



CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
ON THE BEAT
RESPONSE AREA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2012

Greetings,

Welcome to the Freedom Division Response Area 2 monthly community letter. You are receiving this newsletter because you've signed up for "notify me" with the Freedom Division. Please check the Freedom Response Area map at <http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/CMPD/PatroI+Divisions> to see which area you're in. If you're not in area 2, contact Lieutenant Ryan Butler, RA 1, or Lieutenant Todd Blum, RA 3, to sign up for your area's newsletter.

I'll be sending this newsletter out each month by email to residents and businesses in the Freedom Division RA 2. Ask your neighbors to contact me at lcarriker@cmpd.org, or the Freedom Division office at 704.398.6703, if they'd like to get on board.



Welcome all to another new year!

Many of you who have been working with us for a while know that one of the innovations Chief Monroe brought to us in 2008 was the position of Response Area Commander. This role has helped CMPD significantly in focusing more strongly on crime at the community level, and led us to see decreases in most crimes for all of the past 3 years!

Beginning this month, you may notice a change in title for this position, and for those of you that get all 3 newsletters, so changes in faces. What you may not see is some changes in what we do, but be assured, our focus remains as it has, directly with our communities – all of these changes are simply aimed at giving us more tools to better meet this core responsibility.

As we so often discuss in these newsletters, it is only by strong teamwork that we are able to continue achieving the crime reductions we have seen, ***so please join me offering profound thanks to RAC Dave Minnich and RAC Brian Sanders for all of the tremendous work they have done for their areas as well as the Division***, and in welcoming Lt. Ryan Butler and Lt. Todd Blum to their new tasks on the Freedom Division team!

I hope everyone can join us at 7:00pm on Monday January 16th for our first Freedom Division Advisory Council for 2012!

Best regards,
Lieutenant Lisa Carriker



CMPD Freedom Division Response Area 2
Response Area Commander: Lt. Lisa Carriker
phone: 704.398.6790 email: lcarriker@cmpd.org

What you will see in this newsletter:

- The Captain's Corner, a monthly message from our Division Captain
- A map of what is included in Response Area 2 to help you determine where you are
- Crime statistics for the previous month
- Crime Stoppers Spotlight Crime of the Month for RA2
- Crime trends that we are seeing in our area
- Prevention tips that you can take to make sure you and your property stay as safe as possible
- A listing of police and community activities coming up in the next month

FREEDOM DIVISION CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Happy New Year everyone! Hope you all had a great holiday.

CMPD as a whole and the Freedom Division finished down in crime overall, and in several important categories. In Freedom our violent crime rate fell -21% in December, and -26% for the entire year when compared to 2010. The statistical information I have goes back to 2005, and this was the first year that Freedom had less than 300 crimes of violence. We had 292. As a comparison we had 395 in 2010, and all the way up to 633 in 2005.

