POLICE CHIEF / COMMUNITY RELATIONS TALKING POINTS

Community Safety Initiative

Department Meeting & Presentation Notes

Suggested opening

"One of the most important things we can do to strengthen community safety is encourage residents to prepare for emergencies before they happen."

Introduce the Initiative

"The Community Safety Initiative is a privately operated program that combines practical safety education with local emergency assistance funds known as Bandana-Guide SafetyNets."

Explain the Bandana-Guides

"Safety Bandana-Guides are portable reference tools containing useful safety information that residents can keep available at home, in vehicles, or while traveling."

Explain the SafetyNet

"Participating purchases reserve proceeds for a local fund intended to help neighbors experiencing unexpected emergencies. The assistance is designed to be temporary and limited, rather than ongoing financial support."

Explain community participation

"Residents use their ZIP code as their Safety Code to identify their community when purchasing."

Clarify the department's role

"Our role is to help residents learn about this opportunity. The Initiative is privately operated, and the department does not administer the SafetyNet or determine who receives assistance."

Suggested closing

"Preparedness is something we can all encourage. And when neighbors look out for one another, our entire community benefits."

Additional discussion points

- Participation is voluntary.
- The Initiative is not a government assistance program.
- Departments can share information without handling purchases or funds.
- The SafetyNet is intended to be administered by a local community board once established.
- Safety Bandana-Guides supplement, but do not replace, formal safety training or emergency services.
- Residents can learn more at **www.Bandana-Guide.com**.