



TARPON SPRINGS
POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing"

CRIMEWATCH NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2021

AUGUST NEWS

TSPD OFFICER OF THE QUARTER

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OFC. AMBERE JOHNSON

OFFICER OF THE QUARTER



Congratulations to Ofc. Ambere Johnson for being selected as TSPD's Officer of the Quarter. Ofc. Johnson recently joined our ACTION Team, stepping up to assist as a Homeless Outreach Officer, and has done a fantastic job.

She consistently meets with members of our homeless community, offering available services to them, and meets and works with community agencies that serve the homeless, sharing valuable information to address issues that arise.

Besides responding to requests from the public, she will also make herself available to the homeless community through pro-active measures, to include attending lunch time feedings to get to know the community, answer questions, and listen to concerns. This has resulted in accolades from the agencies providing services and has shown members of our homeless community her concern for them, establishing an excellent rapport. This has assisted greatly in the relationship between our police department and those in need of services.

This is done in addition to her normal patrol duties, demonstrating her excellent work ethic. She has excelled in this position and is always willing to assist or respond to needs.

Recently, she was able to assist in obtaining housing for a member of the homeless community. After meeting with him, she determined that he did have income assistance but was unaware how to obtain housing assistance. With this information, Ofc. Johnson was able to contact organizations and obtain residence for the grateful individual.

Due to her excellent work product and attitude, she was nominated and selected for Officer of the Quarter. Good job, Ambere!!!!



444 S. HUEY AVENUE
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689
(727) 938-2849 - MAIN
(727) 937-6151 - DISPATCH
EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

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Sergeant Scott Osarczuk

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

On August 13, 2021, TSPD Sergeant Scott Osarczuk was recognized for his many years of leadership, dedication and service to the Tarpon Springs Police Department Honor Guard Team and was presented with the recognition plaque by TSPD Chief Jeffrey Young.

Thank You Sgt. Osarczuk and congratulations!!



**PROPERTY CRIME
YOU CAN HELP
PREVENT IT**



LOCK IT

Ensure your car doors and all doors to your residence are kept locked.



REMOVE IT

Removing valuables from your car is better than hiding them. This includes garage door openers and spare keys.



LIGHT IT

Leave exterior residence lights on at night or utilize motion detecting lights.



CLOSE IT

Keep your garage door closed and double-check it is closed at night.



HIDE IT

Keep valuables in your garage, car and home out of sight.



REPORT IT

Report all criminal and suspicious activity immediately.



A.C.T.I.O.N. UNIT EVENT BACK TO SCHOOL



On Aug 8, 2021 The A.C.T.I.O.N. Unit Sgt. Ed Miller, Ofc. A Boone and Silva Webster, participated in a "Back to School" sponsored by Tarpon Springs Publix and Boars Head. They providing backpacks, lunchboxes, Boars Head Sandwiches and much more to everyone who came out. Other giveaways included a boys and girls bike and special backpacks that had several school supplies inside.

Thanks to all who made this event special.



**BANKING****SCAM
ALERT**

BANKING SCAMS

The most common banking scams include:

OVERPAYMENT SCAMS: A scam artist sends you a counterfeit check. They tell you to deposit the check in your bank account and wire part of the money back to them. Since the check is fake, you'll have to pay your bank the amount of the check, plus you'll lose any amount of money you wired to the scammer.

UNSOLICITED CHECK FRAUD: A scammer sends you a check unsolicited for no reason. If you cash it, you may be authorizing the purchase of items or signing up for a loan that you didn't ask for.

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS: A scam company sets up automatic debits from your bank account to qualify for a free trial period or to collect a prize.

PHISHING: You receive an unsolicited email message that asks you to verify your bank account, debit card number or personal information.

These scams are very common and sometimes can be difficult to recognize. Never give your personal or financial information to anyone that you did not contact yourself especially over the internet or by phone. Even in-person, be cautious of how much personal information you give out, unless you know for certain it is required and for a legitimate purpose.

**IF YOU SEE
SOMETHING,
SAY
SOMETHING.**

**REPORT
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
TO THE POLICE**



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444 S. HUEY AVE.
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH
(727) 937-6151

ADMINISTRATION
(727) 938-2849

**EMERGENCY
911**



Pet Fire Safety

Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. But pets can cause fires. We need to be careful with pets in the home.

SAFETY TIPS

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles. They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

SMOKE ALARMS

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.

Pets and Wildfires

Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.



FACT

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Tarpon Springs Fire Rescue

