp etching tool with your Florida Driver’s License number. If you are not a driver, you can obtain a I.D. Card and number from any Division Licenses Issuing Station. Avoid marking on removable parts such as lids, and doors.

For more information contact: (904) 630-2160 or your Sub-Station.
Stay Alert.
Keep a look-out for obstacles in your path. Watch out for potholes, sewer gratings, cracks, railroad tracks, loose gravel, and broken glass. Before going around any object, look ahead and behind you for a free gap in traffic. Plan your move, and then signal your intentions. Be especially careful in wet weather, as water can make you slip and make your brakes work improperly.

Beware the Dark Side.
Be cautious when biking at night. If you have to ride at night, display front and rear reflectors on your bicycle. Wear reflective clothing or materials, especially on your ankles, wrists, back, and helmet. Ride in areas that are familiar and on streets that are brightly lighted.

Go Off-Road.
Follow designated bike routes if available. Bicycle routes are marked by special signs or lines. Bike paths are special areas reserved for bikes. Become familiar with such accommodations for cyclist in your area.

Fix It Up.
Make sure your bicycle is adjusted properly. Your bicycle should be correctly adjusted to fit you; your feet should rest on the ground while sitting in the seat. Before using your bike, check to make sure that all parts are secure and working. The handlebars should be firmly in place and turn easily; the wheels should be straight and secure.

Stop It.
Check brakes before riding. Control your speed by using your brakes. If your bicycle has hand brakes, apply the rear brakes slightly before the front brake. Remember to ride slowly in wet, slippery weather and to apply brakes earlier since it takes more distance to stop.

Call to Partnership

Neighborhood Watch- is a citizen-based initiative that recreates the partnership between community and law enforcement. Neighborhood / Apartment Watch is simply a program of neighbors watching out for other neighbors during times when criminal activity would most likely occur, and reporting suspicious activity to police. (904) 630-2160

Sheriff’s Advisory Councils (ShAdCos)
ShAdCos exist for the express purpose of assisting the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office in every way possible including:

- Community interaction
- Image building
- Strengthening of neighborhood relations
- Reporting of suspected criminal activity
- Helping solve traffic, patrol, safety and communication problems
- Promoting youth outreach and athletic activities
- Formulation of a model citizen law enforcement assistance program

If you would like to attend or join the Sheriff's Advisory Council in your neighborhood, call your zone commander's office.

Zone Commanders
Zone 1 Assistant Chief J. R. Ross - (904) 924-5361
Zone 2 Assistant Chief J. Carson Tranquille - (904) 726-5100
Zone 3 Assistant Chief Lonnie McDonald - (904) 828-5463
Zone 4 Assistant Chief Tom Hackney - (904) 573-3165
Zone 5 Assistant Chief Jerry Coxen - (904) 384-8028.
Zone 6 Assistant Chief Larry L. Jones - (904) 696-4335

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
Crime Definitions and Reporting Guidelines

There are many crimes that are committed daily; however, we are presenting a small sample of the crimes that frequently occur, and the most appropriate number to obtain police service. This brochure is only a guide and it is not intended to be all inclusive.

**Domestic violence** means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member. (630-0500 or 911).

**Burglary** means entering or remaining in a house or apartment, a business or a car with the intent to commit an offense therein. (630-0500 or 911)

**Robbery** means the taking of money or other property which may be the subject of larceny from the person or custody of another, with intent to either permanently or temporarily deprive the person or the owner of the money or other property, when in the course of the taking there is the use of force, violence, assault, or putting in fear, whether the person uses a weapon or snatches the item. (911).

---

**Confidential Crime Reporting**

If you suspect someone is engaging in crime in your community, you can call the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office to report the criminal activity and remain anonymous. To report someone using or selling drugs or narcotics 630-2725 or 630-2163.

**The Drug Abatement Response Team (D.A.R.T.):**

This unit’s mission is to join forces with other government and private sector agencies to identify various code and criminal violations, which will assist in the closure of structures that are public nuisances. These structures are those that have been shown to promote illegal drug activity, prostitution and/or gang activity. 632-5562

---

**Bicycle Safety**

**Ten Smart Routes to Bicycle Safety**

Riding a bicycle is more than the basic transportation – it can be a fun and exciting hobby. When you ride you’re not alone. You share the road with cars, trucks, pedestrians, and other cyclists. Since accidents can turn a bicycling adventure into a bicycling tragedy, here are some tips to help make your ride a safe one.

**Look Both Ways.**

Be aware of traffic around you. Seven out of ten bicycle-car crashes occur at driveways or other intersections. Before you enter a street or intersection, check for traffic and always look left-right-left. Walk your bicycle across busy streets at corners or crosswalks.

**Protect your head**

Wear a helmet. Studies have shown that using a bicycle helmet can reduce head injuries by up to 85%. Select a helmet that has a snug, but comfortable fit. Look for the helmet labels that show they are recommended by either the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Snell Memorial Foundation.

**See and Be Seen**

Wear proper clothes. Wear clothes that make you more visible. Clothing should be light in color and close fitting to avoid being caught in the bicycle’s moving parts. Also, be sure that books and other loose items are secured to the bike or are carried in a back pack.

**Go with the Flow of Traffic.**

The safe way is the right way. You must obey the rules of the road. These include all traffic signs, signals, and road markings. Ride on the right side of the street in a single file. Use proper hand signals. Never weave from lane to lane or tailgate to hitch rides on moving cars or trucks.

---

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
At Home Alone

Teach your “HOME ALONE” children-

How to call 9-1-1 your area’s emergency number, or call the operator.

How to give directions to your home, in case of an emergency.

To check in with you or a neighbor immediately after arriving home.

To never accept gifts or rides from people they don’t know well.

How to use the door, window locks, and the alarm system if you have one.

To never let anyone into the home without asking your permission.

