



# 76TH PRECINCT 191 UNION STREET, BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11231

JANUARY 2012

## The 76th Precinct Community Newsletter

This newsletter is published by the Commanding Officer of the 76th Precinct, in conjunction with the 76th Precinct Community Council, serving the communities of Red Hook, Carroll Gardens, Gowanus, Cobble Hill and the Columbia Street Waterfront District. Its purpose is to provide information to the communities we serve, and in conjunction with the community, enhance public safety throughout the precinct.

## Message from the Commanding Officer

It's been one year since we started publishing the 76th Precinct Newsletter and distributing it to all those who had requested to receive it via the internet. We hope that the 76th Precinct Newsletter has been informative and has helped you in your day-to-day activities within the 76th Precinct. If you have any suggestions on how to make this Newsletter better, please do not hesitate to call the 76th Precinct Community Affairs Officers, Detective Paul Grudzinski or Police Officer Vincent Marrone, with your suggestions.

As the New Year begins, the officers assigned to the 76th Precinct are committed to safeguarding the personal safety and the property of residents and businesses. This past year, the 76th Precinct experienced significant increases in the number of robberies and grand larcenies. We at the 76th Precinct believe that we have identified and/or incarcerated many of the individuals involved in these crimes during 2011. We expect to reduce the incidence of overall crime by closely monitoring these individuals and employing effective strategies to prevent crime, apprehend perpetrators and follow-up on those that have been arrested.

Even as the incidence of crime decreases, the impact can be great on those that are victimized. Please remember to call 911 **immediately** if you become the victim of a crime or suspect that criminality is afoot. If you are aware of crime or quality of life problems in your community, please contact the Community Affairs Office at (718) 834-3207. If there is no answer, please leave a message, someone **will return your call promptly**. Another avenue to voice your concerns is to attend the 76th Precinct Community Council Meeting, which is held on the first Tuesday of every month, except July and August. By bringing your problems and concerns to our attention you afford the NYPD the opportunity to serve you more effectively.

## Public Safety News

There was a 7% increase in overall crime in the communities served by the 76th Precinct during 2011. The increase was fueled by increases in robberies and grand larcenies. As alluded to above, we at the 76th Precinct are confident that we have identified many of the individuals responsible for last years robberies and we will be able to significantly reduce the incidence of robberies this year.

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*In an effort to prevent robberies, larcenies and other crimes, Officers at the 76th Precinct are briefed regularly on tactics and practices that criminals utilize. Additionally, Officers are regularly briefed regarding recidivists, parolees and probationers known to commit these types of crimes.*

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IF YOU SUSPECT

**TERRORISM**

CALL THE NYPD

**1-888-NYC-SAFE**

**(1-888-692-7233)**

All calls will be kept confidential

**\$1,000 REWARD**

FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO  
THE ARREST OF ANYONE WHO  
POSSESSES AN

**ILLEGAL HANDGUN**

CALL

**1 866 GUN-STOP**

**(486-7867)**

If you know someone who is carrying,  
selling, or using handguns illegally, call  
anonymously

**Remember: You don't have to  
leave your name.....**

**ON JANUARY 28, 2012  
THE NYPD IS SPONSORING A  
GUN BUY BACK EVENT**

**AT THE BEDFORD CENTRAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**1200 Bergen Street  
12:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

On a positive note, the precinct experienced a 10% reduction in burglaries and a 35% reduction in auto theft during 2011. We will use the same strategies that were successful in 2011 in these areas and hope to improve on these gains in 2012.

The Police Department closely monitors crime patterns and trends in an attempt to effectively deploy our personnel to prevent crime. We closely monitor those arrested in the past in an attempt to curb recidivism. We need your help to keep you safe. Please utilize the common sense safety tips contained in our newsletters to reduce your chance of becoming a victim.

## Newsorthy Accomplishments

The “Cops of the Month” for December are Sergeant Gregory Tobin, Police Officer Jose Cofresi and Police Officer Carlos Anchundia. The officers were on routine patrol in the Red Hook Housing Development when they heard several shots fired. The officers responded to 100 Centre Mall where they observed four males exiting the building, one of whom they observed with a pistol in his hand. The perpetrators fled back into the building and the officers gave chase. They apprehended the four individuals, without incident, as they were attempting to force their way into an uninvolved person’s apartment. All four individuals were arrested and two handguns were recovered. The guns recovered were a .357 caliber revolver and a .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol. Two of the individuals are wanted in connection with a series of “shots fired” incidents that took place in Forest Hills. This is an example of the extraordinary police work that is performed by these dedicated officers on a routine basis. **Great work guys, keep it up!**

## Cops of the Month – December 2011



(Left to right) Sergeant Gregory Tobin, 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct Commanding Officer Captain John Lewis, Police Officer Carlos Anchundia and Police Officer Jose Cofresi

