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Mission Statement The mission of the St. Bernard Police Department is to safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve, to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, to resolve problems among citizens, and to enhance public safety and quality of life through the delivery of fair and impartial police services.

Notes from the Editors We are proud to present this publication to our community on behalf of the personnel of this department. The intent of this newsletter is to keep you informed about current law enforcement issues and to allow you to get to know your police officers better. If you have any suggestions for articles or comments send them to the editors. Thanks!
Officers Bill Ungruhe, Rodney Chatman, and Keith Ingram.

Crime Beat Information - Be Informed - Keep us Informed – Be Safe!

During Jan-Mar 2001 there were a total of 185 offenses. The following is a breakdown of offenses committed for the last three months: Arrest Open Capias/Warrant 55; Assaults 5; Attempt Theft 2; Bomb threat 1; Breaking & Entering 2; Burglary 2; Cigarette Code Violations 1; Counterfeit Money 4; Criminal Damaging 11; Criminal Mischief 2; Disorderly Conduct 6; Domestic Dispute 5; Domestic Violence 9; Drug Paraphernalia 1; Drugs Possession 3; Forgery 1; Juvenile Status Offenses 2; Menacing 2; Mental Holds 1; Missing Adult 1; Missing Juvenile 1; Obstructing Official Business 3; Open Container 1; Sex Offense 1; Stalking 1; Telephone Harassment 3; Theft 50; Theft Bike 2; Theft Vehicle 2; Underage Consumption 2; Vandalism 2; Weapons Under Disability 1. As you can see, we are not immune to crime, but if we work together we can stop some of these criminals. It starts by reporting the crime. We have seen an increase in thefts from vehicles. “Smash and grabs.” A good prevention is to



Together we can stop criminals and solve community problems!

make sure your vehicles doors are locked, don’t leave extra keys out, keep valuables out of sight, if you have a CD player get the kind with a removable front plate and take it out each day. If you see persons you don’t recognize hanging out around vehicles give us a call. While investigating many of these reports we have heard citizens state “I didn’t want to bother you!”, it isn’t a bother if you call, it may help us to solve some of these offenses. If you have outdoor spotlights light the cars up. We are getting ready to go into the spring and summertime which historically is a time of bike thefts. Make sure your bikes are registered and lock them inside the house or with a strong chain. Remind your

children not to leave them out on the sidewalk. During these three months officers responded to 2307 requests for service. The average response time 1-2 minutes. Don’t become a victim and don’t be afraid to call us. If you see something strange going on, give us a call to respond or leave a crime tip on our anonymous crime tip line at 860-7233. Together we can stop criminals and solve community problems.

CITIZEN SURVEY FOR 2001 – WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK

We have inserted a Citizen survey in this issue. We value the need to provide a spirit of open communication with our citizens. An important aspect of this open communication involves increased interaction and feedback between the police officers and citizens like yourself. Please take a moment to complete this survey and either mail it or drop it off at the PD. Your honest input is needed so that we can continue to serve you better. The surveys are anonymous and are being mailed to all residences in the City. Thank you for your interest.

April 2001

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St. Bernard Police Newsletter

Department Newsletter Established

We have decided to publish a newsletter to serve you better, by keeping you informed about current law enforcement issues, informing you on what is going on with current programs and to allow you to get to know your police officers better. If there are any topics or issues that you would like to see us discuss in future issues, or put out on our new web site please call or write me or the editors with your suggestions. We hope that



Chief Steve Moeller

you will find this newsletter beneficial and we look forward to hearing from you. We are also looking for opportunities to be more involved in the community for example we are looking at setting up a Citizen Police Academy and at developing a rapid response team to respond to acts of violence in our schools or businesses. We appreciate the support from the residents and are proud to serve and protect our community.

What is Accreditation?

Last year after much research and consideration, we as a Police Department in conjunction with our City Officials made a commitment to have our department join the ranks of nationally accredited (certified) police agencies.



Officer Bill Ungruhe

Accreditation is a very honorable distinction which has been bestowed upon a relatively small group of law enforcement organizations. It says that we as a City and Department are committed to providing excellence in leadership, resource management, and the very best possible public safety service delivery. Specifically, accreditation means that a law enforcement agency has satisfactorily met CALEA’s (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) 400+ standards which cover the full range of law enforcement operations, e.g. criminal investigations, recruitment and selection, general organization management,

training, patrol operations, communications, traffic administration, complaint procedures etc.

Not only will we have standards that we will be held to, but we will have verification of our performance by an independent agency. The first steps in this process are underway.

