

Join Business Watch Today

Business Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement and local government to reduce crime in our community. Neighborhood Watch programs have proven to be the most effective means available for keeping crime out of neighborhoods, and so does Business Watch.



Important Phone Numbers



Keep these phone numbers near the phone.

- Emergency** 911
- Business License** 267-5434
- Business Watch** 267-5170
- City Hall** 267-5100
- Code Enforcement** 267-5234
- Graffiti Removal** 94-PRIDE
- Palmdale Sheriff's Station (non-emergency)** 272-2400
- Parking Enforcement** 267-5436
- Public Safety Office** 267-5181
- Streetlight Repair** 800/655-4555



38300 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550
661/267-5170

www.cityofpalmdale.org

Business Watch



What is Business Watch?

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Join Business Watch

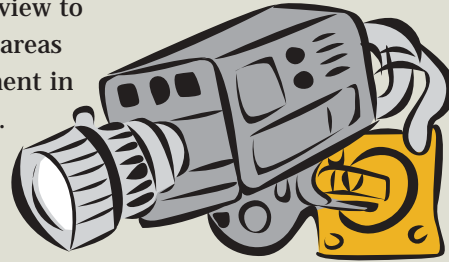
What is Business Watch?

Business Watch is a FREE program that shows business owners and employees crime prevention techniques and strategies they can use to help cut down on business-related crime. Training is conducted in-house for your convenience. Trainings may also be conducted at City facilities if requested.

The goal of the Business Watch program is to teach businesses how NOT to become a target for crime. If businesses do not take a proactive attitude, crime can creep in before you know it. In-house loss prevention personnel are a great asset, but most businesses have another great asset they tend to overlook — their cashiers, clerks and floor personnel. The Business Watch program focuses on teaching those personnel how to be observant and aware. They are a businesses' front line and the greatest resource for crime prevention.



Topics covered in training sessions include shoplifting prevention, credit card and bad check fraud, detecting counterfeit currency, robbery protocol, burglary prevention, workplace violence, personal safety, and building security. The program also incorporates internal procedure and policy review to help identify areas for improvement in store policies.



Why Business Watch?

- Law enforcement cannot be on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime.
- You and your fellow merchants are the ones who really know what is going on in your community.
- Cooperating with each other and law enforcement, businesses can help fight crime in their commercial districts in the most effective way – before it begins.
- Merchants place Business Watch stickers in their windows and signs in their parking lots, warning criminals that they are watching out for each other.



Getting Started

Contact the Public Safety Office at **267-5170** and explain that you would like to schedule training for your employees. It's that simple.

Tips for Success

- Be alert to unusual or suspicious behavior in your business community.
- Call the Sheriff's Department at **272-2400** to report criminal activity.
- Write down descriptions of the person(s) and license plate number(s) of any vehicle(s) involved.
- Tell a trusted neighboring merchant if your business is closed and ask them to keep an eye out. This includes picking up mail or newspapers. Do not leave any signals that say, "no one is here."
- Hold regular Business Watch training for your employees.
- Above all, get involved. It is the most effective way to reduce or prevent crime and make your business community safe.
- Remember, your job is to report crime. The responsibility for apprehending criminals belongs to the Sheriff's Department.

