



Expanded Neighborhood Patrol

MPUM Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (ENP)

It's finally here! We are now ready to begin the collection process as the first step to launch our own patrol using off-duty Dallas Police officers. May 1st will be the beginning of the ENP year and the annual renewal date. When you join, your payment will give you a membership that lasts from May 1, 2010 until May 1, 2011. The next step in this process: When we know how many hours we can buy (based on the number of paying members) we will sit down with the Dallas Police Department and review the crime statistics for our area (when crimes occur, types of crimes, times of days, etc.) From that assessment we will develop a staggered schedule to allow the ENP officer to patrol at the best times for all of us. Staggering hours prevents the criminals from knowing when the patrol will be on duty.

Checks, Cash, PayPal Accepted

ENP membership cost is \$150 per household per YEAR. Duplexes in the neighborhood will pay \$150 for the entire duplex unit. The payment method has been expanded to make it more convenient for you to submit your payment. Payment may be made with checks or cash and we will also accept PayPal payments, however, the annual fee will go to \$155 to cover the PayPal fees imposed on MPUM. PayPal gives you the option to have funds automatically sent from your bank. It will allow you the option of using a debit or credit card. Regardless of when you join in the year, the total will be \$150-\$155 per YEAR, depending on payment method. We feel this is a very reasonable fee, especially when you consider the peace of mind it will bring to all of you who have to leave your home during the day or if you are retired, you will feel safer at home. Once you join, the annual fee will not be refunded should you wish to discontinue service, move etc. And, a fee of \$40 will be charged for NSF checks.

ENP Overview

Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (ENP) is a program coordinated through the Dallas Police Department employing off-duty police officers to patrol our neighborhood. These regular DPD officers are armed, trained to make arrests, issue citations etc. and they will patrol in a DPD official police car. The police cars are equipped with computers, allowing the officers to check for outstanding warrants, stolen cars, etc. on the spot. The program brings police response within seconds to members whenever an ENP officer is on duty. The ENP officer will know how to contact members if he sees something out of order at your home. ENP officers become experts of our neighborhood, allowing them to quickly recognize suspicious activity. The more residents who participate in this program will result in more hours of patrolling. We could have used this security during our recent power outage in our neighborhood. During this time security alarms were not working at all, including the backup batteries that ran down quickly. This ENP service can help us all during these unusual times, whether winter storms, summer outages or any other problem Mother Nature delivers to us. In between, these police officers can become familiar with our neighborhood and watch us all year long, during a crisis as well as on typical days.

Is It Needed? Yes!!

Consider the following: In 2009 and 2010 year to date, we have had the following crime in our neighborhood (see table on the right). For only \$150.00 PER YEAR per household we can eliminate many of these problems, based on what we have seen in other neighborhoods that implemented the ENP program. Break that annual cost down further and the cost is only \$37.50 per quarter, or \$12.50 per month.

	2009	2010 YTD
Burglary of Home	3	4
Burglary of Garage/Shed	2	1
Burglary of Motor Vehicles	10	4
Robbery	3	0
Theft	3	1
Identity Theft	2	0
Vandalism	9	1

Does It Work? Yes!!

We have reviewed the statistics from other nearby neighborhoods and they all have found significant decreases in crime as a result of the ENP program. Merriman Park Estates experienced an overall 44% decrease in their 1st year with ENP. Hollywood Santa Monica neighborhood says their crime dropped by 47.4% as a result of their first year with the ENP Program. Sparkman Estates in NW Dallas reported a 50% drop in crime. Most have higher drops in crime in the beginning and when crime is routinely lower, there are still significant drops in crime, just not at the level of the first year. Lakewood reports about a 25% ongoing decrease in crime as a result of the ENP program. Another neighborhood called Tri-Alliance (located around Abrams, Royal and Church Rd.) points to how the city DPD patrol does not routinely patrol neighborhoods so the ENP program is the only way one is going to see patrol cars and officers just cruising and staying in the area. Also mentioned is the fast speed with which an ENP officer can respond to issues that DPD has at a lower dispatch priority. When on duty, the ENP officer can be right on top of it. And this neighborhood feels the ENP officers are a much more user-friendly venue for dealing with other police resources. People who would not normally call 9-1-1 might be inclined to talk to ENP officers. Also noted, some of our crime issues focus on what can be called anti-social behavior - teenagers milling aimlessly through alleys and streets; groups at Hotchkiss intimidating residents, or solicitors etc. The ENP officer can deal with these types of behaviors. A call to 9-1-1 would historically not get much of a response. Currently there are 13 neighborhoods in our Northeast Dallas area that are using ENP.

