

Describing a Suspicious Incident

What would constitute a suspicious incident; anything that is out of place in your neighborhood. Here are some examples:

- Unknown vehicles parked in your neighbor's driveway or on your street
- A person wearing clothing that is not appropriate for the season
- Not recognizing people walking through your community
- Suspicious or out of the ordinary activity.

When you dial 911 from any house, business, or payphone anywhere in Howard County, you will be directly connected with Howard County Public safety communications center. The Police Department encourages citizens to report any suspicious activity or person immediately.

What happens once you call 911?

The Communications Operator will ask you a series of questions.

- Is this an emergency?
- What is the nature of the emergency?
- (The operator will always ask for your location.)
- Depending on the emergency, the operator may keep you on the line while at the same time sending out a police car.
- Description of Suspect, Victim, Vehicle & Direction of travel

PEOPLE

Race	Sex	Age
Height	Build	Weight
Hair (color, cut)	Eye Color	Speech
Complexion	Clothing	Glasses
Visible Marks or Scars	Direction of Travel	

EXAMPLE: Male, white, approximately 45 years old, between 5'6" and 5'8", 150 pounds, medium build, gray hair, long sideburns, wearing a blue baseball cap, no coat, white shirt, dark pants, and sneakers. He was last seen east bound on Little Patuxent Parkway from the Columbia Mall.

VEHICLES

What Year	What Make	What Model
What Color	License Number	Body Style (2 dr., 4 dr.)
Identifying Marks (body damage, bumper stickers, etc.)		