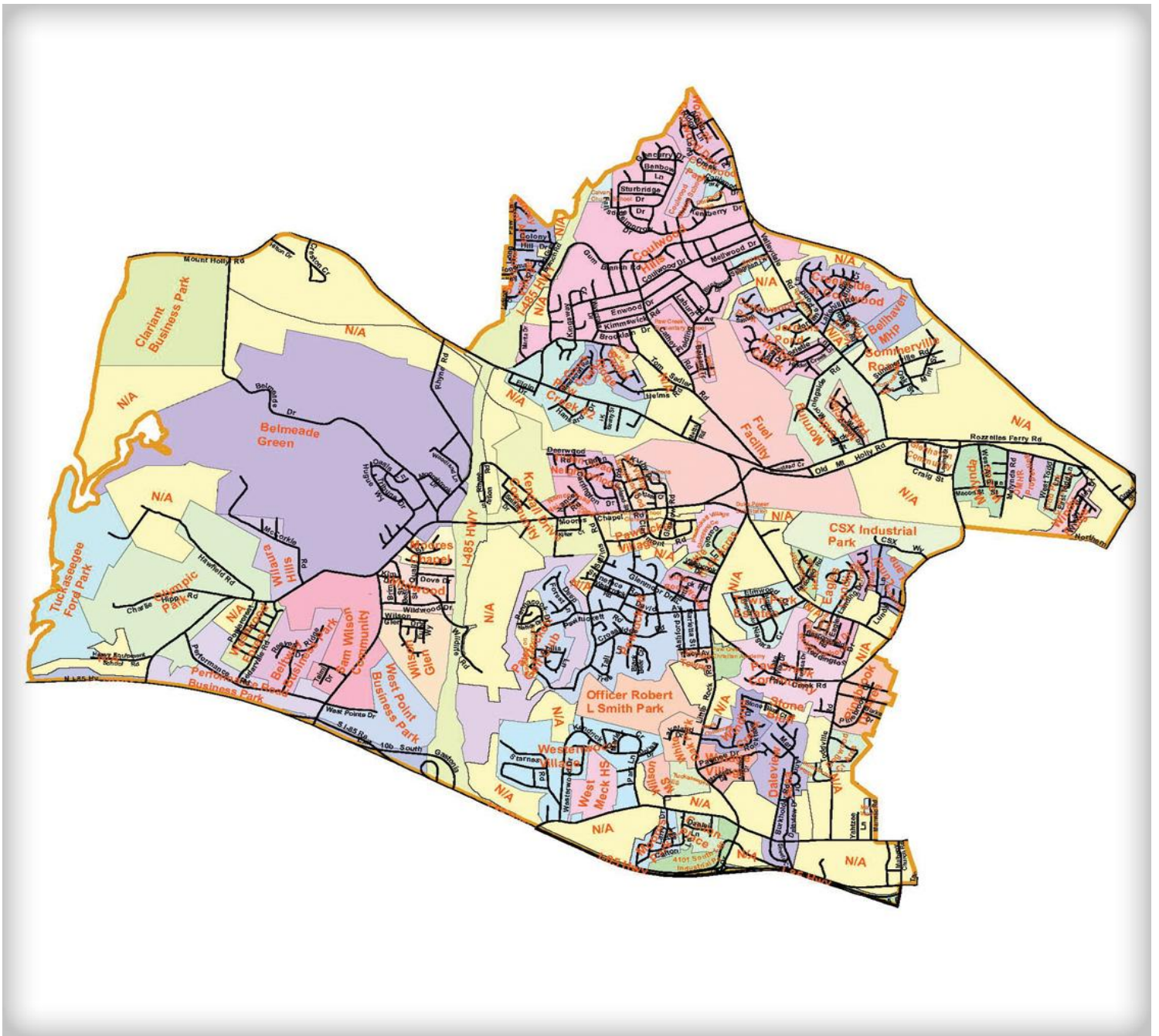
We also continue to make great strides in specific property crimes that we target: residential burglaries and larceny from autos. Our high water mark was 2007 when we had 864 homes broken into, and 1584 cars. In 2011 we finished with 679 houses (-23% compared to 2007) and 547 cars (-64%!).

Our officers and supervisors will continue to work hard to reduce crime even further. You do your part and protect yourselves, look out for your neighbor, and call 911 anytime you see something suspicious.

Looking forward to a great 2012,

Captain Gregg Collins





Response Area 2 is primarily residential, bordered generally on the south by I-85, on the west by the Gaston County line and Catawba River, on the north by Mount Holly Rd / Brookshire Frwy, and on the east by Toddville Rd. In addition to our many neighborhoods, we have key business corridors along the interstate, Brookshire, Little Rock Rd, Freedom Dr and Moores Chapel Rd. We are beginning to see a lot of new development, both residential and business, along the new I-485 corridor, and expect growth to continue in that area. We include both industrial areas, like the Pawtucket fuel depots, and beautiful natural areas, such as the US National Whitewater Center. We also have several elementary and middle schools, as well as West Mecklenburg High School.

For the 4th Quarter of 2011, we are going to continue our focus on Residential Burglaries and Commercial Burglaries as our other target crimes. Our target reductions for these will be: reduce Residential Burglaries by 20% and reduce Commercial Burglaries by 30%.

While we were able to end the 4th Quarter with reductions in both of these target crimes, we did not quite reach the aggressive goals we set. Our biggest struggle with our Residential Burglaries continued to be a significant increase in thefts from storage sheds of lawn equipment, and thefts of copper and other metal from vacant houses. With our Commercial Burglaries, the key trend was the targeting of churches and day cares/ schools.

Chart 1: Information specifically on our Quarterly Focus Crimes and how we fared with them for the previous month. It provides our reduction goals and the number of crimes in each category for the month in both 2009 and 2010, as well as how many we averaged per day for the month. Just a note on this chart, for the purposes of these goals, we add burglaries for both houses and storage buildings to obtain a total number.

Chart 2: A complete overview of all Major Crimes reported in our response area for the previous month. It provides the total number and types of Major Crimes that occurred for the month for 2010 and 2011.

