



# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Volume 55

October to December 2012

## HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS



TPD

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The holiday season is a perfect opportunity for criminals to prey on unsuspecting shoppers because they know the shopper's minds are preoccupied with gift buying. The Torrance Police Department will be staffing extra officers to patrol all of our shopping centers during the holiday season to help ensure your safety. However, there are a few basic safety tips you can follow to help minimize the chances of becoming a victim:

- If possible, don't carry your purse with you; keep your cash or checks, credit cards and driver's license in your front pocket to avoid being pick pocketed during the busy shopping hours. If you carry your purse, make sure to keep it closed/zipped up so no one can reach in when your attention is diverted.
- Have all your credit card numbers written down in a safe place so if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused, you can call the issuer immediately to place a fraud hold on you account.
- If possible, shop during the daylight hours and if you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Do not leave anything of value or visible in your vehicle while shopping. Lock all packages/presents in your trunk and make sure to be aware of your surroundings if you have to make several trips to your car to off load gifts. If possible, after off-loading your gifts, park your vehicle in another location to continue shopping.
- If you are planning on taking a vacation this holiday season, be sure to log on to the Torrance Police Department website at [www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov](http://www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov) and sign up for a Vacation Security Check.

## "Seniors Don't Be Scammed!"

### Street Scams

Tuesday, November 20, 2012 10:00am- 12:00 noon

*Bonus Feature- Transit Ambassador Program*

Seniors, caregivers, family & friends are invited to learn about the latest scams.

Katy Geissert Civic Center Library Community Meeting Room

*Light refreshments will be served, No RSVP necessary*

For more information, contact TPD Community Affairs at (310) 618-5735 or visit our website at: [www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov](http://www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov)



## TORRANCE POLICE AND FIRE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE



The holiday season is quickly approaching and with it so is our annual toy collection. We will begin collecting toys Monday, November 26th. If you would like to donate a new unwrapped toy (please **NO USED** toys or stuffed animals), or a gift certificate, you may do so at the following locations:

### Torrance Police Department:

3300 Civic Center Dr.

### Torrance Fire Stations:

**#1** 1701 Crenshaw Blvd.

**#2** 25135 Robinson Way

**#3** 3535 W. 182nd St.

**#4** 5205 Calle Mayor

**#5** 3940 Del Amo Blvd.

**#6** 21401 Del Amo Circle Dr.

If you know of a family that is in need of assistance, please contact Christina Szczypkowski at (310) 618-6392. They must be City of Torrance residents (with proof of residency) or attend TUSD schools.

\*\*In addition to toys for younger children, we will also need items for children ages 11-16 such as sports equipment (balls/frisbees/gloves) art supplies and age appropriate board games.



## Disaster Preparedness Award 2012



Congratulations to First Lutheran Church and School for their outstanding dedication to disaster preparedness and to the safety of their community.

## Farewell to Sgt. Jennifer Uyeda....

We are sad to see Sgt. Jennifer Uyeda leave the Community Affairs Division this October. She will be transferred to the Personnel Division as the Internal Affairs Sergeant and she will do an amazing job in this new position. They are extremely lucky to have her! Sgt. Uyeda has been with the Community Affairs Division for the past three years and has been involved with our TPD Volunteer program, the Explorer program and actively involved with Special Olympics and the Pediatric Therapy Network.



Sgt. Uyeda contributed a great deal to the Community Affairs Division, the Torrance Police Department and the Torrance community during her time here. Sgt. Uyeda has a passion for community outreach that will be extremely missed. Anyone who has met or worked with her knows how amazing and talented she is and we will all miss her but wish her the best of luck in her new position!

**Jen...we will miss you in Community Affairs!!!**



## Meet your new Community Affairs Supervisor Team

**Lt. Hector Bermudez**



Lt. Bermudez started his career with the Torrance Police Department in 1995 and has worked in several different details including: Patrol, Vice & Narcotics, SCD, Field Training Officer, Community Lead Officer, Internal Affairs Sergeant, Field Sergeant, Area Commander and has now been assigned as the Community Affairs and Emergency Services Lieutenant. Lt. Bermudez can be reached at 310-618-5728 or [hbermudez@torranceca.gov](mailto:hbermudez@torranceca.gov)

**Sgt. Christiaan Roosen**



Sgt. Roosen started his career with the Torrance Police Department in 1994 and has worked in several different details including: Patrol, Youth Services/Sex Crime Detective, Vice & Narcotics, Field Training Officer, Field Sergeant, SCD, Personnel, Field Sergeant/FTO, Communications and has now been assigned as the Community Affairs Sergeant. Sgt. Roosen can be reached at 310-618-5735 or [croosen@torranceca.gov](mailto:croosen@torranceca.gov)

TPD

## Upcoming Events



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US ON TWITTER AND  
SUBSCRIBE TO US ON  
YOUTUBE

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[Twitter.com/TorrancePD](https://twitter.com/TorrancePD)

[Youtube.com/TPDCommAffairs](https://www.youtube.com/TPDCommAffairs)

GET EMAIL AND TEXT ALERTS AT



### Community Safety Training Workshop

The community is invited to attend free safety workshops hosted by the Torrance Police Department. Each workshop is scheduled from 6:00pm to 7:30pm and will take place at the Torrance Police Department (3300 Civic Center Dr.) You may register online at [www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov](http://www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov) or contact Community Affairs at 310-618-6391. Attendance is limited to the first 35 people who register.

Please note that these safety workshops are for adults only.

Date: Wednesday, November 7th @ 6:00pm-7:30pm

Topic: Burglary Prevention

This class will focus on how to prevent home and auto burglaries during this busy holiday season.

## TIP-A-COP

The **Tip-A-Cop** program is an activity to benefit children and adults with mild to severe mental retardation. Police officers partner with regular servers addressing customer requests such as beverage refills and serving their meals, working hard to EARN donation for a good cause. Customers offer an additional tip beyond the regular server's tip as a donation to South Bay Special Olympics. **100%** of tips/donations received by the Police Officers **goes directly to the South Bay Special Olympics program**. Donations help pay for training, uniforms, transportation, and competition fees. Nothing goes to administrative fees. So far this year, the Torrance Police Department has raised.....**\$7868.00**

The next Tip-A-Cop will take place in November. Please check our website at [www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov](http://www.Police.TorranceCA.Gov) to find out the date and location.



## Halloween Safety Tips

- Make sure children are accompanied by an adult or responsible teenager when they go door to door. Go with them yourself if you can.
- Instruct children never to eat anything until they've returned home and the treats have been examined.
- Check wrappers of commercial treats for tampering.
- Make sure costumes fit and youngsters can see well.
- Use reflective tape on costumes so people driving cars can see children.

