



HUNTINGTON BEACH

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



TAKE A BITE OUT OF **CRIME**

Date: **DECEMBER 2004**

Vol. **32**

No. **12**

**POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY** 911  
**NON-EMERGENCY/DISPATCH** 960-8825  
**POLICE: Business Line** 960-8811  
**Vacation checks (R.S.V.P.)** 374-1507  
**Website:** <http://www.hbpd.org>

**Information Desk** 960-8843  
**Graffiti Hot Line** 960-8861  
**Neighborhood Watch** 536-5933  
**Layout Design:** Midge Martin  
**E-mail:** [swajda@hbpd.org](mailto:swajda@hbpd.org)

Compiled and Edited by **Suzie Wajda, HBPD Community Services Specialist**

## Christmas "Spark of Love" Toy Drive



The Orange County Firefighters "Spark of Love" toy drive is combining their efforts with "Toys for Tots." Together they will disseminate toys to various Orange County charitable organizations, which will then distribute toys to needy families during Christmas.

If you would like to donate a toy or toys to a needy family, you can drop them off at any Orange County Fire Station or at the Huntington Beach Civic Center lobby or the police department lobby from November 26<sup>th</sup> thru December 24<sup>th</sup>.

Last year the "Spark of Love" toy drive collected and distributed over 110,000 toys to the children in our communities who may have gone without during the holiday season.

**HB Neighborhood Watch  
 BOARD MEETING  
 Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
 6:30 PM  
 Huntington Beach Police Dept.  
 2<sup>ND</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Huntington Beach Police Dept.**



**Wishes all of you A Safe and Happy Holiday**

## TIS THE SEASON FOR RESPONSIBLE HOSTING

The decision to serve alcoholic beverages in your home carries with it a responsibility for the welfare of your guests. Responsible attitudes towards drinking should make us behave in such a way that we would never have to feel sorry for what happened. Remember, people don't like to admit that they are impaired, and may argue that they are okay to drive. Share with your guests the fact that impairment begins with the very first drink, and remind them of the penalties they face if convicted of driving under the influence.

Orange County Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) suggest to:

- Set a drink limit, and don't push drinks—push food and non-alcoholic beverages.
- If you serve an alcoholic punch, make it with a non-carbonated base.
- Never let your guests drink and drive.
- Never serve alcohol to anyone under 21 years of age.
- Don't ride in a car with anyone who is impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- Have a designated driver for all party events.
- 

**"Happy Holidays"**

## CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

A Christmas tree purchased from a lot or cut on a tree farm can remain relatively fire resistant if you follow these simple steps:

- Cut 2-3 inches off the bottom of a fresh tree and put the tree in water immediately. This prevents the sap from forming off the cut and allows the tree to absorb the water. Use a sturdy holder and fill with water daily.
- Check lights carefully for broken sockets or frayed wires before you put them on your tree. Replace any strings that look damaged.
- Keep your tree away from heat sources, such as a fireplace or heaters, which will dry it out.
- Unplug the tree lights and any outdoor lights when you go to bed or leave for the evening.
- Avoid placing breakable ornaments and ornaments with small parts on lower branches where children or pets can reach them. Ornaments and other holiday decorations should be non-combustible or flame resistant.
- Do not burn wrapping paper or tree branches in your fireplace.
- Dispose of your tree right after the holiday is over.



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## TIPS FOR SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### HOLIDAY SAFETY



This holiday season, don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, muggers, and pickpockets a better chance to do their dirty work. Crooks love the holidays as much as everyone else, but chiefly because it's an opportune time for crime.

Homes jam-packed with glittering gifts. Stores, malls and downtown streets teeming with unsuspecting shoppers. People rushing around, stressed out and careless, looking for last-minute gifts, trying to get everything done. It's enough to make a crook giddy with holiday joy.

Here are some tips on how to celebrate safely this holiday season.

#### IF YOU'RE TRAVELING

- Get an automatic timer for your lights at home.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home and park in the driveway from time to time and pull up to the garage door.
- Ask a neighbor to pick up mail and newspapers. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.

