

Business Watch members will receive Crime Prevention and Awareness Training for their employees. These presentations can be done as seminars given to a large group of businesses or can be tailored to fit your individual business needs.

**Presentations topics include:**

- ♦ Reporting a Crime
- ♦ Workplace Violence
- ♦ Burglary Prevention
- ♦ Economic Crimes
  - » Bad Checks
  - » Credit Card Fraud
  - » Counterfeit Currency
- ♦ Check Fraud
- ♦ Business Robbery Awareness and Prevention
- ♦ Shoplifting/Retail Theft

The Business Watch program is a highly visible program that utilizes intel and networking to unite members of the business community. Members will be provided business watch decals to warn a potential offender that your business will not tolerate criminal activity and monetary loss. It indicates that you are part of a business community that has pulled together in cooperation with your local law enforcement agency to establish a safer and more profitable business community.

## Getting Started

Contact the Community Relations Division at 436-9735 and request more information on creating a Business Watch in your area.



**Chip W. Simmons, Sheriff**

*Know something about a crime?  
Don't keep it a Secret*

If you have important information to share with the Escambia County Sheriff's Office, call Crime Stoppers at **433-STOP** and provide your tip anonymously. Your information could lead to a cash reward.



**433-STOP**

***In case of an EMERGENCY call 911***

**Escambia County Sheriff's Office  
Community Relations  
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Pensacola, FL 32501  
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# Business Watch

**Escambia County  
Sheriff's Office**

## What is Business Watch?

**Business Watch** is a **FREE** crime prevention program that is a collaborative effort between businesses and the Escambia County Sheriff's Office to help prevent and reduce crimes in the business community. It promotes a safe business environment and educates owners in making their own business more secure. **Business Watch** members are trained in spotting suspicious activities, and are encouraged to call law enforcement before a problem occurs. The program, through the cooperation of businesses and the Escambia County Sheriff's Office, will reduce losses due to crime and increase business security.



As a member of the **Business Watch** program, you are the eyes and ears of the Sheriff's Office in your place of business. By making the effort to report criminal activity correctly, you are making your business, as well as those around you, a safer place.

## Why Business Watch?

- ♦ Law enforcement cannot be on every corner so your involvement is essential to prevent and combat crime.
- ♦ You and your fellow businesses are the ones who really know what is happening in your area.
- ♦ Cooperating with other businesses and law enforcement can help fight crime in their commercial areas in the most effective way—before it begins.



- ♦ With Business Watch stickers in windows, criminals are warned that the business owners are watching out for each other and will report all suspicious activity to law enforcement.



## How Business Watch Works

The goal of **Business Watch** is to educate businesses how to lessen their chances of becoming targets of crime. If businesses do not take a proactive attitude, crime can creep in before you know it.

In-house loss prevention personnel are a great asset, but most businesses have another great asset they tend to overlook—their cashiers, clerks and floor personnel. The **Business Watch** program focuses on teaching those personnel how to be observant and aware. They are a businesses' front line and the greatest resources for crime prevention.

Financial crimes, robbery, shoplifting, and burglary are major concerns of the business community. By working together and sharing information with the Sheriff's Office and neighboring businesses, many problems can be decreased, resolved, or avoided.

The possibility of identifying and arresting criminals also increases as more people become involved in the process.



*By reducing opportunity, we can reduce crime*