

BELL RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

OCTOBER 11, 2022

Attendance: Amy Ross, Jeff Ross, David Franklin, Judy Franklin, Jordan Mayberry and daughter, Randall Lawrence, Barbara Lawrence, Randy Vaughn. Mae Jeu, Rob Thomas, Jan Courtney. *Michael Bigelow was unable to attend but would like to volunteer.*

The Bell Ridge Neighborhood Watch Meeting was hosted by Jan Courtney on October 11, 2022, and was facilitated by Sergeant Tre Price of the Olive Branch Police Department. Some of the crime prevention tips he gave us were:

- Keep your porches lit at night
- Keep hedges cut
- Maintain a list of the serial numbers of expensive items

Other information that was covered was:

- Know where streets are located in our neighborhood. This is very important when reporting crime to the dispatch office. Report cross streets when reporting crime. Give accurate information, date, time, etc.
- Bell Ridge neighborhood is in Police Precinct #5. The OB Police Department is in Precinct #1. There are nine total precincts.
- Crime stats for Precinct 5 from September 11-October 11, 2022:
 - Grand Larceny – 1 (Value of property \$1000 or more)
 - Petty Larceny – 1 (Value of property \$999 or less)
 - Domestic Violence – 3
 - Aggravated Assault – 2
 - Simple Assault – 2
 - Motor Vehicle Theft – 1
 - Residential Burglary – 1
- How to stay in touch with OB Police Department
 - Emergency – 911
 - Non-emergency – 662-895-4111 or 662-895-4112
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
 - SpotCrime.com
 - Sign up to get alerts specific to our precinct
 - Anonymous tips can be sent by texting tipolivebranch to 888777
- Rob Thomas said that he has checked into Flock Safety Cameras for both entrances of the Bell Ridge neighborhood. These cameras capture rear license plate images and automatically alert police of stolen vehicles or vehicles related to wanted or missing persons. Since they are about \$2500 each, this amount is cost-prohibitive for our neighborhood as it would involve significantly raising our annual HOA fees.

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- Examples of what to look for reporting a suspicious person to the police:
 - Is the person wearing a hoodie?
 - Is someone hopping a fence?
 - Is somebody hanging out on your doorstep?
 - Is a neighbor's address receiving heavy traffic?
 - Is a vehicle speeding through the neighborhood?
- If someone is doing something that looks suspicious, don't approach them alone. Call the police.
- When there is a noise ordinance that has been violated, call the police and ask for the supervisor.
- When reporting suspicious vehicles:
 - Don't say "older vehicle" as this could have a different interpretation depending on who you talk to. Give the make, model, color and approximate year of the vehicle.
 - Describe what happened and when it occurred.
 - How doors are on the vehicle.
 - Are there tinted windows.
 - Are there company stickers or any type of decals on the vehicle.
- When reporting a suspicious person:
 - What is their sex?
 - What is their race?
 - Do they have facial hair?
 - Do they have scars?
 - Do they have tattoos or a tattoo sleeve?
 - What is their height?
 - Describe clothing from top to bottom (hat, scarf, etc.)
 - What is their approximate weight
 - Are they carrying a gun?
- Mississippi is a Stand Your Ground state, which means that a homeowner can legally defend their home from someone breaking in.
- A link on how to start a Neighborhood Watch and other helpful information is located at <https://nnw.org/start>.