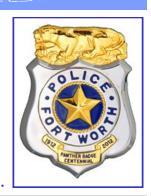
### CENTRAL DIVISION PRESS FORT WORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT

**JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER** 

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### Commemorative Badge Anniversary Month

The Fort Worth Police Historical Association unveiled a commemorative police badge June 2012 (shown right) to honor the 100th year of the Fort Worth's police's current badge. The badge entered service on June 9, 1912 and is believed to be one of the oldest in the nation. The commemorative badge was worn from for one year in celebration of the badge anniversary.

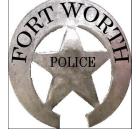


The Fort Worth Police Department has had five badges in its history. In 1912 the Department adopted the badge currently worn and pictured right. **Fun fact:** it is the only police badge to go to the moon. Astronaut Alan Bean, a graduate of Fort Worth's Paschal High School, took a honorary police commissioned badge in 1969 on Apollo 12.



### FWPD Badge History









The badges pictured left were commissioned prior to badge currently worn.

1886 to 1891

1891

Circa early 1900's



The shoulder patch, pictured left, was adopted in 1977. Its shield shape is a symbol of protection. The star represents a badge of law and order. It is also said to refer to Texas being the Lone Star State. The unbroken ring around the star depicts unity and a continuance of dedication to law enforcement. The steer figure in the center of the patch represents the historic western culture of Fort Worth.



#### **Newsletter Published By:**

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### What's the 3-1-1 with Fort Worth's new 3-1-1?

The City of Fort Worth has marked another milestone on the journey to acquiring the 311 number to access City services. Once the federal government ruled the 311 number could not be charged for mobile services, Fort Worth added 311 to the list of ways to contact the City Call Center.

**What's new:** Residents are now able to call either 311 or the 10-digit number 817-392-1234 to reach City services. 311, a nonemergency line, can only be dialed from a wireless device and must called from within Fort Worth city limits. There is no cost for 311 mobile services. The main providers of cell towers have set up 311 service inside Fort Worth; minor providers will also use these towers to carry their service.

"We are excited to offer another shorter path to call for City services," said Sharon Gamble, customer service administrator for the City of Fort Worth. "Dial 311 when in the city limits from your cell phone to reach our Contact Center, <u>817-392-1234</u>."

#### Fort Worth Call Center receives another top award

311 Fort Worth–Contact Center picked up an award at the ENGAGE311 conference, this year as finalist for its call center. The center was selected as the 2020 winner. In addition to its teamwork and service-level improvements, the center successfully deployed three distinct software programs during 2023:

- "Place in Line" allows callers to wait off the phone rather than on hold.
- After the call, an "After-Call Survey" is presented, which allows the center to harvest caller insights and sentiments.
- Workforce Management system now integrates with payroll system, providing an automatic recording of representatives' system log-in and log-out times. "Time-off Manager" allow representatives to see time available for leave and the ability to request for paid time off streamlined through this tool. The implementation of automated work time entry has resulted in a collection time savings of 400-plus hours annually for agents.

"By maintaining more accurate and timely records and reducing manual entry errors, the time required by management for timekeeping review and maintenance has been significantly reduced-enabling them to focus on other priorities, agent-focused enhancements and overall service quality," Gamble said.

Supporting 25 departments with 48 divisions, MyFW311 maintains active engagement with City stakeholders through quarterly meetings, monthly reporting and continuous open dialogue for the 13th largest U.S. city.

"The establishment of a Unified Call Center support team exemplifies our commitment to interdepartmental cooperation," Gamble said. "The implementation of a new billing system by the Water Department caused a surge in inquiries. The UCC was swiftly mobilized. Collaboratively, we devised alternative channels for customer engagement, leveraging technological platforms with the MyFW App and text service, alongside traditional web intake methods.

"Furthermore, a concerted effort was made to share information via prominent banners on the City's website homepage, redirecting residents to expedited service avenues. This multifaceted approach alleviated strain on the call center and bolstered overall efficiency and resident satisfaction."

Article Posted in City News



### Four D's of Crime Prevention

- 1. Deter the criminal attack
- 2. Detect the attack
- 3. Delay the attack
- 4. Deny access to selected targets

### The Four "D's" of Crime Prevention

- **1 Deter** (deterrence): to keep someone from doing something through anxiety, or doubt. To discourage someone from doing something. Example: Posted yard sign warning of a monitored alarm system and cameras are only two of many ways to target harden your home from would be intruders thus the intruder will move on to an easier target.
- **2 Detect** (detection): to find out or discover the presence of existence of anything hidden. Example: A building alarm is triggered when a window is broken, sending an alert to local law enforcement, alerting them of a possible illegal intrusion. The criminal is caught because his or her act was detected.
- **3 Delay** put off to a future time; postpone; to make late; to stop for a while. Example: placing a high-security padlock on a door that is frequently the location of unauthorized entry. The criminal is accustomed to cutting the low-security padlock with bolt cutters however this high security lock does not have an exposed shackle so the bolt cutters does not work. It takes more time to try to defeat this lock, thus increasing the possibility the criminal will be caught.
- **4 Deny** to refuse access to; forbid. Example: a criminal still attempts to cut into the high security padlock but is unsuccessful. The extra measure taken to better secure the door prevented entry thus denying the crime and allowing only the attempt.