To never let a caller at the door or on the phone know that they’re alone (say “Mom can’t come to the phone right now”)

To carry a house key with them in a safe place (inside a shirt pocket or sock) – don’t leave it under a mat or over a ledge.

How to escape in case of a fire.

To not go into an empty house or apartment if things don’t look right – i.e. a broken window, ripped screen, or open door.

Notes
To let you know about anything that frightens them or makes them feel uncomfortable.

What to do if you are stopped by the police!

The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office has adopted this course of study to educate the public in the prescribed method of responding to a police stop, thereby minimizing the potential for escalation of the incident.

Law enforcement is tasked with protecting the lives and property of the citizens of this community, to preserve the peace, and to prevent crime and disorder while constantly guarding personal liberties as prescribed by law.

I. WHY WOULD AN OFFICER STOP ME?
   A. Traffic Violation
   B. Suspicious Behavior
   C. Questioning
   D. Appearing to need help
   E. Mistaken identity

II. NO ONE IS EXEMPT FROM A POLICE ENCOUNTER.
   A. Stay calm. Avoid being argumentative.
   B. Don’t become defensive or rude.
   C. Provide your name, address, and any other requested identification.

YOU CAN REPORT CRIME AND REMAIN ANONYMOUS, and be eligible for a reward up to $1000, by calling CRIME STOPPERS at: 1-866-845-8477 (TIPS), or JSO’s non emergency number at 904-630-0500.
What to do if you are stopped by the police!

III. STOPPED WHILE DRIVING:
You may be pulled over if you:
   A. Committed a traffic infraction
   B. Were driving aggressively or posed a hazard
   C. Vehicle matches the description of one that was reported stolen or was used in the commission of a crime.
   D. If the vehicle has faulty equipment.

IV. HOW SHOULD YOU RESPOND AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?
   A. Pull over off the roadway to the right and stop completely
   B. If it is dark, turn on your interior lights
   C. Roll down your window, STAY in your vehicle, and WAIT for the officer to come to you
   D. DON’T GET OUT OF THE VEHICLE unless told to do so
   E. Keep your hands on the steering wheel in plain sight. DO NOT reach into the glove compartment or under the seat.
   F. Be respectful and remain calm
   G. Do not move suddenly as you may appear threatening.

V. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
   A. Request identification
   B. Citation, verbal or written warning
   C. Sign the citation – PLEASE.
      1. Signature does not constitute admission of guilt
      2. If you believe the citation was issued in error, you have the option of appearing in court
   D. Don’t become argumentative or combative.

At Home Alone

A word about curiosity…
Are there things you don’t want your children to get into? Take the time to talk to them about the deadly consequences of guns, medicines, power tools, alcohol, cleaning products, etc. Make sure you keep these items in a secure place out of sight and locked up.

Are they ready? Can your children-
Be trusted to go straight home after school?
Easily use the telephone, locks, and kitchen appliances?
Follow rules and instructions well?
Handle unexpected situations without panicking?
Stay alone without being afraid?
Talk it over with them, and listen to their worries and ideas. Work out rules on having friends over, household chores, homework, and television. Remember, staying at home alone can build a child’s self-esteem, sense of responsibility, and practical skills.
PROTECTING YOUR CHILD AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE.

Let your child know that he or she can tell you anything, and that you’ll be supportive.

Teach your child that no one – not even a teacher or a close relative – has the right to touch him or her in a way that feels uncomfortable, and that it’s okay to say no, get away, and tell a trusted adult.

Don’t force kids to kiss or hug or sit on a grown-up’s lap if they don’t want to. This gives them control and teaches them that they have the right to refuse.

Always know where your child is and who he or she is with.

Tell your child to stay away from strangers who hang around play-grounds, public restrooms, and schools.

Be alert for changes in your child’s behavior that could signal sexual abuse such as sudden secretiveness, with-drawl from activities, refusal to go to school, unexplained hostility toward a favorite babysitter or relative, or increased anxiety. Some physical signs of abuse include bedwetting, loss of appetite, venereal disease, nightmares, and complaints of pain or irritation around the genitals.

If your child has been sexually abused, report it to the police or a child protection agency IMMEDIATELY.

If your child is a victim of any crime, from stolen lunch money to a sexual abuse, don’t blame him or her. Listen and offer sympathy.

What to do if you are stopped by the police!

VI. WHAT IF YOU’RE STOPPED ON THE STREET?

Sometimes people are offended when an officer stops them for questioning. It might be an inconvenience for you to be stopped, but usually the officer has “reason to believe” or “probable cause” to stop you.

Here are some common reasons you might be stopped.

A. You are walking, riding, or driving in an area in which a crime recently occurred.  
B. Your clothing or vehicle may fit the suspect description.  
C. Reported suspicious activity  
D. You may be acting in a suspicious manner to the officers

VII. HOW SHOULD YOU RESPOND AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

A. DO NOT attempt to elude the officer  
B. DO NOT become rude or defensive  
C. DO NOT move suddenly or make threatening gestures  
D. BE COOPERATIVE
   1. Refusing to answer questions may make an officer suspicious of you.  
   3. Allow the officer to “frisk” you or perform a “pat-down” if he desires
VIII. WHAT IF LAW ENFORCEMENT COMES TO YOUR HOME?

A. Emergency Situations
1. Someone calling for help – 9-1-1
2. Hot pursuit (chase)
B. To talk to a witness or victim OR
C. Advise you of a neighborhood problem
D. To serve a warrant
1. Other than the above examples, the officer may need a warrant to enter your house.
2. Definition - A warrant is a legal document authorizing an officer to take a person or property into custody.
3. Types of Warrants
   a. Search Warrant – A search warrant allows officers to search all places in which the item(s) listed on the warrant can be hidden.
   b. Arrest Warrant or Capias – An arrest warrant is for warrant for an individual or person.

