

WILSHIRE

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

STEP 2



*CHANGING HOW WE NEIGHBOR
TO DETER CRIME AND BUILD COMMUNITY*

STEP 2: UTILIZE LAPD & 24/7 RESPONSE PRIVATE PATROL

WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PRIVATE PATROL

1. DID YOU KNOW?

- LAPD should always be your first call for emergencies (call 911) and non-emergent situations (call 1-877-ASK-LAPD)
- Private patrol augments your security protection – it does not replace LAPD services or activation of the emergency response system.
- Private Patrol has proven useful in deterring crime, helping catch criminals, and providing security to its members.
- Private Patrol is quickly gaining recognition as an important component of home security protection and an integral part of Neighborhood Watch.

2. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LAPD, 24/7-ARMED PATROL & PATROL?

LAPD = Los Angeles Police Department - Your local public police agency and **first number you call for an emergency** (call 911) or to report of crime in progress (call 911) or suspicious behavior (non-emergent 1-877-ASK-LAPD)

24/7 RESPONSE PRIVATE ARMED PATROL = A private company you hire to respond to your calls and burglar alarm 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

PATROL = A private company your neighborhood has hired to Patrol your 'area' (area is designated by each individual company). They do not provide 24/7 response unless you are separately signed up for 24/7-armed patrol

3. RESPONSE OPTIONS TO A HOME BURGLARY:

- **Burglary occurs and no alarm system installed** – no automatic response or alert system
- **Burglary occurs and alarm installed but NOT connected to alarm monitoring company** – no automatic response or alert system. Your home alarm will sound but no response from LAPD or Private Patrol unless a call is initiated to LAPD

- **Burglary alarm tripped and you DO NOT have patrol service:** Alarm company will call the number you have given them. If no response, they will call LAPD. LAPD response time is determined by other calls they are responding to and may be delayed if your call is deemed less urgent due to another call. If LAPD is called for a false alarm, you may be subject to a \$345 fee. LAPD response times varies from 5 – 45 minutes.
- **Burglary alarm tripped and you DO have patrol service:** Alarm company will call the number you gave them. If no response they send their private patrol car with highest priority to your residence. Private patrol response time to burglar alarm calls varies from 2-10 minutes.

The following information is general information for patrol services. You need to contact your Patrol Company to inquire as to your exact services/contract and what is covered.

4. WHAT IS 24/7-ARMED RESPONSE?

A Private Patrol service provides 24 hour/7 day a week armed response to your calls and your burglar alarm. You must be a customer to receive their services.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE AN ALARM SYSTEM TO HAVE 24/7 PATROL!

The officers are well trained, and for burglar alarm alerts, can completely replace the response of the police, if the member chooses. This can save the member hundreds of dollars in fees for false alarms. The officers are trained to check the perimeter for signs of forced entry, verify authorization of anyone they find on the property, alert the members by phone in case of emergency and even make citizen arrests when needed. Additionally, their response time is usually much quicker than the police because patrol covers a smaller area and the police give alarm calls a lower priority. 24/7-armed response has limited duties than LAPD but can initiate a call to LAPD if a 'crime in progress' is witnessed. This can lead to immediate response time from LAPD even when you are not home or the one to initiate a call.

The well-trained officers are on constant lookout for suspicious persons and activity in the area, and their mere presence is an effective deterrent to any criminals they encounter. In addition to looking for suspicious activity while on patrol, they are also on call for any reports from members to alert them to suspicious activity.

The more residents sign up for patrol, the more patrol coverage is available to all. This effectively makes your area a large neighborhood watch network with patrol officers on call to demonstrate their presence when it may be needed.

Additionally, the patrol officers are constantly performing services for the members they serve, all of which directly contribute to their crime deterrence mission.

24/7-ARMED RESPONSE SERVICES MAY INCLUDE:

