

## Join Business Watch Today

Business Watch is a crime prevention program that enlist the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement and local government to reduce crime in our community. Neighborhood Watch programs have proven to

be the most effective means available for keeping crime out of neighborhoods, and so does Business Watch.



## Important Phone Numbers



Keep these phone numbers near the phone.

- Emergency.....911
- Business License..... 863-834-6025
- City Hall.....863-834-6000
- Code Enforcement.....863-834-6251
- Parking Enforcement.....863-834-6303
- Community Service Unit.....863-834-6912
- Street Maintenance.....863-834-3300



City of Lakeland Police  
219 N. Massachusetts Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
863-834-6900

[www.lakelandgov.net](http://www.lakelandgov.net)

# Business Watch

## City of Lakeland Police

Committed to Respect-Integrity-Teamwork-Excellence



The Lakeland Police Department practices "Bias-Free Policing"

# What is Business Watch?

Business Watch is a **FREE** program that shows business owners and employees crime strategies they can use to help cut down on business-related crime. Training is conducted in house for your convenience. Trainings may also be conducted at the Police department if requested.



The goal of the Business Watch program is to teach businesses how **NOT** to become a target for crime. If businesses do not take a proactive attitude, crime can creep in before you know it. In house loss prevention personnel are a great asset, but most businesses have another great assets they tend to overlook-their cashiers, clerks and floor personnel. The Business Watch program focuses on teaches those personnel how to be observant and aware. They are a businesses' front line and the greatest

Topics covered in training sessions include shoplifting, burglary, purse snatching and vandalism. The program also include effective crime reporting, operation identification and self protection.

## Why Business Watch?

- Law Enforcement can not be on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime.
- You and your fellow merchants are the ones who really know what is going on in your community.
- Cooperating with each other and law enforcement, businesses can help fight crime in their commercial districts in the most effective way-before it begins.
- Merchants place business watch stickers in their windows and signs in their parking lots, warning criminals that they are watching out for each other.

# Getting Started

Contact Crime Prevention Unit Office at (863) 834-6912 and explain that you would like to schedule training for your employees.

It's that simple!

## TIPS for Success

- Be alert to unusual or suspicious behavior in your business community.
- Call the Police Department at 863-834-6900 to report criminal activity.
- Write down descriptions of the person(s) and license plate number(s) of any vehicle (s) involved.
- Tell a trusted neighboring merchant if your business is closed and ask them to keep an eye out. This includes picking up mail or newspapers. Do not leave any signals that say, "no one is here."
- Hold regular Business Watch training for your employees.
- Above all, get involved. It is the most effective way to reduce or prevent crime and make your business community safe.
- Remember, your job is to report crime. The responsibility for apprehending criminals belongs to the Police Department.