

IPD NEWS

Volume 2, Issue 2

IN THE NEWS

February 2010

Irving Crime rate on the DECLINE

Violent Crime Drops 31 Percent over Past Five Years

Violent crime in Irving is down 31 percent over the past five years, according to Chief Larry Boyd. In addition to violent crime, the overall crime rate has decreased for the past five consecutive years for a total crime rate decrease of 20 percent.

The city's crime reduction initiatives, which include biweekly strategy development meetings, strategically placed Sky Watch trailers, and several public safety programs such as Citizens on Patrol, have contributed to these significant decreases. Additional 2009 enforcement statistics from the Police Department include:

- 345 police officers
- 14,479 arrests
- 4,492 gang grant hours used
- 97 gang arrests

The city of Irving will continue to provide an enhanced focus on its public safety initiatives



Telemarketing Fraud

Callers claiming to represent everyone from police officers to the disabled take advantage of the public's sympathy and generosity to the tune of billions of dollars each year. They also offer chances to earn enormous profits from no-risk, high-yield business and investment opportunities, miracle cures for everything from baldness to cancer, vacation homes, sweepstakes prizes, etc. Be suspicious of all solicitors, especially if the caller:

- Says you have won a prize but asks you to send money first or provide bank account information.
- Says you have to act right away. Remember, if it's a good deal today it will still be a good deal tomorrow. Don't let anyone rush you into signing anything.
- Fails to identify the sponsor, uses a variation of an official or nationally-recognized name, e.g., Salvation League instead of Salvation Army.
- Offers to have someone pick up a cash payment from your home.
- Says he or she is a law enforcement officer who will help you for a fee.
- Requires you to attend a sales meeting.
- Directs you to dial a pay-per-call 900 number.
- Delays the delivery of a product or prize, etc.
- Says he or she is calling from the Security and Fraud Department of your credit card company and asks you for the 3-digit security number on the back of your credit card to verify your possession of the card to aid it in a fraud investigation.
- Says that Medicare now requires a National ID Card and offers to provide one for a fee.
- Says he or she is a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) agent or official and that you must pay a fine because you have bought or attempted to buy discounted prescription drugs from a foreign pharmacy. Report such calls to the FDA Office of Criminal Investigations at (800) 521-5783.