

## Neighborhood Watch Crime Bulletin #83 To All Our Neighborhood Watch Personnel:



Our Latest and Greatest Crime Bulletin

### A SUMMER LIKE NO OTHER:

The summer of 2020 will be remembered for two things:

- 1) **The World Pandemic of the Corona Virus, and**
- 2) **Civil Unrest in Our Nation**

The **Corona Virus**, which originated and spread from China, is a medical pandemic that has taken over 100,000 lives and dramatically changed our social habits. The Federal Government and our State governments have implemented many protective measures to protect us.

The **Civil Unrest** has been generated by the tragic and unnecessary death of George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis Police Department. As a 46 year veteran of two police agencies, I can tell you that no police officer I know would condone the death of this innocent citizen. I know of no local police agency that utilizes the dangerous and discredited practice of "choke holds".on its citizens. The police officer(s) involved in this tragic crime **should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.**

Every resident has a right to know the workings of their local police agency that serves them. In Ocean City as well as Ocean Pines, we have a **Citizen's Police Academy** that gives residents insights into the operations and structure of your police department. Law Enforcement has over 650,000 Federal, State, County and local officers across this great nation. There is a very small number, but too many, that should **NEVER** be given a public trust.

In Maryland, police officer candidates must successfully undergo:(a) a psychological evaluation, (b) a neighborhood background investigation, (c) a lie detector test, and (d) a complete medical evaluation, including a drug screen, before being accepted as a candidate for hire. Then they must successfully complete a 26 week police academy and 320 hours additional training with a certified field training officer, before being placed alone on the street.

Maryland is one of the most highly regulated police standard states in our nation. As a police instructor, as well as a Chief of Police, I can tell you that the vast majority of our Troopers, Deputies, and Police Officers I have come into contact with in Worcester County are highly motivated and professional. Today's law enforcement officers are generally better educated, better trained and better equipped that when I started my law enforcement career 46 years ago.

We will **never** be satisfied when we fall short of our sworn duties. Law enforcement is NEVER above the laws which we have sworn to uphold. I am angry and hurt when I see a few renegade police officers damage our public image.

I recently was tasked with creating a short article for the Quarterly Ocean Pines Newsletter. I think that this article, re-produced here, will say all I need to say about our local police department:

### **The Ocean Pines Police Department:**

The Mission Statement of our Police Department is just three words, “**Duty, Honor, Community**”. You will see our mission statement on all of our police vehicles. In these trying times of pandemic and civil unrest, your Police Department has been performing its **DUTY**, protecting life and property within Ocean Pines. We believe in **Honor**, and treating all individuals we come in contact with dignity and respect. When our residents call for help and assistance, we will be there for them. When it is necessary, we will arrest or cite those individuals who threaten others or put you at risk.

Our **Community** is the reason for our existence. Keeping Ocean Pines safe and an attractive place to live and work. We shall never cease to strive to make Ocean Pines the safest community for its size in the State of Maryland. That is why our officers patrol our community 24 hours a day, 365 days in the year. We will not train our officers in unsafe arrest tactics, nor appear in para-military garb. That is not why we are here.

We are here to protect and serve YOU, with dignity and honor. To make you proud of us.

***Be SAFE and we will be there for you, as you may need us!!!***

*Chief David C. Massey, Ed.D.*

**Ocean Pines Police Department**