

Press Release- Elwood Police

Reporting Suspicious Activity Awareness



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We can't stress enough the importance of reporting suspicious behavior. Sometimes, people are reluctant to call 911 about behavior that they feel is suspicious because they believe their call will be a burden or unnecessarily tie up police resources. In fact, reporting suspicious activity immediately can help police prevent or interrupt crime.

What is suspicious behavior?

- If it's suspicious to *you*, it's worth reporting it to 911. Examples include:
- Unusual noises, including screaming, sounds of fighting, breaking glass
- People in or around buildings or areas who do not appear to be conducting legitimate business
- Vehicles driving slowly and aimlessly through neighborhoods, around schools or parking lots
- People peering into parked vehicles
- People who change their behavior when they notice they have been seen
- People dressed inappropriately for the weather or occasion, (i.e., heavy coat in warm weather)
- Abandoned parcels or other items in unusual locations

When to report suspicious behavior?

- We urge you to call 911 when:
- You believe someone is in physical danger
- You believe a specific crime is happening or about to happen
- You believe something is suspicious

What makes it suspicious? Be able to explain to the 911 call taker why the behavior you are seeing/hearing is suspicious. What gives you the feeling that a crime is in progress or about to occur? Don't doubt your instincts. Call 911 and let our telecommunicators evaluate and respond to the information you provide. **###**