
Riverside Homeowners Association
SECURITY ANNOUNCEMENT POLICY

Some of our members have inquired as to why we send out security announcements for some incidents but not others. We thought it would be helpful to explain the Board's policy on announcements of this kind.

1. The HOA always wants to be notified when crimes or other security incidents occur in the neighborhood. The security committee is in regular contact with the SSPD to discuss patterns and ideas for improving security, and the possible need for increased police patrols at particular times or places. If you have an incident to report, please contact the security committee at security@riversidehoa.org.
2. Unfortunately, break-ins, thefts from automobiles, and vandalism are not unusual occurrences, even in Riverside. The SSPD and HOA Board agree that notifying our membership every time one of these incidents occurs may cause more harm than good - as it serves to frighten our members (when an unusual "crime wave" is not actually occurring) and there is nothing different that our members need to do - other than following the general security practices and tips which are regularly provided by the HOA and SSPD.
3. If there are patterns, or a serious increase in incidents, which requires notice to our members, the HOA will discuss this directly with SSPD and certainly send out any pertinent information.
4. If an incident occurs where there was potential or actual bodily harm to someone, the HOA feels this is materially different than damage to or theft of property - and necessitates an announcement to our membership as soon as possible. While timeliness is important, it is also essential to ensure accuracy prior to communicating information on these kinds of occurrences.

Our members can always keep up with crime statistics in our area at www.crimereports.com and by signing up to receive weekly reports from the SSPD (Steve Rose, Senior Update, etc.) at <http://www.sandyspringspolice.org/Forms/Subscription>.