IX. HOW SHOULD YOU RESPOND AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

A. Answer the door
B. Be cordial
C. Ask why the officer is there
D. Be helpful not evasive

X. RIGHTS

A. YES – YOU DO HAVE RIGHTS
1. The right to remain silent
2. Anything you say will be used against you in a court of law
3. You have the right to speak to an attorney, and to have an attorney present during questioning.
4. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be provided for you at government expense.
5. The right to be shown proper identification

Streetwise Kids (continued)

WOULD YOUR CHILD KNOW WHAT TO DO IF –

- He / she got lost in a mall?
- A nice-looking, friendly stranger offered her a ride home after school?
- A friend dared him to drink some beer or smoke a joint?
- The babysitter or a neighbor wanted to play a secret game?
- A great thing about kids is their natural trust in people, especially in adults. It’s sometimes hard for parents to teach children to balance this trust with caution. But kids today need to know common-sense rules that can help keep them safe – and build the self-confidence they need to handle emergencies.

AT SCHOOL AND PLAY

- Encourage your children to walk and play with friends, not alone. Tell them to avoid places that could be dangerous-vacant buildings, alleys, playgrounds or parks with broken equipment and equipment and litter.
- Teach children to settle arguments with the words, not fists, and to walk away when others are arguing. Remind them that taunting and teasing can hurt friends and make enemies.
- Make sure your children are taking the safest routes to and from school, stores, and friend’s houses. Walk the routes together and point out places they could go for help.
- Encourage kids to be alert in the neighborhood, and tell an adult – you, a teacher, a neighbor, a police officer – about anything they see that doesn’t seem quite right.
- Check out the school’s policies on the absent children – are the parents called when a child is absent?
START WITH THE BASICS

- Make sure your children know their full name, address (city and state), and phone number with area code.

- Be sure kids know to call 9-1-1 and how to use a public phone. Practice making emergency calls with a make-believe phone.

- Tell them never to accept rides or gifts from someone they and you don’t know well.

- Teach children to go to a store clerk, security guard, or police officer for help if lost in a mall or store or on the street.

- Set a good example with your own actions – lock doors and windows and see who’s there before opening the door.

- Take time to listen carefully to your children’s fears and feeling about people or places that scare them or make the feel uneasy. Tell them to trust their instincts.

Personal Safety

**In your Home or Apartment**

- Have lights at all entrances
- Have wide-angle door viewers on all exterior doors
- Do not leave a schedule of your times away from home on your answering machine
- Know which of your neighbors you can trust and depend upon in an emergency
  - Don’t hide extra keys in easily accessible places. Criminals will find them.
  - Ask for photo identification of all repair persons. If you are suspicious, call to verify employment.
- Never give personal information to telephone solicitors.
- Don’t let strangers into your home or apartment to use the telephone. Offer to make the call for them.
- Use security bars for added security on sliding exterior doors.
On the Street
- Never hitchhike! It’s not worth the risk!
- Be very careful using outside ATMs at night or in unfamiliar surroundings.
- When walking, walk in the middle of the sidewalk and walk facing oncoming traffic.
- Try not to overload yourself with packages or other items. Keep your hands as free as possible.
- Do not wear music headphones while walking or jogging.
- Do not read while walking or standing on a sidewalk.
- If you wear a purse with a shoulder strap, be prepared to let it go if snatched. Otherwise you could be knocked down and hurt.
- Avoid being on the street alone if you are upset or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- If you carry a purse, carry it close to your body, preferable in front. Carry no more money than you absolutely need.

In A Building
- Avoid isolated corridors or hallways.
- Be extra careful in stairwells and isolated or poorly-lighted restrooms.
- Avoid entering an elevator which is occupied by only one other person who is a stranger.
- In an elevator, stand near the controls and locate the emergency button.
- If you are assaulted while in an elevator, hit the emergency or alarm button and press as many floor buttons as possible.

Domestic Violence (continued)

- HAVE YOU HURT SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY?
  - Accept the fact that your violent behavior will destroy your family. Be aware that you break the law when you physically hurt someone.
  - Take responsibility for your actions and get help.
  - When you feel tension building, get away. Work off the angry energy through a walk, a project, a sport.
  - Call a domestic violence hotline or health center and ask about counseling and support groups for people who batter.

THE HIGH COST OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- Men and women who follow their parents’ example and use violence to solve conflicts are teaching the same destructive behavior to their children.
- Jobs can be lost or careers stalled because of injuries, arrest, or harassments.
- Lives are lost when violence results in death.

Notes

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
IF YOU ARE HURT, WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are no easy answers, but there are things you can do to protect yourself.
- Call the police or sheriff. Assault, even by family members, is a crime. The police often have information about shelters and other agencies that help victims of domestic violence.
- Leave, or have someone come and stay with you. Go to a battered women’s shelter – call a crisis hotline in your community or a health center to locate a shelter. If you believe that you, and your children, are in danger – leave immediately.
- Get medical attention from your doctor or a hospital emergency room. Ask the staff to photograph your injuries and keep detailed records in case you decide to take legal action.
- Contact your family court for information about an injunction for protection.

DON’T IGNORE THE PROBLEM

- Talk to someone. Part of the abuser’s power comes from secrecy. Victims are often ashamed to let anyone know about intimate family problems. Go to a friend or neighbor, or call a domestic violence hotline. To talk to a counselor call Hubbard House at (904) 354-0076.
- Plan ahead and know what you will do if you are attacked again. If you decide to leave, choose a safe place to go; set aside some money. Put important papers together – marriage license, birth certificates, check books – in a place where you can get them quickly.
- Learn to think independently. Try to plan for the future and set goals for yourself.

