



# North Carolina Community Watch Association

Post Office Box 13886 • Greensboro, NC 27415

The N.C. Community Watch Association is a non profit state-wide organization of individuals and organizations who realize that Community Watch positively influences the quality of life of our communities. Community Watch helps develop environments where crime can not flourish through a concentrated, cooperative effort.

The purpose of the organization is to aid in the prevention of criminality and the reduction of criminal opportunity in our communities.

The goals of the association are:

- To provide all citizens within the State an awareness of their responsibility to prevent criminality and the acts of crime.
- To create and promote an awareness of the concepts of Community Watch in all our communities.
- To promote within state and local government an awareness on the part of its representatives of their responsibility to crime prevention and community policing.

The objectives of the association are:

- To create active, viable and dynamic cooperation and exchange of information among and between community watches as well as the law enforcement community.
- To create a system of local and state-wide communication of community watch, crime prevention and community policing information.
- To develop and disseminate community watch practices, technical and operational and promote their use in the community on a state-wide, county-wide and local level.

## Membership

Membership is available to both civilian and law enforcement personnel, community watch groups, law enforcement agencies and governmental agencies whose responsibilities include the promotion of crime prevention.

Dues are \$5 per year for individuals and \$15 per year for organizations.

## Workshops

Training workshops are hosted by member groups and law enforcement agencies across the state. Training is usually based on the needs of the host community. All members are encouraged to attend as many training workshops as possible to successfully meet the objectives of the organization.

*Citizens and Law Enforcement Working Together*

# NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY WATCH ASSOCIATION



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:  
Work: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Community Watch/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name for C/W or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Membership:** (July 1 – June 30 = membership year)

- Individual = \$5 per year**
- Organization (1 year) = \$15**
- Organization (2 years) = \$25**

Please tell us about your Community Watch Group and what we as a State Association can do for you. \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to see the NC Community Watch Association Accomplish?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donations:  
If you would like to make a donation for use in promoting Community Watch and Crime Prevention please feel free to do so. Donation Amount - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your completed application and dues to:**

**Ms. Shawn Braswell  
North Carolina Community Watch Association  
Post Office Box 13886  
Greensboro, North Carolina 27415**

For NCCWA Secretary/Treasurer Use Only:  
Membership Type:  Individual  Organization      Membership Year(s): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Dues Received: \_\_\_\_\_      Membership card/certificate completed: \_\_\_\_\_



# North Carolina Community Watch Association

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## ***Board of Directors Contact List***

### President -

Lt. Raymond Goodwin  
Nashville Police Dept.  
Post Office Drawer 987  
Nashville NC 27856

Phone-office: 252-459-4545

### 1st Vice President -

Lt. Irvin Robinson  
Henderson Police Dept.  
200 Breckenridge St  
Henderson NC 27536

Phone-office: 252-438-4141  
Email: irobinson@ci.henderson.nc.us

### 2nd Vice President -

Mr. Robert Smith  
2001 Shangri-la Ln.  
Conover NC 28613

Phone: 704-465-1787  
Email: robertsmith@conninc.com

### Secretary/Treasurer-

Officer Shawn Braswell  
Greensboro Police Dept.  
1106 Maple St.  
Greensboro NC 27405

Phone-office: 336-433-7318  
Email: Shawn.Braswell@greensboro-nc.gov

### Board of Directors -

Mr. Billy Black  
402 E McLelland Ave  
Mooresville NC 28115  
Phone: 704-664-5275  
Email: billblack16@hotmail.com

Officer Angela Feingold  
Henderson Police Dept.  
200 Breckenridge St  
Henderson NC 27536  
Phone-office: 252-430-3165  
Email: afeingold@nc.rr.com

Ms. Deborah Haro  
2618 West Court St  
Greensboro NC 27407  
Phone: 336-292-7286  
Email: Dharo3@bellsouth.net

### Sergeant At Arms -

Mr. Sam Pearson  
13 West Creek Rd  
Henderson NC 27537  
Phone: 252-492-1009

### Chaplain -

Ms. Lena Sessoms  
524 E Murfee St  
Nashville NC 27856  
Phone: 252-459-3262

### Parliamentarian -

Sgt. Rick Eades  
Iredell County Sheriff's Dept.  
Post Office Box 287  
Statesville NC 28687  
Phone-office: 704-902-2694  
Email: reades@co.iredell.nc.us

### Immediate Past President -

Mr. Freddie Crawford  
409 Whitehorn Dr  
Gastonia NC 28054  
Phone: 704-864-2172  
Email: freddiesea@aol.com

# Responsibilities of Neighborhood Watch Members

## DUTIES OF WATCH MEMBERS

Be the “eyes and ears” of the neighborhood for police

- Report unusual activity to the police and block captain
- Report suspicious vehicles and people to the police and block captain

Members may take a more Active role in the watch by:

- Passing out informational flyers
- Coordinating programs
- Becoming a leader

## DUTIES OF A BLOCK CAPTAIN

- ❖ Be the “eyes and ears” of the neighborhood for police
- ❖ Assists the Watch Captain in passing information to and from the members of the program on your block
- ❖ Keeps in touch with the Watch Captain
- ❖ Recruits new members