- **Random Patrol** - When patrol officers spot suspicious activity on a member's property, they investigate. If it's on a non-member's property, they are prevented by policy from taking action. For example: If they spot a member's garage open to the alley, they will alert the member. If they spot a non-member's garage open to the alley, they must simply continue driving unless they see a crime in progress, then they will call LAPD.
- **Armed Patrol Response 24 hours a day and 7 days a week** - When members see suspicious activity on or near their property, patrol responds within 1 – 10 minutes on average. This has the additional benefit of a deterrent and demonstrate presence when it may be needed most.
- **Respond to your burglar alarm** – even if you alarm system is with another company
- **Escorts** - Follow-home robberies are a common tactic of criminals. Members can call patrol when they are coming home late at night, or for any reason to have an officer there upon their arrival, when given a 30 minute ahead request.
- **Vacation Watches** - When leaving town, members can advise patrol of the dates of the absence and the officers will perform checks of the residence. Members usually have the officers conduct a perimeter check of the residence, checking for unsecured doors and windows, moving mail, papers, flyers and packages to designated locations on the property, and bringing in trash cans after collection. This will ensure that no potential burglar will be able to tell that the members are away. Some members simply have the officers conduct extra drive by during their absence.
- **Welfare checks** – you can call when you want patrol to check on a family at home

Additional services that some companies may provide (check with your company to confirm what your contract includes):

- Investigating suspicious vehicles or individuals in your neighborhood
- Watching for fires in surrounding hillsides or homes
- Conducting patrols to discourage intruders
- Monitoring camera feeds that record local entry and exit
- Reporting burned out street lights or signals
- Providing traffic control at area accidents
- Reuniting lost pets with owners
- Reporting downed trees or debris after storms
- Reporting leaky water mains
- Prompt reporting of graffiti
- Removing illegally placed signs
- Maintaining relationships with local police and fire departments for familiarity with current local crime/event trends

Did you know that if you DO have an alarm and you DO NOT have patrol service in addition to your monitoring service – there may be a delay in response to your burglary alarm.

5. HOW TO USE 24/7-ARMED RESPONSE PATROL

- ✓ **Sign up for 24/7-armed patrol and encourage as many neighbors to sign up as well.**
This is to not only receive increased patrol cars for your area – but also to have all neighbors actively participating in Neighborhood Watch and deter crime for your block. One neighbor signing up for patrol does NOT mean that ALL neighbors can benefit from one person’s proactive actions.
- ✓ 24/7-armed patrol companies only service the homes they are in contract with. If your home does not have patrol service, patrol will not enter your property to protect it.
- ✓ Everyone needs to be part of the solution when it comes to reducing crime in our neighborhood. If there is suspicious activity happening further down your block, other than LAPD response, how will private patrol monitor that part of your street? Your neighbors may want to consider supporting your efforts as well as have their home protected by patrol.
- ✓ Private Patrol has access that LAPD does not have to your property. By signing up for patrol you allow patrol to enter your property, access your yard, check your gates and the perimeter of your property.
- ✓ **Call 24/7-armed response Patrol when you see suspicious activity. You should not approach someone suspicious - call patrol (or LAPD for emergency or crime in progress)**
- ✓ The immediate response of patrol will show a presence, may stop a crime from being committed and will provide you with the needed resources for the situation at hand. Call LAPD first for any emergency or crime in progress.

*This is by far the most useful yet *UNDER UTILIZED* forms of service patrol provides. Do not under estimate the highly valuable service your patrol company offers. You may not receive this kind of response time from LAPD. LAPD receives over 1000 calls a week and has to prioritize their response. Therefore, response to your call may vary before a LAPD basic car is dispatched to your ‘suspicious behavior’ call.

REMEMBER:

- ✓ Your patrol company does canvas your street and area but IS NOT going to be present on your block 24/7 - but will respond to your call 24/7. While you may feel you are not 'seeing' your patrol company, rest assured you are receiving significant service and support in deterring crime.
- ✓ When patrolling your area, Patrol communicates with LAPD and can activate LAPD when necessary. This is vital communication that makes your neighborhood safer.
- ✓ When patrolling your area, Patrol is another set of eyes and ears of your neighborhood and watches for activity, issues and concerns including safety issues and situations. This makes for a safer neighborhood.
- ✓ LAPD relies upon citizens to report suspicious activity or 'crimes in progress' but also is aided by Private Patrol to show presence, increased visibility of security enforcement and response to situations that LAPD does not respond to.
- ✓ Opt for daily foot patrol for additional security and patrol presence – there are many levels of patrol services your company can provide. Inquire with your patrol company and choose the one that fits best for you and your family's needs.

6. 24/7 RESPONSE & PATROL COMPANIES

24/7-armed response to your call, daily patrol of your area, escort patrol or vacation watch –
Prices vary from approximately \$50 - \$62 per month. Call for companies for rates

****YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE AN ALARM SYSTEM TO GET 24/7-ARMED RESPONSE PATROL.***