Personal Safety (continued)
In a car
- Keep your car in good working order and the gas tank at least half full.
- When you approach your parked vehicle, visually check the area around the vehicle for any suspicious person or activity. If you observe anything suspicious walk to where there are people and call the police.
- Always park in visible, well-lighted areas.
- If you drive a car attempt to avoid parking next to a larger pickup truck or van, that can be easy to hide behind.
- Have your keys ready when approaching your vehicle to reduce the time needed to enter.
- When operating your vehicle, keep the doors locked and the windows rolled up.
- Drive with all the doors locked.
- Any valuables in your car should be placed in the trunk or otherwise kept out of sight.
- Exercise extra caution when using underground and enclosed parking garages. Try not to go alone.
- When stopped at traffic lights or in traffic, allow space between you and the vehicle in front of you so you can drive away if necessary.
- If someone approaches your vehicle and attempts to enter, blow your horn to attract attention and drive away.
- Never leave your keys in the ignition with the engine running, even if just for a second.
In a car (cont)

- Many people consider a cellular telephone to be a good investment in safety.

**Do Not Pick Up Hitchhikers!**

- Do not open your window if someone approaches your vehicle to ask for directions, the time, etc. Keep the door locked.

- Never leave house keys attached to car keys at service stations or parking facilities.

- Do not stop for a stranded motorist. Instead, use your cellular telephone to call the police for assistance.

- If you have a flat tire, drive on it until you reach a safe, well-lighted and well traveled area.

- If your vehicle becomes disabled and help is not immediately available, raise the hood of the vehicle (if you can safely do so), attach a handkerchief to the door handle, and then stay in the vehicle with the doors locked and the windows up. Activate your hazard or parking lights. If someone stops to assist you, ask them through the closed window to call the police.

- If you can afford to have one, take a cellular telephone with you when driving. Cell phones can call 911 without service.

- Criminals sometimes stage a motor vehicle accident known as a “bump and rob.” The motorist is robbed when they exit their vehicle. If you are involved in a minor accident under suspicious circumstances, stay in your vehicle with the doors locked and the windows up and await the police. If you believe you are in possible danger, write down the license plate of the other vehicle.

- Carry a flashlight, fix-a-flat and a first aid kit.

---

**Domestic Violence**

One out of every four women in this country will suffer some kind of violence at the hands of her husband or boyfriend.

Very few will tell anyone – not a friend, a relative, a neighbor, or the police.

Victims of domestic violence come from all walks of life – all cultures, all income groups, all ages, all religions. They share feelings of helplessness, isolation, guilt, fear, and shame.

Victims hope it won’t happen again, but often it does.

**ARE YOU ABUSED?**

**DOES THE PERSON YOU LOVE...**

- “Track all of your time?”
- Constantly accuse you of being unfaithful?
- Discourage your relationships with family and friends?
- Prevent you from working or attending school?
- Criticize you for little things?
- Anger easily when drinking or on drugs?
- Control all finances and force you to account in detail for what you spend?
- Humiliate you in front of others?
- Destroy personal property or sentimental items?
- Hit, punch, slap, kick, or bite you or the children?
- Use or threaten to use a weapon against you?
- Threaten to hurt you or the children?

Force you to have sex against your will?

*If you find yourself saying yes, it’s time to get help.*
In a car (cont)

- Many people consider a cellular telephone to be a good investment in safety.

- **Do Not Pick Up Hitchhikers!**

- Do not open your window if someone approaches your vehicle to ask for directions, the time, etc. Keep the door locked.

- Never leave house keys attached to car keys at service stations or parking facilities.

- Do not stop for a stranded motorist. Instead, use your cellular telephone to call the police for assistance.

- If you have a flat tire, drive on it until you reach a safe, well-lighted and well traveled area.

- If your vehicle becomes disabled and help is not immediately available, raise the hood of the vehicle (if you can safely do so), attach a handkerchief to the door handle, and then stay in the vehicle with the doors locked and the windows up. Activate your hazard or parking lights. If someone stops to assist you, ask them through the closed window to call the police.

- If you can afford to have one, take a cellular telephone with you when driving. Cell phones can call 911 without service.

- Criminals sometimes stage a motor vehicle accident known as a “bump and rob.” The motorist is robbed when they exit their vehicle. If you are involved in a minor accident under suspicious circumstances, stay in your vehicle with the doors locked and the windows up and await the police. If you believe you are in possible danger, write down the license plate of the other vehicle.

- Carry a flashlight, fix-a-flat and a first aid kit.

---

**Domestic Violence**

One out of every four women in this country will suffer some kind of violence at the hands of her husband or boyfriend.

Very few will tell anyone – not a friend, a relative, a neighbor, or the police.

Victims of domestic violence come from all walks of life – all cultures, all income groups, all ages, all religions. They share feelings of helplessness, isolation, guilt, fear, and shame.

Victims hope it won’t happen again, but often it does.

**ARE YOU ABUSED? DOES THE PERSON YOU LOVE...**

- “Track all of your time?”
- Constantly accuse you of being unfaithful?
- Discourage your relationships with family and friends?
- Prevent you from working or attending school?
- Criticize you for little things?
- Anger easily when drinking or on drugs?
- Control all finances and force you to account in detail for what you spend?
- Humiliate you in front of others?
- Destroy personal property or sentimental items?
- Hit, punch, slap, kick, or bite you or the children?
- Use or threaten to use a weapon against you?
- Threaten to hurt you or the children?
- Force you to have sex against your will?

*If you find yourself saying yes, it’s time to get help.*

---

**Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500**
IF YOU ARE HURT, WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are no easy answers, but there are things you can do to protect yourself.
• Call the police or sheriff. Assault, even by family members, is a crime. The police often have information about shelters and other agencies that help victims of domestic violence.
• Leave, or have someone come and stay with you. Go to a battered women’s shelter – call a crisis hotline in your community or a health center to locate a shelter. If you believe that you, and your children, are in danger – leave immediately.
• Get medical attention from your doctor or a hospital emergency room. Ask the staff to photograph your injuries and keep detailed records in case you decide to take legal action.
• Contact your family court for information about an injunction for protection.

