



# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Disclaimer: Neighborhood Watch is a national organization and is not an affiliate of the Solera HOA

## We are Neighbors Helping Neighbors

This newsletter contains information for the month of February 2024. The police reports have been reviewed daily for the month, and, as of Feb. 24, in Solera there was one larceny crime reported on River Bend on 2/23. We track break-ins, burglaries, and thefts but not family disturbances. Be aware, there are numerous crimes in the neighborhoods around us, so continue to be vigilant and report crimes to the police and your Block Captain.

### Help Wanted:

Ideas for future articles. What do you want to hear about?

Volunteer Block Captains are still needed for some streets.

First Tuesday Meetings LVMPD Harmon Station at 5PM:

March 5--Clark County Foster Program

April 2--Narcotics talk about Fentanyl

### Information from prior comments and unanswered questions submitted:

#### 1. Maryrose's Comment: First Tuesday Meetings 5PM:

Call Code Enforcement when you see camps and tents. Homeless are setting up near Solera and should be relocated before they encroach onto our private property.

**Keep this number handy to report: 702 455 4191**

#### 2. More Things Burglars Won't Tell You:

**One burglar comment was:** *"I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?"*

**Bolt Down Your Safe.** *"You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take your safe with me."*

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### Why Isn't Our Neighborhood Watch Affiliated Directly with Solera HOA?

Every week I am asked why NW at Solera is not part of the HOA as a club or committee, and not recognized as part of Solera. In this month's newsletter, we will discuss it.

First of all, I would like our NW to be a part of the Solera HOA too, but after doing some research, I now understand why we are not.

Do you remember the George Zimmerman case in Florida, in 2012? George was a resident and block captain for his NW group, run by the HOA. He took it upon himself to confront Travon Martin who was breaking into a residence. After a fight, Zimmerman shot and killed Martin. Because Zimmerman was a block captain and acted on the incident instead of calling the police to take care of it, the HOA was held liable for his actions. Legal fees mounted for the HOA, even though Zimmerman was found not guilty. After similar incidents, many HOA's ended direct affiliation with Neighborhood Watch programs to limit their financial liabilities.

Although separate from the HOA, an unaffiliated NW can still be recognized by the HOA. Affiliation is determined by all or some of the items below:

- Is it supported financially in any way by the HOA?
- Does the HOA organize or coordinate the volunteer captains?
- Is it an HOA Committee or Club?
- Is the NW used to enforce HOA rules?

Because our NW answers NO to the questions on this list, we are not an HOA affiliated group. The purpose of our NW is to prevent crime by reporting suspected activity to the police, passing information on to neighbors and others, and not getting involved directly with the policing of criminal activity. As part of the National NW

organization we are excluded from affiliating directly with the Solera HOA. We can, however, use the club house for meetings, make announcements during resident meetings, and call board members to report the occurrence of crimes to make others aware of activity in the neighborhood.

HOA announcements should contain only first hand, factual information reported to them and verified, especially if the incident could be repeated and potentially harmful to others. Sometimes, there is a flurry of similar incidents in Solera around the same time, and the community should be made aware of this. E-blasts would be useful for these types of crimes and/or events, not every occurrence.

The HOA's function is to govern the community not, make judgments on people's criminal history. They should not assume a responsibility they shouldn't which would take on liability for our HOA.

Resident safety is in the HOA's best interest and many measures were created to aid in our general safety, not implying to make us a secure fortress. Our HOA's uses lighting, security cameras, gate locks, and electronic access cards that do contribute to everyone's safety.

In conclusion, our NW is not directly affiliated with Solera HOA. Our NW volunteers act as Block Captains, and the HOA does not assume responsibility for resident safety or NW activity. Ultimately, personal safety is each homeowner's responsibility.

**OUR GOAL IS TO KEEP YOU INFORMED  
ABOUT SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD  
WATCH, NOT ALARM YOU!**