



# CAPS TIPS

*Brought to you by the Chicago Police Department  
Your Partners for Safe Neighborhoods*

## PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

You're often told not to be a victim of crime. But you may wonder how to ensure that. While no one can guarantee your total safety, you can lessen the chance of being a victim by making it more difficult for a would-be thief or attacker.

### **AT HOME: Don't be surprised.**

Keep your doors locked when home alone and lock your windows too when leaving the house for any long period of time. Open doors and windows are an invitation that you don't want to send. Turn your porch lights on at night and illuminate your backyard to ensure that anyone lurking there will be easily detected.

### **ON THE STREET: Be alert.**

Make sure you are not an easy target for crime on the street. Carry your purse in a manner that makes it hard to get -- across your chest or under your arm where more than a simple grab is needed to snatch it. Men should carry their wallets in their inside coats or side pants pocket, never in your back pants pocket where it is easy to grab. If you walk to and from work or public transit stations, particularly at night, use well-lit and populated streets. When possible, walk with friends and, if you can, vary the route you take each day or night.

### **ON PUBLIC TRANSIT: Be prepared.**

Have the exact fare ready before you leave home so that there is no need to open a purse or wallet. During late night or early morning stay near the agent on duty in subways and when possible sit on the aisle seat where you will have more mobility should trouble occur.

### **IN YOUR CAR: Secure your ride.**

Lock your doors and be sure to store your purse, wallet or other valuables beneath your seat -- *not on the seat next to you where they are easy and inviting targets for theft.* Park in a well lit area for the safety of your car and yourself and *always lock your car.* If you notice that the street lights are out, call 311 or your Police District's Neighborhood Relations office to make sure this "condition for crime" is remedied.

### **GOING HOME: Be ready.**

Always carry your keys in your hands so that you are ready to open the door. If you know you will be coming home after dark, make sure to leave some lights on.

### **FINALLY, WHEREVER YOU ARE:**

Remember -- A crime-free city requires that everyone report suspicious activity by calling 911 and report conditions that make crime possible by calling 311.

*More information about CAPS is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ci.chi.il.us>. Join the CAPS team of police officers, residents, and City Departments working together for a safer Chicago.*

City of Chicago  
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Department of Police  
Terry G. Hillard, Superintendent



NEIGHBORHOODS ARE EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

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## CAPS AND YOU

CAPS -- The Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy -- you've heard the words, seen the name, but chances are you are still not sure what is different about CAPS and what Chicago's new way of policing means for you. Simply put, CAPS is a strategy to keep neighborhoods safe by using police in a new way and building a partnership for crime prevention among the community, the police and other City departments.

*The CAPS partnership is really quite simple:*

▶ Each of the City's 25 police districts is divided into beats -- small geographic areas in which the Chicago Police Department, City agencies and citizens work together to fight crime.

▶ A team of police officers is assigned to your beat for at least one year. This allows you to get to know your beat officers, and your beat officers to get to know you, your neighbors and your neighborhood. Beat officers patrol your neighborhood, responding to police emergencies on your beat and working with you to solve the crime problems in your community.

▶ Beat officers are supported by other teams of police officers in the district. These officers respond to emergency calls for service and focus on specific problems such as gangs and drugs.

▶ Residents are now partners with the police. With CAPS, you and your beat officers work together to identify the top crime problems on your beat. Then you and your neighbors work directly with the police to solve those problems.

▶ Other City agencies take care of those conditions that can lead to crime in your community -- conditions such as graffiti, abandoned buildings and cars, even broken alley and street lights.

### What Can You Do?

#### ✓ *Attend Beat Meetings:*

Regular beat meetings are held in every beat in every police district in the City. These meetings allow police and community residents to come together to identify problems and, together, develop solutions.

#### ✓ *Get Involved with Your District Advisory Committee, Block Club or Neighborhood Watch Group:*

Beyond beat meetings, citizens are forming block clubs and block watches on their beats and working with their district police through the District Advisory Committee. In each district, a Court Advocacy Subcommittee follows up on arrests, building code violations and other issues of importance to the community.

#### ✓ *Get to Know the Beat:*

Ask for a CAPS presentation at your school, block club, church or community organization, or attend a Joint Community-Police Training session.

#### ✓ *Make the Right Call:*

Call 911 for emergencies that require an immediate police response. Call 311 for non-emergencies that you feel still need to be investigated by the police, to learn more about CAPS -- including the beat you live on, and the date and time of your next beat meeting and to order CAPS brochures, posters, videos and other materials. More information about CAPS is also available on the World Wide Web at [www.ci.chi.il.us](http://www.ci.chi.il.us)

City of Chicago  
Richard M. Daley, Mayor  
Department of Police  
Terry G. Hillard, Superintendent





Richard M. Daley  
Mayor

Department of Police • City of Chicago  
3510 South Michigan Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60653

Terry G. Hillard  
Superintendent of Police

Chicago Police Department  
18<sup>th</sup> District, Near North  
1160 N. Larrabee  
Chicago, IL 60610

Dear Resident,


On behalf of the entire 18<sup>th</sup> District and the City of Chicago, I would personally like to welcome you to the 18<sup>th</sup> District and provide you with some valuable information.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend your next Beat Community Meeting. The Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy, also known as CAPS, in cooperation with district police officers meet regularly in your new neighborhood. Please review the attached information regarding your next Beat Community Meeting. This flyer also includes a map of your police beat. I personally recommend that you come and meet the Officers who work in your area and bring any questions or concerns that you may have.

The Beat Community Meetings are an excellent way to familiarize yourself with your new community. Beat Community Meetings are also the proper forum to garner information and to express concerns regarding crime and quality of life issues in your neighborhood. We welcome your participation and encourage you to join us.

We are proud that you have chosen this area as your home and look forward to meeting you at our next meeting. Should you have any immediate questions, please feel free to contact the 18<sup>th</sup> District Community Policing Office at 312-742-5778.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph P. Griffin  
Commander  
18<sup>th</sup> District  
JPG/cas



**The 18<sup>th</sup> District Presents:**

**Beat 1821**

**Join us at our next Beat Meeting !!**

**When:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month

**Where:** Near North Library  
310 W. Division

**Time:** 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

**For further information contact the 18<sup>th</sup> District  
Community Policing Office at 312-742-5778.**

**Visit us at:**

[www.CityofChicago.Org/CommunityPolicing/DistrictHome/District18](http://www.CityofChicago.Org/CommunityPolicing/DistrictHome/District18)

Joseph P. Griffin  
Commander

Jerome Fluder  
CAPS Lieutenant

Cynthia Schumann  
Sergeant, CPO