



TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime Prevention Bulletin

May 13th, 2020

Officer Steven McGhee

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Mail Theft Prevention

The Paradise Valley Police Department has recently seen an increase in mail theft and damage to mailboxes across the Town of Paradise Valley and wants to offer tips to help solve future crimes.

Detective Sergeant Horn explains, "Narrowing down the timeframe of an incident guides our follow-up interviews to locate witnesses, our requests for assistance from neighbors to check their video surveillance, and allows us to cross-check other sources of information that could be of evidentiary value."

If the timeframe provided by a victim is unknown, vital details can be hidden deep within the content reviewed. However, if the timeline is incorrect, it could inadvertently cause evidence to be omitted from a case. The simple remedy to address each of these concerns is by knowing when your mail has been delivered.



Detectives are suggesting Informed Delivery[®] by the United States Postal Service. It's free for residents to digitally preview mail and manage their packages. Learn more at <https://informedelivery.usps.com>

Additionally, if a crime is suspected, especially with the recent string of mail thefts, please contact your local police department. When a report is delayed it can become more difficult to track down and recover some evidence. Items are touched, cleaned, and moved prior to calling the police which impacts how cases are solved. By reporting a mail theft directly to the Paradise Valley Police Department at (480)948-7410, our Officers can take the appropriate steps to try to prevent the crime and catch the perpetrators by identifying their trends. Your report will be forwarded to our partners at the USPS.

One form of evidence with an increased interest for our Detectives is video surveillance; the position of security cameras, the field of view, and overall video resolution. A recommendation is to have a high-definition camera that faces the street or mailbox with video retention of at least 14 days. This allows time to recover footage needed for a case as well as the ability to share the video with your neighbors.

When one case is solved, it can open the door to solving others and help protect fellow residents from becoming a victim. Share our tips above and learn more at <https://www.uspis.gov/tips-prevention>

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PVPolice>

Website: www.ParadiseValleyPD.com

Join Alert PV: www.ParadiseValleyAZ.gov/AlertPV

Join Neighbors app: Text PVPD to 555888 to get started.