The Skokie Police Department’s routine operations include the processing of documents with sensitive information, such as names, birthdates, social security numbers, credit card numbers, juvenile records, etc. These documents are produced internally at an exorbitant rate. As a government organization the police department is required to put safeguards in place to prevent unauthorized dissemination of sensitive information.

To address these issues, the Skokie Police Department has entered into an agreement with the Niles Township High School District 219 Pre-Vocational Program. This program provides students who have disabilities with work experience in a variety of community settings where they can learn skills and behaviors that will enable them to become productive, valued employees and members of the community.

These students, with the assistance of a “job coach,” will be on site at SPD assisting with the collection and shredding of sensitive materials. Collection bins will be located throughout the police facility. The participants will be allowed to collect from all areas on their own with the exception of Lock-up, which will require assistance from a Detention Officer. Once the documents are collected the participants will shred them at one of three shredding stations. Participants will work mainly between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., two to three hours per day two to three times per week, depending on scheduling and workload.

In the United States, motor vehicle related injuries are the leading cause of death for ages one to 24.

Teens crash four times more often than any other age group. Car crashes are the number one killer of teens and take an average of 10 teen lives every day.

20 percent of teenage motor vehicle-crash deaths in 2008 occurred between 9 p.m. and midnight.

Over the past three years, July 4 trends as the deadliest day for teens on the road.

Speed-related crashes accounted for 34 percent of fatalities among 16-19 year-olds.

In 2010, 3,115 teens died in car crashes and about 450,000 teens were injured in crashes.

Driver distraction contributes to 16 percent of all fatal crashes for people under the age of 20.

Talking on a cell phone can double the likelihood of an accident and slow a young driver’s reaction time to that of a 70 year old.

13 percent of teens said they send and respond to text messages while driving.

66 percent of teens said they make and answer calls while driving.

56 percent of teens said they exceed the speed limit by more than 10 mph.

44 percent of teens said they drive more safely with friends in the car.

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13 percent of teens said they send and respond to text messages while driving.

56 percent of teens said they make and answer calls while driving.

Only 45 percent said they would speak up if someone were driving in a way that scared them.

55 percent of teens said they exceed the speed limit by more than 10 mph.

44 percent of teens said they drive more safely without friends in the car.

67 percent of teens said they have felt unsafe when driving with a friend.

Important Driving Statistics for You and Your Teenagers

Safeguards are put in place to protect the public and the employees of Lock-up. The shredding process includes: shredding, locking, and tracking.

Office of Lock-up will shred the documents collected.

Detention Officer. Once the collected materials are on site at SPD, a shredding station will be on site at SPD.

Students who have participated in the program will be allowed to shred items for the entire department.

Skokie residents and others can now subscribe to have the Village of Skokie Official Public Safety Bulletin sent to them via email either daily or once each week. Since launched in mid-January 2013, the Public Safety Bulletin has become a very popular tool for residents and business owners to stay informed of public safety information in Skokie.

Depending on the list chosen, subscribers will receive an alert every day the Bulletin is published or a weekly alert summarizing that week’s Bulletins. To subscribe to either list, visit the Village of Skokie website at www.skokie.org and choose either the “Daily Public Safety Bulletin” or “Weekly Public Safety Bulletin.”

The Official Public Safety Bulletin is published nearly every weekday and provides the community information about recent crimes committed, criminal investigations, comments from the community and public safety tips. The Public Safety Bulletin is:

Timely – reported within a few days after the incident

Accurate – information taken directly from Police incident reports

Factual – street addresses, crime locations and other details will be included to the extent possible

Educational – information you can use to stay informed about public safety and to protect yourself, your loved ones, your home, property and the community.

For more information, please contact the Crime Prevention Unit 847/982-5919

WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL 9-1-1!

Early one morning during February, an alert citizen observed a suspicious person walking through her neighbor’s backyard. At first the citizen was hesitant to call the police. Fortunately, she did call. This person was approached and interviewed by the Skokie Police Department. It was determined that no burglaries had been committed; although this person was identified as having a criminal history. Through this citizen’s actions, a series of burglaries in the community may have been prevented. Congratulations to another successful neighborhood watch! Your fellow citizens thank you.