DON’T IGNORE THE PROBLEM

• Talk to someone. Part of the abuser’s power comes from secrecy. Victims are often ashamed to let anyone know about intimate family problems. Go to a friend or neighbor, or call a domestic violence hotline. To talk to a counselor call Hubbard House at (904) 354-0076.
• Plan ahead and know what you will do if you are attacked again. If you decide to leave, choose a safe place to go; set aside some money. Put important papers together – marriage license, birth certificates, check books – in a place where you can get them quickly.
• Learn to think independently. Try to plan for the future and set goals for yourself.

Personal Safety (continued)

In a car
• Keep your car in good working order and the gas tank at least half full.
• When you approach your parked vehicle, visually check the area around the vehicle for any suspicious person or activity. If you observe anything suspicious walk to where there are people and call the police.
• Always park in visible, well-lighted areas.
• If you drive a car attempt to avoid parking next to a larger pickup truck or van, that can be easy to hide behind.
• Have your keys ready when approaching your vehicle to reduce the time needed to enter.
• When operating your vehicle, keep the doors locked and the windows rolled up.
• Drive with all the doors locked.
• Any valuables in your car should be placed in the trunk or otherwise kept out of sight.
• Exercise extra caution when using underground and enclosed parking garages. Try not to go alone.
• When stopped at traffic lights or in traffic, allow space between you and the vehicle in front of you so you can drive away if necessary.
• If someone approaches your vehicle and attempts to enter, blow your horn to attract attention and drive away.
• Never leave your keys in the ignition with the engine running, even if just for a second.
On the Street
- Never hitchhike! It’s not worth the risk!
- Be very careful using outside ATMs at night or in unfamiliar surroundings.
- When walking, walk in the middle of the side-walk and walk facing oncoming traffic.
- Try not to overload yourself with packages or other items. Keep your hands as free as possible.
- Do not wear music headphones while walking or jogging.
- Do not read while walking or standing on a side-walk.
- If you wear a purse with a shoulder strap, be prepared to let it go if snatched. Otherwise you could be knocked down and hurt.
- Avoid being on the street alone if you are upset or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- If you carry a purse, carry it close to your body, preferable in front. Carry no more money that you absolutely need.

In A Building
- Avoid isolated corridors or hallways.
- Be extra careful in stairwells and isolated or poorly-lighted restrooms.
- Avoid entering an elevator which is occupied by only one other person who is a stranger.
- In an elevator, stand near the controls and locate the emergency button.
- If you are assaulted while in an elevator, hit the emergency or alarm button and press as many floor buttons as possible.

Domestic Violence

 HAVE YOU HURT SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY?
- Accept the fact that your violent behavior will destroy your family. Be aware that you break the law when you physically hurt someone.
- Take responsibility for your actions and get help.
- When you feel tension building, get away. Work off the angry energy through a walk, a project, a sport.
- Call a domestic violence hotline or health center and ask about counseling and support groups for people who batter.

THE HIGH COST OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- Men and women who follow their parents’ example and use violence to solve conflicts are teaching the same destructive behavior to their children.
- Jobs can be lost or careers stalled because of injuries, arrest, or harassments.
- Lives are lost when violence results in death.

Notes

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
Streetwise Kids
A Parent’s Guide

START WITH THE BASICS

• Make sure your children know their full name, address (city and state), and phone number with area code.

• Be sure kids know to call 9-1-1 and how to use a public phone. Practice making emergency calls with a make-believe phone.

• Tell them never to accept rides or gifts from someone they and you don’t know well.

• Teach children to go to a store clerk, security guard, or police officer for help if lost in a mall or store or on the street.

• Set a good example with your own actions – lock doors and windows and see who’s there before opening the door.

• Take time to listen carefully to your children’s fears and feeling about people or places that scare them or make the feel uneasy. Tell them to trust their instincts.

Personal Safety

In your Home or Apartment

• Have lights at all entrances
• Have wide-angle door viewers on all exterior doors
• Do not leave a schedule of your times away from home on your answering machine
• Know which of your neighbors you can trust and depend upon in an emergency
  • Don’t hide extra keys in easily accessible places. Criminals will find them.
  • Ask for photo identification of all repair persons. If you are suspicious, call to verify employment.
• Never give personal information to telephone solicitors.
• Don’t let strangers into your home or apartment to use the telephone. Offer to make the call for them.
• Use security bars for added security on sliding exterior doors.

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
VIII. WHAT IF LAW ENFORCEMENT COMES TO YOUR HOME?

A. Emergency Situations
   1. Someone calling for help – 9-1-1
   2. Hot pursuit (chase)
B. To talk to a witness or victim OR
C. Advise you of a neighborhood problem
D. To serve a warrant
   1. Other than the above examples, the officer may need a warrant to enter your house.
   2. Definition - A warrant is a legal document authorizing an officer to take a person or property into custody.
   3. Types of Warrants
      a. Search Warrant – A search warrant allows officers to search all places in which the item(s) listed on the warrant can be hidden.
      b. Arrest Warrant or Capias – An arrest warrant is for warrant for an individual or person.

IX. HOW SHOULD YOU RESPOND AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

A. Answer the door
B. Be cordial
C. Ask why the officer is there
D. Be helpful not evasive

X. RIGHTS

A. YES – YOU DO HAVE RIGHTS
   1. The right to remain silent
   2. Anything you say will be used against you in a court of law
   3. You have the right to speak to an attorney, and to have an attorney present during questioning.
   4. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be provided for you at government expense.
   5. The right to be shown proper identification

Streetwise Kids (continued)

WOULD YOUR CHILD KNOW WHAT TO DO IF –

- He / she got lost in a mall?
- A nice-looking, friendly stranger offered her a ride home after school?
- A friend dared him to drink some beer or smoke a joint?
- The babysitter or a neighbor wanted to play a secret game?
- A great thing about kids is their natural trust in people, especially in adults. It’s sometimes hard for parents to teach children to balance this trust with caution. But kids today need to know common-sense rules that can help keep them safe – and build the self-confidence they need to handle emergencies.

