



Tips to ward off scammers, and a crime update

Protecting your personal information

A Note from Major Hawkins Bureau of Community Policing Commander, Brentwood Police

Hello, Brentwood! I hope spring is treating everyone well. I see many of our residents walking our beautiful streets and parks and enjoying the recently gorgeous spring weather. If you see me on the trails sometime, stop and say hello! I too like to enjoy the outdoor space Brentwood has to offer.

We at the Police Department have received numerous inquiries about online scams and phone scams. Sadly the digital age and the dawn of globalization brought scammers into a target rich environment (angry face). We encourage people to never give money or personal information over the phone or internet.

If any of you out there use social media, make sure you've made use of the privacy settings! Each social media platform has their own privacy settings which you can make as secure as you'd like. If you are uncomfortable with those settings, better to be safe than sorry and not start an account.

Also, there are ways to protect your personal information from a simple Google search. Have you ever Googled yourself? It can be alarming to see how accessible you and your family's information really is. We encourage you to do your due diligence and take precautions to limit the possibility of exposing personal or identifiable information about your family. Play it safe, and take a peek online (ironically) at how you can best protect your information.

Last month Detective Tim Bone and Officer Seth Mundorf made an excellent arrest of a Robbery suspect from our Dierbergs! A week after the suspect committed a robbery of Dierbergs' loss prevention personnel, the same suspect returned to attempt to steal additional merchandise. Det. Bone and PO Mundorf recognized the description and responded quickly to the scene where the suspect vehicle was located. A pursuit was initiated and the suspect was taken into custody with the assistance of St. Louis City officers after the vehicle became disabled. The attention to detail, calm response and dedication to protecting our city has earned these officers submissions for Chief's Letters of Commendation. The suspect was charged and held on a \$300,000 cash only bond.



We continue to see larcenies from unlocked vehicles, and we urge you to keep valuables out of your vehicle, and to lock your vehicles. Every area in the region is experiencing the same issue at an alarming rate, but with your help, we can prevent some of these crimes. Stay safe, lock up, and call us if you see something suspicious.