Focus Crime Statistics for the 4th Quarter of 2011:

Focus Crime	2010	2011	% Change	Goal	Avg Per Month
Residential Burglaries	95	87	-8%	-20%	29
Commercial Burglaries	12	10	-17%	-30%	3.3

Overall Summary of Major Crimes for 4th Quarter of 2011

Incident Type	2010	2011	Difference	Percent Change
Residential Burglary-Storage Bldg*	0	13	13	NA
Larceny-Other	53	65	12	22.64 %
Larceny from Building	2	10	8	400.00 %
Larceny-Shoplifting	4	7	3	75.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Fists,Feet, etc.	0	1	1	NA
Aggravated Assault-Other Weapon	5	6	1	20.00 %
Homicide	1	2	1	100.00 %
Larceny of Bicycle	3	4	1	33.33 %
Strong Arm Robbery	0	1	1	NA
Auto Theft	12	12	0	0.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Gun	7	6	-1	-14.29 %
Larceny-Pocket Picking	1	0	-1	-100.00 %
Larceny-Purse Snatching	1	0	-1	-100.00 %
Armed Robbery	8	6	-2	-25.00 %
Arson	2	0	-2	-100.00 %
Commercial Burglary*	12	10	-2	-16.67 %
Rape	2	0	-2	-100.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Knife	5	2	-3	-60.00 %
Larceny from Auto	49	42	-7	-14.29 %
Residential Burglary*	95	74	-21	-22.11 %

For the 1st Quarter of 2011, we are going to continue our focus on Residential Burglaries and add Auto Theft as target crimes. Our target reductions for these will be: Residential Burglaries, reduce by 15% and Auto Thefts reduce by 20%.

Again, the key to reductions in both of these target crimes will be alert, engaged citizens. Lock your houses and businesses up when you leave, always arm your alarm system if you have one, pay attention to your surroundings when you are out and about, and most important of all, watch out for each other and **Call 911** for any unusual activity, people or cars!!

Chart 1: Information specifically on our Quarterly Focus Crimes and how we fared with them for the previous month. It provides our reduction goals and the number of crimes in each category for the month in both 2009 and 2010, as well as how many we averaged per day for the month. Just a note on this chart, for the purposes of these goals, we add burglaries for both houses and storage buildings to obtain a total number.

Chart 2: A complete overview of all Major Crimes reported in our response area for the previous month. It provides the total number and types of Major Crimes that occurred for the month for 2010 and 2011.

Focus Crime Statistics for the Month of December:

Focus Crime	2010	2011	% Change	Goal	Avg Per Day
Residential Burglaries	24	34	42%	-20%	1.1
Commercial Burglaries	3	4	33%	-30%	.1

Overall Summary of Major Crimes for December 2011

Incident Type	2010	2011	Difference	Percent Change
Residential Burglary*	24	33	9	37.50 %
Larceny-Other	11	15	4	36.36 %
Larceny from Building	0	2	2	NA
Larceny-Shoplifting	1	3	2	200.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Other Weapon	1	2	1	100.00 %
Armed Robbery	2	3	1	50.00 %
Commercial Burglary*	3	4	1	33.33 %
Larceny of Bicycle	1	2	1	100.00 %
Residential Burglary-Storage Bldg*	0	1	1	NA
Auto Theft	2	2	0	0.00 %
Homicide	1	1	0	0.00 %
Arson	1	0	-1	-100.00 %
Larceny-Pocket Picking	1	0	-1	-100.00 %
Rape	1	0	-1	-100.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Gun	3	1	-2	-66.67 %
Aggravated Assault-Knife	3	0	-3	-100.00 %
Larceny from Auto	23	14	-9	-39.13 %

Crime Stoppers Spotlight Crime of the Month

We have been getting reports in the Valleydale Corridor neighborhoods regarding a black male subject, late teens, approximately 5'6", 150 lbs, thin build, with short dreads. In the most recent case, this subject approached and spoke with the victim, indicating a possible escalation of his behavior.

Please be aware of this subject and if you live in this area and have **any information that could help identify the possible suspect** in these incidents, or have any additional information that could aid in our investigation, please contact CMPD's Crime Stoppers Tipline at 704-334-1600 or call the Freedom Division office at 704-398-6701.



Crime Trends:

We are continuing to see two key trends that have created a significant concern for us with our Residential Burglaries: 1) where the suspect is entering a residence knowing the occupants are either inside or in the yard, and 2) the targeting of residences with alarms, often with multiple targeting of a single residence. In some cases, the same residence was hit more than once because the suspect was either potentially testing to see if the alarm was active and what the response would be, or they were unable to get in / couldn't get everything the first time and came back.

Please keep both of these trends in mind, and share this information with any of your neighbors that may not get this newsletter. If you have an alarm, make sure it is registered (which is free!) and be sure you set it – if someone does get in, it definitely cuts down on how much you lose!

Again, I can't stress it enough: **Call 911**. Someone walking behind houses? **Call 911**. A car pulling around the side or rear of a house? **Call 911**. Kids that look under 16 out during school hours or after 11pm? **Call 911**.

As always, if you have any information on possible suspects or criminal activity that might be in your neighborhood, please contact one of your community coordinators or the Crime Stoppers Tip Line, 704-334-1600.

Crime Prevention:

This month, the focus for our newsletter is on keeping our youth safe, and one of the most dangerous things our kids use today is also one of the most common – the Internet. Please make sure your kids know how to keep safe when using this tool.