AT SCHOOL AND PLAY

- Encourage your children to walk and play with friends, not alone. Tell them to avoid places that could be dangerous-vacant buildings, alleys, playgrounds or parks with broken equipment and equipment and litter.
- Teach children to settle arguments with the words, not fists, and to walk away when others are arguing. Remind them that taunting and teasing can hurt friends and make enemies.
- Make sure your children are taking the safest routes to and from school, stores, and friend’s houses. Walk the routes together and point out places they could go for help.
- Encourage kids to be alert in the neighborhood, and tell an adult – you, a teacher, a neighbor, a police officer – about anything they see that doesn’t seem quite right.
- Check out the school’s policies on the absent children – are the parents called when a child is absent?

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
PROTECTING YOUR CHILD AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE.

Let your child know that he or she can tell you anything, and that you’ll be supportive.

Teach your child that no one – not even a teacher or a close relative – has the right to touch him or her in a way that feels uncomfortable, and that it’s okay to say no, get away, and tell a trusted adult.

Don’t force kids to kiss or hug or sit on a grown-up’s lap if they don’t want to. This gives them control and teaches them that they have the right to refuse.

Always know where your child is and who he or she is with.

Tell your child to stay away from strangers who hang around playgrounds, public restrooms, and schools.

Be alert for changes in your child’s behavior that could signal sexual abuse such as sudden secretiveness, withdrawal from activities, refusal to go to school, unexplained hostility toward a favorite babysitter or relative, or increased anxiety. Some physical signs of abuse include bedwetting, loss of appetite, venereal disease, nightmares, and complaints of pain or irritation around the genitals.

If your child has been sexually abused, report it to the police or a child protection agency IMMEDIATELY.

If your child is a victim of any crime, from stolen lunch money to a sexual abuse, don’t blame him or her. Listen and offer sympathy.

What to do if you are stopped by the police!

VI. WHAT IF YOU’RE STOPPED ON THE STREET?

Sometimes people are offended when an officer stops them for questioning. It might be an inconvenience for you to be stopped, but usually the officer has “reason to believe” or “probable cause” to stop you.

Here are some common reasons you might be stopped.

A. You are walking, riding, or driving in an area in which a crime recently occurred.
B. Your clothing or vehicle may fit the suspect description.
C. Reported suspicious activity
D. You may be acting in a suspicious manner to the officers

VII. HOW SHOULD YOU RESPOND AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

A. DO NOT attempt to elude the officer
B. DO NOT become rude or defensive
C. DO NOT move suddenly or make threatening gestures
D. BE COOPERATIVE
   1. Refusing to answer questions may make an officer suspicious of you.
   3. Allow the officer to “frisk” you or perform a “pat-down” if he desires
What to do if you are stopped by the police!

III. STOPPED WHILE DRIVING:
You may be pulled over if you:
   A. Committed a traffic infraction
   B. Were driving aggressively or posed a hazard
   C. Vehicle matches the description of one that was reported stolen or was used in the commission of a crime.
   D. If the vehicle has faulty equipment.

IV. HOW SHOULD YOU RESPOND AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?
A. Pullover off the roadway to the right and stop completely
B. If it is dark, turn on your interior lights
C. Roll down your window, STAY in your vehicle, and WAIT for the officer to come to you
D. DON’T GET OUT OF THE VEHICLE unless told to do so
E. Keep your hands on the steering wheel in plain sight. DO NOT reach into the glove compartment or under the seat.
F. Be respectful and remain calm
G. Do not move suddenly as you may appear threatening.

V. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
A. Request identification
B. Citation, verbal or written warning
C. Sign the citation – PLEASE.
   1. Signature does not constitute admission of guilt
   2. If you believe the citation was issued in error, you have the option of appearing in court
D. Don’t become argumentative or combative.

A word about curiosity…

Are there things you don’t want your children to get into? Take the time to talk to them about the deadly consequences of guns, medicines, power tools, alcohol, cleaning products, etc. Make sure you keep these items in a secure place out of sight and locked up.

Are they ready? Can your children-
Be trusted to go straight home after school?
Easily use the telephone, locks, and kitchen appliances?
Follow rules and instructions well?
Handle unexpected situations without panicking?
Stay alone without being afraid?

Talk it over with them, and listen to their worries and ideas. Work out rules on having friends over, household chores, homework, and television. Remember, staying at home alone can build a child’s self-esteem, sense of responsibility, and practical skills.

At Home Alone

At Home Alone

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
At Home Alone

Teach your “HOME ALONE” children-

How to call 9-1-1 your area’s emergency number, or call the operator.

How to give directions to your home, in case of an emergency.

To check in with you or a neighbor immediately after arriving home.

To never accept gifts or rides from people they don’t know well.

How to use the door, window locks, and the alarm system if you have one.

To never let anyone into the home without asking your permission.

To never let a caller at the door or on the phone know that they’re alone (say “Mom can’t come to the phone right now”)

To carry a house key with them in a safe place (inside a shirt pocket or sock) – don’t leave it under a mat or over a ledge.

How to escape in case of a fire.

To not go into an empty house or apartment if things don’t look right – i.e. a broken window, ripped screen, or open door.

Notes
To let you know about anything that frightens them or makes them feel uncomfortable.

What to do if you are stopped by the police!

The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office has adopted this course of study to educate the public in the prescribed method of responding to a police stop, thereby minimizing the potential for escalation of the incident.

Law enforcement is tasked with protecting the lives and property of the citizens of this community, to preserve the peace, and to prevent crime and disorder while constantly guarding personal liberties as prescribed by law.

