



city of
South
Milwaukee

Police Department
ANN M. WELLENS
CHIEF OF POLICE

(414) 768-8060
FAX: (414) 768-8067



As you may know, there have been a number of property-related crimes reported in South Milwaukee in the past month. This has especially been the case in the west and northwest sections of the city, as well as parts of Oak Creek. These crimes include entry into unlocked vehicles and garages and criminal damage to vehicle windows (shot out with a BB gun).

The Police Department takes every crime committed in this city seriously, and we are taking action to address these recent events.

- The Police Department has committed additional police patrols in the areas affected by these crimes, including additional alley patrols in the northwest side of the city, where residents have reported thefts of tools and other items from unlocked garages and vehicles.
- The Police Department has also enhanced its information sharing with the public. For the past month the Department has been sharing with residents the police activity logs (police calls for service). This log is available on the [Police Department website](#) and at [Nextdoor.com](#), a neighborhood-based social media site. We also share information on crimes on the [city's Facebook page](#), and will continue to.
- The Police Department continues to encourage citizen involvement in Neighborhood Watch, actively promoting the formation of these groups and regularly appearing, when asked, to speak and share information. We encourage more people to consider starting watch groups in their neighborhood.
- The Department also continues to conduct neighborhood canvases after being notified of these crimes, and speak with other residents regarding what they may have observed. In fact, through one recent neighborhood canvas the Department learned one neighbor witnessed a subject in the early morning hours carrying tools from a garage through yards to a vehicle. Unfortunately this neighbor did not call the Police Department to report this suspicious activity. The Police Department reminds all citizens, "If you see something, say something."

The Police Department is committed to doing what we can as a department to keep South Milwaukee safe. However, active and engaged residents are just as important in fighting crime.

If you would like more information on forming a Watch group please contact Officer Mike Hill via email: mhill@smwi.org or at 414-768-8060 (7:40 a.m.-4 p.m.). The department encourages citizens to join [nextdoor.com](#), to visit the [Police Department website](#) and like the [city's Facebook page](#) for this information. My door is always open as well.

Our department's mission is to provide a modern, flexible, full service department which is responsive to the community and its needs. We live that mission every day, in partnership with you.