#### IF YOU'RE OUT FOR THE EVENING

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks as if someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.
- Be extra careful to close your garage door. Do not leave it open, unless you are outside. Take your purse and your cell phone out from your car.
- Don't drink and drive.

#### IF YOU'RE SHOPPING

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever possible. Take only one credit card. Use ATM automatic teller machines only during daytime hours, or try to go to an inside facility.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put your wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket. Do not leave your purse on a counter or in a shopping cart.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

#### IF A STRANGER COMES TO THE DOOR, BEWARE!!!

Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. And it's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity during the holidays by doing door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification, and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead. Do not give donations to strangers calling on the phone.

Last, but not least, don't let holiday stress get the best of your holiday spirit. Make time to get together with family, friends, and neighbors. And think about reaching out in the spirit of the season and helping someone who's less fortunate or lonely. Do your part to make the holidays a safe and happy time for everybody—except criminals.

#### TAKE A HOLIDAY INVENTORY

The holidays are a good time to update—or create—your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file. Make sure things like TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment, and power tools are on the list.

Remember to check it twice!



**HB1—CRIME FIGHTER IN THE SKY**

The poor weather in October was responsible for an inordinate amount of lost flight time. Even so, the air unit was involved in numerous high profile activities.

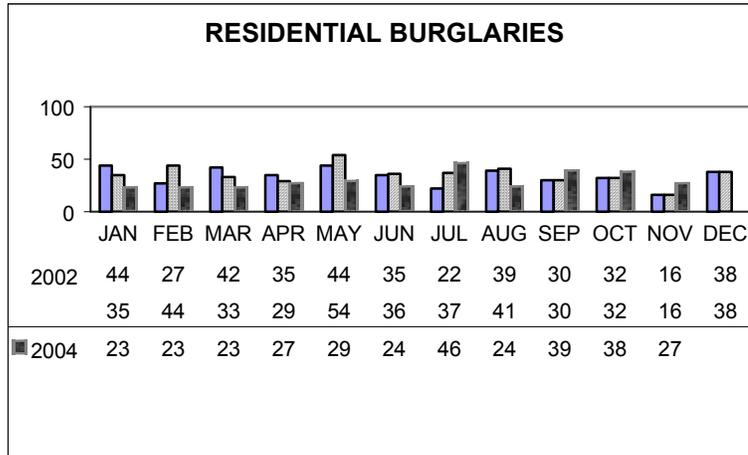


Detectives surrounded a house where a parolee at large was believed to be hiding out. HB1 was above when the suspect fled out of the rear door. A foot pursuit ensued with the aircrew directing officers to the suspect where he was taken into custody.

Fountain Valley units located and began to follow a stolen vehicle into our city. The suspect driving the stolen car failed to yield and a vehicle pursuit ensued. HB1 called the pursuit through several cities where it eventually terminated at Huntington Center. After a short foot chase the suspect was taken into custody. No injuries occurred to the public, officers, or the suspect.

Coastline Community College's parenting classes vested the hangar where tours were conducted for approximately 100 children and their parents. In the November issue, it was reported that Helicopter Pilot Officer Tim Lynn tendered his resignation. In fact, Officer Lynn retired from Law Enforcement after 30 years of service.

**Special thanks to members listed below for their donations.**



Due to limited space, contributor names may not be listed immediately, but as space allows.

- |                         |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
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**AREA SPEAKERS**

- Kathy DePeri, Penny Lambright  
Kathie Liboon, David Shostak  
Cathy Stan, Wayne Wong

**RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES GRAND THEFT AUTOS**

The police patrol areas are the north and south. The patrol beats are 2-13. Your RD (Reporting District) is the half-mile square surrounding your home.

To locate your Beat and RD, please check the map on the back inside page. In most cases, your BEAT/RD is identified on your address-mailing label.

**RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES**

**27 FOR NOVEMBER  
38 FOR OCTOBER**

Thirteen of the entries were due **OPEN OR UNLOCKED** windows or doors, or 48% of the entries.

