



# HILLSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Working in partnership with the community to provide public safety services which enhance the safety, security, and quality of life of the community.

## Neighbor to Neighbor

March/April 2015



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#### Numbers to Know

## Tis the Season for Tax Scams

A Detective Shares His Personal Experience and Professional Advice

by Detective Pat Brady, *Investigations*

Tax season is upon us once more, and with it comes the potential for fraudulent income tax filings. Last year was a tough year for income tax return fraud due to the massive data breaches experienced throughout the region and the country. Even I had the



unfortunate experience of being victim to this crime. Because of it, I had to jump through all sorts of hoops to get it all straightened out and receive my refund. At this point, you may be asking, "How will I know if I've been victimized?" Trust me, you'll find out quick enough. Once you or your tax preparer files your income tax return, the IRS will immediately notify you by electronic message or mail that your income tax return was rejected because a filing has already been made in your name - and undoubtedly a refund check has been sent out to the criminal who stole your identity.

So, as a cop and a victim of fraud myself, this is what I recommend you do if you find yourself a victim of a fraudulent income tax filing:

- Make a report of it to your local police department. Be sure to have them include your Social Security Number in the report along with all relevant details, which probably won't be a whole lot. The local police will send a copy of your report to the local IRS office. Obtain your own copy of the police report once it's available.

*Continued on page 2*



## Tax Scams (continued)

- Make a report of the incident to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at [FTCcomplaintassistant.gov](http://FTCcomplaintassistant.gov) under the "Identity Theft" category.
- Contact the credit reporting companies and have an immediate 90-Day Fraud Alert put on your credit history by making a report online or by phone to Experian, Equifax, or TransUnion AND review a report of your credit history for any additional suspicious activity.
- If you report ID Theft to one of the credit reporting companies, that company will cross report to the other two. The 90-Day Fraud Alert just makes a potential lender aware that you might be the victim of ID Theft when they review your credit history. Once you get a copy of your police report (or before this if you pay \$10 to one of the credit reporting companies), you can have a security freeze put on your credit history (free of charge with a police report) that will require verification from you before your credit history can be released to a potential lender or business.
- Complete an IRS Form 14039 ID Theft Affidavit. You can obtain a blank copy at [IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f14039.pdf](http://IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f14039.pdf)
- Finally, mail in your hardcopy 2014 Income Tax Return as instructed on the IRS's website. Be sure to include the completed IRS Form 14039 and copies of the police report, your driver's license, and your Social Security card.

During my victim experience, the IRS representative I spoke to told me they would assign the re-submitted income tax filing and ID Theft Affidavit for review within about 90-days of receiving these documents. Then it would take a minimum of 221 days to resolve the matter, with many cases taking as much as a year or more to reach a complete resolution. In actuality, it ended up only taking about three or four months before we received our Federal and State Tax Returns. It was a little inconvenient, but not too bad; more of a hiccup than a speed bump.

## Unexpected Tax Refund Check in the Mail?

One last thing I should mention...

If you are a victim of a fraudulent income tax filing, you may receive a refund check in the mail; a refund check you weren't aware of and didn't expect. The reason is this - Occasionally, when the IRS (or a financial institution) believes a refund looks suspicious, the electronic deposit will be stopped and a paper check will be issued. These checks sometimes end up actually going to the victims of identity theft since it is usually the victim's actual address listed on the fraudulent income tax return. If this happens to you, hold on to the check and turn it over to the police when you make a report with them. They'll get it to the IRS right way and hopefully you'll get it straightened out as quickly as I did.

*Please take the time to report suspected scams to the Oregon Attorney General's Office, not only for investigatory purposes, but also so others like you will be savvy to the scammers' schemes.*

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**Join the  
SCAM ALERT  
NETWORK**  
*and keep up to date on  
emerging scams in the state.*

[DOJ.State.Or.Us](http://DOJ.State.Or.Us)



# Imposters Posing as Water Employees

## *Hillsboro Water Department*

by *Tacy Steele, Public Information Officer*

It has been recently reported that imposters posing as water employees are trying to gain entrance into people's homes by claiming they need to do work inside. Hillsboro Water Department (HWD) and Tualatin Valley Water District (TVWD) want you to know that although we may knock on your door to ask a few water-related questions, we will never ask to enter your house without a previously-scheduled appointment.



