



Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa Committee Report – May 2009

Committee: Public Safety

Committee chairperson: Cyndi Hench

Meeting date: 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm, as needed

Mission: To increase community involvement to reduce opportunities for crime, to help prepare for the uncertainty of natural events and address other public safety issues throughout the community.

Goals:

- Address issues regarding Public Safety and Crime Prevention.
- Partner with local agencies (e.g., LAPD, LAFD and LA City Services) to stay informed about latest news about crime and conditions in our area.
- Promote Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch Programs in order to improve community crime prevention efforts, increase community involvement and grow the general sense of community.
- Organize public safety related events for the community.

Monthly report:

On May 18, the Public Safety Committee hosted a community meeting about IDENTITY THEFT. Identity Theft affects someone every 3 seconds. This is a prolific crime and getting worse.

In 2009, the Public Safety committee will be organize at least 4 community meetings/events which will focus on the following:

- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – Our sixth CERT class will be graduating this week (Tuesday, March 3), that is about 225 people who have gone through the NCWP organized CERT classes in the past 2 years! Each year we plan to organize two - 7 week classes will be organized by the committee –the first in January/February and the second in August/September. **The next local course will be after the summer, on Tuesday nights, August 26 through October 7, from 7pm – 9:30pm.**
- Self Defense for Women – this 5 week course was held was March. The first session was a FREE 1.5 hour introductory session for women. The introductory class was followed by 4 – 2 hour weekly classes. The cost was \$125 per person and was taught by a professional in martial arts and self defense.
- Disaster Awareness Course will be offered in Playa Vista on May 13 at 7pm. More Prepared, a local vendor of Emergency Preparedness supplies will be on hand and selling supplies at a discount.
- CERT refresher courses for graduates of the CERT program