



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

August 2011

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 Sergeant Brian Sanders, RA 1, or Sergeant David Minnich, 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.



Good day, All!

It is often, in this day and time, an extremely difficult thing to bring together multiple communities for face-to-face meetings, but it is also becoming more and more important for us to share information, resources and encouragement! Many of the challenges we each see individually are common problems, and with limited resources everywhere, sharing between several communities often can accomplish more than each could do alone.

I hope that each of you finds something useful in these newsletters and that you are able to share them with your neighbors. And I hope that you will share with me so I can pass along those triumphs in your communities, challenges you have been able to overcome or situations where you might like a new set of eyes to offer some fresh ideas. Together, we are always stronger than we are separately, and one neighborhood's success might be just the piece of the puzzle another needs to succeed!

Best regards,

Sergeant Lisa Carriker



CMPD Freedom Division: Response Area 2
Response Area Commander: Sgt. 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

Captain's Corner

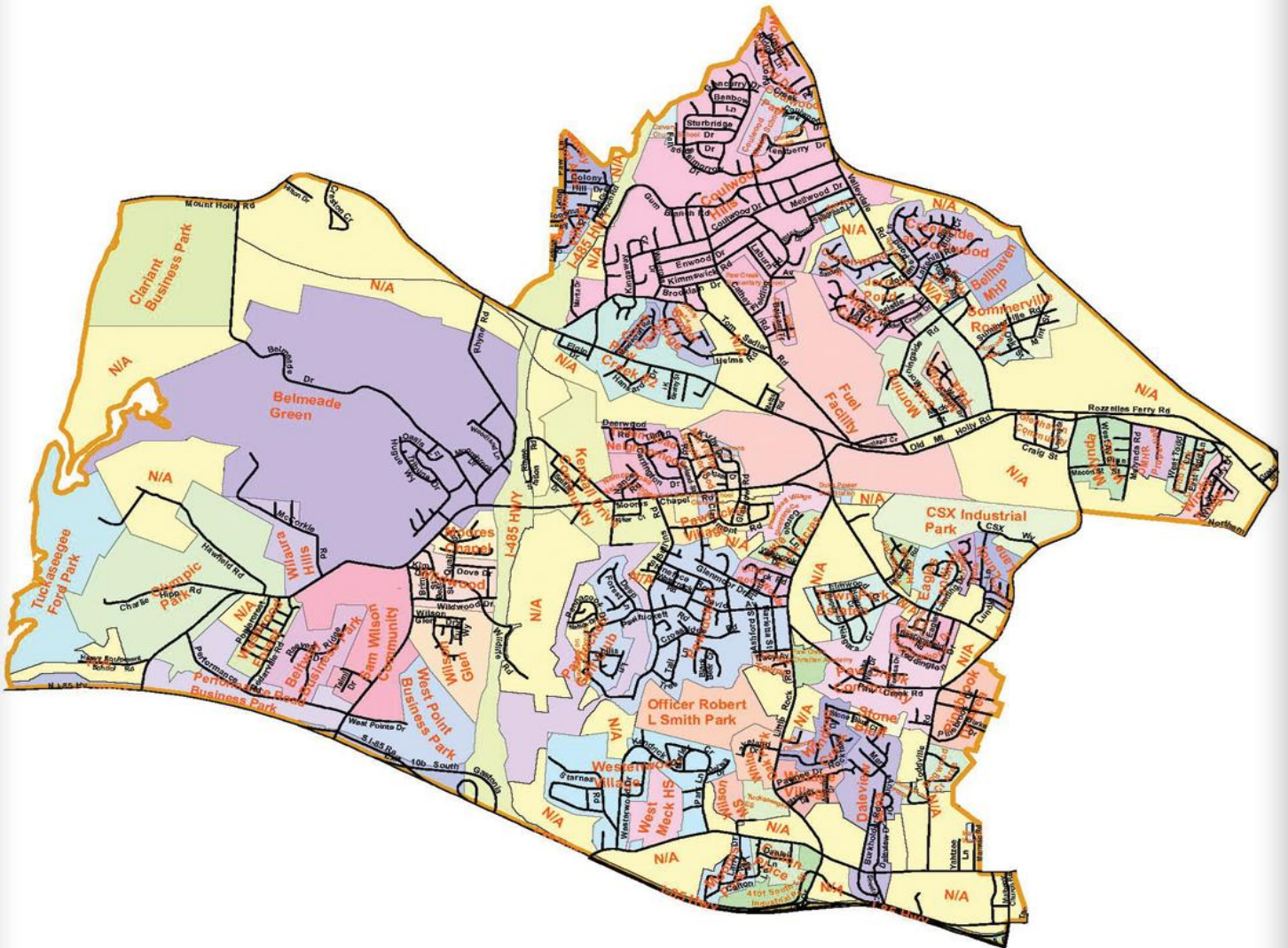
Well, the summer break is winding to a close, and school will be upon us in about 20 days. If you recall I mentioned back at the end of May that the summer break unfortunately usually results in an increase in crimes of violence and in home break-ins here in Freedom. I am very happy to report that this summer has not seen the typical increases. For the month of July, violent crime was down -35% compared to last July. And home break-ins were down -29%. Many things factor into this reduction, but foremost is the hard work of the Officers, and the valued assistance of our residents as they watch out for each other, and frequently communicate with us through community meetings, speaking with Officers, or calling 911 when they see something suspicious. Thank you all!

