



# On Call



A community news publication of the Arlington, Texas Police Department

## Arlington Police Respond: More Help on The Way



Two convoys of Arlington officers have joined Hurricane Harvey response efforts in the Greater Houston area. Police Chief Will Johnson said the mission is safety and security in the nation's fourth largest city. Arlington officers are working alongside thousands of first responders from North Texas, including the state's National Guard, troops from other states and the Air National Guard. Coast Guard air and ground

teams have rescued thousands. Mega shelters are now open and welcoming bus loads from the Houston area. Hurricane Harvey made land fall near Rockport on Aug. 25, causing catastrophic flooding in southeastern Texas. Governor Greg Abbott called the storm "one of the largest disasters America has ever faced." Help is still needed. [Click here](#) to see how you can assist.



## Inside The Emerald Park Neighborhood Watch

*Second in a two-part series that follows Arlington neighborhoods as they prepare for National Night Out.*

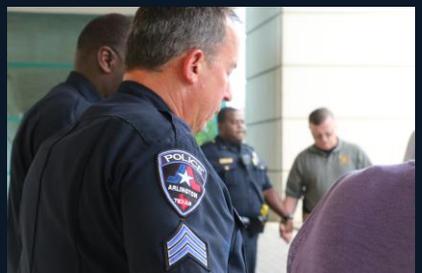
In this quiet, south Arlington neighborhood, residents watch out for one another. It's been this way since 1987 when a hand full of homeowners organized the Emerald Park Neighborhood Watch. This is not your typical Arlington subdivision. Many of the people who live here are trained in crime prevention and safety. They have graduated from the Arlington Citizens Police Academy. Some are active members of Citizens On Patrol who enjoy what they do, working hand in hand with their beat officers to resolve issues before they become problems. Emerald Park Crime Prevention Coordinator Patti Noe was one of the first neighbors. In the 1980s, theft at single-family home construction sites was on the rise. With fewer than 10 families on the block, one of the first things neighbors did was organize a gathering on National Night Out to talk about solutions. "This was an opportunity to get everyone together," Patti said. Today, with 99 homes, National Night Out continues to bring everyone in the Emerald Park Neighborhood together.



The Emerald Park Neighborhood Watch is ready for National Night Out.

"National Night Out is a time to meet and greet new neighbors, rekindle friendships and show support for crime prevention and safety," Patti said. It's a night that Mike and Ruth Sabourin look forward to. "We've always been a very active neighborhood," she said. "And we love our first responders." Ruth bakes homemade cookies for police districts and makes afghans for Dialysis patients. Her husband serves with the Arlington Clergy and Police Partnership and volunteers with the prison ministry as a chaplain. National Night Out is like a holiday. Close to 100 neighbors will turn on their porch lights and make their way to the 5400 block of Sapphire Court.

Adults will bring their lawn chairs. Children will play together in the street. Officers will stop by to thank residents for their active participation and discuss any new safety concerns. At a National Night Out planning meeting on Aug. 8 neighbors met up to go over their "To Do List." There's a task for everyone. Someone has to inventory the plates, napkins and cups. Ruth has to bake more cookies. Several are needed to put up large signage at the entrance, reminding everyone that National Night Out is Tuesday, Oct. 3. [Click here](#) for more. At [www.Arlingtonnpd.org](http://www.Arlingtonnpd.org), see more planning highlights from Emerald Park. [Click here.](#)



## Voices Heard

Issues of importance to the Arlington community took center stage in August. Clergy leaders organized a Peace Prayer on Aug. 15 and Cornerstone Church hosted the Kingdom Conversation on Race and the Alt-Right on Aug. 20. The racist violence in our country is on the minds of many, said Police Chief Will Johnson who served on a panel who led discussions on unity and peace. At a Unidos meeting on Aug. 30, hundreds gathered to understand Senate Bill 4. A federal judge has blocked Texas from enforcing its ban on sanctuary cities, questioning the constitutionality of a bill that was set to become law on Sept. 1.