Also, employees of HWD and TVWD will always drive "E-plate" vehicles with logos, and carry identification badges. Employees in the field will usually wear uniforms, though do not let someone in your house based

solely on an official-looking uniform – it could be counterfeit or stolen. If someone knocks on your door claiming to be from a water department or district, ask to see their ID badge, or call and check with HWD 503-615-6702 or TVWD 503-848-3000. An actual water bureau or district employee will encourage, not resist, efforts made by a customer to confirm that they are legitimate.

## *Hillsboro Police Department*

by *Lieutenant Mike Rouches, Public Information Officer*

Hillsboro Police took a report of the two men posing as Hillsboro Water Department employees to gain access to a person's home, as referenced in the adjacent article.

The public is reminded of the following safety tips in situations like these:

- Do not open the door to someone you don't know.
- Ask for the person's purpose for being there.
- Ask to see proper official identification.
- Look for a city utility vehicle, or other utility vehicle which would corroborate the uniform and identification that's shown.
- If you are suspicious about someone at your door, do not hesitate to call police.
- Share information of suspicious people with your neighbors.
- Do not allow anyone in your home without a bona fide prior appointment that you initiated directly with the company (and not door to door).

## *New Rapid-Flashing Beacon*

A new, rapid-flashing beacon and crosswalk have been installed on East Main Street at NE 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This crosswalk and beacon increases pedestrian safety and walkability. Homes south of Main Street are now connected to the Fair Complex/Hillsboro Airport Max Station via new sidewalks recently completed during the 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue Improvement Project.





## Police and Fire Training Facility Slated for Hillsboro Could Break Ground Later This Year

by Patrick Preston, City of Hillsboro *Public Affairs Manager*

The City of Hillsboro plans to use \$4 million in Gain Share funding to build a Public Safety Training Center in Hillsboro to support police and fire personnel.

The facility will be built near U.S. Highway 26, northwest of the Gordon Faber Recreation Complex, and north of NW Bennett Street on 11 acres of property, most of which is undevelopable due to wetlands and a flood plain. The property is owned by the Hillsboro Economic Development Council, which is governed by the same members as the Hillsboro City Council.

The four-acre facility will be shared by Hillsboro Police and Fire Department employees, providing a large, paved parking and operational space; a tower facility for multi-story, structural fire training; and a warehouse with configurable simulation city-type structures indoors for police tactical training. Design work remains to be completed, and construction could begin later this year.

"By building the Public Safety Training Center, the City of Hillsboro can provide a high-quality training center for our Police and Fire Department employees inside of our City boundaries," said Michael Brown, Hillsboro City Manager.

"The collaborative training that Hillsboro Police & Fire Departments have been doing the past three years is rare," said Fire Chief Greg Nelson. "We know this because of the number of inquiries we get from both police and fire agencies around Oregon, and across the nation who have asked about and have come to watch what we're doing. The new training center will allow both departments to improve services on daily incidents, such as motor vehicle crashes and fires, as well as for the rare incident such as a mass-casualty crash or a large-scale shooting."



Currently, police and fire training takes place sporadically at locations around the city where owners have given permission to conduct training exercises. Those locations include Hillsboro RV & Boat Storage, local schools and, more recently, at a local church. The Public Safety Training Center will allow both departments to build on and train more regularly on these types of drills without the scheduling limitations of accessing private property.

"The evolution of police training and the required collaboration with police, fire departments and all public safety providers bring us together for fully-integrated training," said Roberto DiGiulio, a Hillsboro Police tactics and training officer. "This facility will allow us to train together and to reach the safest and best practices for the training of our first responders."

According to Fire Training Division Chief Scott McDaniel, "Our training needs include large areas for fire engines and police cars to repeatedly practice responding to simulated dangerous situations without impacting the citizens going about their daily business."



Gerald Erickson

## We Pause to Remember His Service and Sacrifice

by Sergeant Eric Bunday, *Patrol*

The Hillsboro Police Department marked a somber anniversary on Saturday, February 28. It was 35 years ago, in 1980, the department suffered its only line of duty death when Officer Gerald Erickson gave his life in the service of our community. Officer Erickson, a K9 handler, was tracking an armed robbery suspect for the Washington County Sheriff's Office with his K9 partner Nero when he suffered a fatal heart attack. He was just 37 years old. He was survived by his wife, who has since passed away.

We pause to remember the service and sacrifice of Officer Erickson. Rest in peace, sir. You may be gone, but you will never be forgotten.