Further breakdown reveals 5 garage entries out of 24 burglaries, or 19% of the entries reported in June.

Eighteen entries reported occurred during daytime (6:00 am. to 6:00 pm.). Nine entries occurred during night (6:00 pm. to 6:00 am.).

There were six entries reported by unknown means, one entry by a window smash, two attempts without entry, four entries by force or pry, one entry by a passkey.

**VEHICLE BURGLARIES**

**82 IN NOVEMBER  
93 IN OCTOBER**

**GRAND THEFT AUTOS**

**60 IN NOVEMBER  
65 IN OCTOBER**

**BEAT 2**

- 0 Residential Burglaries**
- 2 Vehicle Burglaries**
- 2 Grand Theft Autos**

Residential Burglaries

None

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 464 - 1      RD 476 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 467 - 1      RD 476 - 1

**BEAT 3**

- 3 Residential Burglaries**
- 3 Vehicle Burglaries**
- 1 Grand Theft Auto**

Residential Burglaries

RD 444 - 1      RD 454 - 1  
RD 457 - 1

Streets: Newby, Placer, and Cliff. Two entries by unknown means, one entry by a window smash. There were no garage burglaries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 445 - 1      RD 446 - 1  
RD 457 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 454 - 1

**BEAT 4**

- 2 Residential Burglaries**
- 2 Vehicle Burglaries**
- 7 Grand Theft Autos**

Residential Burglaries

RD 442 - 2

Streets: Georgia and Delaware. **ONE ENTRY THRU AN UNLOCKED DOOR.** One entry by unknown means. There were no garage burglaries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 463 - 1      RD 473 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 432 - 1      RD 452 - 3  
RD 462 - 1      RD 463 - 1  
RD 473 - 1

**BEAT 5**

- 1 Residential Burglary**
- 1 Vehicle Burglary**
- 3 Grand Theft Autos**

Residential Burglaries

RD 426 - 1

Street: Albacore. One attempt without entry. There were no garage burglaries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 435 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 435 - 1      RD 437 - 2

**BEAT 6**

- 6 Residential Burglaries**
- 5 Vehicle Burglaries**
- 3 Grand Theft Autos**

Residential Burglaries

RD 349 - 2      RD 441 - 1  
RD 451 - 3

Streets: 22<sup>nd</sup> St., 17<sup>th</sup> St., Main St., 8<sup>th</sup> St., two entries on Pecan. **FOUR ENTRIES BY OPEN OR UNLOCKED WINDOWS OR DOORS.** One entry by force, one entry by unknown means. There was one garage burglary. Suspect was arrested for RD 451 Main St. unlocked entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 338 - 1      RD 348 - 2  
RD 349 - 1      RD 431 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 359 - 1      RD 451 - 2

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTOS

BEAT 7

0 Residential Burglaries  
9 Vehicle Burglaries  
2 Grand Theft

Residential Burglaries  
None

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 291 - 1      RD 292 - 3  
RD 293 - 1      RD 319 - 2  
RD 412 - 1      RD 423 - 1

Grand Theft Autos  
RD 293 - 1      RD 413 - 1

BEAT 8

1 Residential Burglary  
4 Vehicle Burglaries  
2 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries  
RD 179 - 1

Street: Rook, suspect arrested in OPEN side garage door.

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 177 - 2      RD 179 - 1  
RD 187 - 1

Grand Theft Autos  
RD 179 - 1      RD 188 - 1

BEAT 9

6 Residential Burglaries  
24 Vehicle Burglaries  
7 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries  
RD 263 - 2      RD 264 - 1  
RD 282 - 1      RD 283 - 2

Streets: Warner, Irby, Glasgow, Beard, Newman and Michael. FOUR ENTRIES BY OPEN OR UNLOCKED DOORS OR WINDOWS. Two entries by pry tool. There was one garage burglary.

