



WPD Newsletter

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Computer safety tips:

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- It is then virtually impossible to trace this money back to a suspect.
- Many Watertown residents have become victims of this type of fraud.

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Internet Fraud

The Watertown Police Department would like to alert you to a type of internet fraud that we have seen on numerous occasions in this area. This type of fraud generally stems from people who are selling items on the internet. Many of the cases we have seen revolve around the sale of automobiles over the internet (i.e. Craig list, EBay etc). A person will respond by email that they are interested in purchasing the vehicle and agree to the sales price. They inform the seller that they will send a check to them for the price of the vehicle plus the costs for shipping the vehicle. If the car is being sold for three thousand dollars, they will send a check for five thousand dollars, three for the car and two to cover the shipping. They instruct the seller that when

the check clears, to wire them back the two thousand dollars for the shipping. The victim deposits the check and initially sees the funds in their account. The money then gets wired back to the buyer, mostly out of state and in some cases out of the country. After a few days the bank then realizes that the check is counterfeit. The seller has now been scammed out of two thousand dollars. It is then virtually impossible to trace this money back to a suspect.

Many Watertown residents have become victims of this type of fraud. This occurs not only with cars but also with other items for sale on the internet. Recently there have been numerous apartment and commercial property rentals associated



with this type of scam. We have spoken with the local Western Union outlets in the area and asked them to be alert for this type of scam. They have been helpful in stopping some potential scams.

In conclusion, anytime you are asked to wire back money to a person or company that you do not know, it should raise a red flag that this is a scam.

You should not have to cash a check and wire back money to anyone you do not know.

If you have a question or think you might being scammed contact your local police department before you become a victim. Prepared by Det. Lt. Michael Lawn

Next edition... Contractor Fraud Alert



The Snow is Coming...



The Snow is Coming... whether we like it or not. Along with the snow comes the shoveling.

So let me take a moment to remind us all of the importance in keeping our sidewalks safe. All commercial businesses are required to keep the sidewalks and prop-

erty clear from snow or ice, immediately following a snow storm. Although homeowners are not required by law, we would strongly encourage residents to do their part in keeping the sidewalks clear from snow or ice. If we all work together we can keep the children safe while they

are walking to and from school.

In an effort to work together, let us also remember that the DPW has a job to do. It just becomes more difficult if private contractors or homeowners put snow on the roadways.

"George L. Hanna" Award for Heroism

On October 13, 2006 Sergeant Daniel Unsworth, a member of the North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council SWAT Team was honored at the annual "George L. Hanna" Award Ceremony.

The NEMLEC mission statement, reads as follows: "The North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council is committed to providing the highest quality of support and supplemental public safety services to its police chiefs through a regional partnership of member communities"

NEMLEC SWAT team was nominated for this prestigious award for its outstanding acts of heroism and bravery during a hostage situation.

Lt. Governor Kerry Healey along with Robert C. Haas, Secretary of Public Safety, presented the award to Sergeant Unsworth.

Sergeant Unsworth joined the Watertown Police Department in July of 1997. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on May 4, 2001. His efforts in and out of the community are both recognized and valued by many.



Congratulations to Sgt. Unsworth on a job well done!

Faire on the Square

On Saturday September 30th, 2006, the town held its annual Faire on the Square.

Among many of the activities and kiosks in the area, the Police Department participated in a wide array of static displays as well as a live K9 demonstration. Century 21 West Realty was also present in conjunction with the Watertown Police Department and the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office provid-

ing a free Child ID kit to parents for their children.

The event was a great success and enjoyed by all.



NEMLEC Mobile Incident Command



Lt. Clark and his K9 partner Lox.



A local youth checking out a Harley Davidson Police Road King.



People lining up to get a free Child ID sponsored by Century 21 West Realty in conjunction with the Watertown Police Department and Middlesex Sheriff's Office.

Meet the Officers - Ofc. David Crabbe

Officer David Crabbe joined the Watertown Police Department in April 2004. Born and raised in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, David attended Boston University where he earned his bachelors degree in business. He was also a scholarship athlete and captain of the men's cross country and track & field team.

Since joining the police department, Officer Crabbe has participated in many community policing activities, such as Cops & Kids and the Police

Athletic League (PAL). He is currently assigned to the night patrol division, focusing on the east-end of Watertown.

Officer Crabbe is also a member of the NEMLEC Regional Response Team, a specialized police unit that serves northeastern Massachusetts in emergency situations.

Officer Crabbe enjoys playing sports, working out, and salt water fishing when off-duty. He is currently attending Curry College for his Master's degree in criminal justice.



Be aware, be prepared, and stay informed!

Protect yourself and be "Street Safe"!



The holiday season is a perfect time to stop and reflect on the moments and celebrations that have shaped the past year. As well as spending time with loved ones in our lives. It is not a time to forget about our personal safety.

During the holidays there are many distractions that can cause us to be unaware of our surroundings. When we get

Happy Holidays!!!

distracted, we become easy targets. Criminals watch for these things. So, be aware, be prepared, and stay informed! Protect yourself and be "Street Safe"!

Don't let crime spoil your holidays! Celebration can quickly turn to anguish because safety was neglected. "It *can* happen to you", so be careful. Being aware of your surround-

ings can help make your world a safer place and your holidays the joyful times they should be.

Chief Edward P. Deveau and the members of the Watertown Police Department would like to wish everyone and their families a Healthy and Happy Holiday Season!

"Your" Forum

This section is still yours! The newsletter is intended to be interesting and informative. We want to know what information you want to know more about. Therefore we hope that you will e-mail us with any questions or concerns you may have. It is also an opportunity for you

to provide other residents with important safety information that you have come across and want to pass along. Simply send an e-mail to Officer O'Dette at this address: kodette@police.watertown-ma.gov and we will either answer your questions or post the information.

We're waiting... There must be something that you want to know more about, or wanted others to know about. If there is something you want to know about, I can assure you that others are probably curious too. Don't be shy!!! - Your Editor - Officer Kathleen O'Dette



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We're on the Web!!!
<http://www.watertownpd.org>



Winter Senior Safety

- Space Heaters -Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from the heater, and if you don't already have one, buy a space heater that automatically shuts off if the heater falls over.
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors-should be on every level of the home. Check the batteries every month and change them at least once a year.
- Checking in with loved ones - More frequent calls or visits with seniors are encouraged during the winter months to ensure that they have everything that they need in order to remain healthy.
- Family Pets -Our pets will also need a little extra attention as the days grow colder and darker.



WPD's Haunted Police Station

