



# Police Beat

## SCPD Crime Prevention Newsletter

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The St. Charles Police Department wants to ensure the community is always as safe as it can be. There is a new game called "Senior Assassin". Students who are seniors will dress up with hoodies, masks, and potentially have fake guns on them with the goal being to sneak up on friends. This has prompted calls from concerned citizens seeing suspicious people in neighborhoods with hoodies and masks.

It is important to remind kids how dangerous this game can be. With replica guns looking real, this can cause someone to get seriously hurt or killed. Remind kids that any gun, real or fake, should be treated as though it is real. It is never safe to point even a fake gun at anyone. We want our seniors to have a fun and safe last few weeks of school before heading off into their new endeavors!

The police department likes to drive through the neighborhoods when time allows in between calls. However, since we cannot always be in the neighborhoods, we like to encourage the community call on any sort of suspicious activity happening in the neighborhoods at anytime.



# Events



In early March, the St. Charles Police Department participated in the annual Polar Plunge to help raise money for the Special Olympics. Multiple officers participated along with their family members. The team who participated was able to raise approximately \$16,407!

Be sure to attend another fun event to help raise money for the Special Olympics! Cop on Top will be happening on Friday, May 17th. Please come

join the St. Charles Police Department at Dunkin Donuts at 1566 E. Main St. or 1711 W. Main St. Officers will be out at both locations from 5am-12pm!



The St. Patrick's Day parade was another great event for the city this year. There were over 80 participants in the parade. It was great to see the variety of floats and walkers who participated this year. We look forward to next year's parade!

On May 27th, the Memorial Day Parade will be held at 10am. After the parade there will be a ceremony held to honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice located behind the old police department. Be sure to come out and show your support!



# Scam Awareness

Everyday, people are scammed over the phone, the internet, and even in person. St. Charles Police Department is committed to keep the citizens safe and would like to put some reminders out to keep in mind when dealing with the potential of getting scammed.

It is important to never give your personal information to anyone you do not know, or to anyone who cannot provide

proper identification of someone you may need to provide this information to. Never hesitate to ask someone to show their ID in person, send a suspicious email to the company it claims it's from, or even call a company about an in person situation, email, or phone call.

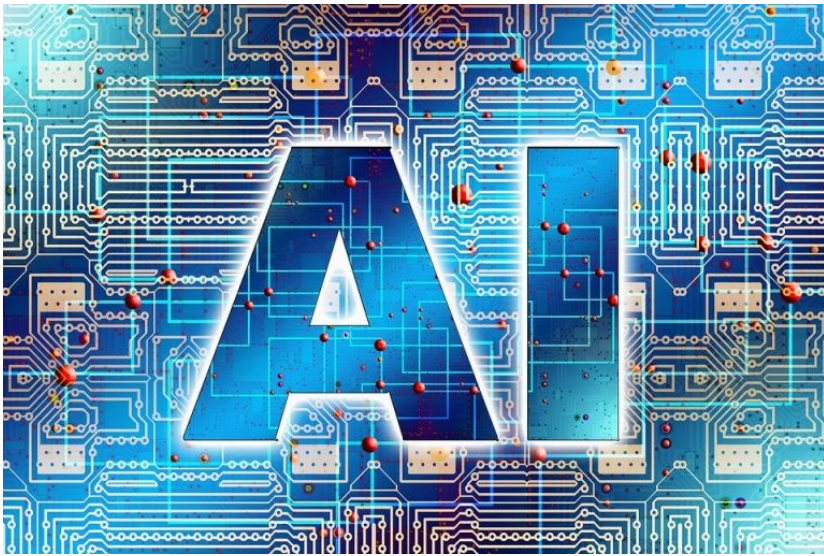
Protecting your money and bank account information is very important. With technology today, people are not banking in person as much as they used to. Be sure to always use a secure wifi when banking, never give out bank information over the phone to people you don't know, do not pay anyone you do not know, and trust your gut feeling. If it seems suspicious or not right, do not provide any information.

Should you ever receive a phone call regarding substantial debt you may owe, always verify with your bank. A common scam right now is receiving phone calls for alleged debt that may be owed. The scammer will offer a lower price to be paid to clean a person from their larger debt. Do not give money over the phone and contact the bank, or go in in person to confirm what is true.

As always, contact the St. Charles Police Department should you have any questions or believe you are a victim. Be sure to report any fraudulent activities or scams to the FTC at [FTC.gov](http://FTC.gov).



# Scam Awareness



Technology is constantly evolving and this can raise the frequency of scams, or even create new ones. A current scam that is trending is called an "AI" scam, or also known as artificial intelligence scam. When creating an AI scam, the scammer will record the voice of one of your loved ones. They will then be able to create a phone call or message with

what the scammer wants to say in the voice of your loved one. Most of these scams will be money related.

