

Things to Look for Involving Vehicles

- Any vehicle moving slowly and without lights, or following a course that appears aimless or repetitive, is suspicious anytime, any place, particularly in areas of schools, parks and playgrounds
- Parked, occupied vehicles containing one or more persons are especially significant if observed at an unusual hour
- Vehicles being loaded with valuables are suspicious if parked in front of a closed business or unattended residence, even if the vehicle is a legitimate looking commercial vehicle
- Apparent business transactions conducted from a vehicle
- Anyone being forced into a vehicle
- An unfamiliar and apparently abandoned vehicle

Other Unusual Situations You Should Report

- Continuous “repair” operations at a non-business location may signal a chop shop or other illegal operation
- Open or broken doors or windows at a closed business or residence whose owners are absent could mean a burglary in progress or already completed
- Unusual Noises such as gunshots, screaming, sound of fighting, barking dogs barking—anything that suggestive

of foul play, danger, or illegal activity should be reported

While some, if not all, of the suspicious situations described could have innocent explanations, the Riverside Police Department would rather investigate a crime-prone situation than to be called after the crime has already occurred. **Your call could save a life, prevent an injury, or stop a criminal act!**

Information Most Needed by the Police

- What happened?
- When?
- Where?
- Is anyone injured?
- Suspect descriptions:
 - Race, gender, and approximate age
 - Clothing, top to bottom
- Vehicle description?
 - Old or new
 - Color, make and model
- License plate number?
- Vehicle’s last known direction of travel?
- Weapons involved or mentioned?



Call the police when you see something unusual for the time and place

WHAT IS SUSPICIOUS?

AND WHEN TO CALL THE POLICE

To Preserve and Improve our Quality of Life

10540 MAGNOLIA, SUITE B
RIVERSIDE, CA 92505

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1
NON-EMERGENCY: 787-7911
TELEPHONE REPORT LINE: 826-5314
WWW.RPDONLINE.ORG



10540 MAGNOLIA,
SUITE B
RIVERSIDE, CA 92505



Help the Riverside Police Department Help You

No police department can function effectively without the concerned assistance of responsible citizens. We are depending on you to call and tell us whenever you observe suspicious persons or actions.

Some people fail to call the police simply because they are not aware of what seemingly innocent activities might be suspicious. Others may notice suspicious activities, but are hesitant to call for fear of being a “nosey neighbor”. Still others take it for granted that someone else has already called.

The Riverside Police Department asks that you call immediately if you see anything suspicious. Your call is important to us. Don't worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove unfounded. Think instead about what could have happened if there was a crime and you didn't act.



Anyone peering into a car is suspicious

What is Suspicious?

Basically, anything that seems even slightly “out of place” for your neighborhood or time of day during which it occurs.

Here is a list of a few of the more obvious things to watch for and report immediately if noticed:

- A stranger entering your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied
- A scream heard anywhere
- Offers of merchandise at ridiculously low prices
- Anyone removing accessories, license plates, or gasoline from a vehicle
- Anyone peering into parked cars
- People entering or leaving a business after hours
- The sound of breaking glass or other loud explosive noises
- People loitering around schools, parks, secluded areas or in the neighborhood
- People around the neighborhood who do not live there could be burglars looking for the next opportunity

Some Not So Obvious Things to Watch For

Not every stranger who comes into your neighborhood is a criminal by any means. There are many perfectly legitimate door-to-door sales persons, repair persons, or service technicians moving around the City of Riverside all the time. It is important to note however, that criminals do take advantage of this by assuming the guise of legitimate business representatives. After all, if a criminal looked like a criminal, no one would have any trouble spotting him or her. Here are some situation involving people you might see and what their actions might mean.

- Someone going door to door in your neighborhood.

If the person tries a door to see if it's locked, or attempts or actually enters a rear yard, it could signal possible criminal activity. Such action is even more suspicious if one person remains in the front while another goes to the rear, or if there is a car following the subjects through the neighborhood



- Someone waiting in front of a house or business becomes suspect if the owner is absent, or if it's a business, if the business is closed. The person may be a lookout for a burglary in progress
- Anyone forcing entrance to or tampering with a residence, business, or vehicle is suspicious, anytime, anywhere
- A person running, especially if carrying something of value, from a residence or business could be leaving the scene of a crime
- Carrying property can be suspicious too. If the hour or place is unusual for the activity
- A person exhibiting unusual mental or physical symptoms may be injured, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or otherwise needing medical assistance
- A high volume of traffic to and from any location is not unusual unless it occurs regularly at odd hours

Anyone forcing open a door is suspicious