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 263 - 4      RD 264 - 3  
RD 271 - 1      RD 272 - 4  
RD 273 - 4      RD 282 - 5  
RD 283 - 3

Grand Theft Autos  
RD 272 - 2      RD 282 - 1  
RD 283 - 4

BEAT 10

4 Residential Burglaries  
9 Vehicle Burglaries  
5 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries  
RD 155 - 2      RD 165 - 2

Streets: Rhapsody, Scenario, Pearce and Lago. ONE ENTRY BY AN OPEN DOOR. There was two entries by unknown means, one entry by force. There were two garage burglaries.

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 152 - 2      RD 155 - 2  
RD 164 - 2      RD 165 - 1  
RD 173 - 1      RD 175 - 1

Grand Theft Autos  
RD 155 - 1      RD 164 - 1  
RD 165 - 3

BEAT 11

2 Residential Burglaries  
1 Vehicle Burglary  
5 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries  
RD 166 - 1      RD 169 - 1

Streets: Pearce and Corrine. ONE ENTRY BY AN OPEN WINDOW. There was entry by a passkey. There were no garage burglaries.

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 156 - 1

Grand Theft Autos  
RD 156 - 1      RD 158 - 1  
RD 168 - 2      RD 169 - 1

BEAT 12

0 Residential Burglaries  
2 Vehicle Burglaries  
6 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

None

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 126 - 1      RD 149 - 1

Grand Theft Auto  
RD 136 - 1      RD 138 - 2  
RD 139 - 1      RD 147 - 1  
RD 149 - 1

BEAT 13

2 Residential Burglaries  
20 Vehicle Burglaries  
17 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries  
RD 252 - 1      RD 261 - 1

Streets: Stark and Kellog. ONE ENTRY BY AN UNLOCKED WINDOW. One attempt without entry. There were no garage burglaries

Vehicle Burglaries  
RD 241 - 4      RD 242 - 5  
RD 252 - 4      RD 261 - 2  
RD 262 - 5

Grand Theft Autos  
RD 241 - 5      RD 242 - 1  
RD 252 - 3      RD 253 - 2  
RD 261 - 2      RD 262 - 4

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If you would like to receive the newsletter over the Internet, please send your e-mail address to [swajda@hbpd.org](mailto:swajda@hbpd.org). Also include your name and address so we can remove your name from the postage mailing list.

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**VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH**

**RSVP**

**Ruth Brisky**

**RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**



Ruth was born in Boston, Massachusetts and lived there until 1971. She was married for 33 years and has 3 children.

Ruth and her family moved to Oklahoma and lived there for 5 years before moving to Huntington Beach. Her husband was an engineer and they moved to northern California and lived there for a while. While she was married, she worked as a bookkeeper for various companies and also started a small bookkeeping service for a short time.

In 1992, Ruth's husband died and she decided to move back to Huntington Beach. She worked

part-time as a bookkeeper for a CPA. She also did volunteer work at the library reading books to children. She also delivered holiday meals to seniors through the Rodgers Senior Center.

Ruth attended the Huntington Beach Police Department's Citizens Police Academy and soon became a volunteer. She joined the Retired Senior Volunteer Program 2 years ago and is very active as a volunteer helping where needed in the police department. She is assigned to the second floor investigation reception desk. She answers the phone, helps with paper work and assists the public twice a week. She also helps at the Farmers Market Pier booth on Fridays. For the past 2 years, she has dressed up as the "good" witch for the annual Oak View Halloween event. The children love to see her and she helps distribute candy to them.

In her spare time, Ruth enjoys all kinds of dancing, reading mysteries, walking her black lab dog, Sheba, and bike riding. She loves to travel and go on cruises whenever possible. She also loves meeting new people and especially enjoys the officers and civilians who work at the police department.

Ruth also enjoys her 5 grandchildren and feels very fortunate to have such a wonderful family who all live close by.

**Karen Martin**

**VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE**



Karen Martin was born in Honolulu, Hawaii but spent most of her childhood on the island of Maui. She came to the Los Angeles area to earn a degree in Civil Engineering at USC. Most of the 1980s were spent in the aerospace industry working as a stress analyst on the B-1, B-2, DC-10, and MD-11 aircraft programs.

