



Police Beat

SCPD Crime Prevention Newsletter

Vol. 10 Issue 1

March 2022

The St. Charles Police Department officially swore in their newest member of the force on Tuesday, February 22nd, 2022. Charlie, is a Golden Retriever / German Shepherd mix and will be the departments facility dog. Charlie will be seen out at community events, visiting schools, providing comfort to victim's and witnesses, providing stress relief for department members, and much more!

Fun facts about Charlie:

He turned one on December 24, 2021.

Charlie's badge number is 202.

Charlie lives with his handler Officer Meghan Kramer and her husband, along with his human sisters, and four other four legged siblings!

Charlie has been certified with the AKC Canine Good Citizenship.

Charlie loves people of all ages but favors children!

Charlie gets along with dogs, cats, even horses and chickens!

Charlie looks forward to getting to know the community!



City Events



- The city of St. Charles has been very busy this first quarter! The city was lucky enough to be chosen to be used in a new Netflix movie called "The Killer". The film is directed by Golden Globes winner, David Fincher. The city's famous hotel, Hotel Baker, was used in the movie along with the Main St. bridge, Prairie St. bridge, and the parking lot off of Route 31 and West Main St. The crew began filming on March 10th and continued through March 17th. The police

department and EMA were able to assist with overnight security for filming and assistance in moving large pieces of equipment on the city's roadways. This was a very unique and fun experience for the city!

- Not only did the city get to see the excitement of a new movie being filmed, but the St. Patrick's Day parade was finally back after two years of cancellation! Although it was a cold one, families came out to watch over 80 participants in the parade. The sidewalks were packed with parade viewers wearing green mustaches, shamrock beads, green hats, and showing their excitement to celebrate this year. The city had tons of support at the parade from the citizens and it was a very successful St.



Patrick's Day celebration!



- Every year the St. Charles police and fire departments participate in the Polar Plunge. Both the police and fire departments have multiple members volunteer to take the plunge into the freezing water. Money is raised for the Special Olympics. This year the Polar Plunge took place on March 26th. Not only was the water freezing, but the outside temperature was as well! Because of this event, \$13,485 was raised for the Special Olympics.

Unwanted Phone Calls



Today, it seems like everyone has a cell phone and regularly receive phone calls from people they do not know. This can happen on someone's cell phone, house phone, or even work phone. It's important to try to protect yourself and your phones as much as possible.

One very important step to take is registering your phone number under the "do not call list". In order to do so, simply go to the [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov) and click the link that says "register for do not call". Not sure if you're registered? Click the link that says "verify registration".

Not only can you register your phone, or check your phones registration status for the do not call list, you can report unwanted calls as well. Lots of people receive phone calls from the same number daily, if not multiple times a day. [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov) has a link where you can simply report these phone numbers.

Already registered on the do not call list and still receiving calls from unwanted numbers? Try checking your phone for an option to block these numbers. Most cell phones have a way to block phone numbers from calling and even texting.

Remember, if you answer your phone to an unknown or unwanted phone number, do not give out your information. There are always ways to check the accuracy of what people over the phone maybe telling you. The [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov) is a great resource, contacting the source the person may be claiming to call from, and the police department can always assist in uncertain situations.



Spring Safety Tips



Now that spring is finally here, everyone is going to be out and about enjoying the weather! Here are a few reminders to protect yourself and your property during the nice weather!

Remember to roll-up your car windows, lock your car doors, and remove valuables from your car. When leaving the house, make sure all doors are closed and locked, and don't forget about the windows!

