

## RESOURCES

### REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

It's important to report circumstances or behavior that are out of the ordinary. Please contact Police Services if you observe any type of suspicious activity, including the following:

- ◆ People going from mailbox to mailbox
- ◆ People loitering
- ◆ Sounds such as glass breaking or loud noises
- ◆ Vehicles that are driving around in the area
- ◆ People sitting in vehicles, looking in windows, or looking over fences
- ◆ Solicitors
- ◆ Littered mail on the ground
- ◆ People throwing mail from a vehicle



**REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**  
925-462-1212

### REPORT MAIL THEFT

Postal Inspectors investigate criminals who defraud or misuse the U.S. Mail. If you are the victim of mail theft, report the criminal behavior directly to Police Services, the local post office and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.



#### DUBLIN POLICE PHONE NUMBERS

##### Emergency

Landline ..... 9-1-1

Cellphone ..... 462-1212

Non-Emergency ..... 462-1212

Police Business Office ..... 833-6670

Crime Prevention ..... 833-6670

Crime Tip Hotline/Graffiti Hotline ... 833-6638

Abandoned Vehicle Hotline ..... 452-2121

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Local Post Office..... 828-2689

Report Mail Theft ..... 877-876-2455

<https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/>



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# MAIL THEFT

CITY OF DUBLIN



POLICE SERVICES

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### WHAT IS MAIL THEFT?

- A person tampering with, destroying, or taking another person's mail for the purposes of obstruction or learning secrets, business, and personal information
- The unauthorized removal of mail from any approved mail receptacle (outgoing mail or delivered mail)



### HOW IS MAIL STOLEN?

- From a private mailbox, a shared communal mailbox found in apartment complexes, or homes
- Directly from a postal vehicle or the post office itself. Mail theft can be committed by a post office employee or by someone given access by an employee
- By anyone: other residents using shared mail boxes, neighbors, or strangers who pass by and notice vulnerable mail

### HOW IS STOLEN MAIL USED?

Thieves steal mail to obtain credit cards, social security numbers, bank statements, checks, and other personal information. Mail theft is one of the most common forms of white-collar crime and is punishable under federal law by heavy fines as well as potential jail and prison sentences.

### HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF FROM MAIL THEFT?

#### OUTGOING MAIL

- ◆ Do not put outgoing mail in your mailbox with the red flag up
- ◆ Deposit mail in a blue collection box ( be sure that it does not stick out)
- ◆ Deposit mail inside your local post office
- ◆ Do not leave mail in the mailbox overnight

#### VACATION

- ◆ Put a "hold" on your mail when on vacation or out of town
- ◆ Ask a neighbor to pick up your mail
- ◆ Fill out a vacation patrol request card at Police Services

#### LIMITED ACCESS

- ◆ Purchase a lockable mailbox or convert your current one to a lockable type (prior to making changes please check with your local Postmaster and/or Home Owner's Association)
- ◆ Shred discarded mail
- ◆ Have checks deposited electronically into your account via direct deposit.



### HOW DOES MAIL THEFT LEAD TO IDENTITY THEFT?

Stolen mail is used by thieves to obtain the following utilizing one's identity:

- ◆ Credit card offers and numbers
- ◆ Social security numbers
- ◆ Banking or investment account numbers
- ◆ Gift cards

***Protect yourself by checking bank activity and credit card charges regularly, and your credit history at least once a year.***

### Neighborhood Watch

Get to know your neighbors, your neighborhood, and your community by joining Neighborhood Watch. When you know who belongs in your neighborhood, you'll also know who doesn't!

Contact **Neighborhood Resources** to start a Neighborhood Watch group:  
(925) 833-6610