Since July, we have conducted a self assessment of the organization, and are currently establishing a policy procedural manual. The remaining requirements are to gather proofs of compliance with the standards, and the awarding of accreditation upon successful completion of an on-site inspection. This process is an organizational goal requiring the dedicated participation of all Departmental personnel over the next several years. It is our opinion that becoming accredited is a commitment to excellence and professionalism worthy of our efforts and worthy of our citizens.

Department Web Page

We are currently developing a police web site for our community. Our registered domain is www.stbernardpolice.org. When this site is completed you will be able to obtain important contact information, links to important sites for victims of crime, online safety for our children, registered sexual predators, reporting of fraud etc. You will also be able to send us email including online bike registration, out of town house checks, complaints, suggestions, surveys etc. There will be program information and a calendar of events,

photos, ordinances, annual report etc. We have a very rough draft posted to the web now. Keep an eye out for it and let us know what you think. This web site was developed as a community service program to provide our citizens with up to date law enforcement information. When it is up and running Please take the time to complete a citizen survey to let us know how we can better serve you. If you have any suggestions on the web site email Officer Ungruhe at bungruhe@stbernardpolice.org.

Crime Prevention Tips

Unlocked Cars

Don't leave your car running with your keys inside.....many vehicles are stolen this way. It only takes a second.

Out of Town

When you leave town for vacation, you should: call the station and complete an out of town report so that officers can check on your home while you are away, ask a neighbor to pickup your mail and newspaper, place lights/radio's on rotating timers so it appears someone is home, let a friend or family member know you are gone so that they can be alert to any suspicious activity near your home.

House Numbers

Check the house number on the front of your house.....Are they present? Are they blocked? Are they large enough (at least 2-3 inches minimum) to be seen from the street? Are they reflective?....If you answered no to any of these maybe it is time to replace your house number. This is very important when police and medical personnel are responding to emergency situations, especially at night.

Lights

Light up the outside perimeter of your house. Criminals don't like the light.

Crime Tips

If you have any crime tip information, please call our anonymous line 860-7233. We need your help!

Officer Davis to Retire – Thanks for your Service Ken!

As of June 12th, Officer Ken Davis will be retiring after almost twenty-six years of dedicated service. Ken and his family moved to St. Bernard in 1959. Ken has two sisters and two brothers of which one brother is deceased. He attended St. Bernard High School and graduated in 1971. Ken served in the U.S. Army from 1972 to 1975 while attending college at Central Texas Tech University. In September of 1975 Ken was appointed to the St. Bernard Police Department. The following year he married Karen Kistner. They have two children and one foster daughter Kenneth, Kristen, and Katie. During his term of office Ken has served under three Chiefs: Robert Heller, Al Rusche, and Steve Moeller. Ken has attended many schools and was the first from our Department to graduate



Officer Ken Davis

from the Ohio State Patrol Academy. Ken has received many commendations and among those was an "Honorable Mention" for the Hamilton County Policeman of the Year Award. When asked what he would like to say to the community? "Many thanks are in order for the opportunity to have served the City of St. Bernard and there are many memories that I will carry with me. I especially would like to thank a personal friend and partner Officer Kevin Condon for his assistance earlier in my career for his time and efforts in showing me different skills within this profession. It seems like it was only yesterday that I started this job and now it's coming to an end. The citizens of St. Bernard will always have a very special place in my heart. Thanks Again!" We thank you Ken and wish you and your family a happy retirement.

Meet Your Newest Officers

We would like to welcome the newest members to our law enforcement team, Officer Keith Ingram and Officer Rodney Chatman.



Officer Keith Ingram

Officer Ingram comes to us as a "rookie". He spent 18 weeks in training at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in London, Ohio in the summer of 2000. Previously, he was in industrial sales, but has always wanted to be in law enforcement. He is 32 years old and he and his wife, Jenny (Pfeifer), is lifelong resident.

Officer Chatman comes to us with over 10 years experience as a police officer. He has experience as a Hamilton County SWAT Team Negotiator, DARE Officer, and Bicycle Officer. He is 34 years old and has been married 5 years to his wife Angela and has two children Rodney II (14) and Devell (11). His hobbies include: Dee Jay, basketball, fast pitch softball and bowling. He also loves animals and has two cats (Shooz and Soxx) and a dog (Blade).

When asked what he thought about his new assignment? Officer Chatman stated, "I absolutely love my job. I was a police officer in Silverton for approximately 10 years. Although



Officer Rodney Chatman

I thoroughly miss the close relationships that I had there, I believe that St. Bernard is an excellent place to work, and I'm very excited about the experiences I've had here so far as well the ones I know are to come." His favorite quote, "SMILE!!! If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. Please join us in welcoming Officers Ingram and Chatman and their families to our St. Bernard community. We are glad to have them on board. If you get a chance, stop in and say hello or flag them down if you see them on patrol. We have also included an insert with a picture of all of your officers for this year. Stop by and get to know each of us. Thanks!

