

Crime Reporting

9-1-1- Immediate threat to life or property; crime in progress.

703-792-6500 – Suspicious activity, past occurrence, non-life threatening.

The Call Taker Will Ask You:

- Your name (optional)
- Your address (optional)
- Nature of the problem– Tell us what is going on.
- Location of the problem – Where is it?
- Description of involved people, vehicles, etc. – be as descriptive as possible.
- Gender
- Race
- Clothing Description
- Anything that makes them stand out.



Resources

Prince William County Police Department

Non-emergency: 703-792-6500
www.police.pwcgov.org

Crime Prevention Unit

703-792-7270
crimeprevention@pwcgov.org

FEMA

Resources to Protect Your House of Worship

<https://www.fema.gov/faith-resources>

DHS

Guide for Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations Plans for Houses of Worship

https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Developing_EOPs_for_Houses_of_Worship_FINAL.PDF

Worship Watch

A Partnership Between
Law Enforcement and
Your House of Worship

Prince William County
Police Department





Working together to create a safer worship experience

Partnership

Common Crimes targeting houses of worship include larceny, burglary, vandalism and arson. It is the responsibility of all members of the congregation, police department and surrounding community to work together to deter these crimes. This goal can be accomplished by enhancing security at the House of Worship and by observing and reporting suspicious activity.

Worship Watch is a proactive program. The program is intended to encourage Houses of Worship to become more involved in reducing the opportunity for crimes to occur on their premises. The congregation and community residents will be more aware and quick to report any suspicious activity.

Why Join a Worship Watch?

- You will take part in addressing problems and concerns within your facility as well as surrounding neighborhood.
- You will be assisting in helping reduce crime at your facility, making you, your family and congregation safer.
- You will be instilling unity and camaraderie through a safer house of worship.

Worship Watch Objective

- Increase awareness of neighborhood crime through an information sharing process
- Train staff/members in making their facility, personal property and neighborhood more secure.
- Develop an action program where staff/members remain alert and aware of their surrounding and report suspicious persons, activities and crimes to the Prince William County Police Department.

Make the Commitment

Your participation is necessary to make the program successful. We need you and the watch members to make the following commitments.

- Look out for your congregation and community.
- Report any unusual / suspicious persons, vehicles or activities.
- Make your facility as burglar resistant as possible.
- Explain to new members the purpose of the program.
- Stay safe!

Getting Started

The process for starting a Worship Watch at your facility is a simple one. Follow the steps below to become a sanctioned Worship Watch.

- Get approval from the House of Worship leadership and select a coordinator. Contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 703-792-7270.
- Participate in a Worship Watch training session.
- Establish a way to effectively communicate with each other (i.e. email, phone tree or social media). Share information with your staff members, security teams, and congregation.

Benefits of Worship Watch

- Create a greater awareness of crime and crime prevention techniques.
- Crime prevention training.
- Provides a contact within the Police Department.
- Free security assessment.
- Receive crime alerts and other crime prevention information.
- Results in a safer community.