# On Call

## AUGUST CRIME PREVENTION NORTH POLICE DISTRICT

### Police Volunteers Help Children Prepare for Success in School

Families getting their kids ready for a brand new school year received an outpouring of community support.

The Arlington Police Department would like to thank those who played a role, collecting and distributing school supplies, backpacks and clothing across the city. On Aug. 14, members of the

Arlington Clergy and Police Partnership organized its Fifth Annual Lift Up A Child's Future initiative.

With the South Cooper Street Walmart as a partner, discounts were provided and volunteers were able to stretch their dollars.

It was our ACAPP members and officers who identified families who could use a little assistance. Marcia Nikl was one of our dedicated shoppers.

"We want every child to be a successful learner in school and wearing good shoes and clothing is an important first step in that process," she said.



Chaplain Mike Sabourin, an ACAPP member, helps a young man select a new pair of jeans for the first day of school.



A special thanks to Walmart for helping us make our dollars stretch further and making the check-out process easy for our families.



Officer Fretwell is a Crime Prevention Officer in the North Police District. She can be reached at 817-459-5589 or [Kimberly.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov). Looking for more crime prevention highlights from police districts? Visit us on the web at [www.ArlingtonPD.org](http://www.ArlingtonPD.org).

### Arlington Welcomes 24 New Officers

Twenty-four men and women have completed the journey to becoming an Arlington police officer. They have withstood the physical and mental challenges of more than 1,200 hours of classroom and reality-based scenario training.

"Today, we're here to celebrate that accomplishment," Sergeant Jimmy Salinas told those gathered at the Aug. 25 graduation ceremony.

These officers come from all over the U.S. and from many diverse backgrounds.

One was a high school teacher and another a UTA police officer.

Others bring years of military experience to the department while one worked 10 years in a civilian role with APD.

The class spokesman has a master's degree in mental health counseling and another has a law degree.

After graduation, they enter the next phase of field training to apply the lessons learned in the police academy.



Class 52 Motto: "United by Teamwork; Devoted To Service"

Before the transition, Corporal Danny Whittington, explained the meaning of the oath. The Training Coordinator told his new officers the oath makes no provision for excuses.

"When you take the oath, you are saying you'll go where others fear to tread. That you will stand up for those who cannot or will not."

He told them they will never own the badge.

"It belongs to the people. It is on loan to you and represents authority. You will earn the right to wear that badge each and every

day by having integrity and good moral character."

Following the presentation of academic achievement awards, Police Will Johnson presented each new officer with a certificate as city leaders, friends and family members applauded.

Officer Nicholas Ghidana, is the class spokesman.

"We go forth today, showing the community why we have earned the right to wear the badge."

Do you have what it takes to wear the badge? Click [here](#) to apply.

### "Everyone Seems to Be Connected on Social Media"

In less than 24 hours an arrest was made after video of a man suspected of at least two sexual assaults was posted on the Arlington Police Facebook page.

The post was viewed by close to 200,000 people and someone recognized the man's face, the silver jeep he was driving and called Crime Stoppers.

It was the break in the case that Arlington detectives needed.

"Everyone seems to be connected on social media even if they aren't watching the news," said APD Media Sergeant VaNessa Harrison.

"With social media, we're able to collect good information from our followers and garner more interest in crime prevention programs," she said.

When an engaged community is connected with their police department through social media, information travels fast.



"Social media is amazing," said Crime Prevention Officer Timothy Hayden who turned to Facebook and Next Door to spread community awareness about a new Citizens Police Academy class.

"We're getting phone calls and emails from people interested in joining our academy," he said. "We always have room for more!"

Applications are now being accepted for the Fall class which starts Sept. 18.

Click [here](#) to register or send an email to [Officer.Timothy.Hayden](mailto:Officer.Timothy.Hayden).

Did you know? Close to 200,000 people Are Connected With APD on Social Media

Join us on Facebook [here](#). Connect on Twitter [here](#).



[www.ArlingtonPD.org](http://www.ArlingtonPD.org)

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