



News Release

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*"People First; Public Safety
Always"*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Media Contact: Lt. Kenneth Clark

Headline: TCSO Launches the Community Awareness Program

Details:

The Thurston County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce the launch of the **Community Awareness Program**. Recognizing the fact that security video cameras have become a common feature in modern day society, The TCSO **Community Awareness Program** seeks to increase our partnership with the citizens of Thurston County by utilizing the images and video that may have been captured on home security systems when a crime has occurred within the community.

This program is 100% voluntary and citizens can opt out at any time. By registering with TCSO, deputies can quickly identify cameras that may have recorded criminal activity. When a crime occurs in a neighborhood, TCSO will contact program participants and ask the participant to examine their recorded surveillance video for a specific time frame in order to locate potential leads in the investigation. If the program participant's surveillance equipment was able to capture pertinent information, we will arrange a convenient time to retrieve the video information. At no time will we be tapping into any surveillance system.

For years we have asked citizens to support law enforcement by calling 911 to report suspicious people or activities in their neighborhoods. The **Community Awareness Program** builds on this idea by utilizing the unblinking eyes of our citizen's surveillance cameras to help solve crimes and hold criminals accountable. If interested in registering go to www.co.thurston.wa.us/sheriff and look for the Sign Up for our new Community Video Surveillance program button.

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