

**SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE
POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

April 11, 2012
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Richard Crisp called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Jaycee Park Auditorium located at 2000 Cedar Lane, Greenville, NC.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Richard Crisp asked for a motion for approval of the April 11, 2012 agenda.

Motion: Mr. Tom McCullough
Second: Ms. Shawan Sutton

The agenda was unanimously approved by the Committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Richard Crisp asked for a motion for approval of the March 14, 2012 minutes.

Motion: Mr. Dennis Winstead
Second: Ms. Shawan Sutton

The minutes were unanimously approved by the Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairperson Richard Crisp asked each member to introduce themselves and let everyone know which district they represented.

MISSION OF COMMITTEE AND PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Chairperson Richard Crisp stated that the purpose of the Committee was:

- To serve as a liaison between the community and the police;
- To serve as an advocate for programs, ideas, and methods to improve relations between the community and the police;
- To disseminate information to the community and the City with regard to the state of relations between the community and the Greenville Police Department;
- To assist and promote the community education efforts concerning safety awareness and community and individual awareness.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Crisp; Chairperson, At Large
Vice Chair Dennis Winstead, Mayoral
Wayne Whipple; District 4

Tom McCullough; District 5
Shawan Sutton; District 1

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Pat Peralion; District 3

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Bartlett, Interim Police Chief; Assistant City Attorney Bill Little; Sylvia Horne, Administration Bureau Secretary; Devinder Culver, Community Project Coordinator; Officer Les Jackson, Crime Prevention.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member Calvin Mercer, District #4

OTHERS:

NEW BUSINESS

Identity Fraud/Theft– Detective Frank DeSantis

Detective DeSantis introduced himself and thanked the citizens for coming out to the PCRC meeting. Detective DeSantis stated that he has been working with the Greenville police department for 25 years. He discussed and passed out information on tips to the community members to help slowdown one of the fastest growing white-collar crimes, which is “Identity Theft”. The information from Detective DeSantis notes, brochure and newspaper clippings served as a warning to the community members on how to take steps to protect their privacy and to educate “Identity Fraud” victims about what to do when an identity theft occurs.

Detective DeSantis stated that identity fraud is on the rise and has become a significant problem for the Greenville Police and for the citizens of Greenville. This is because there has been an increase in the number of reported identity fraud incidents with the community. Additionally, the identity theft/fraud issue continues to receive considerable media attention. The department now investigates these crimes through the Financial Crimes Unit of the Investigation Division.

Detective DeSantis went into the elements of the crime: he stated that a person guilty of this offense

1. Knowingly obtains, possesses, or uses
2. Personal identifying information of another person
3. Without the consent of that other person
4. With the intent to fraudulently represent the person is the other person
5. For the purpose of making financial or credit transactions in the other person’s name

Venue of Offenses

NC General Statute 14-113.21

In any criminal proceeding brought under NCGS 14-113.20, the crime is considered to be committed in any county in which part of the financial identity fraud took place, regardless of whether the defendant was actually present in that county.

Detective DeSantis discussed the punishment and liability of Identity Theft. Identity Theft is a violation of G.S. 14-113.20 is punishable as a Class H felony except if the

victim suffers arrest, detention, or conviction as a proximate result of the offense, then the violation is punishable as a Class G felony. Under this statute, the victim is allowed to pursue civil damages of up to five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) per incident or three times the amount of the amount of actual damages, whichever is greater.

Detective DeSantis discussed six prevention tips for Identity Theft.

1. **Never** give any of your personal information to any one unless it is for financial transactions that you initiated.
2. **Do not** leave credit cards receipts lying around carelessly (especially on the table of a restaurant.)
3. **Always** shred financial documents that are no longer needed in a cross-shredder.
4. **Be cautious** when making purchases online (know who you are conducting business with).
5. **Avoid** giving your social security as a means of "positive ID" when writing a check.
6. **Remember**....if it sounds too good to be true....probably is!

Lastly Detective DeSantis informed the citizens of three major credit reporting bureaus if they became a victim of "identity theft."

Equifax
www.equifax.com
1(800) 685-1111

Experian
www.experian.com
1 888) 397-3742

Trans Union
www.transunion.com
1(800) 88-4213

Public Expression and Questions.

The citizens asked several questions and made several comments.

ADJOURN – 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
Document (#924389)