

IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS AND TOOLS from Howard County Police



Tips and Tools for Safety

Report Suspicious Activity Immediately by calling 9-1-1.

**Anonymous tip line/violence/gangs/guns/school incidents/underage drinking:
410-313-STOP**

**Drug activity tip line:
410-290-DRUG**

Police: File an online police report

If this is an EMERGENCY, do not file an online police report. Call 911 IMMEDIATELY.

Howard County police now offer citizens the convenience of filing an online police report for certain incidents. Online reporting may only be used for **animal complaints, dumping complaints, harassing phone calls, identity theft, lost property, motor vehicle complaints, solicitor complaints, theft, theft from a shed or detached garage, theft from a vehicle, unauthorized use of vehicle, vandalism or vandalism to a motor vehicle.**

To file a police report for any other type of incident, call 911 for emergencies or 410-313-2200 for non-emergencies.

Citizens may file an online police report for the types of incidents listed above if the following conditions are met:

- There is no current emergency.
- The crime is not in progress

If there is an emergency, call 911 immediately.

If a crime is in progress, call 911 for emergencies or 410-313-2200 for non-emergencies.

- The incident has not already been reported by phone or in person to police
- The incident occurred more than 30 minutes ago.

Note:

If an incident occurred fewer than 30 minutes ago, call 911 for emergencies or 410-313-2200 for non-emergencies.

- The incident occurred in Howard County.

Note:

If the incident happened outside of Howard County, call the police department in the city or county where the crime occurred.

Note:

Do not file an online report if a report has been taken by phone or in person by a police officer. This creates unnecessary duplication.

- There are no known suspects. **Exceptions:** Citizens may file online police reports for harassing phone calls and unauthorized use of a vehicle if the suspect is known.

Note: A suspect is "known" if you or a witness knows the suspect or where to find him/her or knows the license plate number of the vehicle the suspect was in.

- There are no witnesses who observed the incident or who could provide information leading to the identity of the suspect

Note: A witness is someone who actually saw what occurred and/or who can provide information, details or a description of the incident, suspect or suspect vehicle.

- There is no evidence or fingerprints for police to collect
- The incident is not a hate or bias crime

Note: A hate or bias crime is an act that appears to be motivated or is perceived by the victim to be motivated all or in part by race, color, religious beliefs, national origin, ethnic background, sexual orientation or disability.

If the incident met all of the above conditions, you may file a report online. Before filing an online report, be sure to turn off pop-up blocking software.

WARNING:

Filing a false police report is a crime and will be prosecuted.

Source: Howard County - Police: Home page

Click on the appropriate incident category to begin filing an online police report:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Police/Police-Reports>

After completing an online report, you will:

- See the confirmation statement: "Your online police report has been submitted."
- Be provided with a temporary tracking number until your report has been approved and issued a permanent report number.

Register your bike with HCPD:

https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/E_BikeRegistration/



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