I. WHY WOULD AN OFFICER STOP ME?
   A. Traffic Violation
   B. Suspicious Behavior
   C. Questioning
   D. Appearing to need help
   E. Mistaken identity

II. NO ONE IS EXEMPT FROM A POLICE ENCOUNTER.
   A. Stay calm. Avoid being argumentative.
   B. Don’t become defensive or rude.
   C. Provide your name, address, and any other requested identification.

YOU CAN REPORT CRIME AND REMAIN ANONYMOUS, and be eligible for a reward up to $1000, by calling CRIME STOPPERS at: 1-866-845-8477 (TIPS), or JSO’s non emergency number at 904-630-0500.
Crime Definitions and Reporting Guidelines

There are many crimes that are committed daily; however, we are presenting a small sample of the crimes that frequently occur, and the most appropriate number to obtain police service. This brochure is only a guide and it is not intended to be all inclusive.

**Domestic violence** means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member. (630-0500 or 911).

**Burglary** means entering or remaining in a house or apartment, a business or a car with the intent to commit an offense therein. (630-0500 or 911).

**Robbery** means the taking of money or other property which may be the subject of larceny from the person or custody of another, with intent to either permanently or temporarily deprive the person or the owner of the money or other property, when in the course of the taking there is the use of force, violence, assault, or putting in fear, whether the person uses a weapon or snatches the item. (911).

**Confidential Crime Reporting**
If you suspect someone is engaging in crime in your community, you can call the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office to report the criminal activity and remain anonymous. To report someone using or selling drugs or narcotics 630-2725 or 630-2163.

**The Drug Abatement Response Team (D.A.R.T.):**
This unit’s mission is to join forces with other government and private sector agencies to identify various code and criminal violations, which will assist in the closure of structures that are public nuisances. These structures are those that have been shown to promote illegal drug activity, prostitution and/or gang activity. 632-5562

Bicycle Safety

**Ten Smart Routes to Bicycle Safety**

Riding a bicycle is more than the basic transportation – it can be a fun and exciting hobby. When you ride you’re not alone. You share the road with cars, trucks, pedestrians, and other cyclist. Since accidents can turn a bicycling adventure into a bicycling tragedy, here are some tips to help make your ride a safe one.

**Look Both Ways.**
Be aware of traffic around you. Seven out of ten bicycle-car crashes occur at driveways or other intersections. Before you enter a street or intersection, check for traffic and always look left-right-left. Walk your bicycle across busy streets at corners or crosswalks.

**Protect your head**
Wear a helmet. Studies have shown that using a bicycle helmet can reduce head injuries by up to 85%. Select a helmet that has a snug, but comfortable fit. Look for the helmet labels that show they are recommended by either the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Snell Memorial Foundation.

**See and Be Seen**
Wear proper clothes. Wear clothes that make you more visible. Clothing should be light in color and close fitting to avoid being caught in the bicycle’s moving parts. Also, be sure that books and other loose items are secured to the bike or are carried in a back pack.

**Go with the Flow of Traffic.**
The safe way is the right way. You must obey the rules of the road. These include all traffic signs, signals, and road markings. Ride on the right side of the street in a single file. Use proper hand signals. Never weave from lane to lane or tailgate to hitch rides on moving cars or trucks.

Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500
Stay Alert.  
Keep a look-out for obstacles in your path. Watch out for pot-holes, sewer gratings, cracks, railroad tracks, loose gravel, and broken glass. Before going around any object, look ahead and behind you for a free gap in traffic. Plan your move, and then signal your intentions. Be especially careful in wet weather, as water can make you slip and make your brakes work improperly.

Beware the Dark Side.  
Be cautious when biking at night. If you have to ride at night, display front and rear reflectors on your bicycle. Wear reflective clothing or materials, especially on your ankles, wrists, back, and helmet. Ride in areas that are familiar and on streets that are brightly lighted.

Go Off-Road.  
Follow designated bike routes if available. Bicycle routes are marked by special signs or lines. Bike paths are special areas reserved for bikes. Become familiar with such accommodations for cyclist in your area.

Fix It Up.  
Make sure your bicycle is adjusted properly. Your bicycle should be correctly adjusted to fit you; your feet should rest on the ground while sitting in the seat. Before using your bike, check to make sure that all parts are secure and working. The handlebars should be firmly in place and turn easily; the wheels should be straight and secure.

Stop It.  
Check brakes before riding. Control your speed by using your brakes. If your bicycle has hand brakes, apply the rear brakes slightly before the front brake. Remember to ride slowly in wet, slippery weather and to apply brakes earlier since it takes more distance to stop.

Call to Partnership

**Neighborhood Watch** is a citizen-based initiative that recreates the partnership between community and law enforcement. Neighborhood / Apartment Watch is simply a program of neighbors watching out for other neighbors during times when criminal activity would most likely occur, and reporting suspicious activity to police. (904) 630-2160

**Sheriff's Advisory Councils (ShAdCos)**
ShAdCos exist for the express purpose of assisting the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office in every way possible including:

- Community interaction
- Image building
- Strengthening of neighborhood relations
- Reporting of suspected criminal activity
- Helping solve traffic, patrol, safety and communication problems
- Promoting youth outreach and athletic activities
- Formulation of a model citizen law enforcement assistance program

If you would like to attend or join the Sheriff's Advisory Council in your neighborhood, call your zone commander's office.

**Zone Commanders**

Zone 1 Assistant Chief J. R. Ross - (904) 924-5361  
Zone 2 Assistant Chief J. Carson Tranquille - (904) 726-5100  
Zone 3 Assistant Chief Lonnie McDonald - (904) 828-5463  
Zone 4 Assistant Chief Tom Hackney - (904) 573-3165  
Zone 5 Assistant Chief Jerry Coxen - (904) 384-8028.  
Zone 6 Assistant Chief Larry L. Jones - (904) 696-4335

**Emergency Number 911 Non Emergency 904-630-0500**
Don’t Flip Your Bike.
Wheels should be securely fastened. Check wheels before every ride, after every fall, or after transporting your bicycle to be sure that they are fastened and secure. Make sure that tires are properly inflated.