Karen met her husband while in college and they were married a few years after graduating. The 1990s were spent raising their two children, Kelly and Kyle. Very busy in Mommy & Me activities, she quickly adjusted to the world of "full-time but never at home, mom" volunteer. For over 10 years she has volunteered both in and outside the

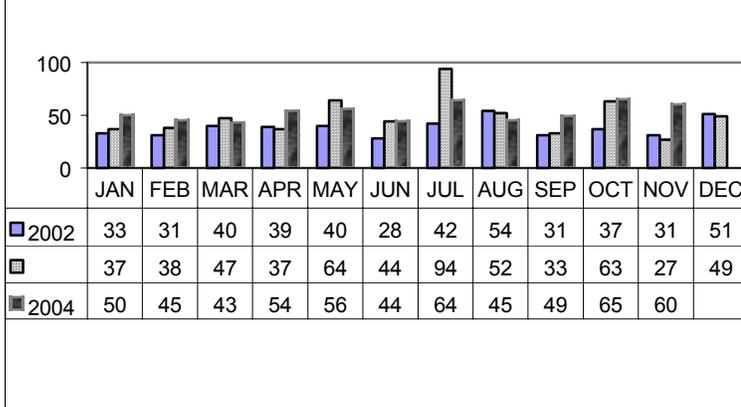
classroom at her children's schools.

Volunteering in school made Karen realize how important it is to be able to handle and care for all these children in a disaster. This led to her joining the City CERT (Citizen's Emergency Response Team) in April of 1999. Upon graduating she became a certified disaster service worker and volunteered to coordinate the organization's CPR training program. Also available through the CERT program, Karen became a licensed HAM Radio Operator and now checks in daily with a local emergency communications team.

Karen graduated from the Citizen Police Academy in November 2003 and joined the VIPS program the following January. So far she has been assigned to Oak View and South Substation duty, a training exercise, and delivering flyers to 400+ homes notifying them of a road closure.

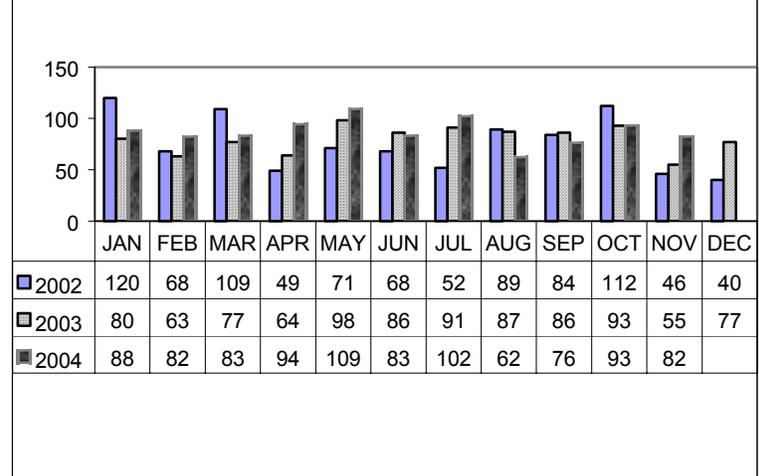
On Sundays you will find her at her church where typically she participates as a Eucharistic Minister. Daughter Kelly sings in the children's choir so mom assists there as well. This past school year Karen could be found teaching a weekly 7<sup>th</sup> grade religious education class. If she had any spare time, she would choose to do light reading, lunch with friends, attend a card-making workshop, or, more realistically, do a quick crossword puzzle (real quick!).

