

NEW PROVIDENCE POLICE AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER

2024 CRIME TRENDS AND P.A.C.T. WATCH INTRODUCTION

**PRESENTED BY:
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AND
MEMBERS OF THE NEW PROVIDENCE POLICE
DETECTIVE BUREAU**

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Recent Crime Trends

- **Residential Burglaries**
- **Motor Vehicle Burglaries and Car Thefts**
- **Fitness Center Crimes: Gym Locker Thefts and Motor Vehicle Smash and Grabs**

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Residential Burglaries

There is a significant rise in residential burglaries in the State of New Jersey with much of the criminal focus on car theft.

The focus has been less on property from inside the residence and more on locating the keys and key fobs to the vehicles in the driveway.



Residential Burglaries



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Residential Burglaries

Suspects usually travel in groups of 3 or 4, wearing dark clothing, hoodies or caps, and masks. This makes it very difficult to identify these criminals through surveillance cameras while leaving very little evidence behind. These actors are often juvenile.

Burglars will attempt to locate unlocked doors and windows, then utilize crowbars and other burglary tools if needed.

Residential Burglaries



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Residential Burglaries

Burglars will cut screens in attempts to locate unlocked windows, then pry open the window if needed.

Most often these burglaries are committed during the early morning hours, under the cover of darkness, and the target is often the high-end vehicle parked in the driveway or inside the garage. Get-away cars are usually driving around the area or parked down the street so not to attract attention.

Motor Vehicle Burglaries / Car Thefts

Burglaries involving motor vehicles are committed by the same or similar crews as those in the recent rash of home burglaries. These crews typically target high-end motor vehicles.

These burglaries usually occur with a get-away car following burglars as they walk up and down driveways looking to enter unlocked cars or cars with key fobs inside.

Most of these burglaries and car thefts take less than thirty seconds to commit.

***In 2023 there were over 16,600 stolen vehicles in the State of New Jersey.**

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Motor Vehicle Burglaries / Car Thefts



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Gym Locker Thefts

Gym locker thefts occur at all times of the day and the targets are purses and wallets in unlocked lockers. Criminals will either walk past the front desk or purchase a day pass and give no identification or fake information.

These individuals then immediately travel to retail stores or gas stations and make purchases using the stolen credit cards.

Gym Locker Thefts



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Motor Vehicle Smash and Grabs

Motor vehicle smash and grabs most often occur in the very early morning or in the evening. The suspects usually circle the parking lot prior to committing the crime.

They often park next to the target vehicle, to provide cover, and smash a vehicle window to retrieve a purse or wallet that was left in view. Fraudulent transactions occur shortly after the theft.

Motor Vehicle Smash and Grab



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Police And Community Together

In 2020, the New Providence Police began the Police and Community Together program. This program was created to broaden the lines of communication and understanding between all community members and the Police Department.

P.A.C.T. Watch is a new program added under this Community Policing initiative.

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What is P.A.C.T. Watch?

P.A.C.T. Watch is the New Providence Police Department's resident crime program. The town will be split into four zones (same zones as the town bulk pick-up) with two police officers assigned as P.A.C.T. "Watch Leaders".

The purpose of this program is to build better communication lines, educate the community on emergency preparedness, and provide a greater sense of security and control.



What services are provided through P.A.C.T. Watch?

1. Receive information via email in a timely manner
2. Personalized response from the Police Department's Watch Leaders
3. Scheduled home and business visits for security evaluations and suggestions
4. Periodic information sharing and “meet/greet” sessions with specific zones and their Watch Leaders
5. Updated home camera (ie: Ring, Nest) list to assist detectives/officers with faster follow-up investigations
6. P.A.C.T. Members will receive the New Providence P.A.C.T. newsletter

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What, when, and how to report?

Any suspicious activity that needs immediate action should be called in directly to the Police Department either by calling 9-1-1 for emergencies or by calling the non-emergency line of 908-665-1111.

Any information or questions that are not time sensitive should be emailed to your P.A.C.T. Watch Leaders. If in doubt on whether or not something needs immediate action, err on the side of caution and make the call immediately.