First Annual Policemen vs. Firemen Charity Basketball Game

A few weeks ago the police and fire departments squared off for a first annual charity basketball game at St. Bernard High School to benefit MDA. This was more of a battle of the Guns vs. Hoses. The Guns took an early lead. At one point, the Guns were so confident they were resting. The Hoses were amused by the Guns and were caught laughing at the cops' forms. Even the refs got into the match and were seen acting alike, wearing the same glasses, and even looking alike, and I don't mean their shirts. Back on the court after half



time the Hoses seemed to take the lead. When it was all said and done, the Hoses scored many more points than the Guns, but the real winners were the fans and MDA. Approximately \$400 was raised. A big thanks goes out to all who volunteered their services and helped make this event a success. St. Bernard businesses, Eagles, Athletic boosters, Sarah Spradlin - scorekeeper, the refs, and St. Bernard High School all worked together to put on a great event. If you missed it this year, keep an eye out and we'll see you next year to help this important

Gun Safety – Trigger Lock Program

Child access to guns is a critical issue in our society today. It has far reaching implications for the entire community. There are no absolute answers to problems relating to youth and guns but there are some solutions worthy of consideration. One solution is the use of trigger locks to guard against the misuse of guns and ammunition. We will be conducting a gun safety trigger lock program in conjunction with the Ohio



Chiefs of Police and the National Law Enforcement Foundation. The program will last approximately an hour and the presenting team will consist of a firearms safety instructor, Paramedics/EMT, and our City Prosecutor. The evening should be very educational and community members participating in the program will receive free trigger locks. This event will be held on April 23 and May 21 7 P. M. at the St. Bernard Municipal Building. Please

Fraud Prevention - You Can Protect Yourself

It's not always easy to spot con artists. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Never give a caller your credit card, phone card, Social Security, or bank account number over the phone. It's illegal for telemarketers to ask for these numbers to verify a prize or gift. Beware of 900 numbers. People who call 900 numbers to request instant credit often end up with a booklet on how to establish credit or a list of banks offering low-interest credit cards. Such calls can end up costing \$50 or more, but consumers rarely end up obtaining credit. Listen carefully to the name of a charity requesting money. Fraudulent charities often use names that sound like a reputable, well-known organization. Ask for a financial report before you donate; a reputable charity will always send you one. Investigate before you invest. Never make an investment with a stranger over the phone. Your best protection is to just hang up the phone. If you find yourself caught up in a sales pitch, remember the federal government's Telemarketing Sales Rule. You have to be told the name of the company, the fact that it is a sales call, and what's being sold. If a prize is being offered, you have to be told immediately that there is no purchase necessary to win. If the caller says you've won a prize, you cannot be

asked to pay anything for it. You can't even be required to pay shipping charges. If it is a sweepstakes, the caller must tell you how to enter without making a purchase. You cannot be asked to pay in advance for services such as cleansing your credit record, finding you a loan, acquiring a prize they say you've won. You pay for services only if they're actually delivered. You shouldn't be called before 8:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. If you tell telemarketers not to call again, they can't. If they do, they have broken the law. If you're guaranteed a refund, the caller has to tell you all the limitations. **Remember, don't give telemarketers your credit card number, your bank account number, Social Security number - or authorize bank drafts - ever.** **If Someone Rips You Off** Report con games to the police, your city or state consumer protection office, district attorney's office, or a consumer advocacy group. If you suspect fraud, call the National Fraud Information Center at 800-876-7060, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. To find out more, visit <http://www.fraud.org/>. Don't feel foolish. Reporting is vital. Very few frauds are reported, which leaves the con artists free to rob other people of their money - and their trust.

Crime Prevention Tips

Bike Safety

A bike can be stolen from just about any place, but simple precautions can deter would-be bike thieves. Remember: **Most bikes that are stolen are not locked!** Always lock your bike securely, whether you're gone for a few minutes, or a few hours. If your bike is at home, keep it in a locked garage, or locked securely to a post, tree, or other object. Don't leave it unsecured in the yard or driveway. What kind of lock should you use? Use a U-lock, securing both wheels and the frame to a stationary object, like a post, fence, tree, or bike rack. Record the serial number of your bike and keep it with the sales receipt and a photograph of your bike. Come into the PD and register your bikes. It may help us to identify your bike if it is recovered.

NEW CRUISERS

The new cruisers are in we hope you like them!



QUESTIONS???

If you have a law enforcement question or topic that you would like us to feature in upcoming newsletters, mail your request to the PD attention Newsletter Publisher, or email us at mail@stbernardpolice.org.