In order to protect yourself from AI scams, be sure to trust your gut feeling. If you don't believe your loved one is in any sort of financial trouble, don't send money. If you are unsure, reach out to that person or someone who would know if they are really in need of financial assistance.

If you find yourself the victim of an AI scam, be sure to reach out to St. Charles Police Department to make a report. You can also report any scam to the Federal Trade Commission on their website, [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov).



If you have any other questions on how to protect yourself from this type of scam, or any other type of scam, reach out to Crime Prevention Officer Meghan Kramer at [Mkramer@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:Mkramer@stcharlesil.gov) or 630-443-3894.

# Charlie's Corner



As the weather gets nice, Charlie wants to remind everyone about some dog safety tips. These are for meeting a new dog, or for a stray dog that may run up to you.

Be sure to always ask to pet a dog. Even with Charlie and his friendly nature, this is important. Not all dogs are the same, and some dogs may not be allowed to be pet by unfamiliar people.

If you're petting a new dog, let the dog sniff the back of your hand. This helps the dog become familiar with you and gives them the opportunity to learn a little bit about you.

Should a stray or loose dog approach you, do not run. This often times is viewed as a game for dogs. Stand still and do not make eye contact and don't make quick movements. A dog's perspective with eye contact can be viewed as dominating. If the dog is aggressive, this could cause the dog to potentially bite.

When walking your dog, do not let your dog approach another person's dog without permission. Not all dogs are dog friendly, or can be around other dogs. Some dogs, like Charlie, have a job to do as well and cannot interact with other dogs.

Charlie wishes everyone and their pets a very happy spring!

# Police Report Comparisons

Below is a comparison of first quarter police reports and fourth quarter police reports. The first quarter reports were completed between January 1, 2024 and March 31, 2023. The fourth quarter reports were completed between October 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. The crimes listed below are some of the more common crimes we see here in the city of St. Charles. Remember, if you see something suspicious, call 911.

	Quarter 1	Quarter 4
Commercial Burglary	6	4
Residential Burglary	0	2
Burglary from Motor Vehicle	4	5
Retail Theft	16	52
Criminal Damage to Property	16	48
DUI (alcohol and drugs)	18	18

To help prevent crime, the St. Charles Police Department may issue Crime Prevention Notices. These are friendly reminders on how citizens can better prevent crime. Throughout fourth quarter, the St. Charles Police Department issued 418 Crime Prevention Notices. We provided a picture of what our Crime Prevention notices look like! If you ever receive one of these and have any questions, feel free to call the officer who issued the notice by calling the Police Department's direct line, or contact Crime Prevention Officer Kramer.

**CRIME PREVENTION NOTICE**  
ST CHARLES POLICE DEPARTMENT

The St. Charles Police Department is concerned with your safety and security from criminal activity. The security risk noted below significantly enhances your potential for becoming the target of a crime.

Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Star # \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVED THE FOLLOWING:

EVERYTHING WAS FOUND TO BE IN ORDER

OPEN GARAGE DOOR       NEWSPAPERS/MAIL ACCUMULATED

OPEN DOOR       NO VISIBLE ADDRESS

UNSECURED DOOR       VALUABLES LEFT OUTSIDE

OPEN SECURITY GATE       UNSECURED BICYCLE

OPEN OR BROKEN WINDOW       VEHICLE UNLOCKED

INADEQUATE LOCKS       VALUABLES VISIBLE IN VEHICLE

POOR OUTSIDE LIGHTING       VEHICLE ALARM ACTIVATION

BUILDING ALARM ACTIVATION       OTHER (see Comments)

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

We hope that you will join us in our Crime Prevention efforts by correcting the problem(s) you see checked above. For further information on how to reduce the chance of your residence or business becoming a target of crime, contact the St. Charles Police Department's **Crime Prevention Officer** at **630-377-4435**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

POLICE COPY



**The St. Charles Police Department is located at 1515 W. Main St.**

## 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 Eric Majewski.....	630-443-3827
Investigations Commander Drew Lamela.....	630-443-3742
Patrol Commander Rich Clark.....	630-443-3721
Special Services Commander Tim Ocasek.....	630-443-3864
Traffic Safety Officer Kyle Popp.....	630-443-3835
Crime Prevention Officer Meghan Kramer.....	630-443-3894
Community Service Officer Ryan Beeter.....	630-443-3865



## Social Media Pages for the City!



[facebook.com/cityofstcharles](https://facebook.com/cityofstcharles)



[twitter.com/cityofstcharles](https://twitter.com/cityofstcharles)



[www.stcharlesil.gov](http://www.stcharlesil.gov)



[www.youtube.com/channel/UCzTtcCUQtE8dw2jRiMuRyTw/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzTtcCUQtE8dw2jRiMuRyTw/)