# FAMILY DAY

### COMMUNITY SAFETY FAIR

# Saturday Crime Pres June 1, 2024 10 AM to 2 PM

# Walmart

7451 McCart Ave at Sycamore School Rd

### Planned Events Include

Crime Prevention Exhibits

Touch-A-Truck

City Services Exhibits

Children's Activities Area

Law Enforcement Awareness

**And Many More Activities** 

For more information on Family Day 2024 please contact the FWPD South Division Crime Prevention Office at \$17-392-3405.





# FREE TO ATTEND - NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED



### **INTERNET SAFETY**

# **SEMINAR**

Reasons you should attend the seminar:

- Information about online scammers
- Resources for seniors/parents
- ✓ Lots of Q&A's
- Free lunch for all attendees

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Kelly Biggs

(817) 238-4216

kbbiggs@tarrantcountytx.gov



Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 4409 Sycamore School Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76133

Time: 10:00 am- 2:00 pm

This is open to everyone, put on by Crime Prevention Specialist from Tarrant County Sheriff and Fort Worth Police Department.

# FWPD Central Division Health and Safety Fair

### Walmart Parking Lot

2900 Renaissance Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76105

Saturday June 15th 9:30am-Noon



Scheduled Activities
FW Police Department
FW Fire Department
CODE Blue COPs
Free Child Id Cards
Information Vendors
Health/Educational Vendors



### **For Information Contact**

Eartha Pitre - Crime Prevention Specialist Central Division (817) 392-3997 or eartha.pitre@fortworthtexas.gov



June is National Safety Month, for safety information and tips visit:

https://www.nsc.org/workplace/national-safety-month

June 21st is the first day of summer.

Below are just a few areas of summer safety to focus on.

### **SUMMER SAFETY TIPS**

When walking or jogging choose populated areas or use the buddy system. If you wear ear phones, choose a volume that will allow you to always be aware of your surroundings. Encourage children to play around others. Never leave children alone to swim or play and lock gate areas around the swimming pool.

Children die yearly of hyperthermia as a result of being left unattended in motor vehicles. The circumstances include: child forgotten by a caregiver, child playing unattended in a vehicle or child intentionally being left in a vehicle by an adult.

### Take these safety tips to heart:

Don't get preoccupied or so busy with your daily activities that you forget about your child in the back seat.

Don't assume that another guardian has taken on the responsibility of the child.

Look before you leave. Be mindful about checking your rear-facing car seats before leaving the vehicle.

Lock your vehicle's doors to prevent entry by younger children.

When airing out your home during the day, remember to lock your doors and windows at night.

Inform trusted neighbors when you plan to travel, they can collect your mail and newspapers.

Trim trees and bushes in areas where someone could hide around your home's perimeter.

### Parking safety tips

TPW/Parking Services provides these tips for downtown employees and citizens who park their vehicles in city lots and garages: (*Tips may be helpful to you or someone you know.*)



- Always be aware of your surroundings. Don't allow yourself to be distracted (carrying packages, texting or talking on the cell phone, etc.).
- Avoid walking alone after dark. Get a co-worker/friend to walk with you to your vehicle.
- Walk with purpose. Multiple studies have shown that a quick, purposeful walk sends subconscious signals to predators that you are not an easy target.
- Keep a hand free at all times. This gives you the opportunity to attempt to fend off a would-be attacker.
- Walk in the middle of aisles or ramps rather than using parking garage stairs or elevators. Park in a well-lit area.
- If possible, back into parking spaces which allows for quick and easy exit.
- Avoid parking next to vans, pickups or other large vehicles. They can hide your vehicle, making it easier to break in or for an attacker to hide.
- Have your keys ready when approaching your car. Keep a whistle on your key chain or your hand on a car alarm button, if available.
- If you have an unlocking button or keyless entry system, only unlock driver's door.
- Check your car before getting in. You can look under and around the vehicle and also look in the back seats and on the floor.
- Once in your vehicle, lock the doors, turn lights on and get moving.
- Never leave an identification tag on your key ring. If this is lost or stolen, a thief may find you, your car or your house.
- If you feel you are being followed, walk or run quickly to a lighted store or where crowds of people can offer help. Do not go home.
- Always report suspicious activities to parking attendants, security or call the police.
- For emergencies, call 911.
- For questions about city lots and garages, call Parking Services at 817-392-6667.



