



*A City Recognized Association
Incorporated as a Nonprofit Organization in the State of New Mexico*

Security Information & Survey

Security is a major concern of residents. One way to improve security is to hire a private security firm to patrol your area and watch your house. Some residents have installed surveillance and alarm systems. Two other options will be discussed below, Neighborhood Watch and Neighborhood Patrols. Various city programs on crime prevention are described at <http://www.cabq.gov/police/prevention/index.html>.

Neighborhood Watch

According to the city website, *“the ‘cornerstone’ of APD's crime prevention effort is our Neighborhood Watch Organizing Program. We have over 2000 neighborhoods in Albuquerque participating in the program, and we would like to organize (or ‘reorganize’) your neighborhood on a block-by-block basis.”*

Neighborhood Watch can be organized with as few as half a dozen homes to an entire block. The advantage of forming a Neighborhood Watch is that it formalizes a procedure for a small group of neighbors to look after each others' homes. It also allows the neighbors to purchase a Neighborhood Watch sign that is believed to act as a crime deterrent. Information for starting a Neighborhood Watch in your immediate is given on the city website:

<http://www.cabq.gov/police/prevention/neighborhoodwatch.html>. Forming the watch requires electing a block captain who serves as an interface with the police. The APD is ready to assist these groups. Contact information and a description of the process are provided at the above website.

Neighborhood Patrols

Over the years, FHV has had Neighborhood Patrols consisting of two persons driving the neighborhood and looking for suspicious activity. Patrolling can be done, for example, in two two-hour shifts from 8pm to 12pm on Friday & Saturday nights, or from 10pm to 2am on these nights. Patrols spotting something suspicious can call the police who know of the patrols and are prepared to respond quickly. Patrols have also called residents when garage doors were left open, and those residents were very appreciative. Magnetic signs are available for the private cars patrolling are also a crime deterrent. Husband and wife teams were not uncommon. Eventually patrols were discontinued because of lack of participation by the residents. However, interest may have picked up in re-starting resident patrols.

The number of persons required to do neighborhood patrol depends on how often residents are willing to patrol. For each volunteer to patrol no more than once every quarter requires 100+ volunteers, and patrolling no more than once every six months would require 200+ volunteers. In addition, a leader/coordinator is required for arranging individuals for the weekly patrols,

distributing instructions to those patrolling and acting as an interface to the police. The police will provide the required training for the leader/coordinator.

Please answer the following survey regarding neighborhood patrols. Interested parties can contact Bill Dollahon (294-4256) or Marilou Cochran (294-0001, mrcochran@comcast.net), both former leaders/coordinators, to better understand the duties of the position before volunteering. You may want to talk to both of them.

Please check as many as applies:

- I/we favor re-starting Neighborhood Patrols
- I/we volunteer for quarterly patrols (four times per year)
- I/we volunteer for semiannual patrols (two times per year)
- I volunteer for the position of leader/coordinator of resident patrols (for a one year stint with an option for another year).

Name:

Address:

Phone Number & Email:

Either email your response to info@fhvna.org or fill out the survey on our website www.fhvna.org

The FHV Neighborhood Association does not charge dues for membership but gratefully accepts voluntary contributions to offset costs. Donations can be sent to FHVNA, PO Box 51675, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87181- 1675.