**GRAND THEFT AUTO**



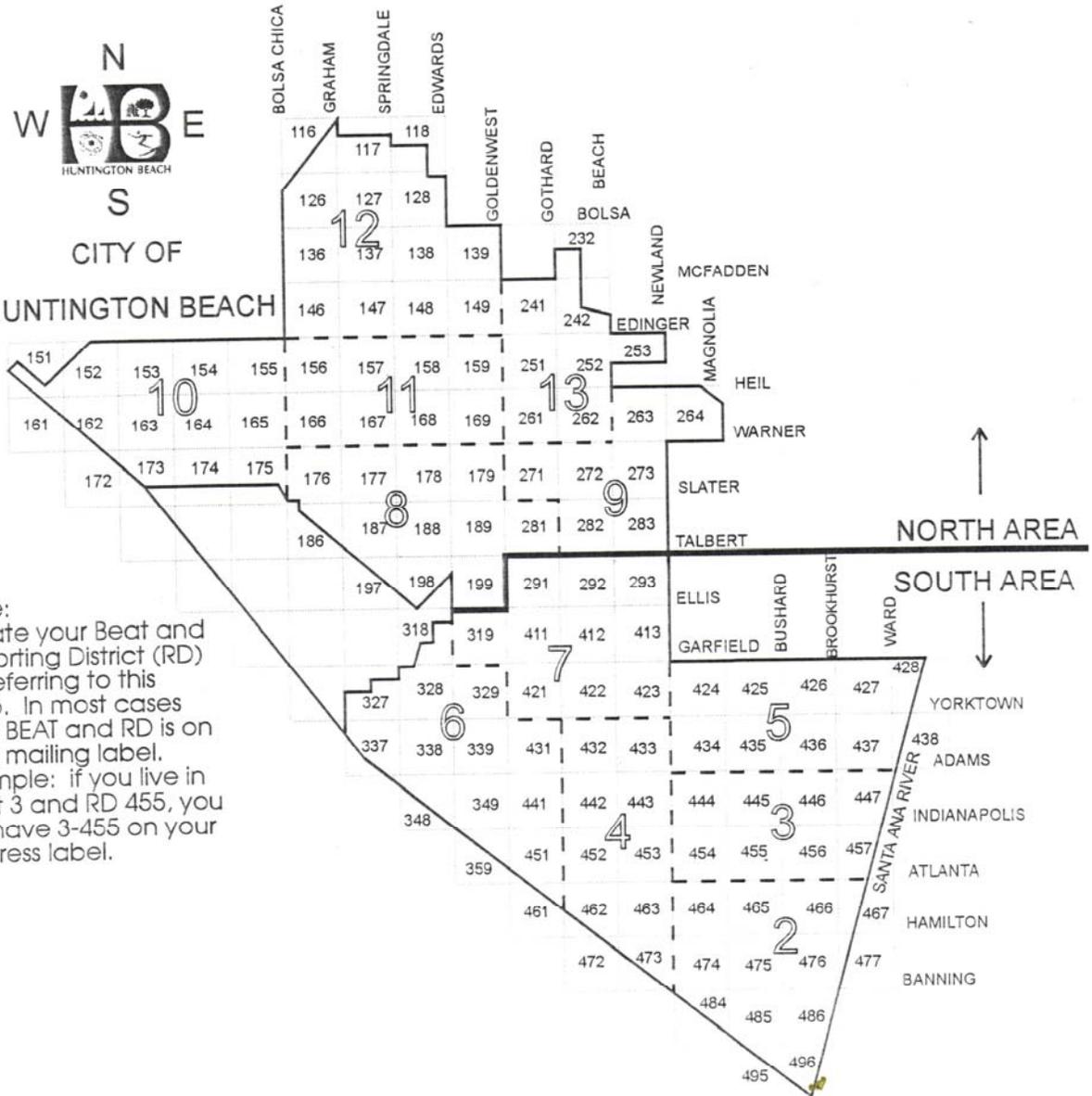
**VIPS**

**VEHICLE BURGLARIES**





CITY OF  
HUNTINGTON BEACH



Note:  
Locate your Beat and Reporting District (RD) by referring to this map. In most cases your BEAT and RD is on your mailing label.  
Example: if you live in Beat 3 and RD 455, you will have 3-455 on your address label.

NORTH AREA  
SOUTH AREA