## DUTIES OF THE WATCH CAPTAIN

- Be the “eyes and ears” of the neighborhood for police
- Distributes information to members
- Recruits new members
- Provides current crime prevention information to members
- Updates phone tree
- Announces and advertises meetings
- Leads meetings
- Coordinates information with Law Enforcement
- Develops agendas and finds guest speakers
- Delegates duties among members

## ROLE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ◆ Guides members as they form Watches
- ◆ Provides leadership to members
- ◆ Supports members as they face challenges and work on goals
- ◆ Offers updated crime prevention information and training
- ◆ Prepares members to effectively run Watches on their own



# **Starting a Community Watch**

**A Guide for Neighborhood Leaders**



**Greensboro Police Department  
Operations Bureau 1  
1106 Maple Street  
Greensboro, NC 27405**

**336-574-4035**

**Crime Prevention Officer S. A. Braswell  
433-7318**

**Crime Prevention Officer J. L. Cayton  
373-2135**

## **What is a Community Watch?**

**Community Watch, Neighborhood Watch, Block Watch, Town Watch, Crime Watch - whatever the name, it's one of the most effective and least costly ways to prevent crime and reduce fear. A community watch fights the isolation that crime both creates and feeds upon. It forges bonds among area residents, helps reduce burglaries and robberies, and improves relations between police and the communities they serve.**

## **The ABC's of Community Watch**

- **Any community resident can join - young and old, single and married, renter and home owner.**
- **A few concerned residents, or a community organization, can spearhead the effort to organize a Watch.**
- **Members learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other and the neighborhood, and report activities that raise their suspicions to the police.**
- **You can form a Watch group around any geographical unit: a block, apartment, park, business area, public housing complex, or office.**
- **Watch groups are not vigilantes. They are the extra eyes and ears for reporting crime and helping neighbors. Community Watch helps build pride and serves as a springboard for efforts that address community concerns such as recreation for youth, child care, and affordable housing.**

## **Getting Organized**

**Forming a Community Watch is a challenge. Here are a few tips to get your group started.**

- Talk with the neighbors you know and express your desire to get a community watch started in your neighborhood. Solicit their help in getting this project going.**
- Find a place to hold a meeting. Your Crime Prevention Officer will conduct this meeting to tell all the residents what a community watch is and what their responsibilities as a member will be.**
- Decide on a date and time for your initial meeting. Please be sure to contact your crime prevention officer to ensure they will be able to attend.**
- Recruit other members, keep up-to-date on new residents and making special efforts to involve the elderly, working parents, and young people.**
- Select a coordinator and block captains who are responsible for organizing meetings and relaying information to members.**
- Keep in contact with your Crime Prevention Officer.**
- Schedule regular meeting times for your group. As you get started you may need to meet every month.**

## **What makes a Successful Community Watch?**

**Typically, Community Watch groups organize to respond to an immediate threat - a sharp increase in burglaries, or auto thefts, rising fear of street crime. Often, when the crisis is resolved, membership and the commitment to the Watch start to fade away. After all, why keep looking out for criminals if they've been arrested or gone elsewhere?**

**This short-sighted attitude ignores key benefits of the contemporary Community Watch - a Watch group empowers people to prevent crime, forges bonds between law enforcement and the communities they serve, and builds a foundation for broader community involvement. Community Watch is far more than a quick fix for an immediate crisis - it can be a moving force for positive changes that tackle root causes of crime.**

**Successful Community Watches move beyond the basics of home security, watching out for suspicious activities, and reporting them to law enforcement. They sponsor community cleanups, find solutions to local traffic problems, collect clothing and toys for homeless families, organize after-school activities for young people, help victims of crime, tutor teens at risk for dropping out of school, reclaim playgrounds from drug dealers, and form task forces that influence policy makers.**

## **Keeping a Watch Alive**

**Key Survival Tactics for keeping a Watch alive:**

**Spell out roles and responsibilities of the association and its members. Adopt bylaws and elect officers.**

- **Decentralize planning and work. Delegate tasks and establish standing committees.**
- **Keep in touch with members. Use personal contacts, in and outside of meetings. Distribute a newsletter to communicate regularly with members.**
- **Plan for and train new leaders. Don't burn out existing ones.**
- **Mobilize collective resources and use them. Know members' skills and personal and business contacts. Be realistic about how many people you need to do a job.**
- **Use outside resources, such as government agencies and community-based organizations.**
- **Strike a balance between business and pleasure. Conduct business meetings on time and efficiently, but have a time for socializing before or after the meeting.**
- **Involve all elements in the community - single parents, renters as well as homeowners, teenagers, senior citizens, business owners and managers.**

## **What do I do next?**

- **Decide if a Community Watch is right for your neighborhood.**
- **Choose a manageable area for your community watch.**
- **Contact Crime Prevention Officer Braswell or Officer Cayton to set up a meeting date for your community.**



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Operations Bureau 1  
1106 Maple Street  
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**Crime Prevention Officer S. A. Braswell  
shawn.braswell@greensboro-nc.gov  
336-433-7318**

**Crime Prevention Officer J. L. Cayton  
jim.cayton@greensboro-nc.gov  
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