Neighborhood Watch

The Skokie Police Department has a great website and Facebook page:
www.skokie.org/pdmain.cfm
www.facebook.com/skokiepolice

CHECK IT OUT!
To a burglar, the risk of being seen breaking in is more of a deterrent than a substantial or insufficient lock. Keep your bushes trimmed, add outside lighting and make it a point to your neighbors to keep a watchful eye. According to FBI statistics, most residential robberies happen in broad daylight; that risk is apparently not an overwhelming one. The problem is that most homes have weak points, and seasoned thieves are pretty good at finding them. Make your home a less favorable target by implementing several of the following low-cost tips:

- **Change all the locks and tumblers** when you move into a new house.
- **Always lock your doors and windows,** as many burglars just walk in through an unlocked door or window.
- **Want to leave your window open for fresh air?** Install ventilation locks on your windows to prevent a would-be intruder from opening your window enough to climb through it.

You house should appear occupied at all times. Use timers to switch lights and radios on and off when you are not at home.

- **If you lose your keys,** change the locks immediately.

Before turning your house key over to a professional house cleaner for several hours, make sure the person is honest and reputable as well as hardworking. Check all references thoroughly. If the house cleaner is from a firm, call your local Better Business Bureau to check on its reputation.

- **Instead of keeping a spare key in a mailbox, under the doormat, or on a nail behind the garage, wrap the key in foil, or put it in a 35mm film can** and bury it where you can easily find it if you need it.

If someone comes to your door asking to use the phone to call a mechanic or the police, keep the door locked and make the call yourself. If in doubt always call 9-1-1.

These are some simple common sense tips to help prevent you from becoming a burglary statistic. Let’s be partners. Help us help you, thanks for your help!

**Explanation of Personal Safety Alarms and Their Uses**

Personal safety alarms can be easily adapted to other uses. With the addition of a door clip, there are models that can be used as an entry alarm to your home or garage. Some alarms are designed to work as motion detection alarms. There are also alarm systems designed to alert a person if a door, window or personal property is jarred or moved. These alarms are lightweight and very small. It is suggested that users hold them in their hands when walking alone, no matter how short the distance. They will prevent a person from being attacked, raped, carjacked, robbed or worse.

The elderly, the sick and the disabled use medical personal alarms. They come in the form of a pendant worn around the neck or a bracelet worn on the wrist. Instead of it making a loud alarm when activated, a monitoring service will be contacted in the same way as a home accident such as a fall, they can activate the monitored alarm by pushing a button. The monitoring service will then try to contact the wearer to see if they need help. If they cannot reach them, or are told that there is an emergency, the service will call the 9-1-1. The monitoring service also will notify people on your call list and your medical records will be made available to the care providers.

For people who may not be able to activate the signal in case of an emergency, there are additions to the service where the patient will be contacted on regular intervals. If there is no answer then the proper contact person, such as a relative, caregiver or medical personnel will be alerted.

**Home Safety**

**Explanation of Personal Safety Alarms and Their Uses**

- **What** will trigger the emergency plan? An official announcement? Notification from authorities to people in your immediate area? A call from one of the adults to all the others involved? A call from a child’s school? Remember to think about how other family members will be notified.
- **When**: What time frames help shape your plan? Does everyone work or go to school within a few miles? Then people should be at home fairly quickly. If some people have a long commute, they may be held up by emergency conditions. How do you cope if the emergency is projected to last several days?
- **Why**: Family members should understand to the best of their ability, why the plan includes certain provisions. Why must children stay at school under certain circumstances, for example? Why might a parent stay out of town if on travel during an emergency?
- **How**: This gets down to the steps of the plans. Think through key points. Who will take what responsibilities? Where will emergency supplies be kept? How will supplies be updated? What different steps are involved in a “shelter in place” situation versus an evacuation order? What if resources are unavailable? How should family members pack for this situation? What training do family members need? How often will the family review its plan?

**Strategies To Consider**

Some of the strategies and tactics to consider in developing a plan include the following:

- Make sure everyone has basic family phone contact numbers and business or school addresses. Remember that email may work when phone circuits are overloaded.
- Identify places to meet near the house and far away. Set a priority order about which place to go to, why and when.
- Establish an out-of-town contact that everyone can call and report to. Make sure the contact agrees, and make sure everyone knows how to dial that long-distance number. Prepare prepaid calling cards for everyone’s convenience.
- Keep vehicles in good working order and keep the gas tank at least half full at all times. Remember, if power fails, gas pumps won’t work!
- Stockpile a disaster kit and in advance and refresh supplies at least every six months. Check all references.
- Make your home a less favorable target by implementing several of the following low-cost tips:

**Planning for Emergencies: A Family Guide**