## How Does It Work?

Our neighborhood would actually employ the off-duty police officer and we would have full control over when he/she patrols and for how many hours. The number of patrol hours depends completely on the number of paid members, so the more member participation, the more police presence. For that reason we are urging each and every one of you to consider joining this program. Volunteers will be responsible for collection and expense payments and all communication about this program, with no compensation for their time.

## Member Benefits:

Paying members receive a number of benefits not available to non-paying members. The most common concern voiced by residents is they do not want to pay for something their neighbor is receiving free. But there really are perks. And while it may keep your neighborhood safe, the best part is it keeps you even safer. Some of the benefits you will receive only as a paid member:

### For Paid Members of ENP:

- Eligible for extra surveillance of your home when you're away on vacation or business trips. ENP's actually walk your property to check things out.
- Regular reports about ENP activities which will be shared with members.
- The ability to contact our ENP officers for emergency and non-emergency purposes when they are on duty.
- ENP officer will do a complete security check of your property and give you tips on how to make your property safer.
- The convenience of having one of our ENP officers make a police report for you.

- ENP officers will tailor the program to fit the needs of the neighborhood members

### Other Services offered to the neighborhood:

- ENP signs will be posted at every entrance.
- Teen curfews can be enforced as applicable.
- Professional criminals and vandalism/malicious mischief will be deterred by police presence.
- More surveillance at Hotchkiss Elementary School.
- Reckless/speeding drivers will be better monitored, especially on Larmanda, Kingsbury and Walling.
- Illegal door-to-door solicitation/handbills will be reduced.
- A data terminal onboard will allow ENP officers to check instantly for stolen vehicles or outstanding warrants.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### *Q. How will I personally benefit from ENP?*

A. When you are on vacation, the officer will check your home on each patrol by walking the perimeter. The officer will have your personal contact info in case he sees anything out of the ordinary like open garage doors or a suspicious vehicle on your property. Also, when the officer is on duty, response time will be reduced to seconds when you call 911.

### *Q. What do the annual fees pay for?*

A. Use of the patrol car, associated equipment and patrol officer wages. There may be some very minor administrative costs such as postage to remind renewing members to subscribe for the next year; we plan to keep these to a bare minimum. Organization and administration will be done by volunteers with no compensation.

### *Q. Can I pay by the month or the quarter?*

A. Not at this time. As we launch this new program, annual fees will allow us to minimize the administrative work done by volunteers.

### *Q. Can I pay by credit card?*

A. You can credit card only by using PayPal. Just go to our website [www.mpum.com](http://www.mpum.com) and click the link to join ENP. If you do not currently have a PayPal account, signing up is easy. Just click on the link on our website that says Join PayPal.

### *Q. If I join later in the year, will I have to pay the full \$150?*

A. Yes. We must keep this process very simple since we are relying on volunteers.

### *Q. What if enough people do not sign up?*

A. We will not begin patrols until we have enough members available to commit to 6 months of patrols. If we have not met this number by May 31, 2010, we will continue fundraising. If we have not been able to raise enough funds by November 2010, we will return **all** money contributed.

### *Q. How many hours will the officer patrol our neighborhood?*

A. This will depend on the level of household participation. We will start the program with a minimum of 10 hours per week. Ideally, we would like to patrol at least 20 hours per week, which would require that at least 200 households join the program. If more people join the program, we can continue to increase the hours.

### *Q. How many hours will each shift need to be in order to optimize our usage of an off-duty officer?*

A. Minimum patrol shift will be 2 hours. Four hours at a time is the target. Deputy Chief Lawrence recommends fewer days a week with 4 hour shifts. This will be determined when we know how many hours we can buy with MPUM memberships and when we review the crime stats for our neighborhood to determine hours and days based on our needs. Many neighborhoods operate with 2 hours shifts each day.

### *Q. Do I need to join our MPUM Neighborhood Association to participate?*

A. No, you do not. MPUM Neighborhood Association is sponsoring this program, but it will be administered separately from the neighborhood association.

### *Q. Who can I contact for more information?*

A. You may contact ENP Committee Member, Donna Mason, at 214-348-7721 or by sending an email to [enp@mpum.com](mailto:enp@mpum.com).