HURSTVILLE SECURITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

2018 Report to Residents

December 20, 2018

Dear Hurstville Security and Neighborhood Improvement District Resident,

We hope this letter finds you and your family safe and happy this holiday season. We are pleased to once again report that the Hurstville Security and Neighborhood Improvement District ("Hurstville") continues to be one of the safest neighborhoods in the city. The following will provide you with additional information about the District.

HSD Patrol Activity

Our patrol supervisor, retired NOPD Lt. Carl Perillioux, continually monitors crime trends in the NOPD's 2nd District and proactively deploys additional officers to protect Hurstville residents and their property. The mix of NOPD and Orleans Levee Police marked police units as well as some unmarked police vehicles has again proven effective this past year. All Hurstville patrol officers are equipped with a cell phone and a radio to ensure immediate contact with each other and with Hurstville residents. Additionally, our GPS tracking system provides accountability for each officer on duty.

The following chart reflects the crime activity within the Hurstville boundaries compared with the previous years. This year, data provided through 12/1/18, HSD officers handled 1601 calls for escorts, 57 residence alarms, 3 auto alarms, 2680 residence checks, 343 pedestrian checks, 184 business checks and 627 vehicle checks. During the parade season, there were no incidents reported. Overall, crime in the District remains low relative to most other parts of the city.

Our patrol supervisor reports that of 11 of the 17 vehicular burglaries involved cars that were found unlocked. A recent upswing in vehicle burglaries has been seen across the uptown area. Several arrests of juveniles suspected of these crimes have been reported.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Carjacking	NA	1	0	2						
Armed Robbery	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	2	2
Residence Burglary	4	1	3	1	1	1	4	1	2	0
Vehicle Burglary	11	9	6	9	10	13	10	9	8	17
Theft	4	3	3	1	10	3	6	4	2	3
Auto Theft	4	4	2	2	2	6	1	2	10	4
Bicycle Theft	2	1	1	0	1	4	1	0	0	2
Purse Snatching	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2

Explanation of Serious Incidents: There were two purse snatchings that occurred in Hurstville. The first incident occurred at St. Charles Avenue and Arabella Street on 1/4/2018. The victim was walking to the streetcar late at night when she was attacked from the rear. The subject stole her purse.

The second incident occurred on 3/16/2018. The victim was walking with friends in the 5200 block of Magazine Street when she was approached from the rear and the subject grabbed her purse and fled.

Several carjackings occurred uptown on 8/25/2018. Two of these occurred in Hurstville, one in the 5400 block of LaSalle Street and the other in the 2200 block of Octavia Street. Fortunately, the perpetrators were later arrested by the police.

An aggravated battery was reported on 8/15/2018 in the 900 block of Bellecastle Street. The victim was sitting in her vehicle while texting on her phone. An unknown subject approached her with a gun and began striking her on the head. The victim blew the vehicle's horn and the subject fled.

2019 Hurstville Fee

The 2019 fee for Hurstville residents will increase \$25 from \$480 to \$505 for the year. This fee is in line with our two abutting districts: Twinbrook - \$475 and Audubon - \$525. We are pleased to continue to provide only commissioned law enforcement officers in Hurstville rather than private patrol security guards. We believe that police officers, while more expensive than security guards, are a greater deterrent to crime because of their visibility, training, and arrest powers. There are approximately 760 properties in the District and more than 72% of the revenue collected is used to pay for the patrol officers. The other budgeted expenses include communications, administration, insurance and other safety related measures for the area.

Reminders

Hurstville decals to identify your vehicle for the patrol officers as well as Hurstville patrol number stickers are free to all Hurstville residents. Simply contact the office via email at <u>hurstville@bellsouth.net</u> if you would like to request either of the Hurstville decals. In addition, please do not forget to call the Hurstville patrol number to have an officer meet you or your family at your home when you desire an escort.

Please be sure to remove all of your belongings from your vehicle and lock your car. Many of the vehicle incidents this year were "crimes of opportunity" and were avoidable if only the residents would remember to lock their vehicles. Please help us keep the neighborhood safe by reducing this opportunity.

Lighting

As everyone is aware, proper lighting is vital to crime prevention. Last year HSD added security lights to areas of the neighborhood with poor lighting. We continue to encourage neighbors to add lights on their own property to help fight crime and keep us all safe. You can also add lights to the existing street pole near your home. Entergy will install the fixture for free and charge a monthly usage fee (from \$15/month) that can be added to your Entergy bill. Please see the Entergy website for more information.

We Want Your Feedback

Please check out the HSD website to sign up for our safety and crime alerts: <u>www.hurstvillesecurity.com</u> and feel free to contact us at <u>hurstville@bellsouth.net</u>. We'd love to hear from you.

We hope your new year is safe, happy, and healthy!

Sincerely, The HSD Board of Commissioners

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