With school starting back on the 25th, I just want to remind you that the roads will be more crowded in the mornings, with cars, buses and children walking. As such you can expect to see Officers around the school working on traffic issues. Don't be one of those that gets a ticket because you don't slow down in the school zones. And if you see someone walking the neighborhood that looks like they should be in school, don't hesitate to call 911 and let us know so we can help them get their education.

Hope you enjoy the rest of your summer as we all look forward to some cooler weather.

Stay safe, keep an eye out for your friends and neighbors and have a great summer. Till next month, Captain 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 3rd Quarter of 2011, we will continue our focus on Residential Burglaries, with a reduction goal of 10%, and will return focus to reducing Commercial Burglaries (our goal is a 13% reduction) and Auto Thefts (our goal is a 23% reduction).

Again, the key to reductions in both of these target crimes will be alert, engaged citizens. Lock your houses up when you leave, always arm your alarm system if you have one, pay attention to your surroundings when you are out and about, don't leave any valuables in your cars 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 July:

Focus Crime	2010	2011	% Change	Goal	Avg Per Week
Residential Burglary	25	24	-4%	-10%	6
Commercial Burglary	6	6	NC	-13%	1.5
Auto Theft	3	3	NC	-23%	.75

Overall Summary of Major Crimes for July 2011

Incident Type	2010	2011	Difference	Percent Change
Larceny-Other	18	28	10	55.56 %
Larceny from Building	2	4	2	100.00 %
Rape	0	2	2	NA
Strong Arm Robbery	0	2	2	NA
Aggravated Assault-Other Weapon	1	2	1	100.00 %
Larceny of Bicycle	0	1	1	NA
Armed Robbery	2	2	0	0.00 %
Auto Theft	3	3	0	0.00 %
Commercial Burglary	6	6	0	0.00 %
Larceny-Shoplifting	3	3	0	0.00 %
Residential Burglary	22	22	0	0.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Fists,Feet, etc.	1	0	-1	-100.00 %
Aggravated Assault-Knife	2	1	-1	-50.00 %
Residential Burglary-Storage Bldg	3	2	-1	-33.33 %
Aggravated Assault-Gun	6	0	-6	-100.00 %
Larceny from Auto	18	11	-7	-38.89 %

Crime Stoppers Spotlight Crime of the Month

On Thursday 7/14 at approximately 5:00pm, a black male, 18-24yo, with shoulder-length dreads, about 5'10", 160 lbs robbed the Hop Feng Restaurant on Little Rock Rd at gunpoint.

If you were in that area around that time and have any information on the suspect or any vehicle that may have been associated with him, please contact CMPD's Crime Stoppers Tipline at 704-334-1600 or call the Freedom Division office at 704-398-6701.



Crime Trends: Storage Shed Break-ins

Recently, we have been seeing an increase in the number of storage buildings that have been broken into with lawn mowers and other lawn maintenance equipment stolen.

Most of these are occurring during overnight hours, and in several cases the suspects have cut the locks off of the doors to gain entry.

In addition, we have had several situations where thieves have stolen lawn equipment from a truck or trailer while the worker was in the process of completing lawn work.

Folks, while these thefts can be hard to prevent, I have some tips below that can help you avoid being a victim (and help us identify a thief!)

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 Tips: Storage Sheds

- **Use a good quality lock and screws on shed doors.** In many cases the only thing protecting your items are a few 1/2" screws and a cheap padlock – not much for a mower you might have paid several hundred dollars for! Invest in heavier longer screws for the hinges and lock mechanism and a good quality round reinforced padlock.
- Write down the serial numbers for your equipment, and for anything that doesn't have a serial number, etch your Drivers' License number somewhere on the item.
- If someone approaches you asking to purchase your equipment or mower and you haven't advertised it anywhere, pay attention to their description and vehicle and call 911! This is a frequent attempt by a thief to scout out your stuff and where you keep it so they can come back later and take it!
- Someone going door-to-door trying to "sell" a used lawn mower or other yard equipment, and offering to give you a "great deal" because they "just need the extra money to feed their kids" or some other sad story? May be your neighbor's stolen lawn mower.....get a description and call 911!

Freedom Division Community Meetings and Events – August 2011

CMPD Meetings / Events:

Monday

August 15, 2011

6:30 pm

Freedom Division Leadership Council

West Service Center

4150 Wilkinson Bv

*Special Speaker – Neighborhood and Business Development (Formerly Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Development)

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.

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!

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/>

Key events include:

RiverJam Free Concerts each Thursday

Microbrew Cruises 1st / 3rd Wednesdays

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Student Holidays:

Monday August 29: First Day of School

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