## Program of the Month: Crime Prevention

Police Officer Carl Bredy is the 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct Crime Prevention Officer. He provides an array of services that are all free of charge. He conducts **Residential Security Surveys** that will help safeguard your home from criminals. Police Officer Bredy can etch your electronics, bicycles and your vehicle's windshields with identifying serial numbers. Police Officer Bredy gives crime prevention and personal safety presentations to schools and civic organizations. If your organization is hosting a civic meeting, and would like him to attend and give a safety lecture, contact him at (718) 834-3203. For **Store Owners**, Police Officer Bredy will give you advice on safe guarding your store and merchandise. Take advantage of these free crime prevention programs and help avoid becoming a crime victim.

## Public Safety Tips

As always, the police need the public's help in the fight against crime. Here are some simple measures that you can take to reduce the chance of becoming the victim of a crime:

Burglary is one of the most frequently reported crimes; it is also the most preventable. It does not take much, or cost much, to outsmart most burglars. Make sure all your exterior doors are either metal or solid core wood and have secure locks; at least one dead bolt lock should be used in combination with a key-in-knob door latch. Do not use a lock that has a key hole both inside & out. It can be deadly during a fire. The best and safest way to secure a fire escape, or first floor window, is with an FDNY approved gate. Make sure all entrances are well lit and install a peep hole or door viewer of 190 degrees or more. Make sure you lock and secure all windows and always lock your home, even if you are leaving for only a few minutes. The NYPD offers a full and confidential home security survey, free of charge. Call the 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct Crime Prevention Officer at (718) 834-3203, to set-up an appointment.

SMART phone theft has become increasingly prevalent. Are you aware that some of these phones have free software that could be used to track the device in the event of a theft or loss? Owners of smart phones can download an application that can locate their missing or stolen phones. Use the web links below to download this application to your phone.

<http://www.apple.com/iphone/built-in-apps/find-my-iphone.html> (iPhone)

<https://www.mylookout.com/features/missing-device> (Android)

<http://appworld.blackberry.com/webstore/content/4672>  
(Blackberry)

Up to  
**\$500 REWARD**

FOR THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF  
ANYONE WHO COMMITS

**GRAFFITI VANDALISM**

CALL  
**911 for Crimes in Progress**

**311 to Provide Information**

*The best ways to avoid becoming a victim of a Larceny (having your unattended property taken from you), is to be aware of your surroundings and remembering not to leave your valuables unattended.*

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**One simple step to avoid becoming a victim of Identity Theft is to invest in a shredder. Shred all documents containing personal information, account numbers, billing statement information, etc.**

# Traffic Safety Tips

Many of our traffic accidents are eminently preventable. The following tips are developed from trends observed in recent accident reports in the 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct and citywide:

- A) Always be careful when **opening your car door**. Numerous accidents occur in our precinct in this fashion. Remember, many of our streets are narrow, and great care should be used when opening your car door.
- B) **Do NOT Double Park!!** Again, incidents of double parking, combined with the narrow streets, causes many needless traffic accidents.
- C) **ALWAYS wear your seat belt**. It has been proven time and time again that the use of seat belts greatly reduces injuries in the event of an accident.
- D) **Do NOT use your cell phone** while driving. Again, the distraction caused by cell phones often leads to accidents.
- E) **Please make sure that when are crossing major streets, you allow enough time to get to the other side safely**. Large intersections pose a significant problem to our senior citizens and to our children, when going to and coming from school. These large intersections account for a large percentage of pedestrian fatalities citywide.

*Remember: Bicyclists must obey the same rules of the road as motor vehicles. Stop at red lights and stop signs, ride the correct direction on one way streets and do not ride on the sidewalk. Violating traffic rules and regulations is dangerous and is subject to enforcement.*

*Do not obstruct bicycle lanes. It is dangerous and illegal. If you park your vehicle in a bicycle lane, you force bicyclists into traffic lanes.*

## Important phone numbers

76 <sup>th</sup> Precinct	(718) 834-3211
Community Affairs	(718) 834-3207
Crime Prevention	(718) 834-3203
Domestic Violence	(718) 834-3204
Youth Officer	(718) 834-3218
Auxiliary Coordinator	(718) 834-3218
Traffic Safety	(718) 834-3226
Detective Squad	(718) 834-3221

## Upcoming Events

**Next 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council Meeting:** Tuesday, February 7, 2012

7:30 PM, at the 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct Station House, 191 Union Street, Hicks Street to Henry Street

**New York Blood Center Blood Drive** Thursday, January 19, 2012

12:30 PM – 6:30 PM, at the 76<sup>th</sup> Precinct Station House, 191 Union Street, Hicks Street to Henry Street