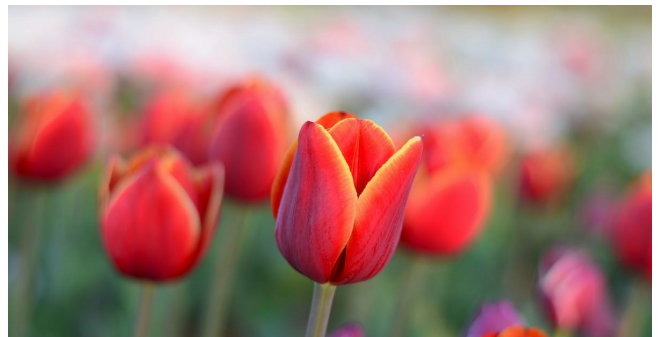
A lot of residents leave their garage doors open during the nice weather. Be mindful that it is important to close the overhead doors especially when leaving the house and at night. The St. Charles Police Department drives around all neighborhoods to ensure garage overhead doors are closed. If an officer finds an open overhead door, a crime prevention notice may be left at the residence. This is a friendly reminder to close your overhead door to prevent any theft or burglaries to your home and vehicles.

The roads may be clear and dry, however, remember to follow the rules of the road. Serious accidents still happen, be alert when driving, go the speed limit, and leave the phone out of your hands.

Pedestrian traffic will pick up as people are out and about enjoying the weather. When driving, be aware of your surroundings, watch for pedestrians, and children. If you are a pedestrian, cross at the crosswalks, wait until you have the right-of-way at a crosswalk with a light, and if out at night, bring a light or wear something reflective for driver's to see you.

Bikes are going to be sharing the road with vehicles during this time of year as well. Both bikers and drivers need to be patient with each other and watch out for one another.

The St. Charles Police Department hopes everyone enjoys the spring weather!



Social Media Challenge

The St. Charles Police Department would like parents to be aware of a new social media “challenge”. With social media being popular amongst the younger generation, it is very important that parents are aware of “challenges” and be involved in their child’s social media life. One of the latest “challenges” is called the Orbeez Challenge. This is when someone will take an air gun, that can resemble a real gun and add Orbeez water beads to the gun. The person will then fire the water beads at random individuals or property. Occasionally, this may be done while firing the beads from a moving vehicle. This is often recorded and posted on social media. The most common social media site that the Orbeez Challenge has been seen on is Tik Tok. This does not mean that this challenge will not appear on other social media sites as well.

It is important to explain to children that the water beads can cause injury to a person and damage property. As of now, the St. Charles Police Department has not handled any reports of this type of incident. This is an important topic for parents to be aware of. Never seen Orbeez or water beads before? Below is a picture that is similar to what they look like.

If you or your child have heard of anyone planning or anyone who may have participated in the “challenge” reach out to the St. Charles Police Department, or call 911.





Crime Prevention Notices

From
January 1st through March 31st
St Charles police officers issued
955
Crime Prevention Notices. These are reminders for the community on how to protect themselves and their property from crime.

The City of St. Charles is social!

Keep up to date with all that's happening in St. Charles by following the city on these sites.



facebook.com/cityofstcharles



twitter.com/cityofstcharles



www.stcharlesil.gov



www.youtube.com/channel/UCzTtcCUQtE8dw2jRiMuRyTw/

1st Quarter Police Reports

The following stats represent the number of reports taken by the police department for the period January 1 through March 31, 2022

Commercial Burglary - 3	1
Residential Burglary - 1	3
Burglary from Motor Vehicle - 24	25
Retail Theft - 18	20
Criminal Damage to Property - 30	39
DUI (alcohol and drugs) - 11	19
Previous Quarter	



Police Chief James Keegan

Police Department contact list

Main Number	630-377-4435
Chief of Police James Keegan	630-762-6960
Deputy Chief of Administration Erik Mahan.....	630-443-3841
Deputy Chief of Operations Chuck Pierce	630-443-3827
Commander of Investigations Eric Majewski.....	630-443-6941
Commander of Patrol Michael McCowan.....	630-443-3845
Commander of Special Services Rich Clark	630-443-3721
Traffic Safety Officer Jerry Schomer.....	630-443-3823
Crime Prevention Officer Meghan Kramer.....	630-443-3894
Community Service Officer Ryan Beeter.....	630-443-3865