Central's CODE BLUE monthly meeting and Ice Cream Social in recognition of Volunteer Week



Neighborhood Police Officer teaching class for security officers





Observe and assist South Division officers at career day



Moresby YMCA Daycare Field Day

Daggett Elementary Career Day

Fortress Academy Beat the Heat Event

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Juneteenth activist Opal Lee received Presidential Medal of Freedom at the White House



#### AMANDA MCCOY amccoy@star-telegram.com

Fort Worth's Opal Lee, the 97-year-old "grandmother of Juneteenth," received the Presidential Medal of Freedom at the White House last month, officials said.

President Joe Biden named Opal Lee as one of 19 recipients of the award, which is the nation's highest civilian honor, according to a White House news release. "These nineteen Americans built teams, coalitions, movements, organizations, and businesses that shaped America for the better," the release said. "They are the pinnacle of leadership in their fields. They consistently demonstrated over their careers the power of community, hard work, and service."



### Pay your bills-Not the imposters

By: Andrew Rayo, Consumer Education Specialist

If you are paying a medical, utility, or other bills online, you probably expect to wind up on the company's website. What might you not expect? An impersonator tricking you into paying them instead.

That's what the FTC says a company called Doxo did. Here's what you need to know. <u>According to the Federal Trade Comission (FTC)</u>, Doxo pretended to be an official payment site for big-name companies like AT&T, Spectrum, and Labcorp. The FTC says Doxo used online ads that looked like they were from the companies, and even used company names as keywords so Doxo's ads would show up in search results.

If the bills got paid, what's the problem? There's lots of them, says the FTC. People who paid their bills through Doxo often paid fees to Doxo on top of what they owed on the bill they were trying to pay. In some cases, the payment never got to the company that issued the bill. People only found out when they got a warning letter from a bill collector or had their utility service shut off. Some people wound up paying late fees to the actual company that billed them or paid their bill a second time, just to avoid other problems.

If you're looking to pay your bill online, know that search results might not get you to the right place. Instead, check your bill to find the online payment site. And, if possible, use a credit card. Credit cards offer the most protection against fraud, including the right to <u>dispute charges</u> if there are any problems.



### Use **Pass It On** to talk about fraud to Older Adults

Bridget Small- Consumer Education Specialist

Join the nation to celebrate Older Americans. It's also the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of <u>Pass It On</u>, the FTC's fraud education campaign for older adults. As Older Americans Month recognizes the power of social connections, we recognize the many thousands of people who have connected through Pass It On, starting conversations to help others avoid scams.

When the FTC first developed Pass It On, we asked older adults what they wanted from fraud education. They told us: clear language, direct advice, and easy readability. In response, we created plain language materials that respect readers and their life experience. At the start, Pass It On covered the seven most relevant topics. But as scams and scam tactics changed, the topics covered nearly doubled, including topics from <u>Grandkid and Family Scams</u> to <u>Unwanted Calls and Text Messages</u>. You can read articles online, or <u>order print copies</u> to share, in English and Spanish.

While older adults represent a variety of cultures, ages, and learning styles, they all may experience scams. Recently, a group of government partners, consumer advocates, and industry representatives released <u>principles</u> to help guide any organization that wants to reach older adults. Pass It On is grounded in these principles, and did we mention it's free to use or share?

Over the past ten years, thousands of <u>trusted community partners</u> have delivered Pass It On messages to their clients, neighbors, and wider communities. Dedicated folks in aging services, consumer protection civic groups, financial services, law enforcement and more have given presentations, led calls, and shared information with friends and family. We even heard that Pass It On ideas have been added to fraud Bingo games in New York and community theater presentations in Florida.

Want to join our network? Start at ftc.gov/PassItOn.



## Let's talk about spam texts and emails

By: Andrew Rayo-Consumer Education Specialist

Another day, another round of spam texts and emails trying to sell you things. At best, spam is annoying. At worst, it's pushing scams or trying to install malware on your device. If you're tired of getting spam, there are some ways to help.

When scammers send <u>spammy messages</u> that seem legit (but aren't), they're often trying to trick you into clicking links and giving them personal or financial information. Things like your passwords or bank account and Social Security numbers are valuable to scammers. With that access to your accounts, scammers could try to steal your money or <u>your identity</u>. Or both.

#### To help you cut down on spam and avoid scams:

**Use filters.** Your mobile phone probably has options to <u>filter and block</u> texts from unknown senders. Some wireless providers and call blocking apps can also help block unwanted messages. Many popular email providers (like Gmail) have strong <u>spam filters</u> turned on by default. But if any spam gets into your inbox, mark it as <u>spam or junk</u>.

• **Protect your personal information.** Before you enter personal information on a website, email, or text chain, stop. Ask yourself: Why do they need this information? And what's going to happen to it? Remember, too: never share your Social Security number with someone who reaches out to you.

<u>Unsubscribe</u> from unwanted emails. Getting fewer unwanted emails helps you avoid clicking on links that can lead to a <u>phishing attack</u>.

**Report unwanted messages.** Unwanted messages often lead to scams. Report them. Use your phone's "report junk" option or forward unwanted texts to <u>7726 (SPAM)</u> and unwanted emails to your <u>email provider</u>.