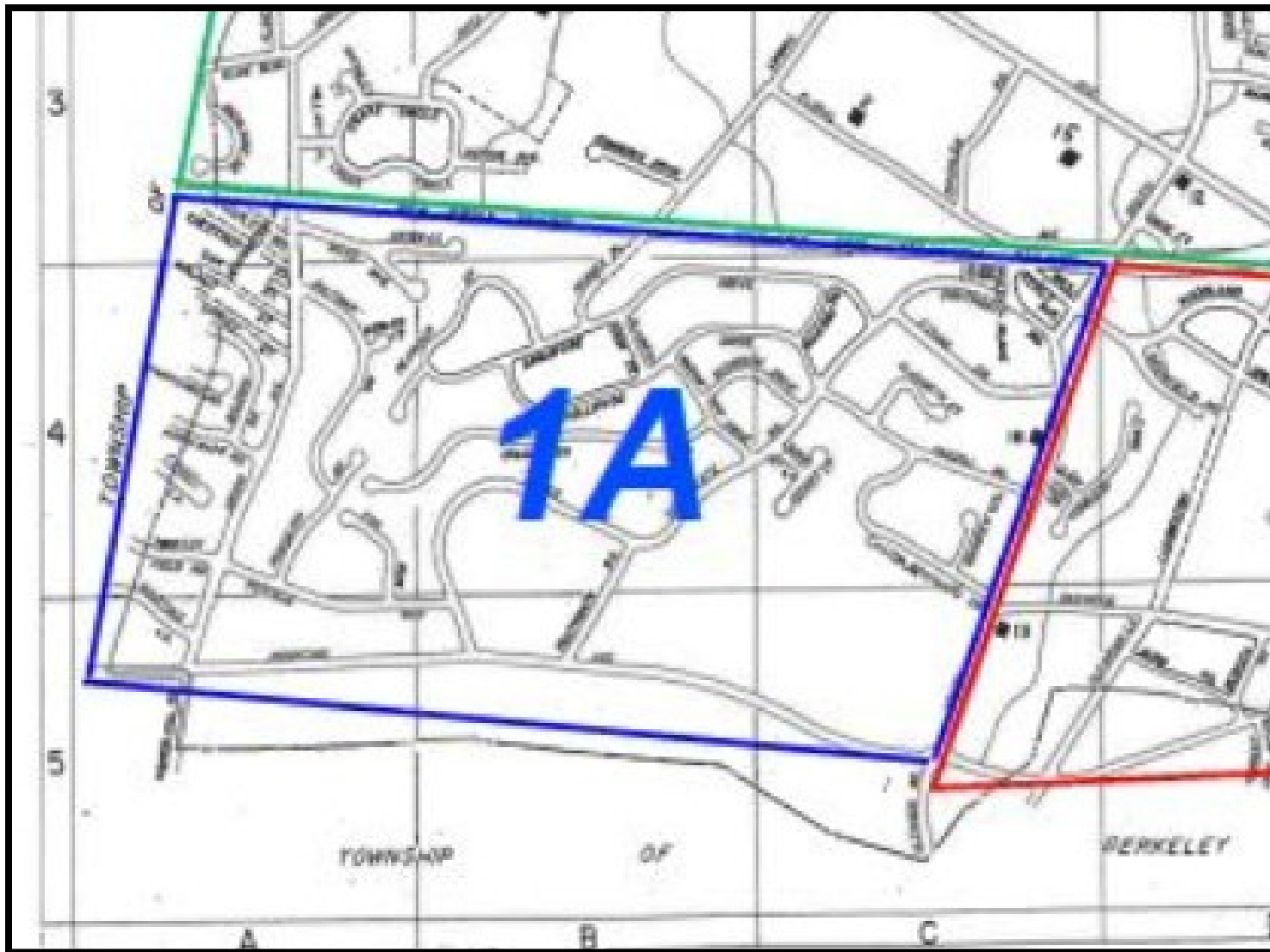
***Residents or “Members” are reminded that they are the eyes and ears of the community and are not to engage with any individuals who are suspected of criminal activity.**

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Zone 1A

From Mountain Ave at Union Ave north to the railroad tracks east to South Street



Leaders Detective Christian Cely and Officer Marcos Martinez

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Zone 1B

From Mountain Avenue at Division Avenue north to the railroad tracks west to South Street including Grove Terrace and Lavina Court



Leaders Detective Andrew Lynch and Officer Gregory Miller

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Zone 2

From entire length of the railroad tracks north to Springfield Ave



Leaders Detective Michael Carlino and Officer Carly Bouman

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Zone 3

From length of Springfield Ave north to the Chatham Township border



Leaders Detective Sergeant Chad Wilson and Officer Kevin Gutierrez

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New Providence P.A.C.T. Watch Handouts and Sign Ups

Handouts:

- 1. Homeowner Pre-Assessment Security Questionnaire**
- 2. P.A.C.T. Watch Information Handout**
- 3. January P.A.C.T. Newsletter**

Sign-Ups:

- 1. Home or Business Security Assessment**
- 2. Camera or Home Surveillance Registry**
- 3. Alarm System Registry**

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New Providence P.A.C.T. Watch

<https://www.newprov.us/619/PACT-Watch>

To become a
P.A.C.T. Watch
Member and
begin
communicating
with your
officers, please
follow the QR
code to register.



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