Protecting your bicycle against THEFT
A bicycle can be stolen from just about any place, but simple precautions can deter would-be bike thieves. Remember, most bikes that are stolen were not locked!

Always lock your bicycle securely, whether you’re gone for a few minutes or a few hours. Use a U-Lock, securing both wheels and the frame to a stationary object such as a post, fence, tree, or bike rack. For extra security, add a chain or a cable with a good padlock.

Operation Identification

Operation Identification is a crime prevention program where electric engraving pencils are loaned to the public free of charge so that they may engrave an identifying number on selected valuables for identification purposes in case the property is stolen. The program is designed to discourage the theft of valuables. Participating in this program will lessen the likelihood of the property being stolen, but in the event of this happening, the chances of the property being recovered by the police and returned to the owner, will increase.

The property should be engraved in a prominent place where the marking will be both readily visible and difficult to cover or remove without the attempt being obvious.

Valuable property should be marked with an electric engraver or any sharp etching tool with your Florida Driver’s License number. If you are not a driver, you can obtain a I.D. Card and number from any Division Licenses Issuing Station. Avoid marking on removable parts such as lids, and doors.

For more information contact: (904) 630-2160 or your Sub-Station.
Important Numbers
Non-emergency cases 630-0500

1. Burglary 630-2175
2. Robbery 630-2179
3. Homicide 630-2172
4. Community Affairs Div. 630-2160
5. Economic Crimes / Forgery 630-2177
6. Auto theft 630-2173
7. Police Information 630-7600
8. Jail Information 630-5747
9. Fire Rescue (non-emergency) 630-0529
10. Poison Control 244-4480

Miscellaneous Public Services
1. City of Jacksonville’s One Call Center – to report or request services from City of Jacksonville regulated agencies (garbage complaints, JEA, Parks and Recreation, etc.) 904 630-CITY (2489)
2. Jacksonville Transportation Authority (public mass transit) – bus, skyway, or trolley information. 743-3582
3. English as a second language – Florida Community College at Jacksonville (Downtown campus) 101 W. State Street 904-633-8100

Web Sites
Florida Department of Law Enforcement - www.fdle.state.fl.us
Offender Watch - www.coj.net/Departments/Sheriffs+Office/Offender+Watch.htm
Missing Children— http://www3.fdle.state.fl.us/MCICSearch/

Citizen Academy
For a broader understanding of how the police department “really works” you can attend the Citizen’s Police Academy.

You can apply online at www.coj.net/jso, then click on the Community Affairs link followed by the Citizen Academy link or call us at 904-713-4899.

In the past couple of years, we have implemented several programs and initiatives designed to address specific crime issues. Operation Showdown, an intensive enforcement and maintenance program, has been an effective tool in improving the quality of life for several neighborhoods in Jacksonville, all faced with serious criminal activity. This very important effort would not have been successful without the enormous support of the residents in these areas. With each Operation Showdown, we are strengthening our ties to law abiding citizens who want to keep their neighborhoods safe from drugs, prostitution, and guns.

Our local program diverting repeat misdemeanor offenders with drug and alcohol programs into treatment has been very successful. Based on its success helping these people stay out of jail and addressing the root cause of their criminal actions, I lobbied for passage of a statewide Habitual Misdemeanor Offender (HMO) law. In the one year since the passage of the Statute, not only has our own program continued to show great results, but our program has become a model throughout Florida, and beyond. We are decreasing the number of people who go back to committing crime after receiving treatment and case management for alcohol and drug addiction. The program was recognized in 2005 for its effectiveness in a study conducted by the University of North Florida, and received an award from JCCI for creating positive change in the community.

I have said many times that I am committed to building the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office into the premier law enforcement agency in the nation. To achieve that goal, we will continue to find new and innovative ways to address crime issues, create opportunities for community interaction and input, and improve public trust through the professionalism of each member of this agency.

We are working to earn the public’s trust by demonstrating that we are men and women of character, well equipped, properly deployed, and skillfully managed. Visit our website at www.coj.net/sheriff and learn more about us and the many ways you can become involved.

Johns Rutherford, Sheriff
Sheriff’s Message

Since becoming Sheriff in 2003, I have had the opportunity to meet many Jacksonville citizens through my regular neighborhood walks, “ride alongs” and civic activities. I have enjoyed hearing your comments and concerns about the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office and the work we do.

Many of you have given me your thoughts on how we can better serve the needs of the public. Rest assured, I take each of your ideas seriously, and often look for ways to incorporate them into our efforts. As an Agency dedicated to community policing, we rely on the citizens to assist us in our work. This means you are an important element in keeping this community safe and secure. Fostering good working relationships with you in your neighborhood and at your place of business is how we meet this objective.

Our 17 Sheriff’s Advisory Councils (ShAdCos) have added an important dimension to the interactions between citizens and the police. During regularly scheduled meetings, we share valuable information regarding crime and crime prevention, and ShAdCo members give us their feedback and input on specific problems in their neighborhoods. This partnership is truly community policing at its finest, and I encourage you to become an active participant by joining your local ShAdCo. Please call 630-2160 or your substation for information.

Likewise, our Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch and newly formed River Watch programs; all providing a valuable “connection” between the crime prevention experts of the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office and the concerned citizens who want to identify and report criminal activity and preserve their quality of life. To learn more, call 630-2160.
Notes:
I live in zone ________, sub sector ______.
My zone commander is __________________________.
My sub-station is located at______________________.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

501 E Bay Street
Jacksonville, Fl 32202
Phone: 904-630-0500
Web Address: www.coj.net/jso

June 2007