

**Do you feel safe to walk alone at night?**

**Do you know who to call for an annoying neighbor?**

**Who do you call to talk to about graffiti in your neighborhood?**

**What is the Ventura County Sheriff's Office doing to address the problems in my neighborhood?**

*All these questions and many more will be answered when the Ventura County Sheriff's Office conducts a Neighborhood survey on November 12, 2011.*

**What is the Neighborhood survey?**

The Neighborhood survey is a door to door, in person, contact between residents and a member of the Sheriff's Office to determine the issues and problems in your neighborhood that affect you and your quality of life.

**Why is the Sheriff's Office conducting a Neighborhood survey?**

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office is aware that in order to address and resolve your issues that affect you and your quality of life that we must be made of aware of these problems, not simply by calls for service but by direct interactions between you and deputies. The Sheriff's Office also realizes and understands to properly solve issues/problems in your neighborhood takes a systematic partnership between you and the Sheriff's Office. To meet this challenge the Sheriff's Office is implementing a C.O.P.S (Community Oriented Policing) program.

**What is C.O.P.S?**

Community Oriented Policing (C.O.P.S) is a philosophy that promotes the use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate concerns and conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder and the fear of crime.

**How does the C.O.P.S program work?**

The program works on the principle that in order to develop and maintain collaborative partnerships between the Sheriff's Office and you, a specific Deputy will be assigned to a specific area. In addition to the Deputy being assigned to a specific area there is also a Beat Coordinator assigned to that area.

**How will the results of the Neighborhood survey be used?**

The results of the Neighborhood survey will be used to identify, coordinate and implement solutions to the problems facing your neighborhood.

**What if I don't want to take part in the Neighborhood survey?**

The survey is **completely voluntary and anonymous**. If you choose not to take part in the face to face survey, you can always contact the Beat Coordinator for your neighborhood and pass along any information, issues or problems.

**How do I contact my Beat Coordinator?**

To reach the Beat Coordinator for your area, you can call their phone number or email, which can be found at [www.VCSD.org](http://www.VCSD.org) or by calling 805-654-2304.

**Will I ever know the results of the Neighborhood survey?**

**Yes.** Once the survey is completed, an announcement will be made regarding a Town Hall meeting to present the results of the survey. Members of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office along with the Beat Coordinators will be on-hand to answer any questions and provide information about available resources.

**Is there going to be follow-up to the Neighborhood survey?**

Yes, the implementation of the C.O.P.S program is not a one-time event but a commitment by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office to safeguard the lives and property of residents of Ventura County and respond to public concerns in a manner, which promotes neighborhoods free from the fear of crime. Therefore, after completion of the Neighborhood survey and presentation of the results, after approximately four months there will be a follow-up Neighborhood survey conducted.

**What do I do if I have a problem or issues between the surveys?**

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office is always available for an emergency or a crime in progress call and we still want you to call **911**. However, for those situations that do not need an immediate response we encourage you to contact your Beat Coordinator, whose information can be found at [www.VCSD.org](http://www.VCSD.org).