



Newsletter

Greetings SAFE Friends & Supporters,

August 2007

Crime Alert: Robberies

Personal Safety & Robbery Prevention - Many residents and merchants throughout San Francisco have expressed their concerns about their personal safety and the recent robberies that seem to be highlighting the news and community meetings during the past few months.

Robbery - occurs when something is taken from you using force or fear. It can be a "purse-snatching" or a "hold-up" in a store. Robberies occur throughout the city, but what SAFE strives to do is educate residents and merchants on how to help prevent robberies from happening, and what to do if they are a victim of robbery. If there have been a number of robberies in a certain neighborhood over a short period of time, SAFE will encourage the residents or merchants to start a Neighborhood Watch or Business Watch group. We will also provide you with personal safety education, and can schedule a business security assessment or training. SAFE encourages everyone to learn about personal safety, crime prevention, and the benefits of starting a Neighborhood or Business Watch group.

Some Personal Safety Tips:

- Be Alert & Aware of your surroundings at all times. If you are suspicious or feel uneasy, leave the area immediately.
- Travel on well-lit & well-populated streets; do not take shortcuts through dark alleyways.
- If you are leaving a restaurant or bar late at night by yourself, consider taking a cab home rather than walking.
- If you take the bus, know when your bus arrives by calling 3-1-1 (what used to be 674-MUNI).
- Carry a cell phone on you in case of emergencies.
- Limit the credit cards and cash that you carry.

Some benefits of starting a SAFE Neighborhood Watch or Business Watch group:

- Increase your awareness of crime & public safety issues that impact you, your family or employees & your neighbors;
- Meet your neighbors & establish a communication network;
- Work collectively to address crime and public safety concerns;
- Learn how to access resources that will support your crime prevention efforts;
- Learn how to better communicate with the SFPD, elected officials, the Mayor's Office & other government agencies;
- Reduce the risk of crime & victimization on your block.
- Discover ways to collaborate with your neighbors and learn about emergency preparedness.
- Click below for more safety tips & brochures.

[Safety Tips and Brochures](#)

Neighborhood Watch Success Story!

Richmond District forms SAFE Community Watch

By Irina Chatsova, SAFE Crime Prevention Specialist

The residents of an apartment building in the Central Richmond contacted SAFE when they got tired of seeing strangers in the building at all hours, finding needles on the floor, stepping over suspicious people sleeping in the hallway and often finding the front door

In This Issue

- [Robbery Crime Alert & Personal Safety Tips](#)
- [Neighborhood & Business Watch Benefits](#)
- [Success Stories](#)
- [SAFE Event & Fundraiser](#)
- [Other SAFE News](#)

One City, Many SAFE Neighborhoods

SAFE's Annual Gala Event & Fundraiser

Thursday, October 11th,
6:00pm

The Green Room at the San Francisco War Memorial & Performing Arts Center

Recognizing Neighborhood & Business Watch Groups that make our city safer!

[Event Information](#)

Positively 6th Street -
Annual Community Fair

Saturday, August 4th

Minna Alley, between 5th and 6th Streets

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Services for the 6th Street Community

Visit

<http://www.6thstreetfair.org/>

Neighborhood Empowerment Network

Be Empowered!

open. They believed two of the residents were responsible and suspected both of them were involved in drug-related activities. Most of the residents of the building were Housing Authority Section 8 recipients, seniors and people with disabilities, and some of them were monolingual Russian speakers who felt hopeless and isolated.

What happened after the residents contacted SAFE? Meeting with Lieutenant Delgadillo from Richmond Station was the first step. A separate meeting for the Russian-speaking residents was facilitated by Irina Chatsova, a Russian-speaking Crime Prevention Specialist from SAFE. The residents learned how to observe and report criminal and suspicious activities and were given the direct number to call Richmond Station plain-clothes officers. Richmond Station Code Enforcement Officer Jill Connolly got involved and contacted the City Attorney's office. Also, Rob Mackenzie, SAFE's Residential Security Specialist provided a security assessment for the building. As a result of a collaborative effort, an arrest has been made and both of the problem tenants got the message and moved out. What a great example of residents partnering with police and SAFE to enhance neighborhood safety!

Submit your own Success Story to highlights@sfsafe.org!

[- Learn About Neighborhood Watch -](#)

October is the Month for

One City, Many SAFE Neighborhoods!

Join SAFE in their celebration of October's National Crime Prevention Month by attending our Annual Gala Event & Fundraiser, ***One City, Many SAFE Neighborhoods***. At the event, SAFE will recognize and honor leading Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch groups whose active efforts in crime prevention have helped to make our communities safer.

- [Thursday, October 11, 2007, 6:00 p.m.](#)
- [The Green Room](#) @ the SF War Memorial & Performing Arts Center; 401 Van Ness Avenue
- [Showcase your Group or your Business](#) by becoming a Sponsor or Donor to the raffle and silent auction
- [Seeking Graphic Designers & Printers](#) for event materials!
- [Click here](#) to download a Sponsorship or Donation form

Other SAFE News

- **[SAFE Says Farewell to Pam Matsuda](#)** - Our favorite Program Director at SAFE is leaving after 23 years on the team. She will be in her new role as a full-time mom with two kids under the age of 2! Seems more demanding than working at SAFE! Pam's experience, dedication, and ability to talk and talk and talk about any type of problem-solving issue have been a huge asset to SAFE, and we will miss her tons!
- **[SAFE is Hiring Crime Prevention Specialists](#)** - SAFE is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of Crime Prevention Specialist. Visit our website for more information at <http://www.sfsafe.org/>.
- **[Volunteers Needed for SAFE Activities!](#)** - Do you want to contribute to safer neighborhoods? Do you want to build capacity for SAFE's crime prevention efforts? Do you want to give back to the community? SAFE is recruiting volunteers, interns and service-learning students to help with events, office activities, our Annual Report and data entry. What better way to be creative and keep our neighborhoods safer? Visit [SAFE's Website](#) for more information, or call (415) 553-1984.
- **[Get Prepared and Get NERT Trained!](#)** - NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) trainings are designed to train the public on emergency and disaster preparedness. Check out the schedule for your neighborhood, and visit the [NERT website](#).
- **[Donate](#)** - Your contribution helps to make San Francisco a safer place to live, work and play. Click on the Just Give icon to make a secure donation.



Be SAFE!

Make your Neighborhood Safer!

The Mayor's Office is launching a new project that will link residents and merchants to a consolidated interactive summit and website to learn and share best practices on making your neighborhood cleaner, greener, safer and more prepared for a disaster.

Saturday, September 8th

Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

Learn more and Register for the Summit workshops soon!

For more information: Call MONS (Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services) at (415) 554-7111

The Staff & Board of SAFE

[Forward to a friend](#) | [Copyright Info](#) | [Address](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)