
Midtown, 3/26/2009

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CALL TO ACTION

We request that Mayor Franklin immediately end the furloughs of police and fire personnel to restore our "on the street" police coverage, making the city a safer place. Spring is upon us, and this is no time to curtail police protection. We suggest you write a personal email to the mayor making this request sfranklin@atlantaga.gov (please also copy us at info@midtownponce.org).

MARCH SAFETY MEETING

Our main guest was Sheriff Ted Jackson. He recently took the office after the voters of Fulton County elected him late last year. He was very well received by attendees of the safety meeting, and we plan to have him back from time to time.

The Sheriff Department staff is divided into four main divisions: jail, courts, administration, and law enforcement. The jail forms the largest of these divisions, since they operate the Fulton County jail.

For several years, local media has reported numerous problems at the Fulton County jail, most notably overcrowding. The jail currently has around 1450 beds, and outsources 600 inmates to other jurisdictions (Hall County holding most of them).

Sheriff Jackson heads a task force consisting of all 15 law enforcement agencies in Fulton County to better coordinate law enforcement efforts throughout the county. They also monitor around 1600 registered sex offenders, as mandated by state law.

ADVISORIES FROM APD

Moped thefts - Lt. McGee of the Midtown Mini-Precinct put out the following advisory: *Persons who own or ride Scooters are asked to take additional security measures as we have had several stolen in Zone Five and Midtown. The small 50cc scooters get exceptional gas mileage however they are very light and quite easy to be picked up and stolen if not chained or secured well. Lastly, thank you for your efforts and assistance in my goal of reducing crime and improving the Quality of Life for Midtown residents.*

Carjackers nailed - Several suspects were arrested, a short while ago, for being inside of the Mercedes Benz, which was taken in a car-jacking, from Myrtle Street, on March 24th, according to Major Williams. He asked us to inform Midtown residents to dial 911 when observing suspicious activity.

SGT. COOPER'S CORNER

Warm weather brings out a smorgasbord of public security problems - urban campers, street prostitution, drug dealing, which in turn generate car break-ins, burglaries, and other problems.

MPSA members should take advantage of the vacation home check when away. The new procedure, reporting an absence by e-mail rather than by voicemail, has worked out very well since its implementation at the beginning of the year.

Those in parking permit zones should place a white card behind the parking stickers to highlight them so police officers can find them. Parking problems have increased with more visitors to the park, and the patrol addresses this issue as best as it can.

In the month leading up to the last safety meeting, the MPSA Patrol handled 35 911 calls (many of which would have gone unanswered or seriously delayed if we did not have a patrol on duty at those times), 9 calls for service directly from MSPA members, and made 12 arrests for a variety of things ranging from disorderly conduct to thefts.

The furlough has adversely affected response times from police. Please be patient when calling 911.

CRIME TIP OF THE WEEK

On the bottom of porch furniture, planters, etc, write your name, phone number, and Not For Sale to make it easier to identify your property if it is stolen and to lessen the chance of it being sold.

NEWSWIRE

- **ATAC - Rally next Monday in Boulevard Heights.** [More Information by clicking here](#)
- **AJC - *Jogging club has a mission: Chasing the fear of crime***
- **CBS Atlanta - *Police Respond To Midtown Crime*** MPSA NOTE: This media report would lead to believe that the specific incidents all occurred in Midtown. Only one of the reported incidents occurred in Midtown - the rest happened in other neighborhoods.
- **11Alive - *Home Invasions in Midtown 2008.*** MPSA note: they classify burglaries as home invasions. Generally, we understand a home invasion to be a situation where the intruders seek out a home in which the resident(s) are known to be present, in order to rob, harm them, or perpetrate some other act.
- **Fox 5 Atlanta - *Man's Dog Stolen, Held for Ransom*** Criminals get people's names and phone numbers from the Lost Pet signs

MPSA MAILBAG

Drug dealers put down - A resident in nearby Old Fourth Ward, shared some great news about some drug dealers in our area.

Great news guys! [I received word] late this afternoon that a narcotics unit with APD was raiding the apartment complex on the corner to arrest the drug dealing operations there. I came home from work to check it out, and APD had a bunch of the guys who were operating out of various apartments on the second level cuffed and sitting on the ground up there. It seemed like the entire neighborhood was around the corner watching what was going on. There were five or six narcotics officers there in heavy gear with black masks, bullet proof vests, etc. Andy saw more of what was going on early in the process, so he may be able to provide some more color on what he saw. They did arrest the main drug dealer there, and according to Andy, one of the officers said that they had been looking for this particular guy and that he was going away for quite awhile. Based on my correspondence with Major Williams today and over the past couple weeks, this bust occurred primarily because of the information that we – as a neighborhood – have been

passing on to APD. The intel we had been giving them was extremely valuable to their efforts and they really appreciate all of our involvement, concern and assistance with this.

I think this is a major win for our street and hopefully it sends a message to the neighborhood that these kinds of activities are not going to be tolerated on East Ave. So keep being observant of what is going on around us so we can continue to work with APD to clean up our neighborhood.

BE SAFE AND STAY VIGILANT! And remember, your car + your valuables = loot for a thief!

- Your Neighbors at the Midtown Ponce Security Alliance

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