



To: Montford Neighbors

From: _____, Your Neighborhood Watch Captain
_____, Address
_____, Phone
_____, Email

Subject: Neighborhood Watch Area _____

I would like to introduce myself to you as your block captain for our neighborhood watch. Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention concepts in North America. As summarized by USAonWatch, the "Face of the National Neighborhood Watch Program" (<http://www.usaonwatch.org/>), Neighborhood Watch:

- is a crime prevention program that stresses education and common sense.
- teaches citizens how to help themselves by identifying and reporting suspicious activity in their neighborhoods.
- focuses on observation and awareness as a means of preventing crime and employs strategies that range from simply promoting social interaction and "watching out for each other" to active patrols by groups of citizens.
- shares the foundational idea that bringing community members together to reestablish control of their neighborhoods promotes an increased quality of life and reduces the crime rate in that area.
- involves community members in watch programs to decrease opportunities for criminals to commit crime rather than attempting to change their behavior or motivation.

We are teaming with our local law enforcement to establish this program and we are continuing to find block captains to cover more and more sections of Montford. Officer Katie Beane of the Asheville police department has been assigned to work with Neighborhood Watch block captains on crime prevention. I am your block captain and am encouraging you to join us.

All you have to do is fill out the attached form and return it to me. We are placing this information in a password-protected database, accessible only to the neighborhood watch coordinators and block captains. You may also enter the information directly into our database by filling out the form at <http://www.montford.org/nhw/familyinfo.php>. Our database will be used to develop email lists and phone tree lists. As your block captain, I will use these lists to contact you whenever an alert is necessary. Likewise, I ask that you use my contact information (above) to send any alerts or questions to me.

The concept is simple and its simple to join. It is also a great way to get to know more of your neighbors. Thank you for your support!