June Tip – Protecting Your Car

- **Number One:** Be sure to close and lock your doors and windows when you get out of your car.
- **NEVER NEVER NEVER** leave your car running while you are not in it – on a cold day, you may find it has been “re-allocated” by someone that didn't want to walk, and **it is against the law**.
- If you have an alarm, **SET IT!** And if it goes off, physically check your car to make sure it has been tampered with.
- Make sure you have adequate lighting outside – motion sensor lights are great, just be sure to keep your car pulled out from the house far enough not to give a thief a stepping stool to tamper with the light.
- Don't leave your registration in your car. If your car is stolen away from your house, and the thief has your registration, they now know exactly where to go to break into your home.
- **DO NOT** leave a spare key in your car, either to the car or to your house. It is common to see thieves steal these and come back later to steal your car or break into your house. Same goes for your garage door opener.
- Don't leave visible items in your car – CDs, loose change, GPS unit attract thieves, and once in your car, it can be very tempting to take it as well! In addition, your GPS gives the thief a map to your house.

Youth Protection Ordinance

The City of Charlotte made changes to our **Youth Protection Ordinance** that imposes a curfew for juveniles under 16 years of age. Juveniles under the age of 13 cannot be in a public place or business from **10:00 pm until 6:00 am on any day of the week**. **Juveniles ages 13-15 cannot be in a public place or business from 11:00 pm until 6:00 am on any day of the week** (unless they fall within one of the exceptions listed below).

A person will be in violation of this ordinance if they are:

- A **juvenile** and he/she is in a public place or premises of an establishment during the restricted hours.
- A **parent, guardian or custodian** of a juvenile and he/she knowingly allows a juvenile to remain in a public place or on the premises of an establishment during the restricted hours.
- A **business owner or operator** and he/she knowingly allows a juvenile to remain upon the premises during the restricted hours.
- A **person 16 years of age or older** who aids and abets a juvenile in violating this ordinance.

A juvenile that violates this ordinance is subject to being adjudicated delinquent.

Any person other than a juvenile who violates this ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor which requires a mandatory court appearance.

A juvenile who is in a public place or business during the restricted hours is not in violation of this ordinance if they are:

1. Accompanied by a parent or guardian.
2. ***Accompanied by an adult 21 years or older*** who is authorized to be accompanying the juvenile for the designated period of time and purpose.
3. On an errand, using a direct route, until 10:30 p.m. for juveniles under the age of 13 and 11:30 p.m. for juveniles ages 13-15.
4. In a motor vehicle, with parental consent, engaged in interstate travel through the city originating or terminating the city.
5. Traveling in a motor vehicle with a parent or guardian or other authorized person adult age 21 or older.
6. Engaged in lawful employment or using a direct route to or from a place of employment.
7. Reacting or responding to an emergency.
8. Attending or traveling to or from an official function sponsored by the schools, a government or religious entity, a civic organization, or other entity that accepts responsibility for the juveniles.
9. Exercising first amendment rights such as a free exercise of religion, freedom of speech and the right to assembly.
10. Married or emancipated.
11. When authorized by special permit from the Chief of Police when the necessary nighttime activities of the juveniles are not adequately addressed by other provisions of this ordinance.

Freedom Division Community Meetings and Events – January 2012:

CMPD Meetings / Events:

Monday

January 16, 2012

7:00 pm

Freedom Division Advisory Council
West Service Center
4150 Wilkinson Bv

Tuesday

January 17, 2012

7:00 pm

Todd Park Crime Watch Meeting
New Zion Baptist Church
217 W Todd Ln

Thursday

January 19, 2012

6:30pm

Valleydale Corridor Neighborhoods
Joint Crime Watch
8410 Belhaven Bv

Response Area 2 Coordinator Contacts:

Officer Brent Hartley rhartley@cmpd.org
Officer Kip Cupples ccupples@cmpd.org

Coordinator Office: 704-398-6721

Freedom Division Office: 704-398-6731

Please note, it is usually easier to get in touch with any of our CMPD officers through their email address rather than a phone number.

Response Area 2 Community Events:

US National Whitewater Center

To see the exciting events offered to the community by the USNWC events, go to their website at:
<http://www.usnwc.org/>

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Student Holidays:

January 16: Martin Luther King Holiday

January 23: Teacher Workday

Do you have an event scheduled in your community for the holidays? Please let me know and I will be happy to include it!

Useful Website Resource:

We all get the dire alerts and warnings from our friends – don't flick your headlights, gang members will shoot at you, get a free laptop for forwarding emails – most are **Complete Fiction!** Emails are a great tool, but these hoaxes tie up server systems, waste time and create unnecessary concern. Use the website www.snopes.com to check these out **BEFORE** you send them on!