## PublicAlerts Keep Yourself Connected

by Lara Marzilli, *Operations Supervisor*  
Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency

Have you registered to receive emergency notifications with the Public Alerts System? If not, please consider it!

Public Alerts is an online connection for residents in the Portland region to real-time emergency information. One of the features is the ability to register for emergency alerts for issues in the immediate area of your residence, such as a shelter-in-place order due to a hazardous materials spill via a map-based public-alerting system.



Washington County 9-1-1 (WCCCA) and the Emergency Management Cooperative (EMC) are responsible for sending out emergency

notifications for situations within Washington County where emergency actions may be necessary. If you have a landline phone, you are already in the system for emergency notifications, even if your number is non-published. However, if you want to receive emergency notifications via a mobile phone and/or e-mail address, you will need to sign-up.

Go to [PublicAlerts.org](http://PublicAlerts.org) and click the yellow sign-up button on the left menu. Washington County's public alerts system allows you to register up to three phone numbers and two email addresses associated with your home or business address. Registering will ensure you receive the emergency notification if your residence or business is in the area impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by an emergency or significant event in your neighborhood, even when you are not there. Your personal information will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

For more information on Public Alerts, go to: [PublicAlerts.org](http://PublicAlerts.org)

For more information about Washington County's specific notification system, go to: [WCCCA.com/PublicAlerts](http://WCCCA.com/PublicAlerts)



## Have You Met Diane?

by Shyvonne Williams, *Volunteer Program Coordinator*



Diane is an active member of Hillsboro Police Department's (HPD) Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT). She began volunteering with HPD in 1996 as a mediator and joined DVRT in 2004. Amazingly, Diane has already donated 220 hours of service for 2015. During the course of her nineteen years as a HPD volunteer she has contributed an astounding 4289 plus hours. When asked about her volunteer tenure with HPD, Diane says, "I have volunteered

with HPD for 19 years. For me to have lasted that long, this agency has got to be among the best."

Like many of Hillsboro Police Department volunteers, Diane is a fascinating individual. During the sixties, she lived in Paris, France and in 1973, she graduated from Portland State with a Bachelor of Science degree in History. Prior to volunteering with HPD, Diane spent roughly twelve years with the Rape Crisis Center (currently SARC - Sexual Assault Resource Center) as a rape victim advocate, two and a half years as volunteer director, two years as secretary-treasurer and one to two years as a board member before resigning in 1995. According to Diane, "Becoming a member of DVRT took me back to these roots."

In describing herself, Diane says, "I read a lot. My kitchen table looks like a piled-on-with-books table in a book store. I currently have around 25 of them waiting to be read, some of which I have already begun. These books are mostly non-fiction, dealing with economics, politics, environment, ecology, physics...which probably explains why I have so many - interested in too many subjects!"

Diane summarizes what drives her as a DVRT advocate when she says, "DVRT offers me the opportunity to give a little to victims of domestic violence along with my hope they'll take what little I can give them and run with it to craft a brighter future."

Volunteers on the Domestic Violence Response Team, like Diane, are community members who graciously give of their time to serve as a first responder, providing safety planning, crisis counseling, resources and

referral information to victims of domestic violence. Thus far, DVRT volunteer advocates have donated 495 hours for 2015. However, despite their steadfastness, they are unable to meet the needs of the community without additional support.

## DVRT Recruitment



If you're interested in advocacy with DVRT, please monitor our website for possible recruitment in the spring. Visit us at:

[Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/index.aspx?page=380](http://Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/index.aspx?page=380)

If you have questions about DVRT, feel free to contact myself or Sharon Brown.

[Shyvonne.Williams@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:Shyvonne.Williams@hillsboro-oregon.gov) or 503-681-5389

[Sharon.Brown@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:Sharon.Brown@hillsboro-oregon.gov) or 503-615-6470

### Domestic Violence Resources:

*Washington County*  
*Domestic Violence Crisis Line*  
800-469-8600

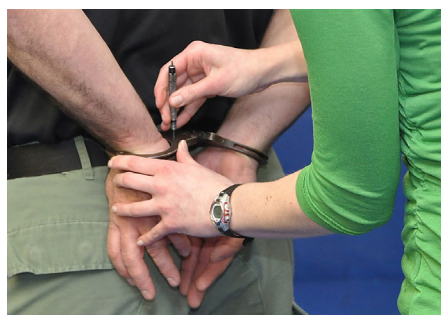
*Domestic Violence Resource*  
*Center* 503-640-5352



# Community Outreach

## Going "Behind the Badge"

Citizens' Academy provides an opportunity for community members to get an up close, and in some cases, hands-on look at law enforcement, and in particular, Hillsboro Police.





