



# City of Coalinga

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Police Department

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **For Immediate Release:**

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Prepared By/Contact Person: Commander Sean Young

## **INTERESTED IN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH??**

The Coalinga Police Department is looking for those individuals interested in bringing their neighbors together and learning about the Neighborhood Watch program.

### **What is Neighborhood Watch?**

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention concepts in North America. In the late 1960s, an increase in crime heightened the need for a crime prevention initiative focused on residential areas and involving local citizens. The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) responded, creating the National Neighborhood Watch Program in 1972, to assist citizens and law enforcement.

A Neighborhood Watch program is a group of people living in the same area who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together and in conjunction with local law enforcement to reduce crime and improve their quality of life. Neighborhood Watch groups have regular meetings to plan how they will accomplish their specific goals and leaders with assigned responsibilities.

## **What are the benefits of Neighborhood Watch?**

There are obvious benefits Neighborhood Watch volunteers and their communities have experienced throughout the years such as:

- Crime reduction
- A better quality of life
- A greater sense of security, responsibility, and personal control
- Build community pride and unity
- Preparing to help ourselves and others in our community
- Provide law enforcement agencies with volunteer support year round
- Citizens become the extra “eyes and ears” of law enforcement personnel

The goal of the Neighborhood Watch program is to help make your neighborhood a safer environment by having the neighborhood and law enforcement work closer together to help reduce crime, create a more united community, and improve communication amongst all.

If you are interested in learning how to start a Neighborhood Watch program in your neighborhood, please contact Commander Sean Young at (559) 935-1525 ext. 138, or via email at [syoung@coalinga.com](mailto:syoung@coalinga.com).