

## Robinson Ranch Neighborhood Watch Tips – Observation skills

As the additional “eyes and ears” of law enforcement, Neighborhood Watch member can help to reduce crime, improve safety and increase the quality of neighborhood life by knowing what to report and how to report it.

### What to observe:

- **Physical setting** - *Specific location, time of day & day of week.*
- **People** - *What do they look like? How are they acting? How many of them?*
- **Routines** - *Did you notice any reoccurring patterns or routines? How often did they occur? Who was involved?*

### How to observe people:

- Stay calm and remain alert to your surroundings.
- Begin with the basics – Gender, Race, Age, Number of individuals involved.
- Move to specifics – Height, Weight, Clothing (hat, shirt, pants, shoes), Hair & Eye color & Facial hair.
- Broaden your perspective – Take a deep breath and step back. What other events are occurring, who else is affected & what is the overall situation?
- Add details - vehicles, witnesses, time of day, location, direction of travel & outcome of the incident (injuries or damage).

### How to observe cars:

- Make - *Ford, Chevrolet, Dodge, VW, Volvo, Lexus, Honda, Nissan, Mercedes, etc.*
- Model - *Maxima, Caprice, Navigator, Cutlass, Escape, Accord, etc.*
- Body style - *2 door, 4 door, Hatchback, Convertible, Four-wheel drive*
- Color
- Overall appearance - *Clean, dirty, primer marks*
- Damage
- Bumper stickers and/or signs or lettering
- Phone numbers and/or Company logos



\*Information obtained from the National Neighborhood Watch Training Toolkit  
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