# Community Outreach



K9 Jett shows off his agility for kiddos at Zion Lutheran Preschool.



**JOIN US!**



**March 19**

7:00 - 9:00 am

Starbuck's

7399 NE Butler

and

**April 15**

7:00 - 9:00 am

Pee't's Coffee & Tea

19250 NW Cornell



Hillsboro Police Officers connect with community members over a cup of coffee at Insomnia at 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.





# Looking Ahead



Beaverton | Forest Grove | Hillsboro  
Tigard | Tualatin | Washington County

Better manage your rental property • Network with landlords • Partner with law enforcement

## March 11

*Leaving Dead or Alive: How to Handle Abandoned Personal Property, Final Accountings, and Collections.*

## April 8

*Crazy but True: Updated Landlord Stories From a Full Moon*

# Landlord Forums

Brought to you by  
Warren Allen LLP and the Westside Crime Prevention Coalition

Portland Community College - Willowcreek  
241 SW Edgeway Drive, Beaverton

**6:30 - 8 pm**

FREE; No Pre-Registration Required



**Drive up and drop off your unwanted Rx drugs**

# Prescription Drug Turn-In!

**Saturday  
April 18  
10 am - 2 pm**

**Hillsboro Police 250 SE 10th Avenue**

Help protect your family, community and environment by bringing in your current or expired, unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications, including unknown tablets and capsules. We will even take your pet's medications. Liquids and ointments are accepted in their original, sealed containers.

**Sharps, medical waste & intravenous solutions will NOT be accepted.**



# SHRED EVENT

**Saturday, May 2**

**8 am - 12 pm**  
Hillsboro Post Office  
125 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street

**Three Banker Box Size Limit**  
**Secure On-Site Shredding by**

**\$5.00 Suggested Donation**  
**Benefits:**



\*Event ending time may change if trucks fill sooner.



## Numbers to Know

### EMERGENCIES 9-1-1

Non-Emergency Dispatch  
503-629-0111

Hillsboro Records Division  
503-681-6175

Hillsboro Mediation  
Services 503-615-6651

Hillsboro Code Enforcement  
503-615-6645

Hillsboro Domestic  
Violence Program Services  
503-615-6740

Interagency Gang  
Enforcement Team (IGET)  
503-846-5850

Westside Interagency  
Narcotics Team (WIN)  
503-846-5650

City of Hillsboro  
503-681-6100

HPD Website  
[Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/police](http://Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/police)

Like us on Facebook  
[Facebook.com/hillsboropd](https://www.facebook.com/hillsboropd)  
Follow us on Twitter  
[Twitter.com/hillsboropolice](https://twitter.com/hillsboropolice)

## Community Enhancement Team

CET is committed to working with its residential and business partners to facilitate community excellence through safety education, crime prevention, problem-solving, and resource assistance.

### Crime Prevention Specialists

#### Residential Community - West of Brookwood

Julie Carrasco  
503-615-6756  
[julie.carrasco@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:julie.carrasco@hillsboro-oregon.gov)

#### Residential Community - East of Brookwood

Brandi Gilbert  
503-615-6785  
[brandi.gilbert@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:brandi.gilbert@hillsboro-oregon.gov)

#### Business Community

Earleen Reimann  
503-681-5207  
[earleen.reimann@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:earleen.reimann@hillsboro-oregon.gov)

### Volunteer Program Coordinator

Shyvonne Williams  
503-681-5389  
[shyvonne.williams@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:shyvonne.williams@hillsboro-oregon.gov)

## Hillsboro Police Department

### West Precinct

250 SE 10th Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

### East Precinct

20795 NW Cornell, Suite 100  
Hillsboro, OR 97124

### Sign up Stay Connected

Join the 1,400+ Hillsboro neighbors who already receive the City of Hillsboro's e-newsletter, Stay Connected. Every two weeks, you will find out about the latest news, events, family activities and other information about City of Hillsboro libraries, parks, streets and public safety services. To receive Stay Connected, e-mail: [StayConnected@Hillsboro-Oregon.gov](mailto:StayConnected@Hillsboro-Oregon.gov)