

"WHO YOU GONNA CALL?"

Submitted by Taylorsville Public Safety Committee

As the saying goes, "Who you gonna call?" In particular, when you want to talk to the police, which number do you use? Does a suspicious car cruising the neighborhood rate a call to 911? A traffic accident with injuries certainly warrants 911 use, but what about a fender bender? If your need is late at night, is 911 your only option when you need to talk to a police officer?

The 911 service has for years been a boon for citizens in need, and has helped many of us get emergency responders on the scene - fast. But lately we see billboards around the valley suggesting some reconsideration may be needed when we reach to dial 911. And of course, the late night comedians have had great fun playing actual 911 tapes of bogus 911 calls... To avoid this sort of fame we're told, "When it's an emergency, call 911, otherwise don't." So here is your police call line primer:

TAYLORSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT - BUSINESS HOURS ACCESS, 801-955-2000 - Use this number to get information from our police department or to report non-time critical information to the police such as graffiti or an abandoned car.



POLICE DISPATCH, 801-743-7000 - Use this number when it's not an emergency, but when you need a police officer on the scene. You can call this number at any time, day or night. This would be the number to use for suspicious vehicles, minor - non-injury accidents, property damage, barking dogs or loud parties at night, etc.

EMERGENCY 911 - Use this number when there's a crime in progress, medical emergency, fire, car accident, etc. When time is of the essence in an urgent or emergency situation, call 911.

When using 911, location is the most vital information, be prepared to share an address, freeway exit number, landmark, etc.

There you have it. Hopefully, most of our calls to our police department won't require 911, but don't hesitate to punch those three numbers when the need arises. And when in doubt, or when you don't have the other phone numbers available, dial 911.